

1 speakers are limited to three
2 minutes. And that includes
3 public officials and other
4 people who have listed certain
5 jobs that they have here. So
6 starting from person number
7 one, we're going make it three
8 minutes.

9 The first person that we
10 recognize is Representative
11 Greg Vitali. And then after
12 Representative Vitali, the next
13 two would be Dr. Stuart
14 Chen-Hayes and also Joy Bergey.

15 REPRESENTATIVE VITALI:

16 Thank you, Your Honor.
17 Are the acoustics right?

18 HEARING OFFICER:

19 Sounds goods.

20 REPRESENTATIVE VITALI:

21 Well, thank you, Your
22 Honor, for moderating today. I
23 would also like to thank the
24 Delaware River Basin Commission
25 for holding six hearings and

1 allowing the voice of the
2 public to be heard on this very
3 important issue.

4 I'm here to state
5 primarily for the record that I
6 support a complete and
7 permanent ban on hydraulic
8 fracturing in the Delaware
9 River Basin. And I would like
10 to say that I believe that my
11 position is consistent with the
12 overwhelming majority of
13 constituents in the district I
14 represent, to the extent they
15 have understood the issue.

16 For the record, again, I
17 represent the 166th District in
18 Pennsylvania, which includes
19 parts of Delaware and
20 Montgomery Counties.

21 At the outset of this
22 hearing and my testimony, I
23 think it's important to restate
24 the Environmental Rights
25 Amendment of Pennsylvania. The

1 people have a right to clean
2 air, pure water, and to the
3 preservation of the natural,
4 scenic, historic, and aesthetic
5 values of the environment.

6 Pennsylvania's public
7 natural resources are common
8 property of all the people,
9 including generations to come.
10 As trustees of the these
11 resources, the Commonwealth
12 shall conserve and maintain
13 them for the benefit of all
14 people.

15 And I think the most
16 important phrase here is
17 including generations yet to
18 come because I think we in the
19 legislature sometimes forget
20 that. When we're correcting
21 legislation, it's not only for
22 the benefit of us, but
23 generations to come.

24 And I am glad to see
25 that the Pennsylvania Supreme

1 Court is finally taking this
2 provision of the Pennsylvania
3 Constitution seriously.

4 To date, there have been
5 about 11,000 unconventional
6 wells drilled in Pennsylvania.
7 11,000. There should be places
8 in Pennsylvania where fracking
9 does not occur, and the
10 Delaware River Basin is one of
11 those places. That watershed
12 supplies drinking water to over
13 15 million people.

14 The Delaware River has
15 been designated a national wild
16 and scenic river by Congress,
17 and it's been awarded special
18 protection water status by the
19 Delaware River Basin
20 Commission. And that's because
21 of the many valuable
22 environmental and economic
23 qualities this river possesses.

24 Drilling is a very
25 highly industrial activity. It

1 can turn pristine forests into
2 industrial sites. I have
3 visited numerous drilling sites
4 over the years in the course of
5 my job. And I have seen the
6 truck traffic, the gravel
7 roads, the fences, the spills.
8 It really can degrade.

9 HEARING OFFICER:

10 We're going to stop you
11 at that point, Representative.
12 Thank you very much.

13 REPRESENTATIVE VITALI:

14 Thank you.

15 HEARING EXAMINER:

16 Thank you, sir. Dr.
17 Chen-Hayes. And after, next
18 will be Joy Bergey. And then
19 Walter Tsou. That's T-S-O-U.
20 If I mispronounce it, I'm
21 sorry. Okay. And it is Dr.
22 Stuart Chen-Hayes, correct?

23 DR. CHEN-HAYES:

24 It is.

25 HEARING EXAMINER: