

My name is Greg Swartz. I'm a resident and property owner in Damascus, Wayne County, Pennsylvania. I'm also a vegetable farmer and an employer. As a farmer, my business is based upon access to, and sustainable management of, the natural resources of soil and water.

It is my responsibility to manage these resources for the long term, not only for the success of my business, but also so that future generations will have access to those resources.

The DRBC has a similar job. It is tasked with ensuring the quality and quantity of water resources in the basin today and into the future. The strength of the DRBC and what sets it apart from any other watershed, is that the entire watershed is managed holistically. This approach will only become more important as population continues to grow and weather patterns change.

We see many examples throughout the U.S., especially in the west where a fragment management of water resources leads

to a compromised water supply. It is clear that the process of eyeballing the hydraulic fracturing poses significant threats in the short term and unknown threats in the long term to all of the goals in the Delaware River Basin Compact.

This fact is underscored by the lack of requirements for fracking to comply with the most basic federal environmental laws. Laws are put into place to protect the common good from individual decisions.

It is for this reason that I fully support the ban of hydraulic fracturing in the Delaware River Basin. For those that claim that the ban prevents them from exercising their rights of private property, you should try to understand the property rights are not absolute.

When an activity undertaken on private property impacts other property, there are limitations to these rights and it is called acting for the common good. I do not support the exportation of water fluidity nor the importation of produced water.

Concerning exportation, I believe the current regulations would be an established basis for denying any application to remove significant amounts of water from the basin regardless of its end use.

Concerning the importation of wastewater, I would hope current regulations would limit this activity.

However, regulations should be strengthened to clearly ban importation of produced water even if it is, quote, unquote, treated, as it poses a threat to the quality of our water resources. The same logic used to ban fracking should be extended to banning the importation of produced water.

Thank you for considering my comments. I look forward to the efficient adoption regulations which will ban fracking and the importation of wastewater for the good of the whole basin and so that I can continue to grow healthy food and provide good paying jobs.