

# Franklin Roth

Dear Commissioners:

The commission's proposal to prohibit fracking in the Delaware River Basin is terrific, but please also prevent drillers from withdrawing water from the basin and send fracking wastewater here for treatment.

I own a home in Milford, Pennsylvania, my refuge on the Delaware from the bustle and grit of New York City, where I work. And as an angler, I'm sure that the frackers have only one thing in mind, and it's not fish habitat -- it's profit, for themselves, and no one else counts.

The waters of the Delaware belong in the Delaware. They are already stressed and low many times during the year. Protect these waters fully: Do not permit the fracking industry to withdraw even a single drop. We are talking about millions of gallons, and their absence will have major impacts on wildlife and recreation. The regulations as they are do not protect the system from low flows and high temperatures that will result if drillers tap our streams.

An even worse proposal is the treatment of wastewater anywhere near the Delaware basin. There are no standards that regulators could impose that would adequately protect people of habitat from the pervasive poisons in fracking water. "Treating" water implies that poisons are withdrawn from water. And what, then, becomes of the poison? Do the frackers really take it away someplace safe? Hardly. And frankly, it is not possible, economically or chemically, to restore the poisoned water to its original state. I certainly would not want my granddaughter (or yours) to swim in it, or even touch it.

Finally, the Commission and the states of Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey totally lack the manpower and technical capacity to enforce fracking regulations. The frackers will not self-regulate -- that is a fantasy. Your only real choice, if you will serve your mission, is to totally ban any and all fracking activity in the Delaware basin.

I appreciate the commission's thorough study of this issue and thank you for considering my comments. Do not sell our birthright for a bowl of porridge. Please -- keep fracking and all of its filthy, destructive business out of the Delaware.

Sincerely,

Franklin M. Roth  
New York, NY  
Milford, PA