

Lloyd Maraist

Dear Comments,

All decisions on rules for fracking MUST be based on verifiable facts and statistics. Not loud voices expressing fears and opinions that are not verifiable.

I am opposing the Delaware River Basin Commission's (DRBC's) proposed rules to severely restrict---and therefore effectively ban---hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") and horizontal drilling within the basin.

The proposal seems without basis in evidence or the strong safety record of regional energy development. Energy policies need to be based on sound science and a practical risk-benefit analysis, not politics and alarmism from activists who want to stop the use of traditional energy resources.

No oil company would intentionally risk the loss of millions of dollars of investments and equipment by using sub standard drilling devices and questionable practices. Or the billions of dollars of lawsuits and legal fees that follow.

Hydraulic fracturing, which is being successfully accomplished all over this nation, has taken place for decades. Vast improvements in technology, along with horizontal drilling, has driven an unprecedented energy revolution in our nation. America is no longer heavily dependent on foreign energy sources, thanks in large part to hydraulic fracturing.

The DRBC's proposed new rules would take our region and nation in a dangerously wrong direction. The rules would limit energy development in the region, potentially raising costs for households and businesses. The resurgence in regional manufacturing---supported by affordable energy---could be impacted if other regulatory and state agencies limit or restrict affordable natural gas development.

I strongly urge the Commission to rethink, withdraw, and revise its new energy development rules. Overreaching, unjustified restrictions are not an intelligent way of doing business. Intelligent oversight and scientifically determined regulations of energy development are appropriate. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
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