leslie sauer

Commissioners, I am writing to support a ban on the use of water from the Delaware River Basin to support fracking in any way, We should not to allow the treatment and/or discharge of fracking waters into the surface waters or groundwaters of Delaware River Basin. There are many known and unknown hazards of such contaminated wastewater. These are hazards not only for humans but can have ecosystem wide effects.

Despite much effort to protect the basin, including the efforts of your commission, there are already many tendencies toward deterioration of environmental conditions brought about by population increase and economic development that deserve attention and repair. We should not add more problems of water that has been used in fracking.

There is so much that has impacted Delaware Valley watersheds, not the least of which are the many new pipelines both built and proposed. In addition to thousands of acres of preserved land, some take hundreds of thousands trees but are regulated as if this was no impact to watersheds. (You should be regulating pipelines too.) These impacts to our forests only further compound the consequences of Sandy blowdowns, the likely loss of of 90% or more of all ash to Emerald Ash borer, and woodland losses due to logging and deforestation related to development. These impacts are left out of these reviews and ensure there is no comprehensive oversight. The FERC EIS for PennEast is a grand example of willful blindness. This watershed cannot support the added demands of fracking and fracking related projects sustainably.