

1                   On deck would be Pat  
2           Henderson, and then the next speaker  
3           would be Lee Clark. Lee Clark,  
4           please? All right.

5                   If Lee Clark appears  
6           later, we'll give that person an  
7           opportunity to speak. Then on deck  
8           would be -- in addition to Pat  
9           Henderson, would be Jeff Tittel, if  
10          you could move forward, please. And  
11          then the next speaker is Thomas  
12          Shepstone.

13                   MR. SHEPSTONE:

14                   Thank you. My name's  
15          Thom Shepstone. I'm a landowner and  
16          I'm directing my remarks to the DRBC  
17          Commissioners, even though you're  
18          sitting there.

19                   You are with this  
20          proposed ban stealing the natural  
21          resources and economic futures on this  
22          side of the Berlin Wall and  
23          constitutes the boundary two miles  
24          west of here that direction between  
25          the Delaware and Susquehanna River

1       Basin.   Worst, you're doing it by  
2       fraud.

3                       On the other side of  
4       that wall is the best laboratory  
5       there, is to evaluate the impacts of  
6       gas drilling.   Thousands of gas wells  
7       have been drilled hydraulically  
8       fractured there.   But I tell you, of  
9       course, that you already know it.  
10      Three of you a member --- a majority  
11      of the DRBC also serve as a majority  
12      of the SRBC.   You're the same people.  
13                       You also know very well  
14      that the SRBC staff has been  
15      continuously evaluating the gas  
16      drilling you allow on the other side  
17      of that wall for impacts on water.  
18      Those studies as recently as September  
19      2017, say the Commission's remote  
20      water quality monitoring network has  
21      not detected discernible impacts on  
22      the quality of the basin's water  
23      resources as a result of natural gas  
24      development.

25                       And that's found in this

1 report right here. Anybody can get it  
2 off the web. And yet, we know that  
3 it's been deliberately ignored.  
4 Twenty-two (22) pages of justification  
5 for a ban and not one mention, not one  
6 mention of this data that's at the  
7 DRBC's hands.

8                   They've deliberately  
9 ignored it because both impacts --- or  
10 despite, I should say, both impacts  
11 being nearly identical, both faces  
12 being sources of drinking water. And  
13 you refuse to acknowledge gas drilling  
14 is already safely taking place on the  
15 other side of that wall in some of the  
16 highest rated special protection  
17 waters in Pennsylvania.

18                   Meanwhile, the DRBC's  
19 offices are heated with SRBC gas.  
20 Yet, your notice of proposed  
21 regulations, this 22 pages, pretends  
22 this water quality data doesn't exist.  
23 You simply want to apply a different  
24 standard. You've chosen to cite phony  
25 and speculative New York studies

1       rather than hard data in your hands.

2                       You're engaged in a  
3       massive land grab with the intent of  
4       making a wilderness of our land for  
5       the enjoyment of elite special  
6       interest funding the Delaware River  
7       Keeper. You've even taken money from  
8       those special interest yourselves,  
9       shame on you. What you're doing is  
10      nothing less than high tech  
11      colonialism.

12                     You're taking our land  
13      and economic future on the basis of a  
14      fraud. And part of that fraud is the  
15      fact that your own attorney, Kenneth  
16      Warren, told the Third Circuit Court  
17      of Appeals, a month or so ago, told  
18      them that you'd already decided to do  
19      this. This whole thing, and you're  
20      running a good program here, but this  
21      whole program today is a sham.

22                     The decision's been made  
23      and it's a terrible decision and it'll  
24      be decided ultimately by the courts.  
25      Thank you.