

1 industry issue. And you can't
2 trust the gentleman from the
3 oil industry to look after and
4 police themselves. Thanks.

5 HEARING OFFICER:

6 David Moscatello will be
7 next. And then Mike Doyle.
8 And then Bruce Birchard.

9 Mr. Moscatello, please?

10 MR. MOSCATELLO:

11 David Moscatello. I'm a
12 Philadelphia resident and a
13 member of the Southeastern
14 Pennsylvania Group of the
15 Sierra Club. And I'm speaking
16 as a private citizen.

17 I would like to thank
18 the Commission for the
19 opportunity to testify today on
20 behalf of the Delaware River
21 and the millions of Americans
22 who depend upon it.

23 I've loved the Delaware
24 River since I was a boy growing
25 up in New Jersey, especially

1 when I first canoed on the
2 Upper Delaware in New York
3 State. I remember scooping up
4 a cup of water while floating
5 down the river and drinking it
6 directly from the river. As a
7 microbiologist, I wouldn't try
8 that today because I know about
9 giardiasis, beaver fever.

10 I still enjoy the river
11 to this day. From paddling the
12 reservoirs, to fishing in the
13 Catskills, to tubing the river
14 in the Bucks County, to
15 exploring the wetlands along
16 the Delaware Bay.

17 As beautiful as it is
18 still, it's a shadow of its
19 former productivity. A mere
20 century ago we were a 1,000
21 pound sturgeon. We're nearly
22 extinct now.

23 I applaud the
24 Commission's decision to ban
25 fracking in the Delaware River

1 Basin. I must protest any
2 water withdrawals for hydraulic
3 fracturing, and especially any
4 disposal of fracking waste or
5 produced water in the basin.

6 The extensive fracking
7 taking place throughout much of
8 Pennsylvania, particularly in
9 nearby areas, is already
10 fragmenting forests, reducing
11 stream flows, and impinging
12 water quality, and polluting
13 groundwater as shown by proven
14 well contamination.

15 The only sensible reason
16 for us to withdraw water from
17 the Delaware and its
18 tributaries is for drinking and
19 bathing.

20 Even if hydraulic
21 fracturing was not exempted by
22 the Safe Drinking Water Act and
23 the Clean Water Act, the belief
24 that the Safe Drinking Water
25 Act, the EPA, or the

1 Pennsylvania DEP are fully
2 protecting us from contaminated
3 water is dangerously naive.

4 The absence of
5 regulations covering some of
6 the components in fracking
7 waste fluids cannot be taken as
8 evidence as there's no risk.
9 But is rather due to the power
10 of the industry over our
11 legislature and Congress that
12 has prevented the EPA from
13 actually analyzing and
14 regulating the vast majority of
15 chemicals in use.

16 Only 30 new chemicals
17 can be monitored by the EPA
18 every five years. And since
19 there are over 80,000 chemicals
20 in use, that means that at this
21 rate, the vast majority will
22 never be studied.

23 Well, okay. We'll only
24 take 16,000 years to study them
25 all. Assuming no new ones are

1 created.

2 So it's simply ---
3 excuse me. Treatment plants
4 can't handle the wastewater.
5 So it's simply not enough to
6 discourage water withdrawals,
7 and the disposal of fracking
8 waste to the Delaware Basin.
9 Both must be unambiguously
10 prohibited. The resource is
11 too vital to risk. Thank you.

12 HEARING OFFICER:

13 Thank you. Mike Doyle,
14 please. And then Bruce
15 Birchard. And then Andrea
16 Strout.

17 MR. DOYLE:

18 Thank you very much. My
19 name is Mike Doyle. And I come
20 here as candidate for the
21 legislative district, the 170th
22 legislative district.

23 I knew I had to come
24 today to express my concern
25 that the Delaware River Basin