

Joseph Palmer

Hydraulic fracturing and all related activities should be banned from the Delaware River Basin. Since the Delaware River and its tributaries are a source of drinking water for millions of people, any activity that threatens the purity or reliability of that source of water is an unreasonable risk. Since fracking has been proven to pose significant potential risks for release of hazardous chemicals and contaminants, it must be banned in the basin.

Treatment of waste water from fracking done outside of the basin must also be banned since treatment cannot remove radioactive components and hazardous salts that are concentrated in the waste water. In addition, since chemicals used in the fracking process are not disclosed, POTWs will not know what they should remove and will not know to monitor for potentially hazardous chemicals that would be discharged into the basin. Discharge of "treated" fracking waste water could create short and long-term human health problems. It could also threaten wildlife that depend upon the river.

Finally, given the low water flows that often occur in drought periods (that are actually quite frequent) it is also unacceptable to allow water withdrawals from the basin for use in fracking outside of the Delaware basin. This would endanger the fish and other wildlife that are dependent upon the Delaware River as well as jeopardizing the sport and recreational uses of the river. Please keep the Delaware River and its surroundings the treasure that it is - for current and future citizens and stakeholders. Ban fracking and all activities related to fracking in the basin.