

1 say in closing, is that the DRBC
2 stands for do the right thing basin
3 provision, ban fracking in the
4 Delaware. Thank you very much.

5 HEARING OFFICER:

6 Thank you. Gregory
7 Lotoro is on deck. And let's see,
8 Mary Beth Wood is the next speaker.
9 And sir, could you say your name for
10 me, though?

11 MR. FRIEDMAN:

12 My name is Robert
13 Friedman.

14 HEARING OFFICER:

15 Yeah, you're after. So
16 this would be Mary Beth Wood, and then
17 on deck, is Robert Friedman and
18 Gregory Lotoro. Okay.

19 This is Mary Beth Wood.

20 MS. WOOD:

21 My name is Mary Beth
22 Wood. I'm the Executive Director of
23 Wayne Economic Development
24 Corporation. I'm going to confine my
25 comments of economic development and

1 economic opportunity.

2 When speaking about
3 natural gas development in the
4 Susquehanna River Basin, Pennsylvania
5 gets positively giddy. We have very
6 intentional and strategic activity
7 taking place to attract natural gas
8 users and build economic opportunity
9 within the Commonwealth.

10 For example, in 2016,
11 Governor Wolf created a new Pipeline
12 Investment Grant Program to make
13 natural gas accessible to business
14 parks and communities. Tremendous
15 effort went into luring the shale
16 cracker plant in western Pennsylvania
17 which Governor Wolf said was, and I
18 quote, part of a much needed larger
19 term plan to translate our abundant
20 resources to make Pennsylvania a
21 leader in downstream production.

22 And the Commonwealth has
23 partnered within Pennsylvania to very
24 intentionally build an economic
25 development strategy based on the

1 natural gas industry. Governor Wolf
2 said that, and I quote, Pennsylvania
3 has a once in a generation opportunity
4 to develop and implement a strategy
5 that will cultivate the manufacturing
6 renaissance and transform our economy
7 across the Commonwealth. Everywhere
8 but here where we desperately need
9 economic stimulants.

10 Wayne leads the seven
11 counties of northeastern Pennsylvania
12 in declining labor force. We've lost
13 over 4,000 people in the last 10
14 years. We have the least diversified
15 industry profile, and the lowest
16 personal per capita income. Our per
17 capita of 38,965 is the lowest of all
18 Pennsylvania counties within the
19 Delaware River Basin. And it's
20 approximately half, half of Chester
21 County and other counties in
22 southeastern Pennsylvania.

23 Wayne County lacks the
24 economic engines that provides
25 resources and increases our

1 competitiveness such as higher
2 education institutions, large
3 corporations, strong industrial base
4 and natural gas revenue.

5 We only have to look
6 towards neighboring Susquehanna County
7 and see the insurgence of economic
8 activity and envy their \$8 million of
9 Act 13 funds that they got last year
10 alone for redevelopment, to know that
11 natural gas activity fosters economic
12 development.

13 We have been told by the
14 administration that Marcellus gas
15 shale development is good, that is
16 spurs job growth and attracts
17 investment, that it puts Pennsylvania
18 at a competitive advantage, that it's
19 worthy of state investment and an
20 intentional effort to grow and that
21 the Wolf Administration wants, and I
22 quote, to ensure that we make the most
23 of this chance to create good paying
24 jobs for Pennsylvania.

25 Yes, Pennsylvania is

1 giddy about natural gas development.
2 We respectfully request that the DRBC
3 bring its opposing treatment of the
4 same natural resource in harmony with
5 the SRBC. Thank you.

6 HEARING OFFICER:

7 Thank you, ma'am.

8 On deck would be Larysa
9 Dyrszka, and excuse my awful
10 mispronunciation there. And then
11 let's see here, this is Robert
12 Friedman. Mr. Friedman, please.

13 MR. FRIEDMAN:

14 Thank you very much.

15 HEARING OFFICER:

16 Yes, sir.

17 MR. FRIEDMAN:

18 Good afternoon. Thank
19 you for allowing me to speak today.
20 My name is Rob Friedman. I'm a policy
21 advocate of the Natural Resources
22 Defense Council.

23 I'm here on behalf of
24 NRDC's over 400,000 members living in
25 DRBC member states and 2.4 million