

1 can turn pristine forests into
2 industrial sites. I have
3 visited numerous drilling sites
4 over the years in the course of
5 my job. And I have seen the
6 truck traffic, the gravel
7 roads, the fences, the spills.
8 It really can degrade.

9 HEARING OFFICER:

10 We're going to stop you
11 at that point, Representative.
12 Thank you very much.

13 REPRESENTATIVE VITALI:

14 Thank you.

15 HEARING EXAMINER:

16 Thank you, sir. Dr.
17 Chen-Hayes. And after, next
18 will be Joy Bergey. And then
19 Walter Tsou. That's T-S-O-U.
20 If I mispronounce it, I'm
21 sorry. Okay. And it is Dr.
22 Stuart Chen-Hayes, correct?

23 DR. CHEN-HAYES:

24 It is.

25 HEARING EXAMINER:

1 Okay. If you will,
2 please.

3 DR. CHEN-HAYES:
4 Great. Good afternoon.

5 Thank you. I appreciate the
6 chance to speak to members of
7 the Commission and the general
8 public. And I'm going to be
9 anecdotal. I'm a professor of
10 education in the State
11 University of New York. I live
12 in Newtown Township. And I'm a
13 newly elected judge of
14 elections on the Green party.
15 I'm very excited. There are 11
16 colleagues who are now elected
17 representatives from the Green
18 party. We are a party that is
19 extremely focused on people,
20 planet, and very anti-profit.
21 And so we are for a complete
22 ban on any fracking-related
23 activities in the Delaware
24 River Basin.

25 Since I live in New York

1 or since I work in New York,
2 since I lived many years in New
3 Jersey. Now, I live --- I'm an
4 elected official in
5 Pennsylvania. I don't have any
6 connections to Delaware, at
7 this point, that I know of.

8 Very interested in
9 protecting the land, and the
10 water, and the people of this,
11 and future generations of the
12 those three states.

13 And so as an educator, I
14 was thinking what would be one
15 of the most powerful stories
16 that I could tell? Usually at
17 this time of day, I'm in a
18 pool. I'm a swimmer. I
19 certainly use water. I consume
20 water. I have my water bottle
21 with me. But I was thinking
22 about a story that I told my
23 now 14-year-old. And many
24 folks in the audience may be
25 aware of this story of water I

1 heard. I re-read it today as I
2 was coming for the Commission.
3 And it talks about how all of
4 us, at one point in time, will
5 drink an entire back yard
6 swimming pool full of water.
7 And for those of use who are
8 swimmers, it's probably two
9 swimming pools.

10 And I thought about as I
11 read in the book that it talks
12 about the importance of
13 protecting the waters from
14 pollution. And as I went
15 through, I realized they don't
16 say one word about fracking.
17 And so we really are damaging
18 the environment. And my
19 colleague who spoke just before
20 me gave very clear, very
21 specific examples.

22 But the idea is that
23 water is a finite resource. We
24 don't get any extra. We don't
25 have any less. And so the more

1 pollutants that we put in,
2 particularly into the Delaware
3 River, the more that we're
4 compromising all of our health.

5 Not only our health, our
6 children's health, but their
7 children's health as well.

8 So I think about in our
9 home, that we have multiple
10 water filtration systems. And
11 I have lived in two countries,
12 and worked in five states,
13 lived in seven. And I have
14 never seen my water filtration
15 systems gunk up faster than
16 where I live right now in
17 Bucks. And I know that we have
18 major water quality issues
19 already.

20 We are really having a
21 lot of drama in terms of the
22 pollutants that are already
23 present in the water. And so
24 there's no reason we want to be
25 adding any more. We're really

1 endangering our health. When
2 you look at the health of the
3 oceans right now, there's
4 report that was just made that
5 talked about how soon we will
6 have more plastics in the ocean
7 than we do fish.

8 And so since the
9 Delaware River Basin empties
10 into the Atlantic Ocean, it's
11 really critical that we're
12 protecting the ocean.

13 HEARING OFFICER:

14 Thank you very much.
15 The Doctor --- now just one
16 moment. The restrooms, the
17 ladies room is right outside
18 the door back there. The men's
19 room is through that door and
20 then down this way. For the
21 men to get back in there, they
22 have to go through the
23 detectors again. Okay? The
24 x-ray machine or whatever it
25 is.