

1 moment, please, ma'am. All right. And
2 this is Nicole Jacobs? Okay. Ms.
3 Jacobs, please.

4 MS. JACOBS:

5 My name is Nicole Jacobs
6 and I am a manager at the ---.

7 HEARING OFFICER:

8 Can you speak louder?

9 All right.

10 MS. JACOBS:

11 But even more so, I'm a
12 wife of a diesel mechanic who has
13 worked on sites for fracking. And I'm
14 a mother of two little girls that we
15 are raising in the Susquehanna River
16 basin. It's all around us. So when I
17 discuss the impact of development, I'm
18 not just telling you about the
19 research, although there is extensive
20 research. I'm speaking about something
21 that has been a part of my community
22 and taking place within a mile of my
23 own home since 2008.

24 And there's a lot of
25 talk. I'll try to keep my remarks so

1 as to not take a lot of time. Thank
2 you for the opportunity to do so. Many
3 have commented on a recent study and
4 the lack of impacts to the Susquehanna
5 River basin. Many of the studies being
6 used as evidence of harm, in fact, show
7 no causation and base their conclusions
8 on assumptions absent any actual
9 samples. To the contrary, asthma rates
10 and hospitalizations and mortality
11 rates have fallen following extensive
12 shale development.

13 The bottom line is that
14 the shale industry did not have any of
15 the negative impacts that are being
16 expressed as possibilities here. For
17 instance, fracking is not negatively
18 impacted. Two industries that are an
19 especially important part are the
20 economy and culture. Tourism has not
21 been negatively impacted in this state
22 or in others with extensive oil and
23 gas.

24 In Texas, tourism is the
25 second largest driver of the state's

1 GDP behind oil and gas. Mobile County,
2 Alabama is not only known for their
3 beautiful beaches and gulf shores that
4 draw tourists from all over, but they
5 also have some of the most extensive
6 oil and gas development in Alabama.

7 The Bradford County
8 Conservation District's 2015 study,
9 show that from 2007 to 2012, 1,100 of
10 the county's more than 1,400, the
11 number of farms and acreage of farms
12 increased by 12 and 15 and a half
13 percent, respectively.

14 Farms hire more workers
15 at higher wages and the value of
16 Bradford County farms increased by 25
17 percent. Fracking has not negatively
18 impacted that culture.

19 This industry is strictly
20 regulated at the federal and state
21 level and that includes the Water
22 Commissions such as yourself that
23 oversee water, not land use, to ensure
24 that we continue to have some of the
25 best fishing and recreational spots in

1 the country.

2 The choice to allow
3 fracking in the Delaware River basin
4 does not have to be an either/or choice
5 between our environment and health or
6 our economy, nor does it have to be a
7 choice between different economic
8 drivers. We can and are building a
9 better tomorrow for our children and a
10 major part of that for most of
11 Pennsylvania and what could be the
12 Delaware River basin includes the
13 natural gas industry. Thank you.

14 HEARING OFFICER:

15 Okay. Thank you. Okay.
16 Now, that was Nicole Jacobs. Correct?
17 Okay. All right. And it'll be Mary
18 Ellen Cronly next, and then Bruce Rosen
19 and then Faith Zerbe.

20 MS. CRONLY:

21 My name is Mary Ellen
22 Cronly. I'm with UFA, which is a total
23 volunteer group and I traveled here
24 from New York City today. I'm a
25 concerned citizen concerned for the