

## Elizabeth Bucar

When I was an Ohio kid, we drove forEVER through Pennsylvania's endless forests to see my aunt in The Big Apple. I dreamed a lot of dreams watching that infinity of trees flying past. Protect them and defend Pennsylvania's Basin. Defend its farms, its forests and communities - they balance on such narrow margins. Don't act to waste their land, water and air.

Please defend New York's organic farms. Not only are their numbers growing by leaps and bounds, but their environmental and production innovations are a promise to food-eaters everywhere. Grotesquely, proximate frack, compressor and pipeline pollutants can make certification and the prosperity of these terrific resources impossible. Happily, solar development is gaining a ton of traction so NY's going green nearly as fast as it can imagine. Please don't bet all our gains on obsolete fossil fuels.

Like all rural areas targeted by the fossil fuel industries for exploitation, NY's rural Basin has serious economic challenges but we're not prey. We're people who love our valley, want to raise healthy kids and build with a 21st century blueprint.

I've written tens of thousands of words about the Delaware River Valley, rural New York, fracking, and Town Board meetings at Breathing Is Political. You've read millions and millions of pages about fracking, compressors, pipelines, etc. and you know that the potential for harm from extraction, production and transport is inestimable. You also know that corralling those fossil fuels (for huge profits!) has brought every manner of tumor, respiratory disease and endocrine disruption into the homes of families all across our country.

The promises of jobs, safety and prosperity have been busted just like pipelines, compressors, well casings and impoundments. Thankfully, fossil fuel industries are in their last throes and viable alternatives are going mainstream. Please don't sacrifice the Basin to a dying enterprise. Learn the lesson of bio-sciences and religions everywhere: well-tended natural resources are gifts that feed their communities forever.