

1 really couldn't. I just listened and I
2 listened to a surprising consensus
3 among younger folks that, yes, indeed,
4 they do know what fracking is.

5 And, yes, indeed, they do
6 know how important the Delaware River
7 basin is. One of them said to me, I
8 think the only one more important in
9 the whole United States is the
10 Mississippi River. And they said that
11 because their family, some relatives
12 live on the Mississippi River.

13 So I would venture to
14 guess that the Commission needs to find
15 a way to have a youth forum to talk
16 about this issue with people who really
17 are going to be affected by whatever
18 decision DRBC makes. If it's an extra
19 meeting, if it's some other method,
20 that's up to them, but they must do it.
21 Those people need to be heard.

22 HEARING OFFICER:

23 Thanks, Mr. Hoffman.

24 Thank you, sir.

25 MS. CATARINO WISSMAN:

1 Stephanie Catarino
2 Wissman, and then it would be Jeanne
3 Cimorelli and then Jodi Roggie.
4 Probably mispronounced it. We'll find
5 out. All right. Okay. And I'm sorry.
6 Let's see. This is Stephanie Catarino
7 Wissman?

8 MS. CATARINO WISSMAN:

9 Yes.

10 HEARING OFFICER:

11 Okay. Ma'am, please.

12 MS. CATARINO WISSMAN:

13 My name is Stephanie
14 Wissman. I'm the Executive Director of
15 API Pennsylvania, a division of the
16 American Petroleum Institute. Our
17 number one priority at API is to
18 provide energy in a safe,
19 scientifically sound manner also having
20 the least possible impact on the
21 environment. Our members take this
22 responsibility very seriously.

23 API is one of the federal
24 and state agencies to develop, design
25 standards, recommended practices and

1 guidance initiatives to bolster
2 operational integrity and ensure the
3 health and safety of our communities
4 and the environment.

5 To this end our industry
6 supports effective, science based
7 regulation that fosters safety in air,
8 land and water, rules that are clear
9 with tangible benefits, and to work in
10 concert with safe and responsible
11 energy development.

12 Regulation and oversight
13 are important to U.S. natural gas and
14 oil restoration development and
15 production, and our industry is well
16 regulated by both federal and state
17 governments.

18 The DRBC also centers its
19 watershed management efforts on sound
20 science. Accordingly, it is imperative
21 that any final decision on the proposed
22 special regulations regarding natural
23 gas development activities be based on
24 sound science as well.

25 The science clearly

1 indicates that energy production can
2 and is being done right and that
3 hydraulic fracturing is not leading to
4 widespread systemic effects to drinking
5 water resources.

6 EPA's exhaustive six
7 years \$30 million study's finding of no
8 widespread effects from hydraulic
9 fracturing activities to drinking water
10 quality is a reflection of the
11 effectiveness of these practices.

12 A wide variety of recent
13 reputable studies by both government
14 agencies and academic institutions also
15 support the conclusion that hydraulic
16 fracturing is not a major threat to
17 drinking water. Perhaps most
18 importantly, the neighboring SRBC's
19 extensive real time water quality
20 monitoring network consistently shows
21 that natural gas operations in the
22 Commonwealth are not considered to lead
23 to negative impacts on water quality in
24 the basin.

25 A recent PWC study showed

1 that oil and natural gas production in
2 Pennsylvania supports more than 320,000
3 jobs in the Commonwealth, including
4 direct industry jobs as well as jobs in
5 the wholesale, retail, construction,
6 manufacturing and other sectors. As
7 API is a standard setting organization,
8 we play a central role in leading the
9 development of industry standards to
10 protect our environment.

11 In fact, API has
12 developed a series of hydraulic
13 fracturing recommended practices that
14 continue to be revised and updated.
15 With these standards guiding our ever
16 improving industry practices, and
17 development and implementation of an
18 extremely robust regulatory program
19 managed by PA DEP and overarching
20 federal regulations all working
21 together, we have an effective
22 structure that allows for the essential
23 development of Pennsylvania's natural
24 gas resources while also protecting our
25 treasured environmental resources.

1 I want to urge the
2 Commission to consider the scientific
3 data, the available studies, both state
4 and federal regulations and also
5 industry best practices and the
6 significant technology and engineering
7 advancements in this industry that make
8 safe and responsible development
9 possible. We have seen it work across
10 the Commonwealth and all over the
11 nation. We can have safe and
12 responsible development in the Delaware
13 River basin as well.

14 HEARING OFFICER:

15 Okay. Thank you, ma'am.
16 All right. Jeanne Cimorelli would be
17 next, and then Jodi Roggie and then
18 Beth Kelley. Okay. Jeanne Cimorelli;
19 is that right?

20 MS. CIMORELLI:

21 Yes.

22 HEARING OFFICER:

23 Okay. Ma'am, please.

24 MS. CIMORELLI:

25 Good afternoon. My name