

Eleanor/Martin Gruber

We are writing in opposition to your proposed rule allowing wastewater from hydraulic fracturing, or "produced" water to be processed in wastewater treatment plants. You cannot regulate what you cannot identify, and in this case, there are many unknown chemicals in wastewater that have not yet been identified. The Delaware Basin is not a renewable resource; once it is impacted by toxic chemicals which cannot be fully treated, then 15 million residents will have to look elsewhere for their drinking water. You are tasked with protecting the residents, not taking risks with their lives. These chemicals in produced water are, as it is in their nature, highly toxic and corrosive. Once the water has been injected into the well with sand, and then comes back up, the mixture becomes even more toxic.

Banning fracking itself in the Basin is a step in the right direction; but allowing produced water to be "treated" and released into the same Basin risks the lives of our residents.

Please do not allow produced water to be treated in the Basin.