

# Lori Braunstein

## Testimony DRBC Draft Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations

We need a complete and permanent ban on fracking and its related activities in the Delaware River Basin. The entire fracking process, from drilling a well to dealing with the resulting toxic waste, endangers our water and the health of our communities. I'm particularly concerned with the impact of fracking on climate change. At a time when our federal government lacks leadership on this issue, it is vital for local governments and agencies to stand up for what's right. For years we've been told that natural gas is a bridge fuel, contributing less to climate change than other fossil fuels. We now know that isn't true. Methane, the primary component of natural gas, is a potent greenhouse gas driving climate change, 86x more potent than CO<sub>2</sub>. Recent studies reveal that natural gas infrastructure has been bleeding methane into the atmosphere in record quantities, making it as bad for the climate as oil and coal. The future of energy is clean. We've made it this far in protecting the Delaware River Basin. Many others have not been so fortunate. Stay the course and protect this precious resource now and for years to come.

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