

Jonathan Fink

Dear DRBC,

I am FOR the proposed draft regulations banning hydraulic fracturing in the Delaware River Basin. As a resident of Philadelphia and as a student majoring in Environmental Science, I want to ensure that the water we drink remains at the highest standard and not poisoned by possible contamination. I care about the water in Philadelphia, and the rest of the state, and banning fracking will help maintain our water resources for years to come. Philadelphia is world-renowned for our Green City, Clean Waters program, which helps increase the amount of green storm water infrastructure in our city.

Philadelphians are determined to improve our city's waters and allowing fracking would reverse all the progress we have made. It would increase the possibility of contamination and lower the quality of water Pennsylvanians have come to enjoy. Voting yes on this resolution will help maintain our city's safe, clean, drinking water.

I recognize that Pennsylvania already has fracking in other parts of the state, but the Delaware Basin River watershed is of unique status and contaminating its pristine waters will decimate the fish, the drinking water, and the local economy. Don't harm the many, many Pennsylvanians in favor of the few who will benefit; namely the powerful natural gas industry, and the residents who have gas under their land.

Banning fracking will also showcase our commitment to increasing our reliance on renewable energy such as solar and wind power. These are much more sustainable ways of powering our state, without harming our natural resources in the process, and they have sharply decreased in price in recent years, making it affordable for the people in Pennsylvania and the northeast region.

Lastly, while this legislation is a great start, the DRBC should make a push to ban water withdrawals for fracking at a later time. There is no reason why gas companies should be able to withdraw water for their own selfish needs, and risk harming the protected waters of the basin. This legislation should be passed as soon as possible because of all of the benefits, but strengthened down the line.