

DRBC Telephonic Public Hearing: March 6, 2018

Robert Kraus: Hello.

Operator: Hello, we can hear you now.

Robert Kraus, once again, check the mute function on your phone.

Robert Kraus: Hello.

Operator: You line is open.

Robert Kraus: Okay, I'm sorry. My name is Robert Kraus. I am resident in the basin. The industry is promoting this effort to regulators as safe. Let me read the text from a document sent to potential investors in one of these natural resource companies.

In May 2006, Range Resources Corporation at the time one of the biggest hydro fracking companies in Pennsylvania provided the SEC with a prospective. In a surprisingly forthright document, Range Resources explained to the principle investors the risk of hydro fracking. "Our business is subject to operating hazards and environmental regulations that could result in substantial losses or liability. Oil and natural gas operations are subject to many risks including well blow outs; cratering; explosions; uncontrollable flows of oil, natural gas, or well fluids; fires; formations with abnormal pressures; pipeline ruptures or spills; pollution; release of toxic natural gas and other environmental hazards and risks. If any of these hazards occur, we could sustain substantial losses as a result of injury or loss of life, severe damage to or destruction of property, natural resources, and equipment, pollution, or other environmental damage, clean up responsibilities, regulatory investigations and penalties, or suspensions of operations."

So, which is it? Do we believe what the industry is telling regulators or what the industry is telling investors? Or do we believe them at all? Thank you for your, for this time for allowing me to submit my comment.

Operator: Thank you. We will go next to Sharon Furlong. Sharon, your line is open. You have three minutes.

Sharon Furlong: Hi, my name is Sharon Furlong, Bucks County Environmental Action Group, and Low Bucks Country Sierra Club Group where our membership is between the two groups, approximately 3,000 to 4,000 people.

I have spoken at these meetings before, but since I have spoken at least nine more articles have come out that represent difficulties in this industry from A to Z, one of which being methane, which is part of the industry, not part of this particular aspect. The other is waste sewage treatment difficulties, both downstream public sewage treatment plants. That came out in the *Philadelphia Enquire* in the last four weeks, along with other kinds of

industry related problems including storage problems that occur after flooding conditions.

In addition, in one of my other speeches, I talked about the glory and history of the DRBC, which as it began was a pioneer in the protection of resources and the protection of the Delaware River and the communities, recreational, and the creatures within it, from the beginning of its vaunted history until, I guess, now. It becomes important for the governors to be taking a look at the history and wondering why that is about to be, possibly, thrown down the tubes in a scheme that is going to involve a watershed that is incredibly wealthy, filled with millions and millions and millions of people who are dependent on the water, as well as flora and fauna, and allow that to be put into some sort of crapshoot as to whether an industry that is already running into great amount of trouble in this kind of procedure would allow it to invest in making us this area, and all four states, a garbage area for already contaminated water and to pull pristine water out.

We have just come out of a drought. It is not just California. Our drought in the Delaware River Basin is just over for approximately two years and in some areas in five different sections of the basin, there are still drought conditions. That is after everything happened this past year. Why is this on the table for private industry? Why is this being discussed at all? Thank you very much.

Operator: Thank you. We will go next to James Rapp. Oh, one moment. Your line is open. You have three minutes.

James Rapp: Thank you. I wish to express my sincere thank you for the opportunity to address the DRBC decision makers on this new forum. But firstly, I want to state this forum is not as effective as in person testimony for me and I would be opposed to it becoming a regular way of allowing public input.

I am strongly opposed to amending the administrative manual rules of practice and procedure with respect to hydro fracking and the receiving of waste and the drafting of water from the basin. They are contrary in every way to the purpose of the commission. Since 1961, the DRBC has stood independently of any corporate intrusion as many attempts to amend the rules in such a way to render the commission useless in a primary function.

If 18CFR40135B is adopted, the historical values to the American people will be altered from one of pride in citizenship to disgrace in democracy, from stewardship for future generations to steward plans for fish mutations.

I took a journey to see the impact of the industry just this Saturday and was appalled by the huge destruction of the environment overall. It was certainly not the small convenient pipes of a necessary new power source that would be hardly noticeable. As I stated, it was rather a heavy industrial, ugly, and devaluing to the quality of life of residence surrounding this infrastructure.