

Larry Harris

To DRBC: I send my comments with sincere concerns regarding the effects of new regulations removing the ban on gas drilling using hydrofracking in the Delaware Rive watershed. As an avid angler and conservationist allowing this activity is a grave threat and may have irreversible consequences within the Delaware River Watershed. Even with the immense size of this watershed, the chance of negative impact is also huge. Invasive aquatic species of algae growth from contamination by the taking of water for fracking can result in a devastating affect (AKA Rock Snot) during transfer of waters introduced or from other watershed and equipment. I have seen the results of this in a cold water ecosystem on the Dolores river in Colorado. It has made a beautiful river unfishable and unusable for any type of recreation with huge negative economic impacts.

Spillage and water contamination within the drilling zones and pad are inevitable as seen locally here in PA in Potter, Bradford and Tioga Counties where I live. We do not need to expand areas for Hydrofracking but to decrease and find means of greater control on those areas already active. Currently there is a battle over the release of treated water from Hydrofracking in the upper Allegheny watershed. Local water used in the drilling process is to be treated to remove heavy metals etc but there will remain radioactive elements that will not be removed. The plan is to release the radioactive water into the Allegheny following said treatment?

We, as a society, do not need to double down on the addition of more radioactive water that someone will wish to release into the Delaware in the future. These issues alone should be enough to maintain the status quo restrain from allowing gas and oil hydrofracking in the Delaware River Basin.

Thank you