

1 Okay. Good. If you just stay in place
2 and then we'll call your name again
3 when it's time. Okay. Mr. Miles, good
4 to see you.

5 MR. MILES:

6 Good afternoon.

7 HEARING OFFICER:

8 Good afternoon.

9 MR. MILES:

10 My name is Donald Miles
11 and I live in Bethlehem, Lehigh County.
12 I'm here today speaking for the 32,000
13 members of the Penn State chapter of
14 the Sierra Club on the Board I sit, and
15 for the 2,000 members of the Lehigh
16 Valley Sierra Club who live in Lehigh
17 Northampton, Carbon Counties.

18 The Sierra Club supports
19 the Commission's proposed regulation in
20 banning high volume hydro fracking
21 within the Delaware River Basin. The
22 Sierra Club opposes the Commission's
23 proposal to permit the extraction and
24 transfer of water from the basin
25 streams, wetlands and groundwater to

1 fracking drilling sites outside the
2 basin. Water for fracking is in ever
3 shortage supply in the Susquehanna
4 River basin to our west, and the per
5 well water needs of each well now
6 approach 20 million gallons.

7 Such water extractions
8 and export is a consumptive use of
9 millions of gallons removed in the
10 Delaware basin that will never be
11 returned. This removal will obstruct
12 the seasonal flow regimes, and
13 ecological habitats and species of the
14 streams and wetlands, change the
15 morphology of streams, increase water
16 pollution due to the inability to
17 dilute pollutants and affect the
18 drinking water supplies during frequent
19 dry spells within the basin.

20 The massive
21 infrastructure needed of pipelines,
22 pumps, rotors and truck conveys will
23 also have adverse impacts upon streams,
24 forests and water quality in the
25 region.

1 The Sierra Club also
2 opposes the Commission's proposal to
3 permit produced wastewater from
4 fracking operations to be discharged to
5 the lands and waters of the basin.

6 The proposal would permit
7 untreated and diluted fracking water
8 and the Commission's own proposal
9 admits that such water poses
10 significant risks to human health and
11 environmental sustainability, but
12 proposes inadequate regulations to
13 permit such degradation to the streams.

14 The proposal seeks to
15 regulate those fracking chemicals under
16 EPA established levels, but those EPA
17 standards do not cover all the
18 chemicals that are at present in frack
19 water.

20 For instance, New York
21 regulator --- New York regulators have
22 listed 154 chemicals in flow back water
23 not regulated by the EPA, and the EPA
24 itself has identified over 1,600
25 chemicals in fracking water.

1 We also want to point out
2 the great concern of the fact that flow
3 back water contains concentrated
4 radioactive substances such as variants
5 found in uranium-238, radon, which is
6 water soluble in our streams and
7 wetlands. Neither the DRBC nor the
8 state environmental agencies know how
9 to monitor or even accurately measure
10 these radioactive substances.

11 In short, the proposal to
12 permit stream and groundwater
13 extraction and to permit wastewater
14 disposal within the Delaware River
15 basin are entirely inconsistent with
16 the DRB's proposal to ban fracking from
17 the basin. It's like declaring your
18 car is dangerous to the environment,
19 but the exhaust is okay.

20 If fracking is too
21 dangerous to the health and welfare of
22 the streams, lands and residents of the
23 basin, fracking's tagalongs of massive
24 water extractions and wastewater
25 disposal are also too dangerous for the

1 health and safety of our streams, lands
2 and people.

3 HEARING OFFICER:

4 Okay. Thank you, Mr.
5 Miles. And please excuse my
6 mispronunciation of names. With a name
7 like Ford, I'm not challenged on them
8 anyway. Okay. The next three speakers
9 will be Karen Feridun?

10 MS. FERIDUN:

11 Yes.

12 HEARING OFFICER:

13 Okay. Feridun, Karen
14 Feridun. And then there will be
15 followed --- she'll be followed by Bryn
16 Hammarstrom and then Joseph Hoffman.
17 Okay. Ms. Feridun, please.

18 MS. FERIDUN:

19 Thank you. My name is
20 Karen Feridun. I'm the founder of
21 Berks Gas Truth and I live in Berks
22 County in Kutztown. The Commissioners
23 are to be commended for the decision to
24 ban high volume hydraulic fracturing
25 throughout the Delaware River basin.