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HEARING OFFICER:

Thank you, Dyanne. Edith Kantrowitz, then Pat Carullo and then Blayne Diacont. Okay. Ma'am, please.

MS. KANTROWITZ:

I'm Edith Kantrowitz from United for Action. I urge a complete ban not only to gas drilling, but all activities related to fracking including water withdrawals, wastewater processing, storage and discharges.

It's important that we remember we're already in a time of extreme climate crisis, and you should know that natural gas methane is 86 times more deadly than carbon in the atmosphere over a 20 year period.

Current technology does not control the release associated with methane operations to the point that emissions from gas development in Pennsylvania are currently expected to prevent the achievement of Pennsylvania's climate goals.

As intelligent and moral

1 people, I ask, you how can we allow  
2 this to happen? This watershed  
3 supplies water for 17 million people in  
4 four states including New York City and  
5 Philadelphia, as well as many economic  
6 and recreational benefits.

7 An irreplaceable resource  
8 that must be protected for the public  
9 and cannot be allowed to suffer the  
10 impacts that will inevitably result  
11 from fracking operations or its related  
12 activities. The DRBC's regulations do  
13 not allow the Delaware River basin  
14 water quality to be diminished in any  
15 way.

16 The DRBC policy of  
17 protection and preservation for these  
18 states that it shall be policy to  
19 discourage exploitation of water from  
20 the basin, and that it should be policy  
21 to discourage importation of wastewater  
22 that we significantly reduce the  
23 capacity we receive from the streams.

24 By allowing water  
25 withdrawal and wastewater importation

1 related to fracking, the DRBC would  
2 therefore be in direct contradiction of  
3 its own stated goals and policies.

4 Water use for fracking is  
5 completely lost in the system either by  
6 contamination or by the natural  
7 evaporation cycle. At least 90 percent  
8 of Marcellus Shale frack water remains  
9 underground.

10 Water withdrawals also  
11 have the potential to disrupt or  
12 diminish the flow of water to  
13 hydrologically connected wetlands and  
14 bodies such as ponds and streams. And  
15 water removal is reducing fresh water  
16 available to residents to use.

17 It has repeatedly been  
18 demonstrated that gas fracking  
19 contaminates groundwater. Toxic water  
20 resulting from fracking also ---  
21 wastewater from fracking also  
22 contaminates streams with dangerous  
23 pollutants.

24 While drilling companies  
25 in the Marcellus Shale are looking

1 forward to decreasing the amounts of  
2 their wastewater that is contaminated  
3 with benzene, bromide, toluene, xylene  
4 and radioactive materials, there is no  
5 reason why the Delaware River basin  
6 should be the recipient of this  
7 toxicity.

8 For all these reasons, we  
9 must have a complete ban not only on  
10 fracking, but on its related activities  
11 of water withdrawal and wastewater  
12 processing. Thank you.

13 HEARING OFFICER:

14 Pat Carullo, please, and  
15 then Blayne Diacont, and then it would  
16 be Thomas Stinnett. Okay. Is --- is  
17 Pat Carullo here? Pat Carullo?

18 All right. Blayne  
19 Diacont, please. If you would, sir,  
20 please. And I'll call Pat Carullo's  
21 name later. Perhaps that person's  
22 late, coming later. And then it'll be  
23 Thomas Stinnett and then Nicole Jacobs.

24 Okay. Mr. Diacont,  
25 please.