

1                   So we've had a lot of  
2                   illusions and delusions that have  
3                   profoundly affected the way public and  
4                   private investments have been made, and  
5                   we cannot continue to do this. We have  
6                   as much fresh water on the planet,  
7                   actually less than when human beings  
8                   appeared, and we have to properly  
9                   protect the water that we have.

10                   So in no way should the  
11                   water resources of the Delaware River  
12                   basin be used for resources like this.  
13                   Thank you very much.

14                   HEARING OFFICER:

15                   Faith Zerbe, please. And  
16                   then it would be Nick Fink and then  
17                   Lois Ann Oleska. Okay. Ms. Zerbe,  
18                   when you're ready.

19                   MS. ZERBE:

20                   Good afternoon. Thank  
21                   you to the DRBC for holding the  
22                   hearings, but as many of our folks have  
23                   talked about, there certainly are not  
24                   hearings in the other basin states  
25                   where 17 million people get their

1 drinking water. I'm here today ---  
2 there are so many things to really talk  
3 about when it comes to fracking.

4 But I think one of the  
5 key things as I listened to people  
6 talking that I really wanted to share,  
7 is the issue of the rose-colored  
8 glasses in the drilling area of the  
9 Susquehanna basin.

10 That's simply not true.  
11 We had many speakers talk about the  
12 science. There's over 1,000 studies  
13 showing the harms of drilling and  
14 fracking. I have friends who have  
15 premature babies who've been born near  
16 fracking wells.

17 We've had plenty of  
18 people with contaminated water and, of  
19 course, the Delaware River Basin's  
20 mission has been out to the fracking  
21 region.

22 The thing I think we need  
23 to remember is the cumulative impact.  
24 We need to also remember the politics  
25 of things. I grew up in the abandoned

1 mine drainage area of --- of Schuylkill  
2 County. Anthracite mining was there.

3 My grandfathers were coal  
4 miners. They mined. They --- they did  
5 their job, but they were also farmers.  
6 We know the legacy of fossil fuel  
7 pollution is not a sustainable way  
8 forward for the future.

9 We've learned that in  
10 Pennsylvania. Just a few weeks ago,  
11 the Department of Environmental  
12 Protection looked at how many miles of  
13 streams in the Commonwealth are  
14 polluted, mostly from abandoned mine  
15 drainage.

16 19,000 miles of streams  
17 are contaminated, a lot due to  
18 abandoned mine drainage. We have about  
19 86,000 miles of streams in Pennsylvania  
20 and 19,000 are impacted. That's a lot  
21 of legacy pollution, so we have the  
22 science and we have the history. We  
23 have those of us who have borne the  
24 sacrifice of the fossil fuel industry.  
25

1                   So when we hear API and  
2                   multibillion dollar corporations  
3                   talking about safety every other word,  
4                   it's a sham. How many times will we  
5                   allow that? It's time to stop.

6                   In 2010, we gathered in  
7                   Upper Delaware. DRBC took a  
8                   precautionary principal, but again,  
9                   there are so many people have decided  
10                  it does not make any sense, nor is it  
11                  morally ethical for our fresh water,  
12                  that one percent of fresh water on the  
13                  planet that we have to keep using since  
14                  the dinosaurs. Right?

15                  We still have the same  
16                  amount of fresh water. We have seven  
17                  billion people on the planet and we're  
18                  going to frack with fresh water or take  
19                  it over to our neighbors in the  
20                  Susquehanna basin where people are  
21                  suffering from drilling?

22                  And, again, the  
23                  cumulative impact is just starting. We  
24                  just started this industry.

25                  We have over 1,000

1 studies. Geologists back in 2010 said  
2 to us the failure rate might be five to  
3 ten percent. Well, the science is  
4 bearing out. DEP has had over 4,000  
5 incidents where the public has said  
6 there has been problems with their  
7 drinking water. There's been over  
8 1,000 studies from the physicians for  
9 state energy, a health database. They  
10 have over 180 studies about the health  
11 impacts.

12 HEARING OFFICER:

13 I have to stop you.

14 MS. ZERBE:

15 So we need to stop  
16 drilling and we do hope the Governors  
17 will do the right thing. It is an  
18 election year. We're watching and the  
19 world is watching. End fracking now,  
20 all of it.

21 HEARING OFFICER:

22 Ned Fink, please. And  
23 then it would be Lois Ann Oleska and  
24 then James Orben. Okay, Mr. Fink.

25 MR. FINK: