

1 Okay.

2 This is Ms. Merolla.

3 That one there. Thank you.

4 MS. MEROLLA:

5 Hello. My name is
6 Councilwoman Brandi Merolla from the
7 Town of Tusten, New York located on
8 the Delaware River.

9 In 2017, our town Board
10 passed a bridge resolution whereas the
11 fundamental purpose of government is
12 to protect the health, safety and
13 welfare of its citizens. Whereas, the
14 Town of Tusten lies within the
15 Delaware River Basin and has an
16 interest in the continued exceptional
17 water quality and environment of this
18 important natural resource. Whereas,
19 the water in the scenic Delaware River
20 is classified as special protection
21 waters due to exceptionally high water
22 quality and outstanding natural
23 resources with special regulations
24 that protect those resources and
25 maintain the river's exceptional water

1 quality.

2 Whereas, since 2010, the
3 DRBC has had in place a de facto
4 moratorium that prohibits shale gas
5 development within the Delaware River
6 Basin until it adopts regulations and
7 citing three primary concerns, the
8 diminishment of surface and ground
9 water, the release of pollution and
10 the impacts of disposal of waste from
11 hydraulic fracturing activities.

12 Whereas, there is
13 significant evidence that shale gas
14 development has an adverse effect on
15 public health, property interest,
16 agriculture on our air, water and
17 land. Whereas, in recognition of
18 those adverse impacts of shale gas
19 development, the Town of Tusten has
20 enacted Zoning Law Article 14, which
21 among other things, explicitly
22 prohibited certain uses and activities
23 required or associated with, hydraulic
24 fracturing and shale gas development.

25 Whereas, in 2015, after

1 seven years of review, the State of
2 New York prohibited hydrauling ---
3 hydraulic fracturing concluding that
4 it posed significant adverse impacts
5 to land, air, natural resources and
6 potential significant public health
7 impacts that cannot be adequately
8 mitigated.

9 Whereas, the town
10 considers that the weight of the
11 evidence demonstrates that hydraulic
12 fracturing and shale gas development
13 cannot be done without degrading the
14 exceptional water quality of the
15 Delaware River and the environment
16 within the Delaware River Basin.

17 Now, therefore, be it
18 resolved that the town calls upon the
19 DRBC to enact a complete and permanent
20 prohibition of hydraulic fracturing
21 and shale gas development within the
22 Delaware River Basin and that a copy
23 of this resolution be filed with the
24 DRBC in West Trenton, New Jersey.

25 We, therefore, implore

1 you to protect our precious Delaware
2 River. Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER:

4 Thank you very much.
5 The next person lined up will be Dan
6 Rutledge, but the next speaker is
7 Steve Adams.

8 MR. ADAMS:

9 Okay.

10 Steven Adams, Damascus
11 Township Supervisor. I'm addressing
12 this Board to present the facts as I
13 understand them.

14 Under the Fifth
15 Amendment of the United States
16 Constitution, it states, and I quote,
17 no person shall be deprived of life,
18 liberty or property without due
19 process of law. Nor shall private
20 property be taken for public use
21 without just compensation.

22 The taking of this right
23 to capture and extract any mineral or
24 natural resource is an act of Eminent
25 Domain. Total ban on natural gas