

# Louise Usechak

Dear Commissioners,

I am deeply concerned with the proposed new Rules for the DRBC. As citizens and residents we rely on being able to reach out to our Governors about such issues as protecting our drinking water. In these new regulations the power of our Governors to have a major say on what takes place and the decisions made by the DRBC appears to be subverted by the attempt to grant the Executive Director powers and responsibilities that rightfully should be determined by our Governors and their Representatives.

At stake is not only the determination of how the waters of the Delaware River are appropriated, but also our ability to protect them within the watershed. The scientific data is there in numerous studies now to show that even treated fracking wastewater is unsafe to release to surface waters as it is impossible to get rid of the radiation, some of the heavy metals, and chemicals you don't even know were used so can't remove from the waste/produced waters. Equally, the water in the watershed must not be sent out of basin to support an activity that in other ways also impacts our water supply in the basin.

current proposed regulations would subvert the original intent that was established in the way the DRBC was created and the way in which the Commission functions. It is increasingly critical that people have a say in protecting their drinking water. Our public health is at stake, the price we pay for water -- our most basic human need-- is also at stake. We need the full collaboration of all states in these most important decisions. This power should not be more fully vested in the Executive Director now or into the future.

Please take our concerns into effect. It was one of the most fundamental responsibilities that were considered in the drawing up of the Compact to begin with.

Sincerely yours,  
Louise Usechak