

I am Norman Torkelson. On behalf of the Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River Management Council, we offer the following comments.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed by Congress in 1968 with the goal of protecting the free-flowing condition of designated rivers that are to be managed in a way that protects and enhances the values that prompted their initial designation.

In 2000, we were formally designated a Wild and Scenic Rivers segment

From just below the Water Gap to just above the tidewater, our segment represents numerous & diverse partners including:

- The States of Pennsylvania and New Jersey
- Bucks and Northampton Counties, in Pennsylvania
- Mercer, Hunterdon & Warren Counties, in New Jersey
- **this very own —> Delaware River Basin Commission**
- the National Park Service
- the Delaware River Greenway Partnership
- the Delaware & Lehigh Corridor Commission
- AND well over two dozen river communities & organizations in who formally endorsed us through our Mem. Of Under.

Partners agree to participate in the cooperative implementation of our Management Plan, & to protect and enhance those values that led to our designated.

We applaud the DRBC for banning hydraulic fracturing in the Delaware River Watershed!

However, we insist that allowing any fracking related activities are inconsistent with the Goals & Objectives of our Management Plan.

DRAFT ORAL COMMENT to the DRBC Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations Public Hearing #3

Disposal of fracking waste within our watershed has the potential to affect the water quality of millions of people who should have a reasonable expectation & the right to clean water, a clean environment, for now and future generations.

We are also concerned that the export of basin waters could support unwanted, un-needed and unsafe projects that would only further degrade our beautiful Delaware River Watershed.

Green Amendments are gaining more and more momentum across our nation.

Since the early 70's Pennsylvania has had a constitutional Green Amendment which clearly supports the peoples' rights to a clean and safe environment. Recent 2013 litigation in Pa. by the Delaware RiverKeeper Network "*won a watershed legal victory that not only protected PA communities from ruthless frackers, but affirmed the constitutional right of people in the state to a clean and healthy environment.*"

New Jersey has also introduced legislation for consideration to amend its State constitution to include a Green Amendment.

The tide is turning. Instead of changing 'Rules' to allow for additional environmental degradation, we expect the DRBC would be looking to continue its work to protect our watershed for the benefit of all.

Therefore we support expanding the DRBC fracking ban to include **a total, and complete ban on hydraulic fracturing and related activities for extracting natural gas in the Delaware River Basin.**