

***Delaware Riverkeeper Network ~ Berks Gas Truth ~ Sierra Club New Jersey ~ Catskill Citizens for Safe Energy ~ Move to Amend-Lower Bucks ~ Environment New Jersey ~ Kingwood Township CAP ~ The River Reporter ~ Sullivan Area Citizens for Responsible Energy Development (SACRED) ~ Clean Water Action New Jersey ~ NJ Highlands Coalition ~ Potter's Farm ~ Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness ~ Friends of the Wissahickon ~ Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter ~ Lebanon Pipeline Awareness ~ Riverkeeper, Inc. ~ Bethel Concerned Citizens ~ Sierra Club PA Chapter ~ Coastal Monmouth Democratic Club ~ Citizens for Oceanfront Preservation ~ New Jersey Highlands Coalition ~ Morris/Sussex/Warren Green Party ~ Green Justice Philly Granny Peace Brigade ~ Food & Water Watch ~ Physicians for Social Responsibility ~ Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility ~ Sierra Club ~ Environmental Advocates of New York ~ Enrprise Strategies ~ Residents Against Compressor Station 206 ~ Catskill Mountainkeeper ~ Citizens United for Renewable Energy (CURE) ~ 350 Bucks County, PA ~ SASD ~ NoFrackingBucks.net ~ Doylestown Democrats ~ Sourland Conservancy ~ 350 NJ ~ Physicians for Social Responsibility- Philadelphia ~ Washington Crossing Audubon Society ~ Clean Water Action Pennsylvania ~ Sanford-Oquaga Area Concerned Citizens ~ Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development ~ Earthworks ~ Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network ~ Lambertville City Pipeline Committee ~ Pennsylvania Council of Churches ~ Concerned Health Professionals of NY ~ Catskill Heritage Alliance ~ Pennsylvania Federation BMWED -Teamsters ~ Clean Air Council ~ Philadelphia Chapter of Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light (PA IPL) ~ POWA - Protect Our Water & Air ~ PA Sierra Club, Southeast Region ~ Bucks County Green Party ~ Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Water and Air Gas Free Seneca ~ Damascus Citizens for Sustainability ~ Delaware County Neighbors ~ Beyond Extreme Energy ~ Citizens For Water ~ NYH2o ~ Letter of Marque Theater Co. ~ Strike Anywhere Performance Ensemble ~ Sierra Club, Southeastern PA Group ~ Clements Spine Surgery ~ Citizens Alliance Upholding a Safe Environment - CAUSE ~ Rootskeeper.org ~ Stewards of the Earth ~***

***Ballona Creek Renaissance ~ Yahli Group of the Sierra Club ~ North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE) ~ wissahickon valley landscapes ~ Sane Energy Project ~ Topanga Peace Alliance ~ 500 Women Scientists, Philly Pod ~ Sludge Free UMBT ~ Aquashicola/ Pohopoco Watershed Conservancy ~ Our Health, Our Future, Our Longmont ~ Genesis Farm ~ Bucks County Concerned Citizens Against the Pipelines ~ Freshwater Accountability Project ~ Bus For Progress ~ LEPOCO Peace Center (Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern ~ Ban Fracking CA ~ Tidewaters Gateway Partnership Inc. ~ New Yorkers Against Fracking ~ ClimateMama ~ Daily Kos ~ Cooks Creek Watershed Association ~ E.D.G.E ~ United for Action ~ Bertsch-Hokendauqua-Catasauqua Watershed Association ~ Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development ~ NYC Friends of Clearwater ~ Community Housing and Empowerment Connections Inc. ~ Delaware Sierra Club ~ International Wow Company ~ Rise Up: Indivisible Lower Merion ~ Windy Gates Properties ~ DELAWARE CONCERNED RESIDENTS OF EJHA ~ Gas Free Seneca ~ Sustainable Solutions ~ Tusten Heritage Community Garden ~ Smokey Belles Catskills LLC ~ NACL Theatre ~ Polygon Products ~ Beautiful Corner ~ Health Promotion Strategies ~ Town of Callicoon Democratic Committee ~ SeniorLegislativeActionCommittee ~ NY Water Action Group ~ Earth Guardians New York ~ Sustainable Warwick ~ Trout Unlimited East Jersey Chapter ~ Fossil Free Tompkins ~ Northern NJ Chapter, National Organization for Women ~ We Are Seneca Lake ~ Rainforest Relief ~ NJ State Industrial Union Council ~ Frack Action ~ Resist Spectra Safe Energy Rights Group (SEnRG) ~ Stop NY Fracked Gas Pipeline ~ Grassroots Environmental Education ~ Schaghticoke First Nations ~ People, Not Pipelines ~ PAUSE - People of Albany United For Safe Energy ~ United Against Fossil Fuels ~ Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE) ~ NoFrackingBucks ~ New Jersey Tenants Organization ~ Protecting Our Waters ~ NYPIRG ~***

**Concerned Burlington Neighbors ~ Stop The Minisink Compressor Station ~ Protect Orange County ~ Dryden Resource Awareness Coalition ~ Concerned Residents of Oxford ~ Sustainable McDonough Compressor Free Franklin ~ 350Brooklyn.org ~ CWA Local 1037 ~ Potter's Farm ~ Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness ~ Green Party of New Jersey ~ Srs. of St. Dominic ~ NJ State Industrial Union Council ~ UD Students for the Environment ~ ShaleshockCNY ~ People for a Healthy Environment, Inc. ~ PeacePartners.org ~ ~ Sierra Club New York City Group ~**  
**Pennsylvanians Against Fracking ~ Already Devalued and Devastated Homeowners of Parsippany ~ Green Party of Delaware ~ Earthjustice 350 Philadelphia ~ Lebanon Pipeline Awareness ~ Acupuncture Physical Therapy ~ Vikalicious Jewelry ~ Concerned Citizens of Lebanon County ~ PaForestCoalition.org ~ Chikuba Associates ~ Marcellus Outreach Middlesex ~ WATERSPIRIT ~ Wilmington In Transition ~ Philly Neighborhood Networks ~ Philly Thrive ~ Greenpeace USA**  
**#Get2Work ~ Pennsylvania Council of Churches ~ Sisters of St. Dominic ~ Bucks Environmental Action Group ~ New Jersey Citizen Action ~ New Jersey Working Families Alliance ~ Committee Against Plutonium Economics, Delaware – Natural Resources Defense Council ~ Philly Runners Running Club ~ Responsible Drilling Alliance ~ Josh Fox GASLAND**

March 14, 2017

Commissioners  
Delaware River Basin Commission  
West Trenton, NJ

Dear Commissioners,

We call upon the Delaware River Basin Commission to enact a permanent ban on all gas development, including drilling and fracking, in the Delaware River Watershed.

The Delaware River Basin Commission currently prohibits permitting for natural gas extraction projects in the Delaware River Basin. This prohibition was put in place in May 2010 by the Commission based on the determination that natural gas projects,

individually or cumulatively, will have a substantial impact on the water resources of the Delaware River Watershed.

As the federal-interstate agency formed in 1961 to manage the water resources of the Watershed, the Commission members – the Governors of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and Delaware and the federal government – represent the public's interests. Chief among the Commission's responsibilities is protecting the water supply of 17 million people, including New York City and Philadelphia.

As you know, the Wild and Scenic Delaware River is classified as Special Protection Waters (SPW) due to exceptionally high water quality and outstanding natural resources with special regulations that protect those resources and maintain the River's exceptional water quality. The entire drainage area that flows to the nontidal Delaware River, which extends from Hancock NY to Trenton NJ, is designated as SPW, and is the longest stretch of anti-degradation waters in the nation. The Commission's mandated protection of these resources provides the foundational authority for the drilling moratorium.

When the commission enacted the moratorium three main concerns were cited – the diminishment of **surface and groundwater**, the release of **pollution**, and the impacts of frack **waste** disposal.<sup>1</sup> In the intervening years, a substantial body of knowledge has developed demonstrating significant evidence that shale gas development has myriad adverse effects on our water, forest, air, land, public health, property interests, and agriculture, effecting present and future generations.<sup>2</sup>

After exhaustive study, the State of New York prohibited fracking based on environmental and public health analysis.<sup>3</sup> The NY Department of Health concluded that the overall weight of the evidence demonstrated the likelihood of the occurrence of adverse health outcomes and environmental impacts from fracking could not be prevented, leading to the Governor's decision to ban high volume hydraulic fracturing in the state.

The Commission has not conducted a comprehensive assessment of the cumulative and long-term impacts of shale gas development that illustrates that natural gas development from shale could safely occur within the Delaware River Basin without

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nj.gov/drbc/programs/natural/>

<sup>2</sup> PSE Healthy Energy Library, [https://www.zotero.org/groups/pse\\_study\\_citation\\_database/items](https://www.zotero.org/groups/pse_study_citation_database/items); See Compendium, <http://concernedhealthny.org/compendium/>; Delaware Riverkeeper Network, "Unsafe and Unsustainable," [http://www.delawareriverkeeper.org/Documents/DRN\\_Report\\_Unsafe+Unsustainable\\_fr.pdf](http://www.delawareriverkeeper.org/Documents/DRN_Report_Unsafe+Unsustainable_fr.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKEwjD-4iqidTSAhUTOWMKHaDvDv8QFggkMAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.health.ny.gov%2Fpress%2Freports%2Fdocs%2Fhigh\\_volume\\_hydraulic\\_fracturing.pdf&usg=AFQjCNEf2InvR1UJGAy7HIJRkwAy8DIAxA&sig2=xfAHEsnSojfobq3iyQw-pQ&cad=rja](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKEwjD-4iqidTSAhUTOWMKHaDvDv8QFggkMAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.health.ny.gov%2Fpress%2Freports%2Fdocs%2Fhigh_volume_hydraulic_fracturing.pdf&usg=AFQjCNEf2InvR1UJGAy7HIJRkwAy8DIAxA&sig2=xfAHEsnSojfobq3iyQw-pQ&cad=rja)

degradation of the Watershed's water resources and the essential values of Special Protection Waters. In fact, the evidence supports that shale gas cannot be extracted or developed safely with current technology.

And so we call upon the Delaware River Basin Commission to enact a permanent ban on natural gas development in the Delaware River Watershed for the protection of our water resources (surface, ground and wetland) and to preserve the outstanding and essential values of the Delaware River and its Watershed, for the benefit of all our communities, including generations yet to come.

Submitted by (listed in order of sign-on date):

Delaware Riverkeeper Network

Berks Gas Truth

Sierra Club New Jersey

Catskill Citizens for Safe Energy

Move to Amend-Lower Bucks

Environment New Jersey

Kingwood Township CAP

The River Reporter

Sullivan Area Citizens for Responsible Energy Development (SACRED)

Clean Water Action New Jersey

NJ Highlands Coalition

Potter's Farm

Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness

Friends of the Wissahickon

Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter

Lebanon Pipeline Awareness

Riverkeeper, Inc.

Bethel Concerned Citizens

Sierra Club PA Chapter  
Coastal Monmouth Democratic Club  
Citizens for Oceanfront Preservation  
New Jersey Highlands Coalition  
Morris/Sussex/Warren Green Party  
Green Justice Philly  
Granny Peace Brigade  
Food & Water Watch  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Sierra Club  
Environmental Advocates of New York  
Enrprise Strategies  
Residents Against Compressor Station 206  
Catskill Mountainkeeper  
Citizens United for Renewable Energy (CURE)  
350 Bucks County, PA  
SASD  
NoFrackingBucks.net  
Doylestown Democrats  
Sourland Conservancy  
350 NJ  
Physicians for Social Responsibility- Philadelphia  
Washington Crossing Audubon Society  
Clean Water Action Pennsylvania

Sanford-Oquaga Area Concerned Citizens  
Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development  
Earthworks  
Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network  
Lambertville City Pipeline Committee  
Pennsylvania Council of Churches  
Concerned Health Professionals of NY  
Catskill Heritage Alliance  
Pennsylvania Federation BMWED-Teamsters  
Clean Air Council  
Philadelphia Chapter of Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light (PA IPL)  
POWA - Protect Our Water & Air  
PA Sierra Club, Southeast Region  
Bucks County Green Party  
Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Water and Air  
Gas Free Seneca  
Damascus Citizens for Sustainability  
Delaware County Neighbors  
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Letter of Marque Theater Co.  
Strike Anywhere Performance Ensemble  
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Bucks County Concerned Citizens Against the Pipelines  
Freshwater Accountability Project  
Bus For Progress  
LEPOCO Peace Center (Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern  
Ban Fracking CA  
Tidewaters Gateway Partnership Inc.  
New Yorkers Against Fracking  
ClimateMama  
Daily Kos  
Cooks Creek Watershed Association  
E.D.G.E



United for Action

Bertsch-Hokendauqua-Catasauqua Watershed Association

Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development

NYC Friends of Clearwater

Community Housing and Empowerment Connections Inc.

Delaware Sierra Club

International Wow Company

Rise Up: Indivisible Lower Merion

Windy Gates Properties

DELAWARE CONCERNED RESIDENTS OF EJHA

Gas Free Seneca

Sustainable Solutions

Tusten Heritage Community Garden

Smokey Belles Catskills LLC

NACL Theatre

Polygon Products

Beautiful Corner

Health Promotion Strategies

Town of Callicoon Democratic Committee

SeniorLegislativeActionCommittee

NY Water Action Group

Earth Guardians New York

Sustainable Warwick

Trout Unlimited East Jersey Chapter

Fossil Free Tompkins

Northern NJ Chapter, National Organization for Women

We Are Seneca Lake

Rainforest Relief

NJ State Industrial Union Council

Frack Action

Resist Spectra

Safe Energy Rights Group (SEnRG)

Stop NY Fracked Gas Pipeline

Grassroots Environmental Education

Schaghticoke First Nations

People, Not Pipelines

PAUSE - People of Albany United For Safe Energy

United Against Fossil Fuels

Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE)

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Protecting Our Waters

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Stop The Minisink Compressor Station

Protect Orange County

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PeacePartners.org  
Sierra Club New York City Group  
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Already Devalued and Devastated Homeowners of Parsippany  
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Earthjustice  
350 Philadelphia  
Lebanon Pipeline Awareness  
Acupuncture Physical Therapy  
Vikalicious Jewelry  
Concerned Citizens of Lebanon County  
PaForestCoalition.org  
Chikuba Associates  
Marcellus Outreach Middlesex  
WATERSPIRIT

Wilmington In Transition

Philly Neighborhood Networks

Philly Thrive

Greenpeace USA

#Get2Work

Pennsylvania Council of Churches

Sisters of St. Dominic

Bucks Environmental Action Group

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