

NEW YORKERS FOR CLEAN WATER INC.

Susan Chew

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RECEIVED/DELAWARE RIVER
BASIN COMMISSION

2011 FEB 28 A 11: 57

February 23, 2011

Commission Secretary
Delaware River Basin Commission
P.O. Box 7360
25 State Police Drive
West Trenton, N.J. 08628

Re: Exploration Wells in the Delaware River Basin

Dear Sir/Madam:

Our organization rejects hydraulic fracturing in the Delaware River Basin, and following are only some of the reasons we present this objection:

Wells listed as exploratory will be used for production although they have not been given the same level of scrutiny as "regular" production wells. When brought on line, they will then be operated without the benefit of the regulations needed to protect our water and environment.

Amounts of *known* chemical and additive substances are not listed in MSDS data, presenting risk to water, the environment and our health. The specific uses of some of these chemicals and additives are not listed. Ethylene glycol monobutyl ether and diethylene glycol monobutyl ether are known to contaminate water. 2-butoxyethanol is a carcinogen in animals, a danger to the milk from upstate New York farms, much of which is sold commercially. Diesel oil releases benzene, a known carcinogen for many years. Other diesel chemicals are flammable and affect the central nervous system.

Unknown chemicals and additives: Quaternary ammonium compounds: there is no information on which compounds are being used. *How are risks to be determined when industry does not provide full and complete information?*

In Damascus, gaseous odors from well sites were not investigated to determine exactly where the odors originated in order to mitigate their effects and document their dangers and chemical makeup. If the gas contains hydrogen sulfide, it is highly toxic. Odors emitted to the surface from inadequately sealed wells or during production are unpredictable and difficult to regulate. As well, produced water contains elevated levels of barium, strontium and iron.

over, please

Siting analysis has not considered surface and groundwater, residents, and schools. Gas contains hydrocarbons and contaminants and ultimately migrate to surface water systems.

Spills occur from production failures and will contaminate water. Explosion of wells has occurred recently, endangering life and the environment, and can these fires can only be left to burn out, contaminating the air.

New Yorkers for Clean Water Inc. will continue to work for the prohibition of hydro fracking in the Delaware River Basin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan Chew", written in black ink. The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

Susan Chew