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### Correspondence Text

April 12, 2011

Commission Secretary  
DRBC  
P.O. Box 7360  
25 State Police Drive  
West Trenton, NJ 08628

Dear DRBC:

I am writing on behalf of Pennsylvania, and Northampton County, to discuss the importance of natural gas in our state. I have the privilege of serving as the State Representative for Pennsylvania's 138th District which falls in the Delaware River Basin area. Through my experience in the state legislature and my former role on the Board of Directors for the Nazareth Chamber of Commerce, I am dedicated to supporting business and economic growth. I am concerned that the DRBC draft regulations are not carefully addressing the balance between environmental protect and economic growth.

In Pennsylvania in 2008, the natural gas industry supported 53,000 jobs and \$8.3 billion in economic activity. Our current unemployment rate is currently at 8.5% and places a deep strain on our young people every day. Many of young Pennsylvanian's today without a college degree can work in a wide range of jobs within the natural gas industry. However many of these jobs may not exist if the commission's draft regulations are not altered to reduce

the heavy fees and excessive paperwork on our businesses.

Thankfully Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection has proactively worked to balance environmental concerns and economic growth. State regulations of natural gas are already in place at the state level and there is no need for DRBC to be overzealous in regulations that will end up hurting our economy. Pages and pages of new regulatory hurdles are not a solution by themselves. A clear framework for everyone to follow is the best way to balance development with environmental concerns and the needs of local communities.

While I appreciate DRBC's responsibility to protect our water supply, I trust you understand the concern for the Pennsylvania people I represent. My specific concerns include permitting delays and fees that could amount to over \$100,000 for operators. Considering all the economic benefits natural gas development brings to the region, including royalties and state fees, these requirements seem excessive.

I would hate to see serious economic consequences as a result of DRBC's regulations. Forcing operations to relocate elsewhere due to onerous rules and high fees is the last thing Pennsylvania needs. Our landowners, workers and small businesses deserve better.

Sincerely,  
MARCIA M. HAHN  
State Representative  
138th Legislative District

MMH/gkp