

April 15, 2011

Delaware River Basin Commission

P O Box 7360

West Trenton, NJ 08628

Attention: Ms. Carol Collier, Executive Director

Dear Ms. Collier,

Attached, please find a letter from Pennsylvania State Representative, Mr. Bernie O'Neill, containing his personal comment regarding the issue of Hydraulic Fracturing for Natural Gas, The Delaware Watershed: Moratorium and Environmental Regulations, and Studies.

I had requested a personal letter from Rep. O'Neill, on this very critical issue. You will find his comments on the next page. Please take this under careful consideration, as he is a representative for our district in Buckingham Township, Pennsylvania.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ginnie Burke Preston". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Ginnie Burke Preston

**BERNARD T. O'NEILL, MEMBER**  
29<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT  
PO BOX 202029  
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April 14, 2011



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Harrisburg

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Ginnie Preston  
2976 Holicong Road  
Doylestown, PA 18902

Dear Ginnie:

The natural gas which lies under Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale formation represents a wonderful opportunity for our Commonwealth to secure both our energy and our economic futures. The development of natural gas holds tremendous job creation potential not only in the natural gas industry, but also in related fields including infrastructure, manufacturing, and the service sectors.

However, as we begin to consider the potential of this abundant resource, we must be mindful of the impact the drilling process may have on our environment and the health of our citizens. A great many questions remain about the hydraulic fracking process used to extract the natural gas from the shale. Until more is known about the impacts of this practice, particularly its impact on local drinking water supplies, we must proceed with caution. With that in mind, I support a moratorium on all natural gas drilling operations in Pennsylvania until appropriate regulations can be developed and implemented.

Pennsylvania's constitution states, "Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all people, including generations yet to come. As Trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all people." Those words should be our guiding principle as we consider how to move forward with natural gas development in the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. O'Neill", with a horizontal line underneath.

**BERNARD T. O'NEILL**  
State Representative  
29<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Bucks County