



Lehigh River Stocking Association
PO Box 54
Walnutport, PA 18088

RECEIVED/DELAWARE RIVER
BASIN COMMISSION

March 12, 2011

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Commission Secretary
DRBC, P.O. Box 25
25 State Police Drive
Trenton, NJ 08628-0360

Dear Ms Collier and DRBC Commissioners:

The Lehigh River Stocking Association is vitally concerned about the prospects of Marcellus shale drilling in the headwaters of eastern Pennsylvania's rivers. The impact on water quality and forest degradation will be devastating unless strong regulations and resources for oversight are put in place. Unfortunately neither appears to be in place. We are very concerned about the short length of time for citizens to respond to proposed gas drilling in the Delaware River Basin watersheds. We understand that the DRBC is the only organization that can put the required regulations in place because the politicians have all been bought and paid for by the gas industry. The Lehigh and Delaware rivers are finally clean enough to support many forms of recreation and as a drinking water supply.

THERE ARE INADEQUATE LAWS TO PROVIDE FOR SCIENTIFIC IMPACT STUDIES AND TO PROTECT CITIZENS AND COMMUNITIES FROM INEVITABLE ACCIDENTS AND CLEAN-UP COSTS. A MORATORIUM IS NEEDED ON BOTH EXISTING AND NEW DRILLING UNTIL THE MANY ISSUES CAN BE ADDRESSED SEVERENCE TAXES ARE NEEDED.

Some of our concerns are:

- Decimation of clean groundwater and river water supplies.
- Negative impacts on river ecology.
- Elimination of migratory fish spawning grounds.
- Decimation of pristine forest land.
- Noise pollution (24/7) from drilling and hauling.
- Current dumping of highly toxic waste.
- Transportation dangers (spills).
- Safeguards for communities.

For documented occurrences, I refer all of you to Dr. Robert Meyer's web site, a most excellent piece of research on the Marcellus Shale problems: <http://www.lhup.edu/rmyers3/marcellus.htm>.

Matt MacConnell, PE
President, Lehigh River Stocking Association
610-657-2707, macconmh@airproducts.com
www.LRSA.org