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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

February 28, 2011

DELAWARE RIVER
BASIN COMMISSION
P.O. Box 1360
25 State Police Drive
West Trenton, NJ 18628

I write to you today with regard to the Delaware River Basin Commission's public hearing schedule to receive oral and written testimony on proposed natural gas development rulemaking. Specifically, I have heard from many citizens who have expressed their justified concerns about the possibility of extending the comment period. I share in their great concern.

As you may know, residents have turned out in large numbers during the 90 days of comment opportunity with many not using their full amount of allotted time that was made available. In addition, the long written comment period has allowed many others to formulate well thought-out and researched responses prior to the announced deadline. With all this in mind, I join many others in the belief that the Commission has received an adequate amount of feedback.

Furthermore, I believe it is time for the Commission to conclude their public comment period on natural gas regulations and move on with the development of fair regulations that ensure responsible drilling.

As always, I appreciate your time and attention to these matters.

Sincerely,


Edward G. Staback, Member
115th Legislative District

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HARRISBURG

April 12, 2011

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BASIN COMMISSION
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Delaware River Basin Commission
PO Box 7360
West Trenton, NJ 08628-0360

Dear Commission Members:

I write to add my voice to those interested groups and individuals who are seriously concerned over the most recent natural gas regulations proposed by the Delaware River Basin Commission. I know I need not tell you of the level of controversy caused by that set of regulations, specifically in its treatment of land use questions. That expansion of DRBC scope of influence is a noteworthy grab that's wisdom and propriety is now under intense scrutiny and criticism.

It is my hope that a reversal can occur and the expansion of power proposed in these regulations can be re-thought. The DRBC has had an admirable record of achievement since its inspection, and its oversight is needed regarding water issues, such as allocation and disposal. But for the Commission to become instrumental in the regulating of gas well pads and involved in other land use questions duplicates the efforts of other much more well-suited government agencies and can become an infringement into the proper construction and operation of gas pads.

Without a doubt, the planned regulation is a bold expansion of power. I believe such a widening of responsibilities will undermine the quality of work already done through the DRBC and set a precedent that pits the Commission against local and state governments. With that in mind I urge a revision in the scope of the pending DRBC regulations, removing those portions dealing with landuse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "EQ. ST - K", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Edward G. Staback, Member
115th Legislative District