



**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

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April 12, 2011

Commission Secretary
Delaware River Basin Commission
P.O. Box 7360
25 State Police Drive
West Trenton, NJ 08628-0360

Dear Commission Secretary,

The quality and quantity of drinking water for over 8 million New York City residents depends on the strength of the Delaware River Basin Commission regulations and New York State regulations on gas drilling and their enforcement. Whether citizens of New York City have drinkable water depends on your regulations. Whether New York City has to build a 10 to 20 billion dollar filtration plant depends on your regulations. The League of Women Voters of the City of New York believes your regulations need to be strengthened as per the comments presented by our New York State League of Women Voters and the Leagues of Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

We would like to emphasize the following points:

1. Your regulations should not be finalized until the EPA study is completed, made public and can inform your regulations.
2. A cumulative impact statement of the effects of gas drilling in the Basin needs to be written as a basis for your regulations.
3. There should be no drilling in or near any drinking water source and water infrastructure until the process of high density, slick-water horizontal hydraulic fracturing has been proven safe for human health. The setback distances from water sources and water infrastructure need to be determined by verifiable scientific data.
4. The produced fluids should be tested after filtration for potability and not disposed into our water supplies if they are not safe for drinking.
5. The vertical well bore should be entirely encased and cemented.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Miriam R. Adelman
President