

## DRBC - postcards to the Governors about drilling in the Delaware River Basin and about infrastructure - pipelines, compressors, gas storage, etc.

There is a fragile moratorium in the whole Delaware River Basin ((DRB), parts of NY, PA, NJ and DE that feed water to the Delaware River, because the regulations to allow fracking in the DRB were not passed by the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC). The DRBC was formed (and has a mandate) to protect the resources of the basin and has control of drilling in the DRB. There are five Commission members, the governors of the four states in the basin and the federal component (Army Corps), so appealing to the governors as constituents and voters will be persuasive.

Write (letters, postcards) to your governor stressing that you want a ban on drilling in the DRB - a collection of some of the reasons to ask for this are on the back. If you are sending postcards put one clear point about drilling impacts on a card and send several! **Your governor can vote for a ban with his vote as a Commissioner at the DRBC.**

And send a separate postcard or two about infrastructure which is controlled by DRBC, the federal agency FERC AND the states - it's clearer that way.

Remember that there is high volume hydraulic fracturing or 'fracking' going on in other states including all the rest of PA outside of the DRB, sending gas to DRB localities with all the related infrastructure problems - so it is important that the Governors hear from you to stress that there should be a pause on the fossil fuel infrastructure build out that is continuing. Pipelines, compressors, gas-fired power facilities, gas storage, cuttings and other waste disposal, 'bomb trains' permitting should all be slowed way down and reconsidered in a proper look at the local and cumulative impacts of fossil fuel development and use which are not consistent with protecting high quality water in the DRB.

AND besides we want renewable energy, not more damage to facilitate gas and oil use.

### Delaware

Governor John Carney  
Carvel State Office Building  
820 N. French Street 12th Floor  
Wilmington, DE 19801

### New Jersey

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie  
State House  
Trenton, NJ 08625

### New York

Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

### Pennsylvania

Governor Tom Wolf  
501 N 3rd Street  
225 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

- \* Snail mail letters or postcards are the most effective way to voice your concerns, because legislators believe people who take the time to write them are more likely to vote. A regular snail mail letter or postcard is worth 20 emails and represents 100 voters.
- \* The letter or postcard is best if it is your own thoughts and words, but we have put together some points. Send more than one postcard as you can only fit a few sentences on a postcard AND it is best to have a single issue on each.
- \* let us know if you want some help.

Remember - **one of the only things that can affect the outcome of fossil fuel politics is YOUR voice.** When legislators hear from their constituents they listen, especially when the numbers start to mount. As with gas drilling, the cumulative impact makes all the difference.

The evaluation of health effects of fracking conducted by the New York State Department of Health have resulted in State Health Commissioner, Howard Zucker's recommendation that drilling could cause "significant public health risks". Governor Cuomo and his DEC's Findings Statement affirmed the No - Action Alternative: "The denial of permits to develop the Marcellus Shale and other low-permeability gas reservoirs by horizontal drilling and high-volume hydraulic fracturing."

DEC's final decision in this matter cannot be revisited without a **new** Environmental Impact Assessment according to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, so the decision to halt high volume fracking is firm.

In particular, this NY League of Women Voters letter to the Commissioners hits many vital points: <http://www.lwvny.org/advocacy/natural-resources/environmental-law/2017/Letter-to-Delaware-River-Basin-Commission-on-Preservation-of-Safe-Drinking-Water.pdf>

Also, <http://delawariverkeeper.org/node/4540> DelawareRiverKeeper.org letter for groups to sign.

Dr. Colborn's extensive research that has shown the harmful health effects caused by prolonged, low dose exposure to toxic chemicals known as endocrine disruptors, many of which are used in and emitted from oil & gas operations.

Compilations of health and environmental effects:

*infrastructure:* Property values near these are reduced. Chronic toxic air emissions are every day, all day...unless the facility explodes.

Hidden health impacts from compressors abound - like low frequency noise that never stops from the compressors causing internal scarring, broken ear drums, disturbed sleep.

*This paper will be on DamascusCitizens.org as part of a DRBC action item.*

For additional information see these websites and their Facebook pages:

[DamascusCitizens.org](http://DamascusCitizens.org) [DelawareRiverKeeper.org](http://DelawareRiverKeeper.org)

[CatskillMountainKeeper.org](http://CatskillMountainKeeper.org) [lwvny.org](http://lwvny.org) League of Women Voters NY

AND other hard working community group's websites and Facebook Pages.