



DAMASCUS CITIZENS FOR SUSTAINABILITY
CLEAN WATER, AIR AND LAND ARE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS

Dear Supporter,

Why is the message in this image important?

The Delaware River Basin is home to millions of people who depend on the Delaware River for water, including all in New York City—and outskirts—and Philadelphia and many other towns. After years of campaigning, Damascus Citizens for Sustainability (DCS), started in early 2008, finally got a ban of frack drilling in the Delaware River Basin (DRB) in February 2021— only 13 years!

DCS can pat itself on the back about it—and so can you, because it is **your support** that helped make it happen. But to prevent that success from being gutted by regulations proposed by the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) in October of 2021, we need your help right now.

The DRBC controls activities in the DRB that can affect water quantity and quality, and its draft regulations would allow the **import of toxic radioactive liquid** fracking waste into the basin, and the export of water for fracking elsewhere. Just as grassroots screenings of *GasLand*, which is dedicated to DCS, were a fundamental part of raising awareness on the fracking issue, affecting the public debate about it, and fueling the anti-fracking movement itself, we now have to make sure everyone knows about the latest threat to our health and be sure that we all respond to it. **NOW we need to finish the job and achieve a complete ban**— no drilling, no frack-waste import and no water export to frack elsewhere.

Fracked gas is coming into NY, the whole DRB and to other states, laden with **radioactive radon**. Radioactive drill cuttings with heavy metals and toxic chemicals are sent to landfills in NY state. Health and property values near infrastructure are reduced. Chronic toxic air emissions occur every day, all day, as does water damage. Now the DRBC wants to allow liquid wastes into the DRB. **Health and environmental impacts from frack wastes abound**. These wastes cannot be cleaned and are toxic. Yes, the DRBC both defines and prohibits direct discharge of waste to land or water, but doesn't define and even invites the **IMPORT** of the waste. We have our work cut out for us. But with your help the full ban can be accomplished.

AND all that gas has a **huge impact on the biggie, climate change**, caused by high and higher carbon in the air. Every month of this year has been the HOTTEST since record keeping began, with more and more extreme weather events. Methane (natural gas is over 90% methane) causes over 100 times CO₂'s global warming over its 10 year effective life. When leaks are measured, they are 3 to 9% of total production. The result is accelerated climate change.

Hello...maybe I better consider doing something about all this?

DCS has continued to supply the most current information on fracking to people here and around the world, and to journalists, researchers, policymakers and documentarians. We are also working on developing and spreading the latest information on efficiency, which is recognized by experts to save carbon and costs!

If YOU support DCS, together we can get the full ban in the Delaware Basin!

But there's a ban of frack drilling in New York!—and in the Delaware Basin, too!

Why keep fighting?

There's a fracking ban in New York, but drilling continues and all communities are experiencing infrastructure development- pipelines, gas storage areas, compressor stations are popping up like weeds across New York as well as Pennsylvania, New Jersey and other states, reducing property values and **releasing toxic air emissions every day**. Many health impacts are hidden, including proven toxic air emissions impacts from compressors, and many other leaks.



Graphic designed for DCS is available as a lawn sign and as a temporary tattoo/decals from DCS



DCS outreach Specialist, Kali, and @HilatheKilla at the September 24, 2022, NYC Climate march. Photo by Kali

And unfortunately, only high volume fracking has been banned in NY. Lower volume drilling continues with over 50,000 existing gas and oil wells—about 15,000 active, and many unvisited for years, chemical staging areas, radioactive drill cuttings with heavy metals and toxic chemicals in landfills, and radon-infused gas emanating from stoves supplied with fracked gas in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey among other areas.

The NY, PA, NJ, and DE Governors and the Federal component are the voting members of the DRBC. Make sure they know what YOU want (and that you are a voter!). See DamascusCitizens.org for how to reach your governor.

We continue fighting to:

* GET A FULL BAN IN THE DELAWARE RIVER BASIN - **Why contaminate a place that isn't contaminated?** The waste would pollute water and air and add to climate change.

* HELP THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED by assisting them to get publicity about their situations; help filling out our Health & Community Impacts Survey, and compelling state Departments of Health, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (part of the federal Department of Health) to investigate the impacts they report.

* MITIGATE FUTURE DAMAGE by:

- Keeping pressure on the Delaware River Basin Commission, whose mandate is to protect the river, to **pass the full ban**.
- Compelling the Environmental Protection Agency to **regulate methane emissions** from gas distribution facilities. We have filed a Citizens Suit Notice Letter and will follow with a lawsuit to assure compliance.
- more measurements of ambient methane, to provide further scientific basis showing the impact of drilling-related activities, showing how damage once done is continuing, and to provide a means of measuring methane emissions rates to **show the true impact of gas**.
- Dealing with radioactive waste issues, both solids and liquids, from shale development. The Marcellus in PA, NY, OH and WV is at least 3X more radioactive than similar shale gas formations in other parts of the US. The more drilling, the more radioactive matter brought to the surface. Waste from gas development sites in PA is being shipped to landfills in OH, WV and NY. To **help disarm this "ticking time bomb"**, DCS is looking into possible legal action to stop this shell game of interstate shuttling of radioactive waste, approaching it for what it is: a bigger, regional health issue. **This is the waste DRBC wants to import!**
- **Compelling states to protect their citizens** near oil and gas activities and infrastructure from health and environmental impacts, as required under state laws and constitutions.
- **Working to TRANSITION TO A FOSSIL-FUEL-FREE FUTURE, by educating about renewable energy, affordable efficiency, new technology and better ways of energy functioning.** We insist that gas is just one more fossil fuel that needs to be phased out as rapidly as possible. Damascus Citizens continues its work to make fracking a thing of the past for the generations to come **and to work for a sustainable, renewable future.** We call it, "affordable efficiency"!

Please give as generously as you can again this year, and together we will continue to be the little, grassroots organization that makes a BIG difference.

**And tell young people you know
about DamascusCitizens - it's their future!**

Sincerely, and the happiest of
winter seasons to you and yours,



Please make your contribution today!

Use PayPal /Credit Card via the DONATE BUTTON at
www.DamascusCitizens.org

Or send a check to:

DCS • P.O.Box 147 • Milanville, PA 18443

Damascus Citizens for Sustainability is a 501(c)3 tax exempt, non-profit and your contribution is fully tax deductible.