



July 30, 2013

The Honorable Jack A. Markell
Governor of Delaware
150 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. South
2nd Floor
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Governor Markell:

It was with great interest that we read about the recent announcement of the “NRG Energy Center Dover, one of the cleanest power plants in the nation,” as described in your administration’s press release.

As you comment in the release, natural gas-powered electricity “provides significant air quality benefits for our citizens and improves the economic competitiveness.” And as U.S. Senator Carper underscores, “We do not have to choose between having a cleaner, stronger environment and having a robust, growing economy. It is possible to have both, and protect public health and jumpstart new industries in the process.”

We could not agree more with these views, which President Obama has echoed in recent speeches. Last week, in fact, the President said, “We’ve got to tap into this natural gas revolution that’s bringing energy costs down in this country.”

Clearly, America’s abundant natural gas resources -- with Pennsylvania now producing nearly 10 percent of the nation’s natural gas -- are playing a key and growing role in creating jobs, enhancing air quality, and providing more affordable energy to consumers, businesses and manufacturers.

Given these clear benefits -- which your state is realizing firsthand, even while Delaware produces no natural gas -- we once again encourage you, through your Delaware River Basin Commission position, to call on the Commission to move forward immediately with workable, common-sense regulations that will allow for safe, job-creating natural gas development in northeastern Pennsylvania.

“It is more important to get it right, than to be fast,” you have noted previously to the DRBC, urging the agency to continue blocking tightly-regulated natural gas development in Pennsylvania. As you know, DRBC’s de facto moratorium has been in place for nearly four years – a more than ample amount of time to vet and advance regulations.

Despite your position on shale development in Pennsylvania, however, you emphasized in another recent press release that natural gas offers “cleaner power that’s better for the environment and better for Delaware.”

Again, we appreciate your support and recognition of the broad-based benefits tied to natural gas that your state -- and virtually every American -- is realizing. We also agree with your view that “too many rules are outdated, ineffective or overly complicated. They slow economic growth, overburden government and distract all of us from our priorities.”

There is no reason that natural gas development in portions of Pennsylvania should be further hampered by the DRBC’s regulatory gridlock. Without this roadblock in place, your state would be in a strong position to advance even more opportunities associated with clean-burning natural gas than ever before.

Please do not hesitate to contact our organization with any questions. Additionally, we would welcome the opportunity to provide you with an informational tour of natural gas development, processing and production-related activities in Pennsylvania, allowing you to see firsthand how these resources are safely produced.

Thank you in advance for your consideration as well as for your support for clean-burning American natural gas.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Z. Klaber
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Governor Chris Christie, Chair, Delaware River Basin Commission
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Vice Chair, Delaware River Basin Commission
Governor Tom Corbett, Member, Delaware River Basin Commission
Brigadier General Kent D. Savre, Member, Delaware River Basin Commission
Carol R. Collier, Executive Director, Delaware River Basin Commission

