



February 25, 2011

The Honorable Jack A. Markell
Chairman, Delaware River Basin Commission
Office of the Governor
Tatnall Building
William Penn Street, 2nd Floor
Dover, Delaware 19901

Dear Governor Markell:

With this week's oral testimony in Honesdale, PA; Liberty, NY; and Trenton, NJ now complete, we thank the Commission for the fair and open way it has managed the public comment period to date. This week's public hearings afforded a firsthand, in-person opportunity for a variety of stakeholders to respond to the Commission's proposed regulations. Coupled with the written comment period that began in early December, it is clear that the Commission has made available to the public ample opportunity to review the proposals and respond thoroughly – with several weeks still remaining for written comments to be submitted to the panel. The Marcellus Shale Coalition anticipates providing full, written comments on the proposed regulations in the weeks to come, underscoring and providing additional context to the oral testimony delivered by our organization this week in Honesdale, Liberty, and Trenton.

It is important that the public comment period culminates in the same manner in which it began: fairly, and in line with the Commission's planned timetable for action. By March 16, all stakeholders will have had more than three months to review the proposed regulations, determine their impact on responsible Marcellus Shale production in the Delaware River Basin, and provide thoughtful feedback to the Commission on how to improve and adjust its proposals.

Extending the public comment period – which will be considered by the Commission at its March 2 meeting – would not enhance but, rather, undermine dialogue on these proposed regulations by granting those with the least involvement and direct affiliation with the River Basin disproportionate impact, detracting from the voices of the key stakeholders heard throughout the process. Those with the greatest stake – including landowners, residents of the Basin, and our member companies who are investing capital and creating jobs in the region – have been actively reviewing and responding to the proposals since late last year, without the need for an extended comment period. The robust oral testimony and written comments received by the Commission to date are ample evidence of this.

Again, we thank you for the equitable manner through which the Commission has managed the public comment period, and look forward to filing our forthcoming written comments and continued collaboration with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Z. Klaber".

Kathryn Z. Klaber
President and Executive Director
Marcellus Shale Coalition

Enclosure

cc: Carol R. Collier, Executive Director, Delaware River Basin Commission