

## MEDIA ADVISORY

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**WHAT: Press Conference at Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia Office**

**WHEN: Monday, November 14, 2011 12:00 pm NOON**

**WHERE: Wanamaker Building – 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia PA 19107**

**\*\* Use entrance marked South Lobby; up escalator to spacious lobby**

**WHY: Broad coalition of groups demand that President Obama's representative on the Delaware River Basin Commission vote "NO" on fracking on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>!**

**WHAT DO WE WANT:** Clean air and water; safe union jobs not boom and bust, dangerous fracking jobs; renewable energy, conservation and efficiency; a diverse, sustainable economy; health for our own and future generations, especially children, who are most vulnerable to chemical exposure. We refuse to let our river and our people be fracked.

**Philadelphia:** On Monday, a broad coalition of organizations including labor, faith-based, sportsmen, business, physicians, national organizations and college/university populations from the states that make up the Delaware River Watershed – New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware – will hold coordinated press conferences in all four states. Pressure on the Obama Administration is being brought to the door of Colonel Christopher Larsen of the Army Corps of Engineers, asking that he, as a voting member of the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC), vote against regulations that would allow a controversial gas drilling method known as fracking in the Delaware River Basin for the first time.

**Fracking** to extract natural gas involves injecting large quantities of water, sand and over chemicals underground to break up shale and rock. Over 650 of the chemicals are known or possible human carcinogens. Fracking could pollute the Delaware River – a drinking water source to over 15 million people living in the region. Air pollution and climate damage, with sea level rise particularly threatening to Philadelphia, are also serious concerns.

The DRBC regulations, which would lift a 3-year moratorium and allow 18,000 fracking wells in the Delaware River Basin, will receive a final vote on Nov. 21. If the regulations are passed, they will pave the way for horizontal fracking in New Jersey and New York, bring more fracking to Pennsylvania and expose Delaware, the most downstream state in the Basin, to toxic fracking runoff.

**PHOTO OP:** As part of this coordinated campaign, the organizations involved will deliver anti-fracking petitions and letters from Delaware Basin residents to President Obama, Vice President Biden, and Obama's DRBC Commissioner, Colonel Larsen.

### **SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

- Rabbi Melissa Klein
- Patty Eakin, President, Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals (PASNAP)
- Jed Dodd, General Chairman, Pennsylvania Federation of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters
- Tracy Carluccio, Deputy Director, Delaware Riverkeeper Network
- Iris Marie Bloom, Director, Protecting Our Waters
- Morgan Bartz, Student, Swarthmore College, PA
- John F. Scorsone, President of SolareAmerica

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