



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

Environmental Action: The Threat of Fossil Fuels

While there is some good news in the reduction of fossil fuels (as relayed in last week's bulletin), there is still an urgency to stay the course. A risk to public health in our own region is the **proposed fracked gas plant in the Delaware River Valley**. This is about 15 minutes south of Philadelphia, 2.7 miles from Chester, PA and adjoins the back yards of people in Gibbstown, NJ.

"The Delaware River and its tributaries support a thriving ecosystem, home to more than 60 fish species and a diverse bird population.... The river valley teems with foxes, otters, bobcats, owls and more, and it's home to one of the region's largest populations of wintering bald eagles.¹

But a proposed fracked gas plant would put the region at risk. If it gets built, massive amounts of fracked gas will be transported to the site for processing, where it will pose threats of leaks and fires.... And then there's the matter of transporting fracked gas to the plant. When it filed for a building permit, the company seeking to construct the plant said it anticipated that up to 700 tractor-trailer trucks per day will head to and from the plant, carrying dangerous fracked gas with them and pumping more pollution into the air.² Trains will also carry fracked gas to the site -- a rarity in the gas business because of the high risk of explosions, which has earned such trains the nickname 'bomb trains.'³

Here's the hopeful news: The project still needs approval from the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC). The DRBC could have approved it during its September 10 meeting but voted to wait and gather more information before making a decision...."
(Environmental Action, November 9, 2020)

[Petition to stop fracked gas export on the Delaware River](#) (Ctrl Click or copy and paste into your browser.)

1. "[Upper Delaware: Animals](#)," National Park Service, accessed October 5, 2020.
2. Andrew Maykuth, "[Plan to send LNG trains through Philly to S. Jersey port sparks outrage from residents, environmentalists](#)," The Philadelphia Inquirer, September 20, 2020.
3. Hanna Chinn, "[No 'bomb trains': 14 states aim to take new rule on LNG transport off the rails](#)," Statelmpact Pennsylvania, August 21, 2020.