

The HEN Post

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for Sustainable, Resilient,
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Summer 2012

Protecting Drinking Water from the Delaware River Watershed

by Janet K. Little, MPH, RD, LDN

HEN's 2012 Film Festival – Water: A Resource Threatened, to be held on Sunday, October 7, 2012 during the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' 2012 Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE) in Philadelphia, PA, will feature the documentary *Split Estate* about the dangers posed by hydrofracking to our water supply, environment, and health. To highlight why this issue is so important to all registered dietitians, HEN member and Pennsylvanian Janet K. Little, MPH, RD, LDN, has written this insightful and timely hydrofracking primer. To learn more and discuss further with your fellow HEN members, be sure to RSVP for the Film Festival by e-mailing stacia.clinton@comcast.net.



FNCE is in Philadelphia, south-eastern PA, this fall during the closing days of the 2012 national elections. Often regarded as a "swing state" during national elections, Pennsylvania receives extensive press coverage. But the Commonwealth has also been a battleground concerning hydrofracking for natural gas.



The Marcellus Shale

Natural gas deposits exist within the Marcellus Shale, a marine rock formed about 380 million years ago, running one mile down beneath most of Pennsylvania, with the exception of southeast and east central Pennsylvania, as well as New York, parts of Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland. Although drilling for this natural gas is difficult, it accelerated in 2005



when a provision was inserted in the Safe Drinking Water Act through the leadership of then-Vice President Dick Cheney, a former chief executive of Halliburton. "The Halliburton Loophole" removed the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to regulate a drilling process called hydraulic fracturing, also called hydrofracking or "fracking" developed by Halliburton in 1949.¹ Hydrofracking enabled natural gas companies to drill vertically down to the shale, then horizontally within the shale to extract gas deposits found there. Drilling promises to be an unbelievably large revenue source for the drilling companies.

What could be wrong with using hydrofracking for homegrown "clean" natural gas in the Marcellus Shale? The consequences could come at a price that people, wild-



Mt Pisgah pipeline under construction

life, livestock and pets located near tens of thousand current gas wells, some located in state forests, and living downstream from Pennsylvania's three main watersheds could never pay. Considering the extraction, production, transportation, and fumes from tanks, natural gas produces the same amount of carbon emissions as coal and 30% more than diesel.

What waterways in eastern Pennsylvania could be affected? After first concentrating on western and north central Pennsylvania, companies have been leasing land in northeastern Pennsylvania, where the headwaters of the Delaware River Watershed are located. The Delaware River, Pennsylvania's easternmost river separating Pennsylvania from New Jersey, creates a watershed basin that

provides 5% of America's water supply. Fifteen million people, including 1.5 million in Philadelphia and 7 million in New York City and New Jersey, rely on the Delaware River watershed for their water supply.^{2, 3, 4, 5}

The process of drilling one well is not clean, as it uses millions of gallons of fresh water pulled from water bodies and the water table, mixed with sand and injected with chemicals. Current state regulations do not require the materials safety data sheet (MSDS) for these chemicals to be revealed to the public. One MSDS from CalFrac Well Services lists trimethylbenzene, xylene and isobutyl alcohol. Most of these chemicals remain underground; experts



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Message from the Chair

by Stacia Clinton, RD, LDN

HEN Friends,
I see a landscape before us unlike
one we have seen before. Obe-
sity in this country is of epidemic
proportions, yet hunger and food
insecurity rears its ugly head in
the elderly and undernourished
obese. Our soil, water, and essen-
tial food supply is threatened by
contamination and depletion. In
the face of this adversity, I think
to myself, thank goodness for the
wisdom and good work of my
HEN friends.

Your historic intelligence, tenacity and drive
for preserving human and environmental
health challenges the status quo and brings
critical change.

With challenges afoot, we are only as
strong as we are active. We are only as
effective as our membership continues to
flourish. So I urge you to take an active role
in this valuable work in the coming year.
Contact your HEN Public Policy Chair Sarah
Trist, RD, LD: sarah.trist@gmail.com with
your thoughts on the Farm Bill and other
critical food policy. Reach out to *The HEN
Post* Editor Bettina Tahsin, RD, LDN, CDE:
healthy-eating@sbcglobal.net to bring your
expertise to the pages of our newsletter.
Post your commentary to the HEN EML or
simply spread the vital HEN mission to your
friends and colleagues and bring new mem-
bers to the table.

In the coming year, your HEN Executive
Committee will again meet with Academy
leaders to bring HEN issues to our broader
organization. We will introduce HEN's first
webinar series in the fall of 2012. At the
Academy's Food & Nutrition Conference &
Expo (FNCE), HEN members will tour a newly
transitioned organic dairy farm, visit the
world renowned Rodale Institute, and learn

from featured experts on the topic of na-
tional and global food insecurity at the HEN
spotlight session. In this issue of *The HEN
Post*, HEN member Janet Little, MPH, RD,
LDN gives a sneak peak of the conversation
to come at our annual Film Festival event.
This issue also includes a list of HEN-spon-
sored FNCE events with RSVP information.
We hope to see many of you there!

Of all the exciting events and ground-
breaking work that HEN members bring to
fruition, I think the accomplishment that I
am most proud to support is the premier
of HEN's External Relationship Prospec-
tus. These guidelines set a precedent for
an ethical, value-based relationship with
industry sponsors. It is the delivery of new
science, discussion of emerging trends, and
thought-filled conversation that has made
HEN my professional home. I hope you will
feel as empowered in the coming year as
I have among my HEN colleagues to bring
about the change we so desperately need
to see in our public health.

All the Best,

Stacia Clinton, RD, LDN
2012-2013 HEN Chair

CALL FOR PAPERS

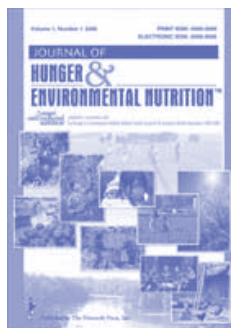
JOURNAL OF HUNGER & ENVIRONMENTAL NUTRITION™

Examining hunger and the interconnected-
ness among individual, political, and insti-
tutional factors that govern how people
produce, procure and consume food and
the implications on nutrition and health.

**The Journal of Hunger & Environmental
Nutrition** is currently accepting manu-
scripts for consideration of publication.
Articles must be original and should
emphasize new knowledge and discuss
potential solutions or innovative practices.
Manuscript submissions are accepted on a
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Kinds of Papers:

Original Research and
Research Briefs • Reports on
Successful Programs, Poli-
cies, and Practices • Reviews
of Current Knowledge and
Research Needs • Interdisci-
plinary Analyses of Hunger,
Environmental Nutrition, and
Related Issues • Commen-
tary on Relevant Issues and
Controversies



Information about submission requirements is available at:

[http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/
titles/1932-0248.asp](http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/1932-0248.asp)

Questions may be directed to Ma-
rie Boyle Struble, PhD, RD, Editor,
at mstruble@cse.edu.

do not agree if it remains there or seeps into the water table. Little fresh water is returned to these drilling sites.

The resulting wastewater, containing bromides, arsenic, benzene, radium, magnesium, and possibly others, is usually dumped, untreated, into our waterways or treated along with sewage in treatment plants, then used as fertilizer on agricultural land across the nation.^{3, 6, 7, 8, 9} Mistakes can be made, especially if wells have been permitted and drilled on floodplains causing a very serious threat of pollution from hydrofracking chemicals and highly contaminated drilling wastewater. In the end, the onus is on the recipients of the water downstream or through the water table to treat this extremely salty and polluted water. Yet public water treatment plants and owners of private wells do not test for these compounds, let alone treat them.

You will see from the film *Gasland* that ground zero for evidence of water pollution is Dimock in northeast PA. Fifteen families in Dimock in Susquehanna County became aware of this after agreeing upon Cabot Oil and Gas locating a drilling platform in 2008 only a few hundred feet from their homes.^{10, 11} They claimed that mismanaged drilling polluted their water. One mother said her eight children got sick after drinking their once pure well water. Another resident, Norma Fiorentino's water well exploded in January 1, 2009.^{12, 13, 14, 15, 16} The residents also claimed that the drilling company refused to clean up the pollution. However, the drilling industry has refuted that this had anything to do with drilling. A recent study of the drinking water in Dimock seemed to clear the drilling industry yet closer examination of the results showed high levels of methane and also levels of dozens of chemicals that may cause cancer over time for which no standards exist. Methane is not considered poisonous to drink, and therefore is not a health threat in the same way as other pollutants. But the gas can collect in confined spaces and cause deadly explosions, or smother people if they breathe too much of it.

There is concern that hydrofracking can cause earthquakes that would cause fracking wastewater left underground to pollution of aquifers.¹⁷ Recent studies by the National Research Council released in mid-June 2012 found

that underground injection of wastewater from drilling is more likely to cause seismic activity.¹⁸ The total balance of fluid injected or removed underground was the biggest factor in causing earthquakes related to energy development. The Senate energy committee was scheduled to hold a hearing on examining the link in late June.¹⁹

The public is waking up and legislators are following suit. For example, on March 27, 2010, Philadelphia City Council Resolution called on Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) to reject all permits related to hydraulic fracturing until the appropriate agency completes a full environmental impact assessment.²⁰ New York City's Council had passed a similar resolution concerning drilling upstate.

Fortunately, a breakthrough in water resources management that occurred in 1961 is now supplying protection against potential water pollution from this source. President Kennedy and the governors of Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York for the first time signed concurrent compact legislation into law creating a regional body with the force of law to oversee a unified approach to managing a river system without regard to political boundaries. On February 24, 2010, the DRBC sought public input at a hearing in Matamoras (Pike County) about the first requests to drill in the Delaware Water Basin. Stone Energy had submitted a legal permit to drill a well for natural gas in the shale lying beneath its protected headwaters.^{21, 22, 23, 24,}

²⁵ In addition, Stone Energy wanted to withdraw millions of gallons of water from the Lackawaxen tributary of the Delaware River. It also sought to obtain a permit for another well, one it had already drilled in Clinton Township, Wayne County in 2008 without obtaining the necessary permits. An estimated 300 people attended the hearing, a spirited affair lasting four hours. One person testified against granting the permits; five people supported.

A week later, the DRBC announced that due to the large number of comments received, they would extend the period for submitting written comments on the permits. By April 15, 2010, they received 2,000 letters. Also, the DRBC announced that they had requested a federal appropriation to do a "cumulative analysis of natural gas drilling in the Delaware River Basin"

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HEN MISSION

To empower members to be leaders in sustainable and accessible food and water systems

HEN VISION

To optimize the nation's health by promoting access to nutritious food and clean water from a secure and sustainable food system

THE BENEFITS OF HEN MEMBERSHIP INCLUDE:

- Quarterly newsletter with occasional CPE articles and reproducible fact sheets.
- Access to the HEN Electronic Mailing List (EML) that provides the latest information and relevant conferences.
- Subscription to the Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition published by Taylor and Francis.
- Member-only access to articles and resources via the HEN Web site — www.HENdpg.org.
- Collaboration with food and nutrition professionals across the United States and the world.
- Opportunity to be nominated for HEN awards.
- Notices of related conferences around the country.
- Potential for national and international recognition when working on HEN projects.
- Eligible to vote in HEN Executive Committee election.



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Creating Criteria to Guide Corporate Relationships

by Kelly Moltzen, MPH, RD

The Corporate Relations Sponsors Review Task Force was formed in 2009, after many HEN members voiced their concerns that the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' corporate relationships did not seem to support the organization's mission of promoting good health and nutrition. At its outset, the Task Force surveyed HEN members about their opinions of the Academy's corporate sponsor relationships. Of those HEN members who responded, 66% disapproved of the current sponsors while 75% felt that the Academy's sponsorship program negatively impacted their public image as food and nutrition professionals. The Task Force agreed that it should set an example of the process that should be used to identify and select corporate sponsors, which would not undermine the reputation of reg-

istered dietitians or the health of the people who the organization seeks to influence.

Sponsorship criteria were crafted based on HEN's mission and values, and the accompanying prospectus outlines the approach that HEN takes when selecting organizations as sponsors. This means that for a company to be a HEN sponsor, food and beverage products sold must have nutritional value and be truthfully advertised, and the production system should account for the public health implications along the entire food chain – supporting environmental sustainability, fair treatment of animals, and fair working conditions for farmers and food workers. The sponsorship criteria are broken into two tiers, with the recognition that some criteria, such as supporting food sovereignty and

providing balanced economic opportunities for communities, are more challenging to meet. The ideal HEN corporate sponsor honors transparency, diversity, sustainability, and public health.

In supporting HEN, the prospectus has been shared with the Academy with the hope that some or all of these criteria will be adapted for use when determining Academy sponsorship. The long-term goal of the Task Force is for the Academy to have its corporate sponsors be ones that support health and environmental sustainability, and to help the Academy send clear messages to consumers and health educators about how to meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and prevent disease.

Perception and Influence: Why Sponsorship Matters

by Melinda Hemmelgarn, MS, RD

Several years ago while I was perusing the Expo Hall at FNCE, I had a conversation with a publishing house representative who confided his astonishment at some of the FNCE exhibitors. He looked around the Expo floor, pointing to assorted fast food, soft drink and corporate vendors with less-than-stellar track records in supporting public health, then looked me in the eye, and said: "I thought you guys were nutritionists."

I felt my credibility shrink as I tried to cover for my professional organization, and explain that not all dietitians support the presence of such questionable sponsorships. His comments further reinforced the fact that our professional sponsors matter.

In fact, our Academy Guidelines for Corporate Relations Sponsors (see <http://www.eatright.org/HealthProfessionals/content.aspx?id=7444>) specifically state that "...the Academy is mindful of the need to avoid a perception of conflict of interest and to act at all times in ways that will only enhance the credibility and professional recognition of the Academy and its members. The

continuing value of the Academy's name depends on its reputation for integrity...."

Further, the Academy says that their "... procedures and formal agreements with external organizations are designed to prevent any undue corporate influence particularly where there is a possibility that corporate self-interest might tend to conflict with sound science or Academy positions, policies and philosophies."

No matter what our stated intentions, a number of studies confirm that we are wise to be concerned about how funding sources affect both public perception and organizational policy, because they do have unintended influence and consequences.

See for examples:

Lincoln, P, Rundall, P, Jeffery, B, et al. (2011) Conflicts of interest and the UN high-level meeting on non-communicable diseases. *The Lancet*. (378):e6. <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2811%262961463-3/fulltext> Accessed August 6, 2012

Freedhoff, Y, Hebert, P (2011) Partnerships between health organizations and the food industry risk derailing public health nutrition. *Can Med Assoc J* (180):3. www.cmaj.ca/cgi/rapidpdf/cmaj.110085v1?ijkey=f78130ae03f9549e7652b3d4f4ade9b380e22a7d&keytype=tf_ipsecsha Accessed August 6, 2012.

Lesser, L, Ebbeling, CB, Gozner, M, Wypij, D, Ludwig, DS, (2007). Relationship between funding source and conclusion among nutrition-related scientific articles. *PLoS Medicine*. 4(1):e5. <http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pmed.0040005> Accessed August 6, 2012.

In my opinion, HEN is wise to offer organizational leadership in crafting a set of guidelines to promote philosophical sponsorships, and use the opportunity to *sponsor with us, and align with our good name* to drive a more just and sustainable food system. Just one more reason why I'm proud to be a member of HEN.

FARM BILL – FOOD SLEUTH RADIO INTERVIEW

How does the Farm Bill influence the food on our plates? HEN member and Food Sleuth Radio host, Melinda Hemmelgarn, MS, RD interviews Ariane Lotti, Legislative Specialist for the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition who deciphers this complicated piece of legislation. Click the following link for the radio interview: <http://www.prx.org/pieces/78342>.

Information about the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, policy updates, and action alerts, can be found here: <http://sustainableagriculture.net/>

External Collaborator Relationship Opportunities

About HEN:

Members of the Hunger & Environmental Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group (HEN DPG) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics share the vision that HEN members are the most valued source of nutrition services to promote access to nutritious food and clean water from a secure and sustainable environment. The mission of the HEN DPG is to empower members to be leaders in sustainable and accessible food and water systems.

HEN's membership is at almost 1,200 and represents leaders in sustainable food systems, community food security, organic and local foods, community nutrition, anti-hunger advocacy, emergency feeding programs, federal nutrition education programs, international nutrition, and nutrition public policy. As members of HEN DPG, we apply sustainable food and water systems principles and practices into their area of practice, including clinical, foodservice management, consulting, education, research and public health.

Outlined below are the key relationships HEN offers to non-Academy organizations that share HEN's mission and vision. The HEN DPG can create customized programs to fit mutual objectives. The members of the HEN DPG look forward to working with you and creating an exciting collaboration.

Networks:

Formed with organizations with similar missions and goals with whom the HEN DPG wants to collaborate on information sharing or projects. No money is involved as networks are strictly reserved for collaboration.

Sponsors:

The HEN DPG welcomes organizations, businesses, companies and individuals who uphold and implement principles and practices of sustainable food and water systems to consider a sponsorship relationship opportunity with the HEN DPG. A sustainable and resilient food and water system conserves and renews natural resources, advances social justice and animal welfare, builds community wealth, and fulfills the food and nutrition needs of all eaters, now and in the future. A healthy, sustainable food and water system emphasizes, strengthens, and makes visible the interdependent and inseparable relationships between individual sectors (from production to waste disposal) and characteristics (health-promoting, sustainable, fair & humane, transparent, diverse, accessible, honoring food sovereignty and economically balanced).

Organizations, businesses and companies interested in forming a relationship with HEN are encouraged to use the following two-part checklist¹ to determine alignment with HEN DPG values and mission.

Of **highest priority** to HEN, is that sponsoring organizations, businesses or companies uphold and implement a food system which is:

☐ HEALTH-PROMOTING

- Supports the physical and mental health of all farmers, workers and eaters
 - Foods strive to fulfill nutrient recommendations outlined in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans
 - Educational campaigns use evidenced based research and are in line with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans
- Accounts for the public health impacts across the entire lifecycle of how food is produced, processed, packaged, labeled, distributed, marketed, promoted, consumed and disposed
 - Foods are whole, fresh and minimally processed
 - Foods are grown without the use of synthetic chemicals and pharmaceuticals
 - Foods are produced without use of artificial trans fats, high fructose corn syrup, genetically modified seeds/crops, rBGH/rBST or other added hormones, antibiotics (poultry and meat), and nanotechnology
 - Participates in third party certified labeling such as Fair Trade, Food Alliance, Rain Forest Alliance, Marine Stewardship Council, Certified Humane Raised and Handled or USDA Grass Fed, or USDA Certified Organic
- Marketing strategies targeted to children meet Federal Trade Commission Inter-agency Work Group proposed guidelines

☐ SUSTAINABLE

- Conserves, protects, and regenerates natural resources, landscapes and biodiversity
 - Packaging is PVC-free, polycarbonate free, recycled, BPI-certified compostable bio-based products, etc.
 - Products and services consistent with Green Guide for Health Care foodservice and operations credits (www.gghc.org)
 - Uses reputable sources for sustainable food procurement such as recognized third party certification Monterrey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch Program
- Meets society's current food and nutrition needs without compromising the ability of the system to meet the needs of future generations

☐ FAIR & HUMANE

- Supports fair and just community and conditions for all farmers, workers and eaters
- Livestock and seafood are treated humanely and fed a nutritious diet without routine doses of growth enhancing antibiotics or hormones, and raised in settings that support natural behaviors
- Participates in third party certified labeling such as Fair Trade, Food Alliance, Rain Forest Alliance, Marine Stewardship Council, Certified Humane Raised and Handled or USDA Grass Fed, or USDA Certified Organic

☐ TRANSPARENT

- Offers clarity on mergers and acquisitions with organizations that may be in conflict with HEN DPG values and mission
- Advocacy and lobbying efforts support the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetic public policy efforts
- Provides opportunities for farmers, workers and eaters to gain the knowledge necessary to understand how food is produced, transformed, distributed, marketed, consumed and disposed
- Empowers farmers, workers and eaters to actively participate in decision-making in all sectors of the system

(continued on page 6)

HEN also encourages existing and potential sponsors to strive for upholding and implementing a food system which is:

☐ **DIVERSE, ACCESSIBLE & HONORS FOOD SOVEREIGNTY**

- Promotes equitable physical access to affordable water and food that is health promoting and culturally appropriate
- Product sourcing, marketing and distribution respects geographic differences in natural resources, climate, customs, and heritage in their supply chain
- Appreciates and supports a diversity of cultures, socio-demographics, and lifestyles
- Provides a variety of health-promoting food choices for all
- Respects ownership of natural resources
- Includes the community in planning and is invested in the communities in which they are present

☐ **ECONOMICALLY BALANCED**

- Encourages economic opportunities that are balanced across geographic regions of the country and at different scales of activity, from local to global, for a diverse range of food system stakeholders
- Affords farmers and workers within their supply chains a living wage (http://www.livingwageaction.org/about_index.htm)
- Invests in communities through donations, organization support, scholarships etc.

Sponsors receive benefits depending on their sponsorship level as follows:

| BENEFIT/ACTIVITY* | PLATINUM \$5,000 + | GOLD \$2,000 - 4,999 | SILVER \$500 - \$1,999 | BRONZE \$100 - \$499 |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Donating product for a sponsored event | X | X | X | |
| Showcase/handout products at group event inside the Academy's Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE) meeting room. (Requires HEN/Academy approval.) | X | X | X | |
| Sponsor recognition signage inside the room at HEN FNCE Film Festival | X | | | |
| Listing in the FNCE Program Book (<i>provided info is received by print deadline</i>). | X | | | |
| Company logo on event program sheet and recognition at event. | X | X | X | X |
| Acknowledgement and thank you for sponsorship in The HEN Post newsletter. | | | | |
| 1. One issue prior to event | | | X | |
| 2. Two issues – one prior to and one after event | | X | | |
| 3. Fall, winter, spring, and summer issues | X | | | |

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| BENEFIT/ACTIVITY* | PLATINUM \$5,000 + | GOLD \$2,000 - 4,999 | SILVER \$500 - \$1,999 | BRONZE \$100 - \$499 |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Opportunity for 3 members of sponsor to attend HEN reception and events for the purpose of networking with members. | X | | | |
| Opportunity to have sponsor's company logo on HEN website one month pre- and post- event. | X | X | X | |
| Opportunity for sponsor's company to have a link on the HEN website: | | | | |
| 12 months | X | | | |
| 6 months | | X | | |
| 3 months | | | X | |
| 1 month | | | | X |
| Sponsor's name acknowledged in written and email announcements by HEN. | X | X | X | X |
| Two complimentary tickets to the HEN Film Festival event. | | X | | |
| Three complimentary tickets to the HEN Film Festival event. | X | | | |
| One full-page ad in The HEN Post (\$1,000 value). | X | | | |
| One half-page ad in The HEN Post (\$500 value). | | X | | |
| One quarter-page ad in The HEN Post (\$250 value). | | | X | |
| One eighth-page ad in The HEN Post (\$200 value). | | | | X |

**Platinum level sponsors may also have one-time use of the HEN DPG mailing list or emailing list as approved by the HEN DPG's Executive Committee. Any other symbiotic opportunities may be proposed by HEN leadership or potential sponsor and must be subsequently approved by the HEN DPG Executive Committee and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.*

1. Adopted from "Principles of a Healthy, Sustainable Food System" developed in June 2010 by the American Dietetic Association, American Nurses Association, American Planning Association, and American Public Health Association. Available at <http://www.planning.org/nationalcenters/health/pdf/HealthySustainableFoodSystemsPrinciples.pdf>

2. Food for Thought. Interagency Working Group on Food Marketing to Children. Available <http://www.ftc.gov/os/2011/04/10428foodmarketfactsheet.pdf>

3. Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch Program. Available at <http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/cr/seafoodwatch.aspx>

HEN POST DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submission Guidelines: The *HEN Post* features viewpoints, statements and articles that provide perspective on domestic and international food security, food production and environmental food issues. We also publish descriptions of programs, community intervention, research, legislation, websites or curriculums of interest to our members. We especially seek submissions from our members. These viewpoints, statements and other information do not imply endorsement by HEN and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Articles may be reproduced for education materials only. The *HEN Post* owns the copyright of all published materials unless prior agreement was made.

Submission Deadlines

September 15, 2012 –
Fall 2012

December 15, 2012 –
Winter 2013

March 15, 2013 –
Spring 2013

For more specific guidelines on article format, length, referencing and additional information that must accompany articles, see the HEN Web site – www.hendpg.com. Click on Members Area, enter your Member Number, click on Member Newsletter, click on DPG Newsletter Deadlines and Submission guidelines.

HEN ACTIVITIES @FNCE:

HEN Executive Committee Meeting and Dinner

The executive committee will meet to discuss our goals and progress for the 2012-2013 year. Dinner will be provided from Cosmic Catering.

DATE & TIME: Friday, October 5th, 5pm to 9pm (meeting begins at 6pm)

LOCATION: The Friends Center; walking distance from Convention Center

FOR: All HEN leaders and members are welcome.

RSVP: You must reserve a spot to participate. Please send a message to stacia.clinton@comcast.net.

COST: Free

HEN Organic Valley Farm and Rodale Institute Tour

The tour will take participants to a newly transitioned organic dairy farm and to the world renown Rodale Institute, with additional speakers en route.

DATE & TIME: Saturday October 6th, 8am to 3pm; Buses will depart at 8am from a location that is TBD.

FOR: HEN members.

RSVP: You must reserve a spot to participate. Please send a message to stacia.clinton@comcast.net.

COST: Free

Film Festival *Water: A Resource Threatened*

This annual HEN tradition continues with an emphasis on water exploring environmental threats to this essential resource. Our feature panelist will touch upon public policy priorities and agricultural challenges surrounding this emerging crisis.

DATE & TIME: Sunday, October 7th

LOCATION: off-site location TBD, Check website: www.hendpg.org for updates

FOR: HEN members

RSVP: You must reserve a spot to participate. Please send a message to stacia.clinton@comcast.net.

HEN DPG SPOTLIGHT SESSION: Sys- tems Approach to Ending Hunger: Exposing the Origin, Uncovering Solu- tions

Join us as we dive into a critical HEN topic with feature presentations from the originator of the Witness to Hunger program, Marianne Chilton, PhD, MPH, and the Millennium Institute founder and president; Hans Herren, PhD. Speakers will describe the rising problem of global and national hunger and present innovative, systems-based strategies to potential solutions.

DATE & TIME: Monday, October 8th 3:30pm-5:00pm

LOCATION: TBD

FOR: All FNCE Attendees

HEN DPG SHOWCASE

Add to the buzz at the showcase by visiting or working at the HEN DPG information booth.

DATE & TIME: Monday, October 8th 10:30am-1:00pm

LOCATION: Showcase Booth # 1513

FOR: All FNCE Attendees

RSVP: Sign up for a time slot to talk to conference goers and prospective HEN members at the HEN DPG booth. Please send a message to stacia.clinton@comcast.net if you are interested in working at the booth.

2012
FOOD & NUTRITION
CONFERENCE & EXPO

FNCE

October 6–9

Philadelphia, PA

Developing Professional Performance Standards for Sustainable, Resilient, and Healthy Food and Water Systems

by Kylie Harmison, Dietetic Intern, Iowa State University and Angie Tagtow, MS, RD, LD

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' Scope of Dietetics Practice Framework is an article which serves as an umbrella that encompasses the entire practice of dietetics. It is for use by practicing registered dietitians (RD), dietetics technicians, registered (DTRs), and dietetics students as a career development guide. It can also be used as an aid to organizations when making employment decisions. Regarding the Revised 2008 Standards of Practice (SOP) in Nutrition Care; Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for Registered Dietitian, these standards and indicators reflect the minimum competent level of dietetics practice and professional performance for RDs and DTRs. Per procedure, a 5 year revision is currently underway to establish a comprehensive scope of practice resources for the RD and DTR. These standards, in addition to other resources from the Academy, allow registered dietitians to identify minimum standards, provide indicators for self-evaluation, promote consistency in practice and performance, distinguish areas for professional growth and development, as well as many other outcomes. Although these standards are applicable to all areas of dietetic practice, there are twelve focus area SOP SOPPs that are specific to their practice settings. HEN members are currently working on a focus area SOPP that is broader than these practice settings and provides a broader, more global perspective, specifically a systems perspective in which performance standards address access to safe and sustainable food and water for the population as a whole.

HEN members are currently working on a focus area SOPP that is broader than these practice settings and provides a more global perspective, specifically a systems perspective in which performance standards address access to safe and sustainable food and water for the population as a whole. A starting point to conquering this enormous task is the development of SOPPs for Sustainable, Resilient, and Healthy Food and Water Systems (SRHFWS). Generating these standards will promote expansion to a broad approach by building upon individual intervention to focus on policies, systems, and environments. This approach supports the Academy's strategy for registered dietitians to undergo continuous quality improvement as knowledge, environment, and technology expands by developing standards for emerging areas of practice to ensure optimal performance and practice. New standards will also provide uniform definitions to allow all areas of dietetic practice to better communicate and advocate for nutritious diets that promote sustainable, resilient, and healthy food and water systems.

The goal of this project is to develop Standards of Professional Performance for registered dietitians in Sustainable, Resilient and Healthy Food and Water Systems (SRHFWS). As an emerging area of practice, a SOPP in SRHFWS is needed as a tool for a registered dietitian's current competency level and a path for career development and advancement. This will



Left to right: SOPP SRHFWS Work Group Orientation Meeting, March 23, 2012 at the Austin Public Library, Austin, MN. Lisa Dierks, Meg Bruening, Ramona Robinson-O'Brien, Erin Bergquist, Kylie Harmison (dietetic intern), Angie Tagtow. Photo taken by Kim Robien. Virtual work group members included Bettina Tahsin, Tammy Steinitz, Teri Underwood, Jennifer Wilkins and Barbara Hartman.

require a systems approach which is broader than a clinical setting or individual intervention and include policies, systems and environments which influence the quality, quantity, diversity, safety and accessibility of food and water and the impact on human, ecological, economic, and social health. Using a social ecological model as a framework, the SOPP for registered dietitians in SRHFWS will describe expected competencies at the competent, proficient and expert levels. Indicators and level of practice will be developed for six standards including: Quality in Practice; Competence and Accountability; Provision of Services; Application of Research; Communication and Application of Knowledge; and Utilization and Management of Resources

The SOPPs will enable all registered dietitians, regardless of area of practice, to plan professional development and continuing education activities. The SOPPs will guide dietitians in integrating food and water systems strategies into practice. These strategies can be implemented in a variety of ways. One method is through public awareness and education. Registered dietitians have the power to affect the way people think about issues and make decisions. If the public understood all of the potential positive outcomes of SRHFWS, previous and future efforts would be much more effective. Another way

to advance SRHFWS is through changes in the various areas of the food system. Food production, packaging, distribution, preparation, service, energy and water use, and waste management all show potential for sustainability improvement with the help of a knowledgeable registered dietitian. Continuous research by professionals can also contribute to discovering evidence on the benefits of utilizing SRHFWS practices.

These techniques are just a few of many ways registered dietitians can implement strategies for achieving sustainable food and water systems.

Establishing SRHFWS standards for registered dietitians is one step toward a systems approach focused on a sustainable, resilient and healthy food system. These standards coupled with motivated professionals would demonstrate quality improvement for the Academy. Consistency throughout food and nutrition professionals is crucial in providing the most current and superior levels of practice and cannot be achieved without standards. As this area of dietetics further develops, it will be essential for registered dietitians to have SOPPs available to use and reference for personal development, strengthening marketplace relevance, as well as for practicing the most current food and nutrition theories.

The HEN DPG has assembled a work group to develop the Standards of Professional Performance for Sustainable, Resilient, and Healthy Food and Water Systems. The work group, co-chaired by Angie Tagtow, MS, RD, LD and Kim Robien, PhD, RD, FADA, is working closely with HEN DPG Leadership, Academy staff and the Scope of Practice Sub-committee of the Quality Management Committee. Work group members include Erin Bergquist, MPH, RD, LD, CNSC, Meg Bruening, PhD, MPH, RD, Lisa Dierks, RD, LD, Barbara Hartman, MS, RD, LD, Ramona Robinson-O'Brien, PhD, RD, Tamara Steinitz, MS, RD, Bettina Tahsin, RD, LDN, CDE, Teri Underwood, MS, RD, CD, and Jennifer Wilkins, PhD, RD. It is anticipated that the SOPP in SRHFWS will be published in the *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics* in the fall of 2013. More information about SOPs and SOPPs can be accessed at www.eatright.org/sop.

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Montana's Dietetic Internship: Emphasizing Sustainable Food Systems to Improve Rural Health

by Alison Harmon, PhD, RD, LN and Coleen Kaiser, MS, RD, LN

Montana Dietetic Internship History & Development

Before 2011, the state of Montana could not offer graduates from Montana State University's (MSU) Didactic Program in Dietetics a place to complete their Supervised Practice required to become a registered dietitian (RD). Many dietetics graduates left the state to complete internships while a few applied to distance programs in other states and set up their own rotations. Once future RDs leave the state, it is often difficult for them to return without having a network of RD contacts and knowledge of job opportunities. Agencies that preferred having an RD on staff often hired candidates with other experience because a ready pool of strong RD candidates was not available. Our most qualified students have found positions elsewhere.

Wages in Montana are lower than the national average,¹ but to improve health care in the state, we need practitioners who know the terrain, understand the various regional cultures, and are culturally competent enough to work with tribal populations who are often medically underserved, but suffer from high rates of

obesity, high blood pressure, and diabetes.² The best candidates for RD positions in Montana are those who have been raised in the state, have been trained here, are attached to the frontier, and are committed to improving the quality of life in rural communities.

After the Montana Dietetic Association Board discussed the need for a dietetic internship in 2007, two board members conducted a survey of dietetic practitioners to assess the interest of prospective preceptors. Satisfied that a critical number of professionals favored a statewide internship, Montana State University's Department of Health and Human Development invested in the development of the Montana Dietetic Internship (MDI) by conducting the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) required self-study and hiring a director. The first class of 14 interns was selected from a pool of MSU graduates in 2011. They completed the program in June 2012. A second class will begin in August 2012, and is comprised of both MSU graduates and interns from other states who are drawn to the unique concentration of MDI's Sustainable Food Systems concentration.³

Sustainable Food Systems in the Context of Montana and MDI

Though the state is predominantly agricultural, most agricultural products are exported in their raw form. Livestock are finished in neighboring states, and grains are shipped out unprocessed. It is likely that most Montanans do not know who their farmers and ranchers are. Food insecurity persists, rural communities are in decline, and environmental resources are in need of management and conservation. However, as is the national trend, the number of farmers' markets and Community Supported Agriculture programs is on the rise while institutions are making more effort to support the local food economy. Montana eaters are creating a demand for foods grown and processed in the state, wanting to reconnect with the landscape.⁴

Sustainable food systems conserve and renew natural resources, advance social justice and animal welfare, build community wealth, and fulfill the food and nutrition needs of eaters now and in the future.⁵

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The purpose of MDI's Sustainable Food System concentration is to ensure that Montana's future food and nutrition professionals are food and nutrition experts, who are particularly knowledgeable about the nutrition and food grown here. We want them to know how to cook with Montana foods, preserve them, and take them to market; how to educate clients about MT agriculture, how to make connections with Montana farmers and purchase Montana foods for a foodservice or other food enterprises, how to connect producers and consumers, and how to encourage the flow of locally produced foods to emergency providers and low income households. Food is a vehicle for community and economic development in rural Montana.⁴ Having food and nutrition experts in those communities will be positive for the health of its people and economy of this state.

MDI Overview

All MDI interns begin their experience at MSU in Bozeman. Subsequent rotations are organized into regional clusters in an effort to minimize travel across this vast landscape. Rotation sites include comprehensive medical centers, small rural hospitals, VA hospitals, tribal health agencies, long term care facilities, the Montana Office of Public Instruction, a child development center, Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Team Nutrition, Cooperative Extension, WIC offices, university and hospital foodservice, K-12 foodservice, and food banks, along with locations interns select independently.

Sustainable Food System Rotation & Concentration

One two-week rotation is dedicated to the Sustainable Food Systems Concentration, which takes place at MSU's campus farm, Towne's Harvest Garden (THG), in the Department of Health and Human Development's teaching kitchen, and at other locations in the surrounding community. In this rotation, interns gain hands-on experience at Towne's Harvest, a 3-acre diversified vegetable farm on MSU's campus, maintaining the garden, and harvesting produce for CSA members and farmers' market customers.⁶ Armfuls of produce are also transported to a newly renovated teaching kitchen where interns experiment with lesser known greens and other vegetables, developing simple and nutritious recipes that can be given to farm stand customers, food bank clients, and posted on the THG website. Meanwhile, they plan a quantity foods project that incorporates local vegetables, fruits, grains, legumes, meat and eggs into innovative dishes for invited guests to enjoy. Hands on sessions are punctuated by discussions about local food system concepts, community food security, community supported agriculture, and strategies for nutrition education. In addition to developing recipes, interns learn how to preserve foods by freezing, drying, and canning with boiling water and pressure. Each intern chooses an issue about which to conduct research, write a paper, and give an oral presentation to the

rest of the class. A highlight of the rotation is a local food system tour in a neighboring community in which we conduct an investigation about how food system components (farms, community gardens, hospitals, schools, restaurants, retail food stores, and the food pantry) become better connected, integrated, and interdependent.

Other rotations that complement the Sustainable Food Systems concentration include food service rotations in hospitals and at universities that incorporate local food purchasing and local food menus, recycling and composting, energy reduction, and K-12 farm to school programs; community rotations that emphasize client education about purchasing and planning menus with local foods and becoming more familiar with locally grown produce; and clinical rotations that allow for diet counseling that encourages including more fresh produce, whole grains, legumes, and grass-fed meats—all of which can be purchased economically from local sources.

Feedback from Interns and Improvements for the Next MDI class

Interns most enjoy getting hands-on experience harvesting and then cooking with less familiar vegetables, the investigative food system tour, meeting farmers, and exploring food system issues from a variety of perspectives. Importantly, they learned that growing food is hard work and became more appreciative of those who make it their livelihood. They are interested in having more discussions about issues, integrating more education into their hands-on labor, and learning more about the economics of small scale local food production. They need to better understand the differences between "sustainable" operations and those that employ synthetic pesticides and fertilizers. The next class will operate a mobile farm stand designed to transport fresh produce to outlying rural areas that have poorer access to fresh nutritious foods. Linking sustainable food systems to improving rural health and quality of life is of key importance in Montana and a strategy we hope interns carry into their dietetic practice.

Sustainable Food System Synergy and Implications for Dietetic Education

While the first class of MDI interns was wholly comprised by Montana graduates who generally applied to the internship because of its location rather than its concentration, half of the next class will come from other states, motivated to apply primarily by their interest in sustainability. While MDI has curricular components intended to provide sustainable food system training to interns, we also expect that interns will begin educating one another, and educating preceptors throughout the state. We are excited to witness the synergy that will result from the flow and exchange of new ideas about how to apply sustainability in all areas of dietetic practice. Webber and Sarjahani conducted a survey of DI directors, and report that about half are incorporating sustainability

into their supervised practice, but a concentration in sustainable food systems is still unique.⁷ Student interest should encourage more dietetic internships to follow suit.

Note: Both existing Academy resources and forthcoming resources from the Hunger and Environmental Nutrition DPG including a Sustainable and Resilient Food and Water Systems Tool Kit and an educator's guide, can provide interested practitioners with assistance.⁸⁻¹⁰

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HEN Provides Scholarships to Three Student Members

Congratulations to our 2012 HEN Scholarship Recipients! The HEN DPG is proud to provide these scholarships to three deserving, passionate and ambitious student members.

Dr. Robert E. Putz Memorial Scholarship: Kristin Long, a dietetic intern at Andrews University and an advocate for health and food insecurity, is passionate about sustainable agriculture and a healthy environment for all people. Kristin will be using her scholarship to attend the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture's 22nd Annual Farming for the Future Conference in State College, Pennsylvania.

School-to-Farm Program Joraan Forbord Memorial Scholarship: Samantha Allbritton, a junior in the Nutrition and Dietetics program at Georgia State University, will be volunteering her time at the Dyer Family Farm in Ann Arbor, Michigan this summer as part of HEN's School-to-Farm Program. In her time at the Dyer Family Farm, Samantha will work alongside the farmers, learn in detail the connection between clinical dietetics and organic farming, and experience sustainable agriculture from the ground up in its truest sense.

HEN International Scholarship: Monique Richard, a dietetic intern and graduate student at the East Tennessee State University, is currently volunteering with El Cuenco, a non-profit that supports the impoverished in Central America and Haiti. She will work specifically in El Salvador this summer to further educate women and families on the role of non-genetically modified soy in the diet. In addition, Monique will be assisting with current projects funded by Plenty and supported by El Cuenco, including the sowing of soy in impoverished communities, and a bakery grant to further educate and develop recipes to combat and prevent malnutrition. In the words of Peggy Gregson, Co-Coordinator of El Cuenco, "Monique's energy, enthusiasm, intelligence and sophistication make her an ideal professional in the international sector."

Kristin, Samantha and Monique, we look forward to hearing about all of your experiences in the next year!

Annual Update from the HEN Speakers Bureau Grant Program

Once again, the HEN Speakers Bureau Grant program was a great success! We were able to award grants to two events that brought HEN's mission and vision to wider audiences.

Year of CSA Speaker Series – Madison, WI

FairShare CSA Coalition welcomed Melinda Hemmelgarn, MS, RD, to the University of Wisconsin—Madison to address an audience of students, farmers and the general public about local food and the many critical intersections between community health and the environment. Melinda's talk drew on the fascinating topics of "civic ecology" and food as health care. She encouraged attendees to flip the paradigm and think of "Agriculture Supported Community" with each of us as change agents responsible to our eco-systems and to future generations. She further challenged the group to remember that we all live downstream, that our food choices and the daily votes we make with our dollars influence our rivers and streams and can have devastating impacts on individual and community health. WWI and WWII propaganda imagery encouraging home-cooked meals, food preservation, and high vitamin vegetables as a form of national defense were juxtaposed with alarming contemporary messaging utilized to instill fear and pedal processed foods. Melinda finished her presentation with beautiful, thoughtful, compelling images of farmers and food producers and their personal stories of inspiring work transforming our risky food system to a healing one.

Green from Within – Sustainability in South Suburban Chicagoland

When one thinks of the Midwest, dairy farms and farmland and their contribution to sustainability would seem obvious. Food and nutrition professionals of Illinois' South Suburban Dietetic Association (SSDA) are familiar with the concept of sustainability, but surprisingly find that access to eco-friendly choices is a challenge in the economically diverse suburban Chicago area. With the support of a grant from HEN, Jan Dowell, MS, MHS, RD, CSSD surveyed the association online and led a discussion of local sustainability resources for professionals in health care and educational settings. Attendees at the dinner meeting participated in a hands-on activity to find out how far the milk and eggs available at local grocery stores had traveled. Each table had a topic/picture to prompt dinnertime discussions of Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) foods, pesticides, reusable plastics, locally grown and seasonal foods in Illinois, farmers' markets, and produce PLU stickers. Participants were provided with a copy of HEN's *Principles of a Healthy, Sustainable Food System* document and discussed local examples related to the Healthy Food in Health Care program (www.healthyfood-inhealthcare.org). Participants shared purchasing information for sustainable foodservice food packaging. The association also collected food donations for a local food pantry at the event.

Do you want to share the HEN mission and vision with others but lack the funding?

The HEN Speakers Bureau Grant Program is intended to support the HEN mission by offering grants for non-profit organizations to host speakers that provide education on topics central to the HEN mission and that promote membership in the HEN DPG. Any HEN member may submit a request to the Speaker Bureau Ambassador to receive a grant that may be used to defray travel and other expenses incurred by an out-of-town speaker traveling to present at a continuing education meeting for food and nutrition professionals. Scholarship recipients are eligible to receive up to \$500.

Applications are reviewed on a continual basis and are accepted until funds are depleted. Scholarship recipients are notified via e-mail once the application is approved. Recipients for the current member year are asked to submit a short article about their speaking event for the Summer 2013 newsletter with copy due in June 2013.

For further information and an application, contact:

Lisa Dierks, RD, LD, HEN Speaker Bureau Ambassador,
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HUNGER & ENVIRONMENTAL NUTRITION DPG CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Hunger & Environmental Nutrition Practice Group (HEN DPG) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics recognizes the outstanding work of our members through three awards:

Excellence in Hunger and Environmental Nutrition (2 Awards)

Excellence in Hunger and Environmental Nutrition Leadership (1 Award)

These award recipients are chosen through nomination by peers in the field. Nominees must be members of the HEN DPG and have been involved in hunger or environmental nutrition related work as a food and nutrition professional or volunteer. Awards will be presented at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo in October 2012.

To receive the *Excellence in Hunger and Environmental Nutrition Award*, nominees must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Contributes to the development of innovative approaches to increase food security or makes important contributions in the area of environmental nutrition (i.e., sustainable agriculture, food systems, natural resource conservation, food safety, food ethics, etc.).
- Demonstrates leadership in food security or environmental nutrition issues in program development, policy development or legislation.
- Increases awareness of issues of hunger or environmental nutrition issues.
- Advocates for persons at risk for hunger or food insecurity or environmental nutrition issues.
- Demonstrates and embodies interconnectedness of hunger and environmental nutrition through professional or volunteer work activities.

To receive the *Excellence in Hunger and Environmental Nutrition Leadership Award*, nominees must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Shows exemplary leadership in contributing to and advancing the HEN DPG through outstanding communication, ambassadorship, innovation, and internal development.
- Advocates strongly for the HEN DPG and hunger and environmental nutrition issues through program development, media relations, policy or legislation.
- Acts consistently to boost awareness, efficacy and membership within the HEN DPG and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, as well as external organizations and individual persons.

Deadline: Nominations must be received by **September 1, 2012**.

Nomination packets must include:

- Nominee and Nominator's name, e-mail and telephone contact information.
- Description of the nominee's achievements and justification for the nomination.
- Two letters of support

Please e-mail completed nomination packets to Elizabeth Vukovic Gartlan, MS, RD, Awards Committee Chair, at egartlan@gmail.com.

aided by Congressmen Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Joe Sestak (D-PA). The DRBC held off on making a decision.

Two years later, the DRBC will hold a special public hearing on two projects sponsored by the Stone Energy Corporation (hereinafter, "Stone Energy") to support natural gas exploration and development activities within the basin. One of the two projects entails a surface water withdrawal from the West Branch Lackawaxen River in Mount Pleasant Township, Pennsylvania (Docket No. D-2009-13-1). The other concerns an existing natural gas well drilling pad site in Clinton Township, Pennsylvania (Docket No. D-2009-18-1). Both projects are located in Wayne County, Pennsylvania, within the drainage area of a portion of the main stem Delaware River that the Commission has classified as Special Protection Waters.^{26, 27}

Despite this growing opposition, two years later finds Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett's administration lobbying neighboring states to approve regulations to open the Delaware River basin to natural gas drilling. The plan stopped last November when the governor of Delaware said the proposal lacked sufficient public health protections.

In the years since I attended the hearing at Matamoras, families who owned farm land and dairy farms for generations who want to lease their land have become a presence at these hearings. Land-poor and suffering from stiff competition from the agriculture industry, they find the drilling industry's offers of a lease are difficult to turn down. Other landowners acquired their land recently, seeing an opportunity to make thousands of dollars every day. Few of these landowners ever heard of the DRBC.

At the federal level, on May 10, 2012, the federal EPA began holding a sixty-day open comment period for banning diesel in hydro-fracking under the federal Safe Drinking Water

Act.²⁸ Hydraulic fracturing operations that do not use diesel should not be exempt from the Safe Drinking Water Act. EPA published on May 10, 2012, *Permitting Guidance for Oil and Gas Hydraulic Fracturing Activities Using Diesel Fuels - Draft*. The initial public comment period for this proposal was 60 days, ending on July 9, 2012. In response to requests from several stakeholders, this action extends the public comment period for an additional 45 days.²⁹

Clean water activists invited community members and organizations everywhere to join them in Washington, D.C. on July 28, 2012, for a rally at the Capitol to demand no more drilling that harms public health, water, and air. Instead of pushing for the increased use of oil and gas, elected officials and public agencies must insist that the industry stop all drilling that is dirty and dangerous, and put communities and the environment first, starting by removing special exemptions and subsidies for the oil and gas industry.³⁰

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in February 14, 2012, Governor Corbett signed HB 1950/Act 13 into law. Many felt that this Marcellus Shale legislation was written and paid for by the industry. State Representative Robert Freeman, D-136, Northampton County, said, "I voted against that legislation because I believed it was woefully inadequate on many levels, and I could not support it," Freeman said. "Overall, this law does very little to protect our environment. It raises insufficient revenue to mitigate the impact of drilling, and robs local governments of their ability to protect the health, safety and welfare of their communities. The big winners from this legislation are the big oil and gas companies; the losers are the people of Pennsylvania."³¹

A judge on April 11, 2012 ordered a temporary halt to the sections of Pennsylvania's new Marcellus Shale law that put limits on the power of municipalities to regulate the booming natural gas exploration industry, a victory for the seven municipalities that sued.^{32, 33}

"Overall, this law does very little to protect our environment. It raises insufficient revenue to mitigate the impact of drilling, and robs local governments of their ability to protect the health, safety and welfare of their communities. The big winners from this legislation are the big oil and gas companies; the losers are the people of Pennsylvania."³¹

However, the Commonwealth Court senior judge, Keith Quigley, suggested that the towns' wider challenge to the constitutionality of the local zoning limitations is questionable, saying in a two-page order that he's not convinced that "the likelihood of success is on the merits is high."^{34, 35}

Municipalities are already finding themselves the victims of the provision that overrides their authority to determine where drilling can occur. In Southeastern Pennsylvania, Nockamixon Township's old zoning ordinance used to limit drilling to industrial areas. Now a company is looking to take advantage of HB 1950's provision and has applied for a permit to drill in a non-industrial area. As a result, Nockamixon has had to join several other municipalities across Pennsylvania in a lawsuit against the Commonwealth.

It is clear that our woefully underfunded Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) cannot protect us from the dangers of drilling.³⁶ It is clear that Governor Corbett and our state legislature will not provide the leadership we need to protect our communities. It's time to

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Participants at a 2009 DRBC meeting about the Stone Energy application for drilling.

take our demands directly to the drillers.

This year's Lobby Day was organized by Clean Water Action and was a coalition effort that started in the Campaign for Clean Water which is an umbrella organization for over 100 groups. On June 19, 2012, residents from across Pennsylvania descended upon Harrisburg to deliver a message not only some of Pennsylvania's biggest natural gas drilling operators but also some of its biggest violators.

Residents marched from the Capitol to the Harrisburg offices of Chief, Chesapeake, and Range Resources to deliver letters demanding that they C.L.E.A.N. up their act by:

Complying now with the new EPA air regulations

Losing the frack pits and moving to closed loop system

Ending the dumping of wastewater into our rivers and streams

Annually test drinking water sources

Not drilling in residential areas where our homes and schools are³⁸

However, the drilling industry presses on. Returning to the Delaware River Basin Commission moratorium, the Delaware Riverkeepers stresses that NO PERMITS SHOULD BE APPROVED by the DRBC, regardless of whether they are test wells or production wells. BOTH will harm our Watershed.

Pennsylvania's fresh water is an irreplaceable resource that is being polluted by urgent efforts to extract natural gas from the ancient Marcellus Shale. Thanks to today's advocacy efforts, clean drinking water will more likely remain for future generations of living creatures to enjoy.

Postscript

As of late July, 2012, there has been a development in hydrofracking in Pennsylvania.³⁹ The price of the type of gas found in Pennsylvania has been dropping. Now, the industry is starting to drill in a different shale formation found in Ohio and extending into three counties in western Pennsylvania. This "wet" gas now being drilled is more expensive to extract but the by-products can be sold. It is too soon to tell what the ramifications of this development may be. It is unknown how long this trend may last but it does show the boom/bust characteristics of this industry. It may also show that the DRBC was correct in holding out against drilling in eastern Pennsylvania. Regardless, the challenges to water purity remain wherever the gas is drilled and piped.

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