

Subject line: **VOTE NO on SB875**

Dear Legislator,

On behalf of organizations from across Pennsylvania, we are writing to ask you not to support SB875 which would free from liability those who transport and use treated mine water from coal mines in gas and oil development.

We consider it to be bad public policy to allow those who handle polluted substances to avoid liability should there be a pollution problem. Treated mine water still contains dangerous pollutants and poses a public health and environmental risk that drillers should have to be accountable for – yet the bill actually removes some regulatory oversight that is available to DEP under solid waste management regulations.

It is not known if this mine water can safely be used in fracking since there is a lack of scientific studies and in-field analyses.

Finally, permanently removing flow from coal mine impacted watersheds targets those streams that are struggling to be restored of the flows needed to be healthy, imposing an unjust and disproportionate burden on already damaged watershed communities – this is just flat out wrong.

Please tell House leadership not to advance SB875 for a vote on the floor and if the bill does come forward, please vote NO. The letter signed 21 organizations is attached.

Please feel free to contact us for any further information. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Tracy Carluccio
Deputy Director
Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Representing the 21 Organizations