Shirley Masuo

Regarding NATURAL GAS JOBS vs GREEN & TOURISM jobs:

My name is Shirley Masuo and I live in the DRB in Shohola, PA. I also work in the DRB in Narrowsburg, NY. The organization I work with is currently conducting a survey of the people who have been impacted by natural gas activity all over the country. These surveys and the supporting documents to back up what these people are reporting, have been sent to, and officially recorded by the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) - a part of the CDC. The ATSDR has in turn, sent this information to the PA Department of Health, which is now also making a registry of them and interviewing the survey-takers to verify what is in the surveys.

One of the questions in our survey is on quality of life. Almost all survey-takers have noted a diminishment of tourism in their area since the gas industry came and began working.

Below is a report on jobs in relation to gas drilling in PA.

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All the fracking processes and infrastructure, degrade health - human, regional environmental and global health - but today I will speak about economic health in relation to those same fossil fuel processes. In considering the Delaware River Basin's economic health which has been relatively unencumbered by drilling since 2008. In the Kauffman report, on the DRBC website, Kauffman adds up the value (in 2011) of the Basin - It's $51 billion per year and natural capitol of $683 billion. - without drilling!

What would happen in the Delaware Basin if drilling was allowed? - a boom and a bust! with permanent damages as happens everywhere that allows itself to become a resource colony. Let's look at what actually happened in Pennsylvania even with the abandonment of an ecotourism, hospitality initiative, called PA Wilds in order to embrace the boom and bust of the gas industry. Over the ten years from 2007 to 2017 drilling industry jobs went up - and then down! WHILE leisure hospitality jobs went steadily up! through a few years of 'boom' to a bust in a typical boom-bust bell curve - leaving total drilling, mining and logging jobs just a little higher than in 2007 - from about 20 to 23 thousand in the state. The leisure, hospitality sector, however has grown steadily - a straight line upward growth - and at orders of magnitude larger - from 2007's 498 thousand to 571 thousand in 2017. Would it have grown even more if the PA Wilds promotion effort, advertising and focus not been withdrawn in order to facilitate the gas industry? Experts think so.
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From Kauffman Report Executive Summary:

The Delaware Basin's water supplies, natural resources, and ecosystems in Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and a small sliver of Maryland:

Contribute $22 billion in annual economic activity from recreation, water quality, water supply, hunting/fishing, ecotourism, forest, agriculture, open space, and port benefits.
1 Provide ecosystem goods and services (natural capital) of $21 billion per year in 2010 dollars with net present value (NPV) of $683 billion discounted over 100 years.
2 Are directly/indirectly responsible for 600,000 jobs with $10 billion in annual wages.

Jobs and PA Wilds material for this comment came from:
JOBS - two paths diverged - by Jon Bogle, Williamsport, PA compiled from Bureau of Labor Statistics - including the graphs below
Leisure and Hospitality
All Employees, In Thousands - Pennsylvania - Statewide

Mining and Logging - including petroleum and gas extraction jobs
All Employees, In Thousands - Pennsylvania - Statewide
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