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April 12, 2010

Delaware River Basin Commission Secretary
P.O. BOX 7360, West Trenton, NJ 08628-0360
Delivered via email: Paula.Schmitt@drbc.state.nj.us

Subject: Public Comment - Stone Energy Dockets

Dear Ms. Schmitt:

The Wayne County Chamber of Commerce is the eyes and ears of the business community in Wayne County. We pride ourselves on knowing what the community wants and needs and we deliver on those needs. Through many recent meetings, forums and discussions we have listened and played a large role in the formulation of a potentially large economic impact in Wayne County. It should come as no surprise to you that this impact is the production of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale formation.

We recognize wholeheartedly that the Marcellus Shale issue needs to be addressed in a forthright and direct manner with particular and acute attention paid to our environment and safety. As you may know, Wayne County is dependent on tourism and agriculture as our driving economic forces. If we were to hurt one, we would hurt our entire economic landscape. However, we see the way that Marcellus Shale production and our current economic staples can not only live together but thrive together.

We have recently met with representatives of Stone Energy and discussed with them at length and in detail their plans to develop the Marcellus Shale in Wayne County and the Delaware River watershed. We have found the Stone representatives to be committed to the environment, safety and transparency in their operations. Stone Energy is also eager to play a leading role in the region's economic development as this important natural resource is safely accessed.

We couldn't agree more with Stone Energy's commitment. As is always the case, we want to bring the "best in class" to Wayne County; not only for our residents but for the people that visit and spend their hard earned money in Wayne County. We see Stone Energy as a company that will be the "best in class" that we search for and hope to bring to our countryside.

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We urge the DRBC to give the Stone Energy dockets prompt attention and review. Delay is costly to them, our membership and region, and also to the nation which can benefit from the clean and relatively inexpensive energy which natural gas supplies.

Sincerely,



Donna LaBar

Executive Director

(On behalf of the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Directors)