



Tompkins County Council of Governments

320 North Tioga Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 05/23/13 03:00 PM
Department: Tompkins County Council of Governments
Category: Environmental
Functional Category: Gas Drilling

DOC ID: 4180

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO. 001-2013

Support of a Moratorium Until May 15, 2015 to Complete a Comprehensive Health Impact Assessment

MOVED by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Sumner, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present.

WHEREAS, New York State (NYS) Assembly Bill A5424A (same as NYS Senate Bill S04236A) notes in its justification that the potential for high volume hydraulic fracturing for natural gas in reservoirs such as the Marcellus and Utica Shale formations has led to robust debate regarding the safety of the process and the protection of the environment, and

WHEREAS the purpose of New York State Assembly bill A5424A (same as NYS Senate bill S04236A) is to impose a moratorium until May 15, 2015 on the issuance of certain natural gas drilling permits and requires the completion of a comprehensive health impact assessment done by a school of public health, and

WHEREAS delaying the Department of Environmental Conservation's ability to issue permits will provide the New York State Legislature with additional time to assess the true public health and environmental impacts of hydraulic fracturing and will provide the opportunity for the completion of a comprehensive health impact assessment, and

WHEREAS, this bill will also help ensure the State Legislature has adequate time to review DEC's Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (sGEIS) once it is produced. Such a moratorium will allow for a thorough, deliberate and unrushed analysis of all the factors involved, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County Council of Governments supports NYS Assembly Bill A5424A (same as NYS Senate Bill S04236A) and encourages the passage of this Bill by the Senate and Governor also,

RESOLVED, further, That a certified copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Joe Martens; New York State Department of Health Commissioner Nirav Shah; New York State Association of Counties; New York State Association of Towns; New York State Association of State County Health Officials (NYASCHO); New York State Senator Thomas O'Mara; New York State Senator and sponsor of the bill Tony Avella; New York State Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton; NYS Assemblyman and sponsor of the bill Robert Sweeney; EPA Region 2 Administrator Judith Enck; EPA Acting Director Bob Perciasepe; Senators Kirsten Gillibrand and Charles Schumer; Congressman Thomas Reed; DEC Department of Mineral Resources Director Bradley Field and DEC Department of Mineral Resources Assistant Director Katherine Sanford; U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Earnest Moniz; President Barak Obama.