



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Julie Menin CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 – MANHATTAN RESOLUTION

DATE: MARCH 22, 2011

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE VOTE: 8 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

BOARD VOTE: 37 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

RE: Request to Governor Cuomo & Mayor Bloomberg to Withdraw the Department of Environmental Conservation's Draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (dSGEIS) for Marcellus Shale Horizontal Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing in the New York City Watershed

WHEREAS: Community Board #1 (CB#1) has passed numerous resolutions on hydraulic fracturing in the New York City watershed and the numerous shortcomings of the New York State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC) Draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (dSGEIS) (April 27, 2010, February 23, 2010, November 24, 2009, October 27, 2009, and May 26, 2009); and

WHEREAS: On August 5, 2010, Governor Cuomo released a new energy policy book "Power NY" that focuses on maximizing energy efficiency, building the smart grid, improving the environment through renewable and clean energy, and reforming New York's energy bureaucracy; and

WHEREAS: Governor Cuomo's energy plan says regarding Marcellus Shale Horizontal Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing: ***"Any Drilling in the Marcellus Shale must be Environmentally Sensitive and Safe: We need to explore how drilling can be done in a way that is consistent with environmental concerns. The State's Department of Environmental Conservation, as well as the federal Environmental Protection Agency, are currently studying the effects of drilling in the Marcellus Shale region. Through that assessment, New York State must ensure that, if and when the Shale's natural gas is obtained, it does not come at the expense of human health or have adverse environmental impacts. In particular, it is critical that no drilling be conducted that might negatively affect any existing watershed and that best practices in drilling are adopted and enforced by the State."*** (http://www.andrewcuomo.com/system/storage/6/89/e/798/andrew_cuomo_power_ny.pdf, page 124); and

WHEREAS: CB#1 is concerned that Governor Cuomo's nominee for Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Joseph Martens, testified at a Legislative hearing on 2/8/11 that he intends to finish reviewing comments on the dSGEIS in

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the next several months and release a revised draft around June 1, 2011 instead of expanding the scope of the SGEIS; now

THEREFORE
BE IT
RESOLVED

THAT: CB#1 is outraged that EPA Region 2 key did not have the courage to include its own recommendation: "Region 2 recommends a moratorium on drilling in the New York City watershed so that NYSDEC may gain experience with regulating high volume hydraulic fracturing activities in less sensitive areas" (EPA's Preliminary Discussion of NYS DEC Marcellus Shales draft SGEIS December 4, 2009) in EPA's Final Comments submitted by the EPA to NYSDEC (December 30, 2009); and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED

THAT: CB#1 calls on Governor Cuomo to hold true to his August 5, 2010 promise that New York's "... existing watersheds are sacrosanct and Andrew Cuomo would not support any drilling that would threaten the State's major sources of drinking water."
(http://www.andrewcuomo.com/system/storage/6/89/e/798/andrew_cuomo_power_ny.pdf, page 92); and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED

THAT: CB#1 calls on Governor Cuomo, Mayor Bloomberg and the NYC Department of Conservation (NYCDEC) to protect the drinking water of the 8 million New York City residents and workers from hydraulic fracturing by withdrawing the dSGEIS and supporting:

- Expansion of the scope of the dSGEIS to including additional concerns such as how to manage gas drilling wastewater,
- Establishment of a Citizens and Technical Advisory Committees to help NY DEC revise the dSGEIS,
- At least 120 days public comment to identify additional issues to be included in the dSGEIS scope, and
- The requirement of individual EIS reviews for horizontal hydraulic fracturing permits, effluent limitations for hydraulic fracturing, deep well injection and wastewater treatment.