

July 30, 2012

Dear _____:

We, the undersigned, are writing because you are one of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's biggest campaign contributors. Given your interest in New York's government affairs, we respectfully ask you to help safeguard our state's public health and environment from the unprecedented pollution hazards posed by Marcellus Shale gas "fracking."

Fracking is a drilling technique that pumps millions of gallons of water laced with toxic chemicals into natural gas wells. This high-pressure injection process can release natural gas trapped in the mile-deep Marcellus formation by cracking the shale that underlies New York's Catskills, Finger Lakes and Southern Tier regions.

Fracking has generated huge air, land and water pollution problems in Pennsylvania and other states. For example, more than 750,000 residents near Pittsburgh were forced to drink bottled water after public drinking water drawn from the Monongahela River was contaminated by improper dumping of toxic and radioactive fracking wastewaters. Fracking's massive pollution threats prompted New York's Department of Environmental Conservation to impose the nation's first shale gas fracking moratorium. No Marcellus Shale fracking will be allowed until comprehensive safeguards are adopted.

Even though new fracking regulations have yet to be enacted, *The New York Times* reported that Governor Cuomo is preparing a plan to permit Marcellus Shale "fracking" in five counties of New York's Southern Tier while maintaining the moratorium in all other areas of the state.

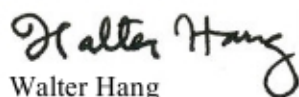
His proposal would treat Southern Tier residents as second class citizens and unfairly subject them to potentially irreparable hazards. It has been broadly opposed by environmental groups. See reverse side of this letter for "Environmental Groups Say They Will Fight Cuomo's Gas Drilling Plan," *New York Times* (June 19, 2012).

Take Action Today: Contact Governor Cuomo to Oppose Fracking in the Southern Tier. Say no to the Governor's irresponsible and fundamentally unfair fracking plan.


Email: <http://j.mp/ContactCuomo>, Phone: (518) 474-8390.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



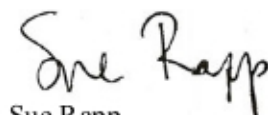
Walter Hang



Matthew T. Ryan
Mayor, City of Binghamton



Ben Perkus
New York Residents Against Drilling



Sue Rapp
Vestal Residents for Safe Energy (VeRSE)



Erin Heaton Meyer
Chenango Community Action for Renewable Energy (C-CARE)

The New York Times

Cuomo Proposal Would Restrict Gas Drilling to a Struggling Area

By Danny Hakim

Published: June 13, 2012

ALBANY — Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo’s administration is pursuing a plan to limit the controversial drilling method known as hydraulic fracturing to portions of several struggling New York counties along the border with Pennsylvania, and to permit it only in communities that express support for the technology...

The strategy has not been made final and details could change, but it has been taking shape over several months. It would be contingent on hydraulic fracturing’s receiving final approval from state regulators, a step that is not a foregone conclusion but is widely expected later this summer. Department of Environmental Conservation regulators last year signaled their initial support for the drilling process around the state, with exceptions for environmentally sensitive areas like New York City’s upstate watershed.

Environmental Groups Say They Will Fight Cuomo’s Gas Drilling Plan

Full article available online at <http://nyti.ms/LVjiY>

Environmental Groups Say They Will Fight Cuomo’s Gas Drilling Plan

By Danny Hakim

Published: June 19, 2012

ALBANY — A coalition of environmental groups plans to campaign against a proposal that Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo is weighing to approve limited drilling for natural gas, the groups said Tuesday...

“Any decision as to whether or not to frack anywhere in New York State should not be made before the impacts to our health, environment and economy have been comprehensively and properly assessed,” the environmental groups said in the statement, which was prompted by a report last week in The New York Times that said the Cuomo administration was pursuing a plan to limit fracking to counties along the Pennsylvania border.

Full article available online at <http://nyti.ms/NP5cUa>