

To the Town Of Otisco Board Members:
October 11, 2010

Hydrofracking is a critical issue and one that requires more time to study and review. We need to be very concerned about the grave consequences hydrofracking can and has had on the integrity of our precious, valuable environment and our fresh water resources. We have seen it first hand today in the communities of Dimock and Montrose, PA.

We understand the importance of capturing natural gas. But just as the EPA Administrator, Lisa Jackson stated, "Natural gas is an important part of our nation's energy future, it is critical that the extraction of this valuable natural resource does not come at the expense of safe water and healthy communities."

We feel if we are able to slow down the process it could give us time to develop better technology if we *must* drill and stronger regulations that will prevent drilling in/near our watersheds (there are already 170 signed leases in the Otisco Lake watershed and well over 100 in Skaneateles!). The EPA has been asked to conduct further in-depth studies to be certain if it *is* done, it is done with high regulatory standards, with extreme caution, responsibly and with utmost respect for our environment, our health and the health of our children and future generations. The decision is still pending whether this will happen, one can only hope.

And...the NY State Senate has passed a moratorium until further studies are done. We are waiting to see if it is passed in the Assembly and becomes law. Again, one can only hope.

But meanwhile, many Towns have been willing to make a stand and have already in-acted moratoriums. The Towns of Onondaga, DeWitt, Tully, Marcellus, Camillus, Skaneateles, Onondaga County, Cortlandville...won't you consider joining them. Please, protect those you serve. Protect our precious resources, our water and our environment.

Some of you may have signed leases. That was your choice, you had the right. We also have the right to ask for a moratorium. Fracking is not safe!

If drilling in the watershed is as extensive as the leases suggest we are in trouble. Tonight, we'd like to request a hydrofracking moratorium and a formal Public Meeting to discuss this critical issue! To put it out on the table, for all to discuss, both sides.

We need to think responsibly. We need to think of our precious environment...we need to think of our future generations. We need think of our quality of life in the Town of Otisco and the Otisco Lake Watershed.

Thank You.

Anita Williams, President
Otisco Lake Preservation Association

Additional Information:

Bill Kappel, USGS Geologist
Hydrofracking 101
Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2010
6:00PM
Onondaga Free Library
Seneca Turnpike

<http://blog.syracuse.com/opinion//print.html>