

Date: October 10, 2010

Location: Otisco Town Hall

Public Meeting on Hydrofracking in the Town Of Otisco.

My name is Joe Flynn; I live at 208 Peartree Drive in Camillus.

Mister Supervisor and Councilors I applaud you for bringing this Issue to the Public's attention.

I have some concerns and questions about Hydrofracking.

What is Hydrofracking?

The Marcellus and Utica Shale are layers of bedrock found from New York to West Virginia. The Shale contains small pockets of Natural Gas that has been uneconomical to extract until now.

The Halliburton Corporation has developed a technique of high-volume, slickwater, horizontal, hydraulic, fracturing known as "Hydrofracking" that breaks up the shale. The Hydrofracking technique uses millions of gallons of water, sand, and toxic chemicals to fracture the shale releasing the Natural Gas. One well Pad can support up to 10 wells. This process will result in the industrialization of our rural landscape and it also, threatens the health of our communities and our environment.

The following is an excerpt taken from New York City's report on Hydrofracking.

Each well pad will take up 5 to 7 acres including roads, pipelines, and storage facilities. There will be 6 to 10 wells per pad. The well bore will go down some 3,000 to 7,000 feet and horizontal sections will extend laterally for 2,000 to 6,000 feet. The fracking process requires, at minimum, several million gallons of fresh water per well. Since the wells will be far from any municipal supply, getting this water to the well will require 800 to 1,200 tanker truck trips or on-site water. If this water is drawn from the city's watershed it will mean less water in its reservoirs, especially in times of drought. (Eight million gallons of water is equivalent to 320,000 ten- minute showers.)

I do have concerns and questions involving the following:

Water Supply, Roads, Flowback Fluids, and Safety.

Water Supply

What will be the source of the water supply?

Will the hundreds of millions of gallons water for Hydrofracking come from nearby streams or Skaneateles or Otisco Lakes?

Roads

Can Otisco Town roads sustain the kind of truck traffic required to transport thousands of truck loads of fresh water to a well site? Does the Town currently have a picture inventory of the each of the roadways leading to leased properties? Will the tanker trucks be allowed to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week? Will the Gas Drilling Companies be required to post a bond or assessed a fee to cover road repairs?

Flowback Fluids

Once the well has been fractured and the “Flowback Fluids”; are withdrawn from the well they are usually stored in a lagoon or pit at the well site rather than being removed and reclaimed. The flowback fluids contain fracturing chemicals, naturally occurring chlorides, heavy metals, radioactive materials, and water that is six times saltier than sea water.

Will the Flowback Fluids lagoons result in the property being designated as a ‘brown field’ site?

Will there be zoning put in place to require the Flowback Fluids to be stored on site in stainless steel tanks?

If the Flowback Fluids are transported off the drilling site will there be any restrictions as to the disposal of the fluids within the Town of Otisco?

Safety

Will the Otisco Volunteer Fire Dept be trained to handle chemical fires that could occur at the drilling sites?

Will the Otisco Volunteer Ambulance Service be trained to provide care and assistance to accident victims at the drilling site when chemical spills and / or fire occur?

Will the Gas Drilling Companies be assessed any fees to cover the costs to train the Volunteer Fire and Ambulance personnel?

During this past winter and spring I worked with the Town of Camillus on a Hydrofracking Ban. There were three public hearings held on the proposed Hydrofracking Ban, March 23rd, April 13th, and April 27th. On April 27th the Camillus Town Board voted into law a Ban on Horizontal Drilling in the Town of Camillus.

If not a Ban on Hydrofracking then vote for at least a six month moratorium to allow time to study the effects of Hydrofracking and determine possible solutions to resulting problems.

In closing may I approach the Board and present:

Pictures of Hydrofracking operations in Pennsylvania, Texas and Wyoming,

Split Estate DVD

A copy of the Camillus Law.

Thanks You