

LOCAL LAW NO. "D" FOR 2014

A LOCAL LAW OF THE COUNTY OF ALBANY, NEW YORK IN RELATION TO THE DISPOSAL OF WASTE ASSOCIATED WITH OIL AND NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION, EXTRACTION AND STORAGE ACTIVITIES IN SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

Introduced: 6/9/14

By Messrs. Clenahan, Bullock, Mss. McLean Lane, Kinsch, Messrs. O'Brien, Dawson, Mayo, Mr. Beston, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Commisso, Ms. Connolly, Messrs. Corcoran, Cotrofeld, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Higgins, Jacobson, Joyce, Mackey, Mss. Maffia-Tobler, McKnight, Messrs. Morse, Nichols, Rahm, Reilly, Simpson, Ward and Ms. Busch:

BE IT ENACTED by the Albany County Legislature as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Findings

The Legislature finds and determines that hydraulic fracturing is a highly controversial form of mining which uses pressurized fluid to break rock formations and release natural gas that is then collected and results in the production of solid and liquid natural gas waste and oil waste, and

The Legislature further finds and determines that natural gas waste and oil waste contain toxic substances, radioactive contaminants, and many of the chemicals found in natural gas waste and oil waste have been linked to severe health problems associated with the respiratory system and other organs, and

The Legislature further finds and determines that the introduction of natural gas waste and oil waste into solid waste management facilities poses a serious health risk to County residents, and

The Legislature further finds and determines that it is in the best interests of the residents of Albany County to protect the health and safety of Albany County residents by prohibiting the introduction of natural gas waste and oil waste into solid waste management facilities in Albany County.

Section 2. Definitions

As used in this law, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

A) "HYDRAULIC FRACTURING" shall mean the fracturing of underground rock formations, including shale and non-shale formations, by man-made fluid-

driven techniques for the purpose of stimulating oil, natural gas, or other subsurface hydrocarbon production.

B) “NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION ACTIVITIES” shall mean all geologic or geophysical activities related to the exploration for or extraction of natural gas or other subsurface hydrocarbon deposits, including, but not limited to, core and rotary drilling and hydraulic fracturing.

C) “NATURAL GAS WASTE” shall mean:

- a. any liquid or solid waste or its constituents that is generated as a result of natural gas extraction activities, which may consist of produced and flowback water, drill cuttings, drilling mud, brine, chemicals, naturally occurring radioactive materials, heavy metals, or other contaminants;
- b. leachate from solid wastes associated with natural gas extraction activities;
- c. any liquid waste that is generated as a result of or in association with the underground storage of natural gas;
- d. any liquid waste that is generated as a result of or in association with liquefied petroleum gas well storage operations; and
- e. any products or byproducts resulting from the treatment, processing, or modification of any of the above wastes.

D) “OIL EXTRACTION ACTIVITIES” shall mean all geologic or geophysical activities related to the exploration for or extraction of oil, including, but not limited, to, core and rotary drilling and hydraulic fracturing.

E) “OIL WASTE” shall mean:

- a. any liquid or solid waste or its constituents that is generated as a result of oil extraction activities, which may consist of water, brine, chemicals, naturally occurring radioactive materials, heavy metals, or other contaminants;
- b. leachate from solid wastes associated with oil extraction activities; and
- c. any products or byproducts resulting from the treatment, processing, or modification of any of the above wastes.

F) “SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY” shall mean any facility employed beyond the initial solid waste collection process, including but not limited to recycling centers, transfer stations, baling facilities, rail haul or barge haul facilities, processing systems, including resource recovery facilities or other facilities for reducing solid waste volume, sanitary landfills, plants and facilities for compacting, composting or pyrolyzation of solid waste, incinerators and other solid waste disposal, reduction or conversion facilities.

G) "SOLID WASTE" shall mean all materials or substances discarded or rejected as being spent, useless, worthless, or in excess to the owners at the time of such discard or rejection, including but not limited to garbage, refuse, industrial and commercial waste, sludges from air or water pollution control facilities or water supply treatment facilities, rubbish, ashes, contained gaseous material, incinerator residue, demolition and construction debris and offal, but not including sewage and other highly diluted water-carried materials or substances and those in gaseous form.

H) "RECYCLING CENTER" shall mean a community-based facility where separated solid waste can be stored, assembled and prepared for sale or other disposition.

I) "RESOURCE RECOVERY" shall mean the separation, extraction and recovery of useable materials, energy or heat from solid waste through source separation, recycling centers or other programs, projects or facilities.

J) "SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT" means the purposeful and systematic transportation, storage, processing, recovery and disposal of solid waste.

Section 3. Prohibitions.

The introduction of natural gas waste or oil waste into any solid waste management facility within or operated within Albany County is prohibited.

Section 4. Penalties.

Any violation of Section 3 of this Local Law shall be an unclassified misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$25,000 per violation and/or up to thirty days' imprisonment. Each disposal of natural gas waste or oil waste in a solid waste management facility shall constitute a separate and distinct violation.

Section 5. Duty of Employees.

The Albany County Department of Public Works is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to carry out the requirements of this Local Law regarding solid waste management facilities.

Section 6. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, subdivision or other part of this Local Law or its applications shall be adjudged by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or

otherwise invalidate the remainder of this Local Law which shall remain in full force and effect except as limited by such order or judgment.

Section 7. State Environmental Quality Review Act compliance.

The Albany County Legislature determines that the foregoing action constitutes a “Type II action” as said term is defined in the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), and that no further action with respect to same is required under SEQRA.

Section 8. Effective Date and Applicability.

This Local Law shall be effective ninety (90) days subsequent to filing in the Office of the Secretary of State and shall apply to all transactions occurring on or after the effective date of this Local Law.

Referred to Health Committee. 6/9/14

Favorable recommendation – Health Committee. 3/25/15

On roll call vote the following voted in favor: Ms. Benedict, Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Ms. Busch, Messrs. Carman, Clay, Clenahan, Clouse, Commisso, Corcoran, Cotrofeld, Crouse, Dawson, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Higgins, Hogan, Jacobson, Joyce, Mss. Kinsch, Lockart, Mr. Mackey, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Mr. Mayo, Mss. McKnight, McLean Lane, Messrs. Mendick, Morse, Nichols, O’Brien, Rahm, Reilly, Simpson, Stevens, Tunny and Ward – 37.

Those opposed: – 0.

Local Law was adopted. 4/13/15