

RESOLUTION NO. 47-b

ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM PERTAINING TO HYDROFRACKING AND HORIZONTAL DRILLING ON PROPERTY OWNED BY ALBANY COUNTY

Introduced: 6/11/12

By Messrs. Higgins, Mackey, Bullock, Clenahan, Steck, Ms. Kinsch, Law, Conservation and Improvement Committees and Mr. O'Brien:

WHEREAS, Horizontal drilling and high volume hydraulic fracturing are technologies that allow for the extraction of natural gas from areas of shale formation, and

WHEREAS, Hydrofracking involves drilling deep wells and pumping large quantities of water mixed with sand and chemicals into the underground shale to release natural gas, and

WHEREAS, While there is potential for these technologies to have positive economic impacts, there is a need for further study to evaluate the long term environmental and community impacts of hydrofracking and horizontal drilling, particularly with respect to water quality, the composition of the fluids used to fracture the shale and the containment and disposal of those fluids, and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation continue to address the cumulative and indirect impacts of hydrofracking and horizontal drilling including, but not limited to, water quality impacts through potential contamination of groundwater and surface water, the greenhouse gas emissions that hydrofracking and horizontal drilling produces, and the potential health impacts that may be associated with hydrofracking and horizontal drilling, and

WHEREAS, New York State needs to promulgate regulations that provide environmentally responsible safeguards to protect both the citizens and natural resources of this State and mitigate any potential adverse environmental impacts, and

WHEREAS, It is the desire of the Albany County Legislature to determine that no hydrofracking be permitted on county owned property, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that no hydrofracking or horizontal drilling shall be permitted on property owned by Albany County, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the county shall not allow the use of its land, real property or other appurtenances for the storage, treatment, transfer or disposal of any waste or by-product created as a direct or indirect result from hydrofracking or horizontal drilling, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this moratorium shall be in full force and continue for a period of two years unless otherwise amended by this body, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, Assemblymen Ronald Canestrari, Robert Reilly, John McEneny and Senator Neil Breslin.

On roll call vote the following voted in favor: Ms. Benedict, Messrs. Beston, Bullock, Mss. Busch, Chapman, Messrs. Clay, Clenahan, Clouse, Corcoran, Cotrofeld, Crouse, Dawson,

Domalewicz, Feeney, Higgins, Jacobson, Ms. Kinsch, Mr. Mackey, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Mr. Mayo, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Morse, Nichols, O'Brien, Reilly, Simpson, Steck, Tunny and Ward – 29

Those opposed: Messrs. Commisso, Ethier, Hogan, Ms. Lockart, Messrs. Mendick, Rahm and Stevens – 7.

Abstained: Mr. Joyce – 1.

Resolution was adopted. 6/11/12