



Owego Harford Railway



Joint Landowners Coalition of New York, Inc.



[Legislator]

June 21, 2010

Dear [Assemblyman/Assemblywoman/Senator]:

The undersigned organizations write to ask that you oppose legislation to impose a statutory moratorium on gas drilling in New York.

As the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation completes its review of the environmental impact statement governing natural gas exploration in New York, we believe that the way forward to the safe development of the Marcellus Shale is clear.

We need your support for this compelling economic development opportunity, one that could benefit the State and localities significantly for years to come. We should embrace our State's ability to bring New York-produced gas to New York customers, and by so doing create new opportunity and prosperity in our own State.

We believe that New York cannot afford to turn away or postpone the tremendous opportunity for economic resurgence and a clean energy supply presented by the Marcellus Shale. The New York State Energy Plan correctly point outs that:

"The State should promote environmentally responsible development of these natural gas resources to large scale production, which would generate economic benefits, including increasing the stable supplies of indigenous fuel, lowering gas transportation costs for consumers, generating new State and local tax revenues, and increased revenues for landowners from land use agreements with natural gas companies."

Natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel known to man – is a solution to reducing our nation's carbon footprint, and it will greatly improve New York's and America's energy independence. For decades to come, natural gas will serve as the transition to – and the primary back-up for – renewable energy technologies, such as wind and solar. And natural gas is abundant; the Marcellus Shale alone could supply natural gas to the entire United States for 20 years or more.

Natural gas exploration in the Marcellus Shale formation has been and will continue to be conducted safely, efficiently and without environmental harm. The extremely stringent requirements proposed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation in the draft Supplemental Generic Impact Statement (sGEIS) provide the public with the necessary oversight that natural gas exploration and extraction will be conducted in an environmentally safe manner.

It's also important to emphasize the economics of natural gas exploration. Based on economic projections in Pennsylvania, where the Marcellus is now being explored, Marcellus Shale development in New York will generate more than \$1.4 billion in annual economic impact, based on 300 wells drilled – including more than \$100 million in lease payments to landowners, \$32 million in state tax revenue and tens of thousands of new jobs over time. In Broome County, a recent study that showed that 2,000 wells would annually generate more than \$7.4 billion in economic activity, and nearly \$400 million in wages, salaries and benefits. Also, more than \$600 million in

property tax income and \$22 million and \$20 million in state and local taxes would be generated. All of this – in just one county.

We ask you to let the process proceed with the DEC continuing the review and revisions to the sGEIS. **There are no permits being issued at this time.** There is no need for a statutory moratorium. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of allowing the existing and very deliberative process to proceed.

Respectfully submitted,



Brad R. Gill, Executive Director
Independent Gas & Oil Association of NY



James E. Eisel Sr., Chairman
Delaware County Board of Supervisors



Lou Santoni, President and CEO
Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce



Darlene D. Kerr, President
Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce



Gavin Donohue, President and CEO
Independent Power Producers of NY



Randy Wolken, President
Manufacturers Association of Central New York



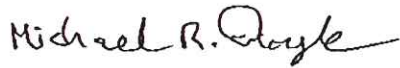
Michael J. Elmendorf II, New York State Director
National Federation of Independent Business



David S. Hamling, President and CEO
New York Construction Materials Association



Brian T. McMahon, Executive Director
New York State Economic Development Council



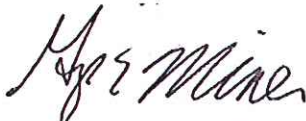
Michael R. Doyle, Executive Director
New York State Petroleum Council



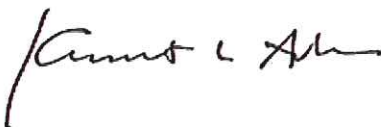
Kendra L. Adams, Executive Director
New York State Motor Truck Association



Daniel G. Plummer, Legislative Counsel
Railroads of New York, Inc.



George E. Miner, President
Southern Tier Economic Group



Kenneth Adams, President and CEO
The Business Council of New York State, Inc.



Brian Sampson, Executive Director
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Michael V. Smith, President
Finger Lakes Railway



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The New York, Susquehanna & Western Railway Corporation



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Steve Fisk, Senior Manager Business Development
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Canadian Pacific Railway



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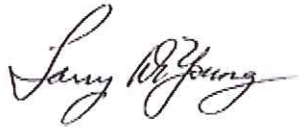
Mary Anne Michaels, CPA, CFO
New York & Ogdensburg Railroad Company



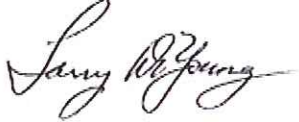
Thomas M. Kiley, President & CEO
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Larry DeYoung, Senior Vice President & Government Relations
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