

Broome County Environmental Management Council

Patrick J. Brennan, Broome County Executive



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Broome County Environmental Management Council (EMC) Natural Resources Committee Notes from the meeting held Thursday, July 28, 2011 Broome County Office Building, Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY

Present: Bill Heaviside, Andre LaClair, Deborah Overfield, and Beth Egitto

1. The meeting was **convened** at **4:05 pm**.

2. dGSEIS for Natural Gas Drilling

There was a brief discussion about the developments related to the draft Generic Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Natural Gas Drilling. No new sections were released since the meeting of the full EMC so there is no new information available.

The group discussed the strategy to move forward with this. Those present agreed that it would be best to compare the issues listed in the comments submitted for the previous draft and explore whether those concerns had been addressed sufficiently in this draft. There was a brief discussion about some of the issues that members feel need to be addressed. Members should compile any comments they have for discussion at a future NRC meeting.

Beth mentioned that she had begun to review some of the regulations that had been outlined thus far to see how the County and County agencies would deal with them or assist the local municipalities in dealing with them. Actions include mapping of areas that are prohibited by the regulations, such as floodplains and areas near wells, and the development of model ordinances for aspects where local municipalities had authority.

Members and staff will keep abreast of the status of the dGSEIS as more information becomes available.

3. Open Space Plan

Beth had sent the most current draft of the Open Space Plan with several edits to NRC members. She compiled all of the sections into one document, reorganized the headings and modified the table of contents. Those present went through the draft and discussed the formatting edits. The discussion included the following points:

- A section was added entitled “How To Use This Document”. This included the intended use of information, as well as the contents of each section. It was suggested that a description of the categories also be included.
- The layout was organized into an four main sections: Introduction, Broome County Overview, Natural Resources Inventory, and Implications, Tools and Strategies.
- There was a discussion about whether to include the Enhancements section that was listed in the original table of contents. Beth will look into other plans again to see if/how this is included.

Next steps will be to update and edit the text of the plan and to develop maps.

4. The meeting adjourned at **5:25 pm**. **Next meeting:** Thurs., September 22nd @ 4:00pm, 5th Floor, Broome County Office Building, Binghamton.

