

AD HOC NATURAL GAS EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010

The Ad Hoc Natural Gas Education Committee of the Broome County Legislature met on Thursday, September 9, 2010 in the Legislative Conference Room, Sixth Floor, Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building, Binghamton, New York.

Members Present: G. LaBare (Chair), J. Marinich, S. Herz, C. Burger, R. Williams

Members Absent: None

Others Present: J. Sluzar, Law; K. Keough, RPTS; A. Dugon, Keystone Associates; D. Fitzsimmons, Joint Landowner Coalition; N. Dooling, Press & Sun-Bulletin; L. Piston, K. Glauber, Resident; B. Shea, M. Kennerknecht, D. Lupardo, NYS Assembly; D. Lamb, Congressman Hinchey's Office; D. Reynolds, M. Diffendorf, R. Materese, S. Buchta, C. Marion, E. Denk, C. Hall, Legislature

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 3:04 PM.

Mr. Reynolds explained that he formed the committee to continue due diligence on the fluid topic of natural gas exploration. Meetings will be held on a regular basis with forums and discussion germane to the topic. The committee consists of Mr. LaBare, Majority Leader of the Legislature, Mr. Marinich, Minority Leader of the Legislature, Mr. Herz, Chairman of the Transportation & Rural Development Committee, Mr. Burger, Chairman of the Binghamton Regional Sustainability Coalition and member of the Environmental Management Council, and Mr. Williams Director of Environmental Studies/Owner, Barnes-Williams Environmental Services, LLC.

Dan Lamb, District Representative for US Representative Maurice Hinchey applauded Mr. Reynolds for forming the committee to further explore and continue to gain information on the subject of gas drilling. He stated that Congressman Hinchey supports natural gas drilling when it is done safely protecting land and public health. Congressman Hinchey has introduced the FRAC Act which repeals the provision that exempts hydraulic fracturing from regulations under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The oil and gas industry is the only industry in the country exempt from compliance. The FRAC Act would require full disclosure of chemicals being used, with emergency responders having access to the exact formulas. If and when the FRAC Act passes, the state would have the authority to implement and enforce the Safe Drinking Water Act. A copy of the FRAC Act Frequently Asked Questions is on file with the minutes.

Donna Lupardo, New York State Assemblywoman and member of the committee on Environmental Conservation addressed the committee. She stated she has sponsored many bills regarding natural gas drilling and was a leading voice for the current moratorium on gas drilling. She is supportive of DEC finishing their study before anything else is done. With regard to some concerns Mr. Materese had with the monitoring process, Assemblywoman. Lupardo believes the state will only issue permits that it is capable of monitoring. She agrees with the opinion of the attorney, on behalf of the Commissioner of NYS Office of Parks and Recreation and Historic Preservation, that a municipality should secure enactment of a municipal parkland alienation bill by the state Legislature

prior to leasing parklands. A copy of the opinion is on file with the minutes. She stated that Tioga County set up a steering committee comprised of a broad spectrum of representatives and interest groups to identify the impacts, issues and opportunities associated with the development and production of natural gas. The committee is called "Tioga Investigates Natural Gas" and a two page document, which is an excerpt from the web site www.tiogacountyny.com/ting is on file with the minutes.

Mr. LaBare stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 2010 and Mr. Beauduy from the Susquehanna River Basin Commission and Mr. Lynch from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will be the speakers. Ms. Lupardo stated that the Public Service Commission is an essential part of the process and suggested that they be invited to a meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.