

Maryland Elected Officials to the General Assembly: Ban Fracking Now

January 9, 2017

To Governor Hogan, President Miller, Speaker Busch, and members of the General Assembly,

We, the undersigned elected officials from across Maryland, are concerned about the devastating impacts hydraulic fracturing could pose on communities across the state, and urge the Maryland General Assembly to pass a ban on fracking during the 2017 legislative session.

Citing significant public health risks, including those documented in Maryland's own health study, New York officials announced in 2014 that they would ban hydraulic fracturing in the State. Since that decision, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health has released two new large-scale studies showing significant associations between fracking and both preterm births and asthma attacks.

In addition, several jurisdictions in Maryland have already banned fracking within their borders, including Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and two towns in Garrett County. The General Assembly should follow the leadership of these communities and pass a statewide fracking ban.

We also know that the majority of Americans don't support fracking. According to a March 2016 Gallup poll, 51% of Americans oppose fracking. People are increasingly aware of the growing body of evidence that shows fracking and related infrastructure pose a major threat to our climate, health, and communities. We take the concerns of our constituents very seriously, which is why we support a fracking ban in Maryland.

It is now abundantly clear that fracking endangers public health and is the wrong approach to building a clean, sustainable energy future. Maryland must enact a statewide ban on hydraulic fracturing.

Sincerely,

State Delegates and Senators

Pamela Beidle, District 32 Delegate
Eric Ebersole, District 12 Delegate
Terri Hill, District 12 Delegate
Ariana Kelly, District 16 Delegate
Dr. Clarence Lam, District 12 Delegate
Eric Luedtke, District 14 Delegate
Aruna Miller, District 15 Delegate
David Moon, District 20 Delegate
Andrew Platt, District 17 Delegate
Shane Robinson, District 39 Delegate
Carlo Sanchez, District 47B Delegate
Jimmy Tarlau, District 47A Delegate
Mary Washington, District 43 Delegate

James Brochin, District 42 Senator
Guy Guzzone, District 13 Senator
Susan Lee, District 16 Senator
Richard Madaleno Jr, District 18 Senator
Roger Manno, District 19 Senator
Will Smith, District 20 Senator
Ron Young, District 3 Senator
Bobby Zirkin, District 11 Senator

Town, City, and County Representatives

Peter Smith, Anne Arundel County
Councilmember
Chris Trumbauer, Anne Arundel County
Councilmember

Kristerfer Burnett, Baltimore City
Councilmember
Mary Pat Clarke, Baltimore City
Councilmember
Eric Costello, Baltimore City Councilmember
Robert Curran, Baltimore City
Councilmember
Ryan Dorsey, Baltimore City Councilmember
Bill Henry, Baltimore City Councilmember
James Kraft, Baltimore City Councilmember
Sharon Middleton, Baltimore City
Councilmember
Nick Mosby, Baltimore City Councilmember
Brandon Scott, Baltimore City
Councilmember
Carl Stokes, Baltimore City Councilmember

Patrick Wojahn, College Park Mayor

Jessica Fitzwater, Frederick County
Councilmember
Bud Otis, Frederick County Council
President

Pamela Humberson, Friendsville Town
Councilmember
Spencer Schlosnagle, Friendsville Mayor
Julia Sines, Friendsville Town Council
President
Jess Whittemore, Friendsville Town
Councilmember

Woody Getz, Frostburg Commissioner of
Public Works

Judith Davis, Greenbelt Mayor Pro Tem
Emmett Jordan, Greenbelt Mayor

Jon Weinstein, Howard County
Councilmember

Eric Wilkinson, Lonaconing Town
Commissioner

Roger Berliner, Montgomery County
Councilmember

Marc Elrich, Montgomery County
Councilmember
Tom Hucker, Montgomery County
Councilmember
Sidney Katz, Montgomery County
Councilmember
George Leventhal, Montgomery County
Councilmember
Nancy Navarro, Montgomery County
Councilmember
Craig Rice, Montgomery County
Councilmember
Hans Riemer, Montgomery County
Councilmember

Jesse Christopherson, Mount Rainier City
Councilmember

Donald Sincell, Mountain Lake Park Town
Councilmember

Dannielle Glaros, Prince George's County
Councilmember
Mary Lehman, Prince George's County
Councilmember
Deni Taveras, Prince George's County
Councilmember

Bridgett Donnell Newton, Rockville Mayor
Julie Palakovich Carr, Rockville City
Councilmember