

Attachment A

Resolution No. _____ RESOLUTION: To support a state-wide ban on hydraulic fracturing in Maryland

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville supplies drinking water to about three-quarters of its population; and

WHEREAS, the drinking water supplied by the City of Rockville to its population is sourced from the Potomac River, whose headwaters are located in the Appalachian gas basin and the river runs through the Culpeper gas basin; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing uses millions of gallons of fresh water for each well and during the course of fracking, this water is contaminated by chemicals, salts, and naturally occurring radionuclides; and

WHEREAS, researchers have identified above and below ground mechanisms by which hydraulic fracturing activities have the potential to impact drinking water resources, and contamination of drinking water has been documented; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing uses chemicals that can cause cancer, changes in the immune system and blood chemistry, and toxicity to the liver, kidneys, nervous system, and reproductive systems; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous uncertainties in our scientific understanding of the environmental and human health impacts of hydraulic fracturing, including incomplete information on the types of chemicals used and their toxicological properties; limited monitoring of the presence and movement of chemicals in subsurface waters; and uncertainties regarding the ability of drinking water treatment facilities to remove all contaminants from fracking wastewater.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of Rockville, that the Mayor and Council of Rockville hereby support a state-wide ban on hydraulic fracturing in Maryland due to the risks to public health, safety, and the environment; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of Rockville hereby urges the Maryland legislature and the Governor to ban fracking in Maryland.

Kathleen Conway, City Clerk/Director of
Council Operations