



# *Kirkland Democratic Committee*

**P.O. Box 74  
Clinton, NY 13323**

Bill Thickstun, District 6  
*Chair*

Arlene Somer, District 3  
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## **RESOLUTION ON HYDROFRACKING BAN IN TOWN OF KIRKLAND**

**April 27, 2011**

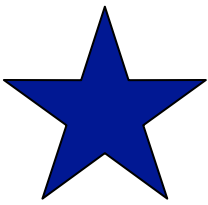
**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kirkland lies above the natural gas deposit area known as the Utica Shale, and is close to the larger Marcellus Shale, which is of intense interest to the gas industry and its agents, and thus there is near certainty that high-volume Hydraulic Fracturing (Hydrofracking) will occur on local land leased by landowners to the industry; and

**WHEREAS**, Hydrofracking extracts natural gas through deep wells that extend for thousands of feet vertically and up to one mile horizontally by the injection of millions of gallons of water, sand, and toxic chemicals under tremendous pressure and threatens aquifers, wells, and surface water, and because the fluid ("produced water") that returns to the surface is contaminated with toxic chemicals and radioactive elements and is then stored in pits or trucked to unequipped water treatment plants; and

**WHEREAS**, the construction of each Hydrofracking well on approximately 5 acres of land involves a well head structure, storage tank(s), and possible "produced water" evaporation pit, and the continuing operation of each well with water hauling and waste disposal requiring hundreds of heavy trucks trips will transform each into an industrial site; and

**WHEREAS**, Hydrofracking is exempt from the regulations of the Safe Water Drinking Act and the Clean Air Act, and the New York State moratorium on the issuance of Hydrofracking permits will expire this summer, and the issuance of future permits will be determined when the understaffed and under-funded New York State Department of Environmental Protection releases its new regulations this year, and because significant changes to New York's water laws now being considered by the state legislature fail to address the vast amounts of water used and contaminated in Hydrofracking; and

**WHEREAS**, New York municipalities have the opportunity to observe and research the environmental and public health impact resulting from the drilling of many thousands of Hydrofracking wells in neighboring Pennsylvania; and



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**WHEREAS**, Town of Kirkland residents require that expert information be made available and that our Town Board members be well educated about this issue;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we urge the Kirkland Town Board to join 16 other New York State municipalities (including the city of Buffalo) and enact a ban on Hydrofracking and all of the accompanying operations of the Hydrofracking process in order to protect the ground and surface water, the air, the roadways, the village center, and all of the citizens of Kirkland from environmental, public health, and economic harm, and further urge that a member, or members, of the Kirkland Town Board attend a May 7th Forum for Municipal officials, "How to Apply Local Controls to Shale Gas Industrialization" in Cooperstown (e-mail [admin@occainfo.org](mailto:admin@occainfo.org) or call (607) 547-4488 to register).