

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF TOMPKINS

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2011 OCT 21 PM 3:43

ANSCHUTZ EXPLORATION CORPORATION,

*Petitioner-Plaintiff,*

*-against-*

For a Judgment Pursuant to Articles 78 and 3001 of the  
Civil Practice Law and Rules,

TOWN OF DRYDEN and TOWN OF DRYDEN TOWN  
BOARD,

*Respondent-Defendants.*

Index No. 2011-0902

RJI No. 2011-0499-M

Hon. Phillip R. Rumsey

VOLUME II

APPENDIX II – C – Post-Hearing Written Comments

**Appendix II –C**

**Post Hearing Written Comments were received from:**

Keary, Matteo  
Cornwell, Nancy  
Hall, Olivia  
Dickinson, Cynthia  
Forsythe, Robert  
Vrana, Norman  
Savino, Debbi  
Harvey, Jay  
Shay, Mikel  
St Laurent, Angelika  
Rice, David  
Suci, Nancy  
Multari, Joleen  
Clark, Christopher  
Green, Alice  
Coles, Ray  
Smith, Kirk  
Sadoff, Ahren  
Hu, shaoping  
Dickinson, Rachel  
MacDonald, Bruce  
Mittler, Dan  
Barker, Sara  
NLN, Gloria  
Herbel, Justin  
Miller, Gregg  
Edwards, Jane  
Winter, Richard  
Korinek, Terezka  
McMahon, Elizabeth  
Ruth, Caleb  
Koschmann, Nancy  
Levine, Treva  
Villenas, Sofia  
Saphra, Marianne  
Stenzler, Laura  
Torello, Joan  
Phillips, Ellen  
LeCain, Ron  
Simitch, Andrea  
Christiansen, Morten  
McFarren, David  
Sieradzki, Eddie  
Kozlowski, Matthew

Russ, Karl  
Bradbury, Jack  
Quinn-Jacobs, Peter  
Reed, Millie  
Sun, Jennifer  
Downs, Stan  
Gardesu, Sana  
Berg, Stuart  
Vilenas, Sofia  
Gervais, Suzanne  
Wrege, Peter  
McGuire, Bob  
Morgan, Nancy  
Reiff, Meg & Eric  
Kellner, Sasha  
Webster, Mike  
Rogers, Barb  
Pirsic, Rita  
Basl, Mary  
Gosse, Lois  
MacCurdy, Robert  
Arthur, Ben  
DeMotte, Charles  
Edwards, Jane  
Barken, Marlene  
Keeney, Walter  
Robinson, Robyn  
Sholtys, Richard  
Meyers-Wallen, Vicki  
Heatley, Jennifer  
Kellner, Jill  
Richmond, Larri  
Read, Marie  
Wraight, Sarah  
Kiefer, John  
Wilson, Joseph  
Baker, Mitchell  
Parks, John Eliot  
Taylor, Patricia  
Quede, Nathalie  
DeNoyer, Linda  
Apasov, Danila  
Silbert, Bryna  
Russell, Kathy

Clark, Janie  
Szmanski, Ron  
Russell, William  
Mayer, Kevin  
McGarrigle, Barbara  
Bem, Robyn  
Quinn-Jacobs, David  
Quinn-Jacobs, David  
Gregory, Peter  
Liner, Eric  
Liner, Jillian  
Mermin, Dorothy  
Quinn-Jacobs, Katie  
Rappaport, Andrew  
Rappaport, Reuben  
Bayer, Lorna  
Knapp, Renee  
Wagner, Mary Catherine  
Hillman, Beverly  
Knapp, Christopher  
Conner, Fred  
Dudley, Richard  
Colfer, Carol  
Evelt-Miller, Jessica  
Ruppert, David  
Henderson, Zorika  
Khan, Peter  
Edwin-Russo, Andrea  
Bissen, Steven  
Kolb, Morgan  
Rhodes, Anne  
Wallace, Noah  
Baker, Thom  
Patterson, Mary  
Davies, Caryn  
Golding, Shira  
Buechel, Sharon  
Dryden Safe Energy Coalition (DSEC) -  
Henry S. Kramer  
Engst, Adam  
Young, John  
Angelover, Gerald  
McRae, Marie  
Gallagher, Tim  
Ryan, Gretchen  
Moore, Arie  
Chase, Carol  
Lambert, Hilary  
Yanoff, Susan

(see copies attached)

**Emails**

**Received**

**7/20/11 – 8/2/11**

**#1**

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Matteo Keary [mkeary@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 2:49 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Comment in support of a hydrofracking ban

Dear Supervisor Sumner and members of the Dryden Town Board:

My wife and I have owned house(s) in the town of Dryden for 16 years, and are currently working to establish a sustainable homestead and small agricultural venture. We fully support a ban on hydrofracking in the area, believing such a ban to be instrumental in preserving the water quality we all enjoy. As we continue our search for a larger piece of land on which to expand our agricultural efforts, we would be inclined to bias our search in favor of Dryden properties if the ban were imposed and upheld.

Sincerely,

Matthew Keary & Lauren Doughty

541 Main Street

Etna

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Nancy Cornwell [ncornwell@ithaca.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 11:18 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Hydrofracking

Dear Ms. Sumner,

I am writing to advocate for a ban on hydrofracking in our town. I remain wholly unconvinced of the safety of this procedure for our community members, for our water supply and for our environment in general. The Marcellus Shale is not going anywhere and there remains time to fully research, document and contemplate the long term implications for extracting this non renewal resource for short term gain. Furthermore, the outdated compulsory integration regulations that involuntarily subject community members to hydrofracking are not justifiable with natural gas that must be removed by this invasive process.

I urge you to support the long term welfare of our community and support the ban on hydrofracking.

Nancy Cornwell  
Professor and Chair (on leave AY 2011-2012) Department of Television-Radio Ithaca College  
953 Danby Rd.  
Ithaca NY 14850  
607.274.1954  
[ncornwell@ithaca.edu](mailto:ncornwell@ithaca.edu)

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Olivia Hall [omh4@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 12:29 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Please vote to ban fracking!

Dear Ms Sumner,

I urge you to vote in favor of a strong gas drilling ban ordinance for the Town of Dryden.

As a first-time home owner of a small property surrounded by leased farms, I did not sign up for having my land forcibly integrated for fracking. I am strongly concerned about decreasing home values should a drilling pad be set up nearby (which is a very real chance, as a neighboring farmer's property is being considered for drilling - and some banks already refuse to give out mortgages for leased properties), let alone the potential environmental impacts on water and air quality as well as the noise and degradation of roads that can be expected for sure.

Thank you for taking our concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

Olivia Hall  
218 Irish Settlement Rd  
Freeville, NY 13068

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Sindickinson@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 11:18 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Hydrofracking Ban

Dear Ms. Sumner,

**I and my husband are in favor of a ban on hydrofracking and I urge you and the entire Town Board of Dryden to vote for this ban.**

As parents, my husband and I want our child to grow up in a healthy environment. There are so many things affecting it already. We do not want our water polluted nor the additional traffic or noise that comes from these operations. Hydrofracking is known to cause many health issues even if the opposition does not believe so.

My family has been in beekeeping for generations, and I can tell you the environment and nature is under enough stress please don't add to it by allowing hydrofracking in our town.

Thank you,

Cynthia L. Dickinson  
GaRoy L. Dickinson  
26 Brooklyn Rd.  
Freeville, NY 13068

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Robert [ref52188@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 11:01 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Cc:** David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** hydrofrack

Please vote to ban hydrofracking in Dryden. I don't want the beauty of our town ruined and our water poisoned by this unsafe drilling process that is a threat to my health, my children's health and everyone else in the community. I've been to PA and nearly run off the road by endless lines of large trucks bearing down the road in excess of the speed limit. A few CEOs of the drilling companies will get rich and some out of state workers will make good money for awhile and then leave our town in a shambles.

Robert Forsythe



**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Norman Vrana [nmv3@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 10:52 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Lelfer; sstlick@dryden.ny.us  
**Subject:** ban on hydrofracking

Dryden Town Board Members,

I urge you to issue a STRONG GAS DRILLING BAN ORDINANCE. I have lived in the northwest corner of Ellis Hollow and Turkey Hill Roads since 1951. I have a drilled well about 150 ft. deep. I have been drinking that water since 1951 and have it tested occasionally. There is no other source of water and my water tastes good. It used for cooking and drinking.

I understand that hydrofracking would subject my source of water I have used since 1951 to harm and possible destruction. Therefore I am in favor of a ban on hydrofracking.

Norman Vrana  
[nmv3@cornell.edu](mailto:nmv3@cornell.edu)

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Debbi Savino [debbisavino04@twcny.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 10:10 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Town Board re: fracking

Dear Ms. Sumner & Members of the Town Board;

This letter is to urge you to vote in favor of a total ban on hydraulic fracturing in the Town of Dryden.

We do desperately need new jobs and new tax revenues – but what we will gain from fracking in terms of jobs and tax revenue is worth far less than what we would lose.

Despite the protests of the industries and their supporters, hydrofracturing is a permanently-destructive method of extraction.

Further, it will result in the drilling companies' obtaining what will prove to be only a "nickel-and-dime's" worth of energy – and then leaving or going bankrupt, sticking residents with a never-ending clean-up bill that far exceeds what was obtained in terms of jobs and tax revenues.

We will explore these two points in some detail in this letter.

For the first point, "permanent destruction" is a term I do not use lightly. But the fluid used in fracking is not water, and they use LOTS of it to break up the rocks so the gas will come out. Fracking fluid is reported to contain diesel fuel, soap, and other things one would not wish to drink or bathe in. Is this really true? We should know what this stuff is – but the companies won't tell us, they say it's "proprietary." So let's take a look at such indicators as we do have.

In the literature that they send out to potential investors, the gas drilling companies all boast about more-or-less equal gas extraction efficiencies. But if the fluids are so different as to need "proprietary" secrecy, how come we don't see phrases like "*the excellent performance of our proprietary fracturing fluid results in a competitive advantage*" in this literature?? You'd think if there was an advantage, they'd be selling it. But they're not.

The underground shale's all pretty much the same, too. So, fluids different enough to be secret about are needed to frack? This seems unlikely - there may be minor differences but these would not have much impact on the present inquiry. So, if competitive advantage is ruled out:

- Why are they using this "proprietary mixture" dodge? If the fluids are relatively benign as they state, they why does the industry hide?
- If the stuff isn't toxic, then why don't they come clean and show what is made of? Wouldn't silencing public opposition with provable truth be the simplest thing to do?

*We can only conclude that they hide it, because they have something to hide.*

Further, such chemicals DO NOT SEPARATE from water on their own, nor do they ever leave the ground, break down or otherwise become harmless. The drilling companies say that they recover "most" of the fluid – but not all of it by a long shot.

So then – how many drops of diesel fuel does it take to ruin a gallon of drinking water? They are not talking parts per million, the fraction of diesel in fracking fluid is supposed to be several percent. We do not know of any way other than expensive distillation to remove significant amounts of diesel fuel & soap from water and still leave the water drinkable. Another factor is that, even if one could afford to distill, then what do you do with the toxic residue? Even by conservative estimates such residue would amount to 3-5 gals a day of useless oil-mixed-with-soap glop: even more for larger families. How much does this cost to dispose of?

Like most of Dryden, we get our domestic water from a private well. No one's going to drill for gas on our 3 acres, but they may want to do so on the large farms surrounding us. Some of the owners of those farms have "Sane gas energy" signs out front, and talk about landowner's rights. We'd be OK with this if there was no toxic fluid, or if it stayed only on their property, or if it stayed way down deep like the industry says. Unfortunately, it won't - these fluids travel significant distances underground thru the shale as they break it up. The whole hydrofracking principle depends on this.

So how will the next-door drillers prevent their spillover fluid from getting into my well water? The answer is -THEY WON'T, but worse, THEY NEVER INTENDED TO. The fluid goes to the path of least resistance, so they couldn't prevent it from travelling even if they tried.

Once diesel fuel gets into our water supply and makes it unfit to drink, will the town run public water to my remote home? If the region gets tainted, where will the Town wells get their water? Whatever the answer is (if there is one) will the drilling companies pay for that? Or will they just keep stalling and buying time in court with "don't-blame-us" finger-pointing as they have done in PA and other places, until they can take the money and run?

Even if one goes through the most optimistic numbers, if fracking is allowed in Dryden some millions of gallons per year of toxics will remain on and in the ground. If not for the jobs and the taxes, if some company said they were going to come here and just pour this stuff out on the ground and it would never be clean again -there'd be an uproar.

So, are the jobs and tax revenues really worth it? This brings us to my next point.

Already, reports are circulating in some investment journals about how the current frenzied rush to frack natural gas from shale may at best be another "irrational-exuberance" bubble, or at worst an outright scam on a vast scale, as we have seen so many of in recent years. These reports discuss how gas industry reps base the estimates of how much natural gas is obtainable, by multiplying the delivery of the BEST wells by the lifetime of LONGEST-LIVED wells (never the same ones) – and how this wildly overestimates what is actually recoverable from all wells. In PA and other regions where fracking is currently going on, this is demonstrable - some recently-drilled wells are already decreasing in output.

Well, then, how about revenues? It has been widely reported that for most extractive activity, all the profits and high-paying jobs go to corporate headquarters, with only a relatively few low-paying transport, drill rig, and service jobs going to the host region. In return, the host region must put up with and pay for road and infrastructure destruction, landscape destruction, outdoor resource destruction, and water resource destruction.

Never mind wanting the extractor to pay for the damage, isn't it smarter not to allow it in the first place?

Would anyone want to go out on Dryden or Cayuga Lakes to let their kids swim and play in the oil slick? Would we want to drive along the crumbling roads to look at the derricks instead of the woods?

How about that smog and that stench? Doesn't it remind one of the city?

Do we really want to put up with all that, so that we'll have a bit of money for a few years?

Isn't the absence of these things the real reason we live here, regardless of the local wage scale?

**If we allow this fracking, in the short run we will gain a few jobs (not nearly as many as promised) and a temporary bit of tax revenue (less than we project). We all know these jobs and those revenues are desperately needed...but in the long run we will turn our beautiful wild region into an industrial wasteland. If you've even been to Houston, TX, you'll know what we mean.**

**A friend maintains that someday, industry and business will return to upstate NY because of the abundant clean water, which really is not available anywhere else. If you don't think this is precious, go anywhere west of the Mississippi and they'll tell you all about it. If you don't have water, there's no substitute.**

**Please don't let it be wrecked for a few temporary bucks. Don't let them take the money and run.**

**Please vote in favor of a total ban on fracking and all other extractive activity in the Town of Dryden.**

**Thank you**

**Debra & Jim Savino**

**61 Simms Hill Road**

**Dryden, NY 13053**

**PS from Jim: For decades I have been telling people that upstate New York is the outdoor world's great undiscovered secret. Now, finally, I live here. Please don't let business interests wreck it.**

## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Jay Harvey [hjh4@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 9:05 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** In support of the ban on fracking

Dear Ms. Sumner,

I and my wife and family would like to reiterate our support for the ban against fracking in the Town of Dryden. We have lived at 479 Midline Road, Freeville, for the past 18 years and fear that our way of life would be permanently and adversely altered by any drilling in our area. From what we have learned through communication with friends who live and work in areas of Pennsylvania already impacted by hydrofracking, and by our own transient first hand observations, we would hate to see the same industrialization of our land. We recognize that landowners have a right to do what they wish with their own property but we believe that right should not be exercised to the detriment of the community as a whole. We love our area and feel strongly protective toward the watershed, the air quality, and the way of life.

Thanks,

Jay Harvey  
Christine Bellezza  
Katherine Harvey  
Michael Harvey

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** MikelShay@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 7:04 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** I Urge Strong Gas Drilling Ban

Hi Mary Ann,

Water & air quality, our most important resources, will likely never be the same again with current drilling technology. PA is suffering great infra-structure deterioration from hydro-fracturing. I urge you to support a strong gas drilling ban legislation.

Thank you,

Michael Shay  
738 Ringwood Rd  
Ithaca, NY 14850

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Angelika St.Laurent [angelika@simonstl.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 10:34 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Please vote to ban hydrofracking in Dryden

Dear MaryAnn,

please vote to restrict hydrofracking in Dryden as much as legally possible. If it can be banned, please, vote to ban hydrofracking in Dryden.

Hydrofracking poses a severe hazard to our drinking water, both via fracking solutions affecting drinking wells below ground and via large volumes of waste water that likely will be dumped into Cayuga Lake. I'm also concerned about the number of accidental spills that might occur and strongly suspect that the clean up would somehow or another be paid for by the town and the county.

Greetings,  
Angelika St.Laurent

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** David Rice [david.rice@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:23 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Urge action to ban/restrict hydrofracking

Dear Ms. Sumner,

I am writing to urge the Dryden Town Board to proceed with action to ban if possible, or otherwise restrict slickwater horizontal hydrofracking in the town of Dryden.

In addition to the multiple documented cases of water contamination, deterioration of roads and air and noise pollution, the natural beauty of Dryden and surrounding areas is a critical component in the area economy, both for tourism and attracting productive and forward-thinking residents. Horizontal hydrofracking on any scale would irreversibly damage this important resource.

Thank you for your time and efforts,

David Rice  
1 Ringwood Court S.  
Ithaca, NY 14850-9690  
Town of Dryden  
607 539-6970



**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Nancy Suci [nancysuci@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:15 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Gas drilling

It seems that a total ban on gas drilling is the only way to guarantee testing, research on safe ways of accessing gas. I don't want us Dryden residents to be guinea pigs for the industry.

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Joleen Multari [joleen303@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:03 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** PLease vote to BAN HYDROFRACKING

I am writing to you in order to express my support of a strong ban on hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden. I urge the Town Board members, to vote for a ban. It is essential to protect our community, the environment, and the people who live here. Hydrofracking is environmentally reckless and will result in a degraded quality of life in our Town. The threat to our water, air, roads and other infrastructure is huge and likely irreversible. We can't let this happen. These things cannot be overlooked. The increase in noise levels will also affect the quality of life in our Town and threaten property values. **VOTE TO BAN HYDROFRACKING!!**

Thank you for your help and consideration!

Joleen Multari  
21 Hartwood Rd  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
Town of Dryden resident

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Christopher W Clark [cwc2@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:01 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** gas drilling ban

Dear Mary Ann Sumner, Dryden Town Supervisor,  
As a voting and tax paying resident of Dryden I respectfully request that you vote in favor of a strong gas drilling ban ordinance on 2 August.

Sincerely,  
Christopher W. Clark  
41 Hartwood Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850.

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Alice W. Green [alichelthaca@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 8:45 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Please support a strong ban on drilling in our town

Dear Dryden Leaders,

As a Dryden taxpayer for nearly four decades, I've had many occasions to be proud of our town's spirit and accomplishments. Your vote August 2nd for a strong ban on drilling in our town will make me even prouder of Dryden.

It will send a message that we can stand up to monied interests when it comes to protecting our precious water and the quality of life for our whole community.

I don't believe the economic benefits of hydro-fracturing can possibly compensate for the potential damage to our water supply, highways, homes, farms and small businesses. We should not allow the defilement of our fields and roadways with drill rigs and trucks. Our town infrastructure was not created for that kind of traffic. The risks of chemical accidents are only too clear from the experiences of other communities. We've heard from our Dryden neighbors about the bullying tactics of these developers.

When you vote on the drilling ban, I know you will be considering the well being of this and future generations. I hope that my grandchildren and their grandchildren can enjoy wading in the water of Fall Creek, on its winding path below our home, and drink clean water from our well.

I appreciate your courage and willingness to lead us in taking a stand against an invasion than could rob our community of our most precious resources.

Gratefully,

Alice Walsh Green  
609 Fall Creek Rd.

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** raymar [raymar@localnet.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 8:49 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Fracking

Please note I am against any drilling in our area as we and many others in this area are on well water and could be effected. Ray Coles 6 Sunny slope Terrace Ithaca NY 14850

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Kirk Smith [kirkesmith@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 7:22 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Ban on Fracking

Dear Dryden Town Board,

I am writing to voice my support for the ban on hydrofracking in the town of Dryden. I am very concerned about the likely damage to the ground water. The disruption to the natural beauty of the area with gas wells and such would be a great shame and harmful to all.

thank you for your consideration.

Kirk Smith  
688 W dryden Rd  
Freeville, ny 130678

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Ahren Joel Sadoff [ajs50@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 7:08 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** hydrofracturing ban

Please vote for a ban on hydrofracturing. If this ban does not occur, our water, our roads and our health care facilities could all be in jeopardy.

Ahren and Barbara Sadoff  
Residents of the Town of Dryden

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Shaoping Hu [shaoping\_5@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 5:56 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** support ban fracking

Hi, my name is Shaoping Hu. i live at 111 Hickory Cir. Ithaca NY14850. I urgently support a total ban of Fracking in Elis Hollow area.



## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Rachel Dickinson [rachel@racheldickinson.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 4:59 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Lelfer; sstellick@dryden.ny.us; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Vote yes for a ban on hydrofracking

As a resident of the Town of Dryden I urge you to vote yes on a ban for hydrofracking. There are many reasons to do this and some are listed below.

1. Vote for a ban until those drilling for natural gas reveal exactly what they are injecting into a well in terms of hydrofracking fluid. As a taxpayer in the town I don't want it pumped underground and then extracted and stored somewhere. You can't mitigate against something if you don't know what it is. This is a public health issue that involves all of us and not just those who have leases.
2. Vote for a ban until those responsible for storage of the water and hydrofracking fluid that comes out of a well can prove they have a plan to deal with it safely (and that does not mean putting through our sewage treatment plants or spreading it on our roads). This is also a public health issue that involves all of us.
3. Vote for a ban until gas drilling is also allowed in the New York City watershed. This raises red flags for me. Why is it not safe there but it somehow safe in our watersheds?
4. Vote for a ban until the DEC has enough employees to adequately monitor natural gas drilling sites. They are woefully understaffed so that even with safeguards in place, there isn't the personnel to ensure that they are carried out.
5. Vote for a ban until we fully understand the infrastructure implications from a natural gas boom. I spent quite a bit of time in central Wyoming around Pinedale and drove through man-camps and saw a steady stream of heavy equipment trucks wearing out the little roads. Be careful what you wish for. With an economic boom associated with gas drilling comes jobs but they are NOT local jobs -- drillers and roustabouts follow the drills. The locals are left with dealing with the stressed infrastructure, much higher crime rates, and often skyrocketing prices in the local stores.
6. Vote for a ban unless you're ready to really tackle noise pollution, air pollution, light pollution -- all of which come with drilling.
7. Vote for a ban unless you're really sure the town can handle a potential public health and environmental disaster if something goes wrong and our ground and surface water sources are contaminated. I would not want to be in your seats if that happens.

Rachel Dickinson  
31 Main Street  
Freeville, NY

844-4475

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Rachel Dickinson

Freelance Writer  
Freeville, New York

[geology26@yahoo.com](mailto:geology26@yahoo.com)  
[www.racheldickinson.com](http://www.racheldickinson.com)  
<http://thehaikudiaries.wordpress.com>  
<http://falconerontheedge.wordpress.com>  
607.844.4475 phone  
607.279.9772 cell

Member: American Society of Journalists & Authors (ASJA);  
Society of Environmental Journalists (SEJ)

\*author of **FALCONER ON THE EDGE: A Man, His Birds, and the Changing Landscape of the American West** (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) May 2009.

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Bruce MacDonald [bruceasm@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 4:02 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Ban Hydrofraking

This is a plea to please ban hydrofracking in our lovely town of Dryden. There is mounding evidence that hydrofracking may potentially have terrible ramifications to our environment.

Please help to protect Dryden!

Thank you,

Jennifer MacDonald

**Mary Ann Sumner**

---

**From:** Dan Mittler [dm68@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 3:42 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Gas Drilling

**IN FAVOR of a STRONG gas drilling ban ordinance.**

--  
Dan Mittler  
Cornell University  
Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering  
218 Kimball Hall  
Ithaca, New York 14850

Work: 607 255-9172  
Cell: 607 227-7393

Email: [dm68@cornell.edu](mailto:dm68@cornell.edu)  
Fax: 607 255-2011

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Sara E. Barker [sb65@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 2:57 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stellck; Joseph Solomon  
**Cc:** ElliottSwarthout@vectormagnetics.com  
**Subject:** Please support ban on fracking in Town of Dryden

Dear Dryden Town Board,

My husband and I are currently building a house on our 26 acres on Snyder Hill Road in the Town of Dryden. We searched for 4 years to find a piece of land that was not leased for gas drilling and finally found it on top of Snyder Hill. We are hesitantly building our dream home. I say hesitantly as I am scared to death of the possibility of gas drilling in our community. There are so many strong reasons why it should be banned and I'd like to list a few of what I feel are the most important below:

- 1) **Water** – why would we ever risk or sacrifice our aquifer for an activity that has a track record of contamination. If our wells are contaminated our property values will be 0. Will the state be able to buy back all of these properties at what was a fair market value when the local market has crashed due to water contamination? There is no fixing water once it's polluted. We are very lucky to be flush with water in this part of the country and I believe many people do not realize the value or necessity of clean water. If wells begin to become contaminated it will be a national catastrophe for agriculture, for livestock, and more importantly for you and me.
- 2) **Property Rights** – I've heard the property rights argument again and again. My husband and I will not lease our land so why should we be subjected to gas taken from under our land without our permission and risk water contamination just because our neighbors have leased and we are included due to a certain percentage of our unit having been leased? Isn't this infringing on my property rights in the same manner as someone who is told they cannot have a well drilled on their land? At least they will have received the signing royalty from the gas company, where we will have nothing but our rights striped from us. I do not understand how this can be legal.
- 3) **Our Children** – we have two young children. I would never trade their health and welfare for gas royalties. The chemicals that are off-gassed at certain points of production and at compressor stations are cancer causing agents. Is money more important than our health?
- 4) **Boom and Bust** – there are papers that state that energy-based economies often go through a boom and bust cycle. The economic increase is not as great as people anticipate and a high income inequality arises with lowered education levels and increased crime. The flavor of a community changes as big box stores and chain restaurants follow the influx of out of town service workers. Distraught townspeople begin to move out of the area (if they can sell their homes) and once the energy is extracted and the companies leave with their service workers, the community suffers a huge bust with its lack of economic diversity. Is this the Dryden that you wish to live in? It's certainly not the place where I want to live and own land.

Lastly, my husband works in the oil and gas industry. He has been on hundreds of rigs and well sites. He knows first-hand what it is like to work in and with that industry. In fact he was on a rig in Colorado during the Town Board meeting and thus could not speak that night. Just a week ago this rig site had a huge liquid propane leak that lead to a total lock down and drug and alcohol testing on the site. Men were seen running from the scene in hopes that a major explosion did not occur. My husband said if it had ignited, they all would have died on the spot. Is this risk of life really worth the possible benefits for a few from a source of fuel that is not even sustainable and could possibly be sold overseas instead of used to help meet our energy needs at home? He will attest to the total lack of care that these big oil and gas companies have for the communities and areas that they infiltrate. It's all about the money and not about the people or community. This has happened again and again.

The gas is not going anywhere, so WHY are we rushing into something that has not yet been proven to be safe? Why not sit on this resource and wait until they have developed less invasive and risky techniques for extraction in the future?

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of a ban on hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden.

Thank you for your time. We certainly appreciate your willingness to listen to your Town.

Sara Barker

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Gloria [gjdun2003@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 2:21 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** fracking

Please protect our drinking water

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** JUSTIN HERBEL [justinherbel@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 2:09 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Drilling ban

I am writing to voice my SUPPORT for a gas drilling ban in Dryden. The reasons are obvious! Thank you, Justin Herbel,  
Freeville, NY



## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Gregg Miller [greggshere@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 1:24 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Hydrofracking

Dear Members of the Board,

Having attended meetings throughout the region and immersing myself to understand the facts and not become part of the rhetoric; I think it is absolutely unsafe to hydrofrack. The impact would be devastating on all levels.

Sincerely,  
Gregg Miller  
1199 Ellis Hollow Road

## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Jane Edwards [jedwards1@frontiernet.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** In favor of a gas drilling ban

Dear Town of Dryden Supervisor:

I write asking that the Town Board pass a gas drilling ban for the Town of Dryden. Not only will gas drilling change the nature of the community, it will potentially destroy the infrastructure of our built world, ie roads, wells and also the natural world, ie water, plants, trees, animals. Habitat will change. The quality of life will change. Those who benefit in a financial way will also live in a hurt environment. Their short term benefit will bring great suffering to the rest of us.

Please consider the long term health and well being of all who live in this town, and vote to ban gas drilling.

Many thanks

Jane Edwards

1 Foothill Road

-shareholder of the Yellow Barn Water Company, which I hope will become part of the Dryden water district. Four wells threatened by surrounding leased land. Over 250 people in danger of bad water, lower property values; just one example of an "entity" threatened by potential gas drilling.

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** richard winter [rlwinter@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 12:23 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Fracting

Mary Ann,

We are quite concerned about the possibility of gas drilling in our community. Although it may offer some economic rewards, after carefully reviewing information from what is happening in Pennsylvania, both my wife and I are opposed to any drilling activity. Please support a strong ban on fracting in our community.

Richard and Marlene Winter  
22 Crystal Drive

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Terezka Korinek [markova66@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 12:04 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Please vote to BAN hydrofracking

**Importance:** High

Dear Mary Ann Sumner,

Please vote to ban hydrofracking. There are so many ill effects directly associated with hydrofracking and I'm sure you've heard them all. In any case, the negative effects far outweigh the few short term economic benefits.

My husband and I and our two young daughters moved to Dryden 4 years ago partly to be surrounded by its peace, quiet and bucolic beauty. I am confident that a ban would not only preserve a high quality of life that so many Dryden residents enjoy but also prevent many residents from leaving Dryden.

Thank you for all your efforts.

Sincerely,  
Terezka Korinek  
Steve Anagnostos  
and two daughters

378 Thomas Rd.  
14850

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** mrs MCP [mrs MCP@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 10:59 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** ban on fracking

Hello Mary Ann,  
Thank you for all your hard work.

Please ban fracking. We need to find a safer way to access the gas. It will be there when we are ready. In the meantime, let's protect our land and water. Water is going to be such an important ingredient to the life of the planet. We can not afford to use such quantities and add harmful chemicals to it. Business will not prosper if the land and water are spoiled. Renewable energy is what we need to work on, solar and wind.

Thank you,  
Elizabeth McMahan

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Caleb Ruth [caleb.ruth@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 10:56 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Please vote YES to ban fracking in Dryden

To:  
Mary Ann Sumner, Dryden Town Supervisor  
David Makar, Dryden Town Board member  
Jason Leifer, Dryden Town Board member  
Steve Stelick, Dryden Town Board Member  
Joe Solomon, Dryden Town Board member

From:  
Caleb Ruth  
3 Sunny Slope Rd, Dryden, NY

Dear Board Members,

Having attended last week's town board meeting, I want to express directly to you my support for **BANNING FRACKING** within Dryden. Dryden is a beautiful town that would be irreversibly damaged by the expansion of fracking as is likely to happen unless the board enacts a ban.

The expansion of fracking is happening too fast and the industry is ignoring or minimizing the risks to peaceful country-living. The opposition says that we should find a middle ground. I believe strongly that a ban **IS** the middle ground. As the board stated, it is not allowed to "regulate" the industry and a ban is our only recourse. A ban would put drilling on hold until more clarity is formed around the environmental impacts at both the state and local level.

If the NYS DEC and the industry return with favorable conditions and regulations, I would be in favor of reconsidering allowing drilling. However, at this point our only recourse is to ban fracking. It truly is the only middle ground at this point.

Sincerely,

Caleb Ruth

## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Nancy Lee Koschmann [nancykoschmann@me.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 10:46 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Vote for a ban on fracking

Dear Dryden Town Board Member,

My husband Julien Victor and I want to urge you to vote for a strong ban against fracking in our community. Surely it should be apparent by now that the so-called economic benefits of gas drilling will be more than offset by the loss of our watershed, polluted air, the cost of road repair and waste disposal, the loss of our beautiful country side, and the chaos created by trucks, temporary workers and the disruption of our rural neighborhoods. And this is not for "gas for the US" but gas for other countries and profits for the rich.

We bought our modest country home in the town of Dryden to try to live as green as possible, and the possibility of an environmentally detrimental, corporate takeover in our new community is sad and shocking. I have spoken with residents who, some years ago, leased their land without understanding the consequences, and are now writing letters much like this one. Please do the right thing, the compassionate thing for our earth and our community, and vote to ban fracking from this area. Perhaps we can also be a model for others communities faced with this potential devastation of resources.

Thank you,

Nancy Koschmann, 705 Ringwood Road

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Treva L. Levine [trevalevine@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 10:40 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Cc:** Doug Levine (doug@hubcap.ws)  
**Subject:** Letter from the Levines

Dear Mary Ann Sumner,

We are writing to you in regards to the issue of a fracking ban in the Town of Dryden.

It is imperative to our family that fracking not be allowed in the Town of Dryden at this time. It can have disastrous effects if there are spills. It concerns us that we don't know the chemicals in the fracking potion. It upsets us that we are so willing to lease our land for a few dollars to companies whose processes are not fully understood and have devastated other areas of the country. Please impose a ban and buy our community time by doing so to thoroughly understand and to consider the issues and our desired outcomes. Buy us time to consider benefits and costs of allowing the fracking business to move into our area (economically, environmentally, socially, etc.). If we ruin our land and drinking water because we are in such a hurry for the dollars, we won't see any sort of reversal in our lifetime, if ever. Please consider that we could be leaders on this issue and be part of a positive solution for people on both sides of the issue now and in the future.

We use a well. We purposely chose to set up our house and lives in the town of Dryden because of the peace and beauty of the area. We didn't want to commute so consciously and happily pay higher taxes. We have two young children who are in daycare on Lounsberry Road. We are looking forward to our children going to Caroline Elementary School. We are members of the Ellis Hollow pool and run the Music in the Hollow series on Tuesdays with monies provided to us by the Town of Dryden. We are gainfully employed, sit on multiple boards between us, and we obviously love and participate in our amazing community. We chose to live here and saw ourselves here for a long time.

We recently started to discuss the reality that if our well is poisoned or even threatened we may need to reconsider these decisions. We have started to talk about leaving this area and other places we would consider living. We are talking about leaving an area that we consider home, where our friends live, and that we love so much because there seems to be such a threat to our family's health and our community's overall well being. We won't be part of community that doesn't think and plan responsibly for its own future and people. The issue of fracking has brought us to this uncomfortable reality. If fracking is to be allowed in this area in the same way it has showed up in other areas of the country, it is not a place we want to be and we are fortunate to have the skills and means to leave. Please be part of a decision that bans fracking. Encourage opening the discussion to the community about all growth opportunities and to find solutions to problems that bring desirous results to everyone not just the pockets of a few.

We really appreciate your willingness to serve your community as a Dryden Town Supervisor. You have a great deal of responsibility at this time. We urge you to continue to take seriously this issue as it affects our community now and in the future. It is a game changer.

Thank you for reading this message and taking the time.

Sincerely,  
Treva Levine and Doug Levine, 8 Hunters Lane  
607-539-7047



## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Sofia A Villenas [svillenas@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 10:41 AM  
**To:** David Makar; Mary Ann Sumner; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Re: Please Vote to Ban Drilling in Dryden

Dear Dryden Town Members,

I forgot to include my address: 19 Genung Road.  
Thanks for all your efforts,

Sofia

Sofia Villenas, Ph.D.  
Director, Latino Studies Program  
Associate Professor of Anthropology, Education & Latino Studies  
President-Elect, American Educational Studies Association  
<http://www.educationalstudies.org/>

The Latino Studies Program  
434 Rockefeller Hall  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
[sav33@cornell.edu](mailto:sav33@cornell.edu)  
Phone: 607-255-3197

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**From:** Sofia A Villenas <[svillenas@cornell.edu](mailto:svillenas@cornell.edu)>  
**Date:** Wed, 27 Jul 2011 23:18:14 -0400  
**To:** "[dmakar@dryden.ny.us](mailto:dmakar@dryden.ny.us)" <[dmakar@dryden.ny.us](mailto:dmakar@dryden.ny.us)>, "[supervisor@dryden.ny.us](mailto:supervisor@dryden.ny.us)" <[supervisor@dryden.ny.us](mailto:supervisor@dryden.ny.us)>, "[jleifer@dryden.ny.us](mailto:jleifer@dryden.ny.us)" <[jleifer@dryden.ny.us](mailto:jleifer@dryden.ny.us)>, "[sstelick@dryden.ny.us](mailto:sstelick@dryden.ny.us)" <[sstelick@dryden.ny.us](mailto:sstelick@dryden.ny.us)>, "[jsolomon@dryden.ny.us](mailto:jsolomon@dryden.ny.us)" <[jsolomon@dryden.ny.us](mailto:jsolomon@dryden.ny.us)>  
**Subject:** Please Vote to Ban Drilling in Dryden

Dear Dryden Town Board Members

I am writing to urge you to vote for the strongest ban against drilling in the Town of Dryden.

Our land and water are precious and vital and cannot be given up for a few dollars. I completely agree with Catskill Mountainkeeper when they write, "The reality is that NO amount of regulation, NO amount of permitting guidelines, and NO amount of laws and ordinances can protect our water and communities from a reckless industry as long as our regulatory industries continue to lack the staff and resources they need to properly enforce such mandates" ([www.catskillmountainkeeper.org](http://www.catskillmountainkeeper.org)).

I do not want our lovely area to be snarled with traffic, noise pollution and to affect our tourism and local economy in general. We have nothing to gain except a few dollars and irreparable damage. If hydrofracking comes to Dryden, our area will never be the same. And I will move away to a place where my family's health and well-being will not be endangered.

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Marianne Saphra [mariannesaphra@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 10:16 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** concerning the Aug 2 vote

Dear Town Of Dryden Board members,

I am concerned about the effects, both already documented and possible, of hydrofracking to our community. These include damage to the water table through both pollution and depletion, damage to our road systems, and sand disposal issues. Please take the step of banning hydrofracking in our community until these concerns have been resolved.

Thank you,

Marianne Saphra

21 Genung Circle

Ithaca NY 14850

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Laura Stenzler [lms9@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 10:06 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Ban Hydrofracking in Dryden, please

Dear Ms. Sumner,  
Thank you for considering the ban on High-volume Hydraulic Fracturing in the town of Dryden. I urge you to vote yes to ban this practice when the Town Board meets on August 2. Fracking would change the nature of our region forever and should be banned outright. Any economic benefit it might bring - and there are clear signs that only a few individuals would benefit - is not worth the environmental risk and the devastation to our way of life that would ensue. I support your efforts in Dryden to keep this practice out of our town.

Sincerely,  
Laura Stenzler

Laura Stenzler  
Lab Manager  
Evolutionary Biology Program  
Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
159 Sapsucker Woods Rd.  
Ithaca, New York 14850  
Office: (607) 254 2141  
Lab: (607) 254 2142  
Fax: (607) 254 2486  
[lms9@cornell.edu](mailto:lms9@cornell.edu)

147 Hunt Hill Rd  
539 6893

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** torelj@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:58 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** ban on hydrofracking

We are strongly in favor of a ban on hydrofracking. The risks to our water and environment are too great to allow this method of drilling.

Joan and Walter Torello

*Dryden 1305 3  
844 8156*

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Ellen Phillips [ephillip@lcsd.k12.ny.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:52 AM  
**To:** 'supervisor@dryden.ny.us'  
**Subject:** FW: NO FRACK

**Importance:** High

Mary Ann Sumner, Dryden Town Supervisor:  
THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH INSPECTORS TO POSSIBLY look at all wells identified!!! PLEASE – DO NOT allow drilling in DRYDEN.

Citizen of Dryden,  
Ellen Phillips  
4 Woodland Rd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850

607-539-7273

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**From:** Ellen Phillips  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2011 11:59 AM  
**To:** 'supervisor@dryden.ny.us'  
**Subject:** NO FRACK

Mary Ann Sumner, Dryden Town Supervisor:  
Please consider our beautiful resources cannot be unpolluted once an accident occurs. "Oh Well", will not bring back our beautifully, clean and mighty fine tasting well water!

I beg and pray PLEASE Do Not Let Fracking come to Dryden.

Your fellow citizen of Dryden,  
Ellen Phillips  
4 Woodland Rd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850

607-539-7273

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** rlecajn [rlecajn@envconsulting.biz]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:41 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Hydrofracking ban

I am strongly in favor of banning all gas and oil drilling, particularly hydrofracking, in our town of Dryden. This is not something our quiet and beautiful landscape needs. Please vote soon to preserve our health and quality of life by banning hydrofracking.

Best regards,

*Ron LeCain  
Wetland Specialist  
LeCain Environmental Services, Inc.  
607-319-0819*

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Andrea Simitch [als34@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:38 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** ban on hydrofracking

Dear Mary Ann,

I strongly favor a ban on hydrofracking and urge you to vote for this ban. We must ensure that the environmental impact of hydrofracking has been thoroughly researched and debated before moving forward on this process, and the only way to do so is to ban the process as this time.

Sincerely,

Andrea Simitch  
286 Midline Road  
607 539 6494

associate professor  
director, bachelor of architecture program cornell university

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Morten Christiansen [christiansen@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:26 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Please vote in favor of banning hydrofracking in Dryden

To Mary Ann Sumner, Dryden Town Supervisor,

I think it's crucial that Dryden impose a strong ban on hydrofracking. Given the data coming out from other communities that have allowed hydrofracking, I am very concerned about our water as well as the general impact on the environment in terms of both general pollution and increased industrialization. I do realize that some members of our community stand to benefit economically from allowing the drilling to take place but the long-term costs to the community as a whole now strongly outweigh any short- and medium-term monetary gains. I therefore urge you to vote in favor of banning hydrofracking in Dryden.

Best regards,

Morten Christiansen  
10 Hunter Lane  
Ithaca, NY 14850 (Town of Dryden)

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Morten H. Christiansen, PhD  
External Professor, Santa Fe Institute  
Co-Director, Cornell Cognitive Science Program  
Professor, Department of Psychology  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
Web: <http://www.psych.cornell.edu/people/Faculty/mhc27.html>  
Cornell Cognitive Neuroscience Lab: <http://cni.psych.cornell.edu>

Phone: +1 (607) 255-3834 (dept)  
Fax: +1 (607) 255-8439  
Email: [christiansen@cornell.edu](mailto:christiansen@cornell.edu)  
Office: 228 Uris Hall



**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** David McFarren [davidmcfarren@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:25 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** It's just common sense (Fracking ban)

Dear Mary Ann,

It's just common sense, really. When does it EVER make sense to force poisons deep into the earth? I am a strong believer in 'What goes around comes around'. These slickwater fracking fluids may not reach the aquifer for 500 years (long after all of the natural gas has been extracted) but when it does, where will clean drinking water come from? Please don't let short term gains win out over long term harm.

David McFarren  
1284 Ellis Hollow Road  
Town of Dryden

PS: There is a Canadian company that does fracking without using any harmful chemicals. Why can't we?

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** eddie [eddie@ednortonltd.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:21 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** In support of a Ban on Hydrofracking

I am writing this statement in support of a strong ban on hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden. I urge the Town Board members to vote for a ban. Hydrofracking is environmentally reckless and will result in a degraded quality of life in our Town. The threat to our water, air, roads and other infrastructure cannot be overlooked. The increase in noise levels is another factor which will compromise the quality of life in our Town and threaten property values.

In addition, I do not feel comfortable that any set of State or Federal regulations will be sufficient to support safe practices. With looming budget cuts and the resulting cuts in staff, it is certain that even with strong laws the industry will still do what is best (i.e. cheapest for them) knowing that inspections will be rare and even if cited, fines will just be another cost of doing business.

The history of extractive industries, mining and drilling, all across the US and indeed the world show a clear and indefensible pattern of abuse to the environment and the local population. It is always the corporate interests that prevail in the rape, profit and run business model that the drilling and mining industries have made their historical legacy. They make the profits and then leave, while it is left to government to clean up the costly mess. If major accidents occur the entity is often drained of its assets and dissolved leaving no one responsible for the damaged parties to go after. If this strategy is not used and the corporation still exists, the legal process is costly and could take years.

Thank you for your consideration,

Eddie Sieradzki

21 Hartwood Road,

Ithaca, NY

Town of Dryden resident.



has notified the sender that this message has been received.

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** matthew kozlowski [mattkoz94@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 9:02 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Lelfer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Public Comment - Hydraulic Fracturing Vote

Dear Dryden Town Board Members,

I am writing to ask you to support a zoning ban on industrial activities such as hydraulic fracturing natural gas extraction in the Town of Dryden.

By banning such activities from our beautiful landscape I believe that you would protect our:

Natural environment (Land, surface and subsurface water resources, air quality)

Living environment (scenic resources, noise levels, drinking water resources, traffic)

Infrastructure (damage to roadways and treatment facilities)

Local Economy (long and short term reduced property values resulting in lower tax revenues, reduced tourism resources and attraction)

Personal property rights (forced compulsory integration to seize value from residents property and given to corporate interests regardless of opposition and without fair economic compensation for reduced property value and quality of life)

I am a town resident and support a vote for a comprehensive ban on Aug 2nd 2011.

Matthew Kozlowski  
401 Irish Settlement Road  
Freeville, NY 13068

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Karl Russ [khruss@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 8:26 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** ban on drilling

Hi Mary Ann,

please stay firm in banning gas drilling in Dryden!  
There are almost daily new and disturbing facts appearing like use of drilling waste water spread on our roads or the 300-400 Million Dollars for road and bridge repair per year caused by 2.5 million truck movements.

Thank you for your time,  
sincerely  
Karl Russ  
137 Hunt Hill Rd

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Jack W. Bradbury [jbradbury@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 8:23 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Vote in support of strong gas drilling ban ordinance

As residents of Dryden who have spent a lot of time researching the issues, we absolutely do NOT want hydrofracking in Dryden. All the reasons are very compelling: air pollution, risk to water supplies, truck traffic, noise, etc. The fact that what we let it occur would seriously affect all our neighbors (e.g. downstream in Ithaca) is also a big factor. And these effects are long-term as evidenced in gas drilling sites all over the country. We had not realized until recently that both New Jersey and France (the country!) had banned hydrofracking. If NYC and Syracuse get their watersheds exempted, we should too: the argument that they have no filtration system is irrelevant; we don't either. Please add our two votes to your list in support of the ordinance. And do NOT accept some intermediate compromise like Bruno proposes: with all the money the big gas corporation have, a foot in the door is all they need to go all the way eventually. By the way, we did not sign a lease. I had the land man out our front door 5 minutes after he started his pitch and told him never to return.

Jack Bradbury  
Sandra Vehrencamp

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Jack Bradbury- email: [jwb25@cornell.edu](mailto:jwb25@cornell.edu)  
Sandy Vehrencamp- email: [slv8@cornell.edu](mailto:slv8@cornell.edu)  
81 Besemer Hill Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
Phone: 607-539-7326

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Peter Quinn-Jacobs [peterqj@quinn-jacobs.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 8:13 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; jsolomon@dryden.ny.u  
**Subject:** Hydr fracking Ban

Hello,

My name is Peter Quinn-Jacobs. I am 19-years-old, and a senior studying English at Wells College. I am a Dryden resident, and wish to be continue to be one in the future. I spoke before about hydr fracking at a recent meeting of the town board. From the research I have done on the subject both online and talking to experts, I have concluded that hydrofracking as it is is an unsafe practice, one that will most certainly ruin the landscape and the people of this town. I also know that any possible benefits of hydrofracking are small; the natural gas under the Marcellus Shale region won't last us long at all, and the method of extracting it will only hasten global warming. If we are truly concerned for Dryden's energy future, -which we should be- we must consider cleaner, more renewable energy sources, and there are plenty that would suit Dryden well.

Thank-you. I appreciate all the thought that is going into this decision. I look forward to hearing the results of your vote on or before August 2nd, Peter Quinn-Jacobs

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Millie Reed [millie.reed@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 8:05 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Ban gas drilling In Dryden

I am in favor of a gas drilling ban ordinance in the Town of Dryden. Our environment is to important to allow drilling to take place.

Millie Reed  
162 Genung Road

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Jennifer Sun [jennsun43@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 8:03 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** ban hydrofracking

Dear Mary Ann Sumner,

Hydrofracking has proven to have devastating effects on ground water quality which impacts the health of all living systems that depend on that water which includes me and my family. For this reason, I strongly urge you to vote in favor of a strong gas drilling ordinance in Dryden.

a concerned citizen,  
Jennifer J Sun  
688 W. Dryden Rd  
Freeville, NY 13068



**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Stan Downs [desertstan@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 7:12 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Hydrofracking

Dear Mary Ann Sumner

Please note my opposition to hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden. I live at 395 Ringwood Rd , our wonderful rural environment would be ruined here with trucks and equipment rolling over our roads 24 hrs a day, not mention the 24 hour noise and pollution from the drilling itself. We rely on pristine water from our well that supports our life here and fear contamination to it, that has happened in other rural communities from hydrofracking. Please don't allow hydrofracking in our town.

Thank You

Stan Downs, 395 Ringwood Rd Freeville Ny 13068

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[desertstan@gmail.com](mailto:desertstan@gmail.com)

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Sana Gardescu [sg23@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 5:31 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stellck; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Support for drilling ban

As a long-term resident of the Town of Dryden, and one of many homeowners relying on well water for drinking, I urge you to vote for the ban that would help prevent local hydrofracking drilling.

I am concerned because any toxic gases, such as methane and radon, that are released within the disturbed bedrock, will tend to move upwards through cracks in unknown directions and across a range of distances from the drilling site, potentially threatening our drinking water.

Additionally, the wear on Dryden and County roads will be costly, and the noise of large vehicles and drilling sites will damage the pleasant rural character of our Town.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my concern.

Sana Gardescu  
108 Hunt Hill Road  
Ithaca NY 14850 (Town of Dryden)  
[sg23@cornell.edu](mailto:sg23@cornell.edu)

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** stuartberg@alum.rpi.edu  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 11:55 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Cc:** peter.davies@cornell.edu; mlavine@twcny.rr.com  
**Subject:** Request to please ban hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden

Dear Mary Ann, David, Jason, Steve, and Joe,

We strongly request that you ban hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden. New York State has already banned hydrofracking in the New York City and Syracuse watersheds due to concern for the health of those residents. As residents of the Town of Dryden, we ask that you protect us from hydrofracking since we similarly do not have water processing plants (we have unfiltered water wells) very much like the watersheds mentioned. Please protect Town of Dryden residents like New York State is protecting New York City and Syracuse residents.

Sincerely,  
Stuart and Jean Berg  
99 Hickory Circle  
Town of Dryden  
Ithaca, NY 14850

## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Sofia A Villenas [svillenas@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 11:18 PM  
**To:** David Makar; Mary Ann Sumner; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Please Vote to Ban Drilling in Dryden

Dear Dryden Town Board Members

I am writing to urge you to vote for the strongest ban against drilling in the Town of Dryden.

Our land and water are precious and vital and cannot be given up for a few dollars. I completely agree with Catskill Mountainkeeper when they write, "The reality is that NO amount of regulation, NO amount of permitting guidelines, and NO amount of laws and ordinances can protect our water and communities from a reckless industry as long as our regulatory industries continue to lack the staff and resources they need to properly enforce such mandates" ([www.catskillmountainkeeper.org](http://www.catskillmountainkeeper.org)).

I do not want our lovely area to be snarled with traffic, noise pollution and to affect our tourism and local economy in general. We have nothing to gain except a few dollars and irreparable damage. If hydrofracking comes to Dryden, our area will never be the same. And I will move away to a place where my family's health and well-being will not be endangered.

Please join with the Towns of Ithaca and Caroline to stand together and protect our land, water, economy and well-being!

Thank you,  
Sofia Villenas

Sofia Villenas, Ph.D.  
Director, Latino Studies Program  
Associate Professor of Anthropology, Education & Latino Studies  
President-Elect, American Educational Studies Association  
<http://www.educationalstudies.org/>

The Latino Studies Program  
434 Rockefeller Hall  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
[sav33@cornell.edu](mailto:sav33@cornell.edu)  
Phone: 607-255-3197

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Suzanne Gervais [suzanne.gervais@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 10:53 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** please vote for banning hydrofracking

Dear Mrs Summer

I am writing to urge you to stand for me and my fellow citizens of Dryden to ban hydrofracking in our town. I very much care about the quality of life in Dryden and the quality of our watershed and of Cayuga lake. I believe hydrofracking in our town will destroy the peaceful life we strive for and will not bring long term benefits yet will bring very long term damage of all sorts, geophysical, to the landscape, to the noise and light and road hazards to heightened pollution – yes in the end hydrofracking is not a solution to our energy crisis. I count on your vote to ban hydrofracking.

I thank you to represent my concern and desire for a peaceful and healthful life in Dryden

Suzanne Gervais  
1 Ringwood Court south,  
Ithaca, NY 14850

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Dr. Peter Wrege [p.wrege@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 9:38 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Town of Dryden Contact: Comment

To: Town Supervisor

From:  
Dr. Peter Wrege  
[p.wrege@cornell.edu](mailto:p.wrege@cornell.edu)

Message:

Comment to register re: zoning amendment to ban gas drilling.  
Dryden Town resident since 1973.

I feel that it is extremely important to pass this amendment in order to protect not only our quality of life but also our health and safety. Several speakers at the public comment meeting suggested that the amendment would "close the door" on the possibility of drilling. This is not the case. The zoning regulations can always be revised again in future should proven safe and non-intrusive methods be developed to extract gas from the shale deposits underlying our town.

The most important thing to do right now to maximize all future options is to put a strong restriction in place so that the town has as strong a position as possible for controlling what comes next.

We all know that there are differences of opinion as to the amount of say that local communities can have on this industrial activity, but if we 'wait and see' as some advocate, we could lose an important apriori position.

I believe there are many reasons that horizontal hydrofracturing is an industry that we do not want here in Dryden or anywhere else, but a few that weigh most on my mind are these:  
- the rural scenic assets of our region are among the most valuable to me and these qualities will be severely compromised for many years, if not for my lifetime, by the proposed industrialization.

- the process as it is now performed is dangerous and destructive.

This is not emotional hyperbole - there is ample hard evidence. It may be that there are a majority of wells operating without problem, but it needs only one in an area to cause serious harm, and not only to the property owner who gets financial incentives to take the gamble. The DEC's decision to protect the watersheds of selected populations should be more than enough warning that the 'experts' see serious probability of harm. The industry's long advanced preparation to neutralize their culpability for environmental and personal harm, in the form of exemptions from the clean air and clean water acts, speaks volumes about their own expectation of damage - and they ARE experts.

- all of us will pay the price of bringing this industry to our town, not only in changed quality of life and damaged health, but very directly in the costs to repair the damage to our roads and bridges, depleted stream discharges, congestion and increased property damage from accidents involving heavy machinery and trucks, and who knows what else.

Please start us off with what little position of power we can gain.  
Changed conditions and/or more knowledge in future can be evaluated and accomodated through appropriate action and changes to our regulations - disaster first is too late.  
**PASS THE AMENDMENT TO BAN GAS DRILLING IN THE TOWN OF DRYDEN!**

Peter

Sent from (ip address): 70.100.56.2  
(70-100-56-2.dr03.nrw.net:frontiernet.net)  
Date/Time: July 28, 2011 1:38 am  
Coming from (referrer): <http://dryden.ny.us/contact-us> Using (user agent): Mozilla/5.0 (iPad;  
U; CPU OS 4\_3\_3 like Mac OS X;  
en-us) AppleWebKit/533.17.9 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/5.0.2  
Mobile/8J2 Safari/6533.18.5

## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** bob mcguire [bmcguire@clarityconnect.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 9:04 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Support HVHF Ban

Dear Ms. Sumner and Town Board members:

I am a life-long resident of the Finger Lakes area and recently retired. My wife Judy and I live on 100 acres in the town of Dryden. Our property is maintained for wildlife and protected from subdivision by an easement held the by the Finger Lakes Land Trust. We have not leased our land for gas drilling and are vehemently opposed to the introduction of High Volume Hydraulic Fracturing in our community. We strongly support a ban and are prepared to pay an increase in property taxes to defend that ban in court.

We place a high value on the bucolic nature of our surroundings. Our region thrives on recreation and tourism-related activities. This is no place for heavy industry. HVHF would change the character of our region forever. Any economic benefit it would bring - and there are clear signs that only a few individuals would benefit - is not worth the environmental risk and the devastation that would result.

I know that there are individuals in the community who claim they have a right to exploit the minerals found on their property. If they could do that without any deleterious effect on us, I would have no problem with them. However, the results of HVHF will reach far beyond the boundary of any one neighbor's property. The increase in truck traffic, noise from drilling and then compressor stations, the release of air-borne pollutants (diesel fumes, methane venting/flaring) will impact us all disastrously. Then there are the inevitable accidents: spilled chemicals, blowouts, and methane migration. The issue is as much about us being able to enjoy our property undisturbed as it is about someone else's right to drill.

Please pass the ban.

Respectfully,

Bob McGuire and Judy Keil  
46 Whitted Rd  
Ithaca 14850



**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Nancy Morgan [wink48@clarityconnect.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 12:02 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; Jason Leifer; David Makar; Steve Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Ban on Gas Drilling in the Town of Dryden

July 27, 2011

Members of the Dryden Town Board,

As residents and taxpayers in the Town of Dryden for 37 years, we urge you to vote in favor of a strong gas drilling ban. We simply can't believe energy company statements which promise that the utmost care will be taken not to harm our land, water, air and public health. Accidents do happen. And operators can make mistakes or exercise poor judgment. We are concerned for our well and those of our neighbors, and for the waters in our nearby streams. We are concerned about roads becoming impassible and dangerous due to the enormous increase in truck traffic throughout the town. Air pollution and noise pollution near the drilling sites would cause health problems. Property values would go down drastically. Crime and civil disorder would rise.

Many people seem to think there is an infinite supply of water, plenty to spare for hydrofracking as many gas wells as would fit into the landscape here in Dryden. But summer is not yet over and the streams are low, and wells are actually going dry. We can't afford to allow billions of gallons of water to be withdrawn permanently from the recharge system for fracking, when we don't even have enough for our own uses.

You have done a superb job of studying the issue, weighing the likely costs and dubious benefits of this type of heavy industrial use of the land. And in your careful formulation of the zoning ordinance banning such use, we think you have arrived at the most feasible way to protect the citizens, the tax base, and the natural resources of our town. The state government is obviously not interested in what happens locally, but mainly in accommodating the very persuasive energy corporations. The federal government is glacially slow to act on anything important. Time is quickly running out for us, and it is essential to put a ban on gas drilling in place immediately.

Please pass the ordinance as soon as possible. It is the best hope we all have that our water will not be ruined, our roads will not become a motorist's nightmare, civil disorder will not become the norm in Dryden, our property values will not plunge overnight, and our health will not be compromised by industrial pollution right where we live. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Robert Morgan and Nancy Morgan  
1608 Hanshaw Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
Town of Dryden

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Meg & Eric [ereiff@twcny.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 10:59 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** We support a strong gas drilling ban

To whom it May Concern:

We are writing in support of a ban on gas drilling , especially hydrofracking, in the town of Dryden. We live in Varna. Gas drilling will negatively alter both the environment and the quality of life in Dryden (or anywhere for that matter.) Our house has well-water, and we are very concerned with the possibility of contamination, especially since there is a gas lease on the land behind ours. We chose to live in Varna for its beautiful landscape and quiet atmosphere. If drilling is allowed, Varna will become polluted with noise and traffic from 1,000s of trucks passing through. The quality of the hamlet will be lost.

Gas drilling and hydrofracking are too big a risk to take, both for environmental reasons and for preserving the quality of life in Dryden. Please don't allow money for a few to spoil life for all of us. **Please pass a ban on gas drilling.**

Thank you,

Meghan and Eric Reiff  
1243 Dryden Road

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** sasha k-r [darlingsaid@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 7:36 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** re:fracking ban

Dear Members of the Board,

I am a Dryden resident, just wanted to add my name to the residents against fracking list.

I'm very frightened by the potential aftermath of fracking in my hometown, and i do not want, nor can i afford, to move. We live in such a rich and beautiful place, the risks are too heavy and great to take.

I know the decision itself is a heavy and political one, but urge you to err on the side of keeping living things safe.

Sincerely,  
SASHA KELLNER

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Mike Webster [msw244@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 6:57 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Support drilling ban

I am a resident of Dryden (Freeville) living on Midline Road. I strongly support a ban on fracking/drilling in Dryden township. My father was a petroleum geologist and in general I actually support responsible resource extraction. However, it is clear that the fracking process has not been adequately studied or developed, and the potential for negative effects on our local environment and health are too great at this time. Until the extraction industry can provide more information and assurances, fracking should be banned from anyplace near humans, and particular it should be banned in the town of Dryden.

Thanks,

Mike Webster  
298 Midline Road  
Freeville, NY 13068

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Barb Rogers [bbr48@twcny.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 5:45 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** the ban on gass drilling

I know I am joining a chorus..but I have to say from what I've researched and been following this fracking is a risky business for our water supply and what these sites do to our property is disgusting. I say...ban the drilling. Barbara B Rogers

Proud member of [www.magicsculpture.com](http://www.magicsculpture.com)  
3-d model and anatomy resource for sculptors

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Rita P Pirsic [rpp4@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 5:12 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Drilling Ban

July 26, 2011

Dear Dryden Supervisor,

I beseech you to do what is correct and abandon hydrofracking on all lands. The drilling, the chemicals, the created byproducts and their impact on our fresh water only afford a dire risk to all for many future generations.

What is left after the wells run dry? Earth saturated with a chemical soup having the potential to harm humans, animals, and the environment for generations to come. Many seem to possess the mistaken assumption that gas burns cleanly. It does not! It creates environmental harm as a result of the necessary dirty work to extract it.

There are long-term solutions for the nation's energy shortage: (1) energy consumption behavior; (2) solar/wind energy; (3) energy consumption behavior!!

I stress energy consumption behavior. I believe energy shortage would be non-existent if we guard our use of the earth's natural resources as well as we carefully guard our hard-earned dollars. It would never be necessary to consider ravaging beautiful land to plunder what lies beneath it.

Don't you find it a bit alarming to see what has become of communities that have succumbed to this unconventional form of gas extraction?

Hydrofracking in Dryden or any region is a tragedy unfolding.

Rita Pirsic

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Mary Basl [mary6basl@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 4:45 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Hydro fracking

I so believe that allowing this kind of horizontal drilling will be so detrimental to our community that it will ruin the gentle living here impossible.

I am sad to say I was one of the ones that sold my mineral rights ONLY because I did not know what I was doing. I thought I was helping the nations energy crisis and had no idea what hydrofracking actually was. I sought council from my banker and he said he too was going to do it...I suspect he did not know either. Those companies came in here when we were so ignorant ..we DID NOT get big \$\$\$\$\$\$ for our mineral rights they essentially stole it from us be cause we are naive. I want to stay naive and live as we are now. Please ban hydrofracking from our town!!!!

save me from myself!!!

Mary Basl

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Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind.

- Dr. Seuss

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Lois Eini Gosse [leg4@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 3:50 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** We favor ban SOON on gas drilling in Dryden

Dear Supervisor,

My husband, Robert and I hope that the Town board will vote SOON to ban the drilling of natural gas in the town. We worry that the natural beauty, water supplies, and peace and quiet of the area will be destroyed. We believe that the potential downside impacts just seem too great to have us risk being the guinea pigs for this technology. We worry about the town and its residents shouldering the costs of fixing the area after the damage is done and the gas and the short run money have left the area.

Thank you for being willing to deal with this and other issues.

Lois and Robert Gosse



## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Rob MacCurdy [rbm7@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 3:44 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Dryden gas drilling ban

Hello,

I am writing to voice my VERY STRONG support for a permanent gas drilling ban in Dryden. While I realize the potential individual economic benefits of gas drilling/leasing are compelling, the wholesale industrial development of our community makes no sense to me. People come to live in central New York because it offers clean air, fresh water, and open spaces. I recreate every week in our state and private forests. I've seen firsthand what gas development has meant for Pennsylvania and Colorado. It transforms previously bucolic rural landscapes into industrial settings. Pollution, congestion, and crime follow.

The broad economic benefits of drilling have been mis-stated. Reputable studies have shown that communities that embrace resource extraction grow faster than other communities for a brief period of time, but they enter a period of rapid decline after the resource has been extracted. After a generation, they are worse off than the communities that avoided extractive industries. They have an over-developed infrastructure that a dwindling population has to pay for, and the reliance on a single source of tax revenue leaves them with no alternatives when that source is removed.

The energy companies that have come to our community promising clean energy, and economic development have simply lied to us. There is nothing clean about methane gas extraction. We need only look south to our neighbors in Pennsylvania to see the impacts of drilling. Local papers publish story after story about drilling spills, polluted wells, and well-worker crimes. The energy companies have done everything possible to deny any linkage between drilling and pollution. They deny that any gas well has polluted a drinking well, while quietly compensating individual homeowners who cannot drink their water because it has become permanently polluted!

The Town of Dryden has enviable natural resources: productive, relatively low cost farmland; clean water; beautiful hills and forests; quiet open spaces. These timeless but vulnerable resources attract people from far and wide; we must not jeopardize them for a transient gain that will benefit a small number of people, but will impact our entire community.

Please pass the ban on gas drilling.

Thank you,  
Robert MacCurdy  
1760 Slaterville Rd  
Ithaca, NY 14850

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Ben Arthur [bja28@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 11:08 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** no drilling in the town

i am against drilling within the towns limits, and feel it should be banned sooner rather than later.

ben arthur  
1760 slaterville rd

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Charles DeMotte [chasjane@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 10:11 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Cc:** jedwards1@frontiernet.net  
**Subject:** zoning ordinance on gas drilling in Dryden

Dear members of the Dryden Town Board,

As a longtime resident of the town of Dryden, I would like to share with you my thoughts about the proposed ordinance against gas drilling in Dryden.

First let me say that despite the arguments for and against fracking and gas drilling in general, the question appears to be how drilling, and all that entails, will affect the residents of the town of Dryden and our quality of life here. In my opinion it would have a negative impact on both accounts. As you know, we are a region of growth, especially in the western half of the township and also in the vicinity of the villages of Dryden and Freeville. Given what we know about the extent of impact from fracking and gas drilling, there would be a significant threat to the groundwater that residents depend on for drinking and other uses. Second, there are infrastructural issues such as traffic congestion on our county roads and noise which drilling would bring to our area. Thirdly, there are ample case studies in northern Pennsylvania and in western states where drilling has caused contamination of natural resources as well as violating the peace and repose of towns and villages. Fourthly, the recent history of gas and oil drilling has shown that promises of safe drilling have been belied by spills and disasters due to a violation of procedures, mismanagement, and even brazen violations of the law. Once you allow outside corporations in, and destruction to the environment to take place, there is no turning back. It should also be pointed out that drilling companies have been less than truthful about the process and effects of hydrofracking.

The argument that gas drilling will bring in much needed revenue to the state is a fair one, and there are no doubt suitable places in New York where drilling might be acceptable without causing harm to persons or the environment in general. However, my concern, and I assume yours to, is whether Dryden is such a suitable environment. For the reasons stated above, I think that the logical answer must be NO. I therefore urge you to support a change in the zoning law that would ban fracking in this area.

I thank you for all the time and effort you have put into garnering the views of residents and studying this issue. It is a very important matter and one that needs careful deliberation.

Thank you again.

Best wishes,  
Charles DeMotte

1 Foot Hill Road  
Freeville

## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Jane Edwards [jedwards1@frontiernet.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 9:35 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** In favor of a gas drilling ban

Dear Town of Dryden Supervisor:

I write asking that the Town Board pass a gas drilling ban for the Town of Dryden. Not only will gas drilling change the nature of the community, it will potentially destroy the infrastructure of our built world, ie roads, wells and also the natural world, ie water, plants, trees, animals. Habitat will change. The quality of life will change. Those who benefit in a financial way will also live in a hurt environment. Their short term benefit will bring great suffering to the rest of us.

Please consider the long term health and well being of all who live in this town, and vote to ban gas drilling.

Many thanks  
Jane Edwards  
1 Foothill Road

-shareholder of the Yellow Barn Water Company, which I hope will become part of the Dryden water district. Four wells threatened by surrounding leased land. Over 250 people in danger of bad water, lower property values; just one example of an "entity" threatened by potential gas drilling.

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Jane Edwards [jedwards1@frontiernet.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2011 12:52 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick  
**Subject:** Comment in favor of a gas drilling ban in the Town of Dryden

Dear Town of Dryden Supervisor and Board members:

Thank you so much for your efforts in hearing the people of the Town of Dryden on the issue of gas drilling in the community. I know that many people have strong opinions on the matter, and that everyone has a perspective that needs to be considered.

I have no leased land and have no expectations of benefitting from such industrial activity in the Town. I see the downside of such industrial activity that will affect those who profit from such activity as well as the rest of us. The influx of corporate drilling will substantially change the nature of our community and may lead to its decline as a healthy community in which to live. The potential danger of water and air pollution, damage to roads, encroachment on lands with pipe laying, potential destruction of our state forests, noise, all suggest actions that should not be allowed. Profit for the international corporations and a few individuals is not a reason to change probably forever our community.

I encourage you all to vote to ban such drilling by changing the zoning laws of the town.

We are only one town surrounded by other communities and states dealing with these issues. We can be a good example that gives strength to the efforts of others.

It is hard to find a "middle ground" with this process. Once allowed, the corporations will follow their own rules.

Thank you again for your consideration and time.

All good wishes.

Jane Edwards  
1 Foothill Road  
Freeville

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** mbarken@ithaca.edu  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2011 10:11 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer  
**Subject:** Ban on Hydrofracking

Dear Supervisor Sumner and Town Board Members,

My husband and I attended last week's meeting regarding the proposed ban, and we appreciate the opportunity to add our concerns to the official record. In light of the critical need to protect our water resources for the good of the entire community, we strongly urge you to vote in favor of the proposed ban on hydrofracking.

Thank you, Marlene and Fred Barken

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** walter keeney [wkeeneey@twcny.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 23, 2011 1:57 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** fracking

Mary Ann Sumner, Dryden Town Supervisor

Greetings

I leased my small lot needed the money for a new roof.

However I wish now that I DID NOT do this. I am concern about my & my neighbor's drinking water. This lease I am afraid will prevent me from selling this property.

Thank you,  
Walter Keeney

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Bambi Avery  
**Sent:** Friday, July 22, 2011 9:58 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** FW: I ask the board to pass the proposed ban on gas drilling.

Okay, that didn't work the way I thought it would and it turns out there were not as many as I thought..... still burnt out from Cornell I guess.

Bambi L. Avery  
Dryden Town Clerk  
93 East Main Street  
Dryden, NY 13053  
607-844-8888, ext 210

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**From:** Robyn Robinson [<mailto:rrobin7@twcny.rr.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2011 7:59 PM  
**To:** Bambi Avery  
**Subject:** I ask the board to pass the proposed ban on gas drilling.

Dear Ms. Avery,  
I am submitting this comment on the proposed hydrofracking ban by email because I was unable to attend last night's meeting. I ask the board to pass the proposed ban on gas drilling. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Robyn Robinson  
1375 Ellis Hollow Road



## **Bambi Avery**

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**From:** Bambi Avery  
**Sent:** Friday, July 22, 2011 9:55 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** FW: In Support of the fracking ban in Dryden

MaryAnn,  
Patty said that you had asked to have all comments forwarded to you and you would compile them. Several are below.

Bambi L. Avery  
Dryden Town Clerk  
93 East Main Street  
Dryden, NY 13053  
607-844-8888, ext 210

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**From:** Jason Leifer [<mailto:jleifer@dryden.ny.us>]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 22, 2011 9:02 AM  
**To:** Bambi Avery  
**Subject:** Fwd: In Support of the fracking ban in Dryden

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Richard Sholtys <[rsholtys@gmail.com](mailto:rsholtys@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** July 22, 2011 6:46:51 AM EDT  
**To:** <[jleifer@dryden.ny.us](mailto:jleifer@dryden.ny.us)>  
**Subject:** In Support of the fracking ban in Dryden

Dear Mr. Leifer,

I strongly support the fracking ban in Dryden. As a 30+ year resident of Dryden, I appreciate the quality of life issues, and while I understand the "land rights" arguments of the ban opponents and potential cash windfall it might be for some large land-owners, I feel on balance we can't as a society allow the profits for a few to dictate the quality of life and health of the many. As one attendee of the public hearing, near 100 years old, wisely noted "....what good is money, if you don't have water?" (sorry I'm paraphrasing).

Perhaps it is selfish of me to deny my neighbor the right to drill across the street from me, spoiling my view and peaceful life here, but I could easily imagine my \$400,000 house losing half its value- so his financial "gain" would be a direct reduction from my potential home value, so in a broader sense I don't see the financial boon to the town residents. It would take from everyone, regardless of income, and benefit those who typically have larger tracts of land.

The reality is a ban does not destroy or take away from the mineral rights of the people- the gas is still there. The ban rightly is on this type of horizontal hydrofracking extraction method which is the concern of the majority of people. I think it is prudent to take at least a 10 year "wait-and-see" approach to fracking- see what the residents of Pennsylvania experience after all is said and done- before approving any of this type of drilling in NYS. Bans can be reversed. Pollution of my drinking water can not.

Thank you for your support of the Ban!

Regards,

Richard Sholtys  
9 Sparrow Crest  
Ithaca, NY (town of Dryden)  
tel: 607-220-8180

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** meyerswallen@gmail.com on behalf of Vicki Meyers-Wallen [vnm1@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2011 5:43 PM  
**To:** Bambi Avery; Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Summary of my statements for submission to the Town Board

Please ensure that the following summary of my statements made at the Town Board meeting on July 20, 2011, are included among the documents submitted at that meeting.  
I was the second speaker.

**Summary:**

I am a veterinarian and a scientist who studies birth defects.  
I have lived here for over 20 years, but before that I lived in several places in the US and overseas.  
It is clear to me that what we have here in Dryden is priceless.  
We should not take it for granted.  
I agree with everything that the previous speaker (Peter Davies) just said about the environment and will not repeat that.

I am concerned that hydrofracking in Dryden will ruin our health and our environment. This will affect us, but also our children and our grandchildren.  
If our health or environment is ruined, it can not be replaced by any amount of money. Can you imagine that any parent would say: Yes, my child was brain damaged because of the hydrofracking chemicals that I ingested when I was pregnant, but we made so much money from hydrofracking that it was worth it.  
Or would any person say: I did not know that hydrofracking chemicals could cause cancer and my spouse did get cancer from, but we made so much money from hydrofracking that it was worth it.  
Of course no one would say this, because no amount of money could compensate us for such tragedies.

The problem with hydrofracking is that there are too many unknowns.  
It is an ongoing, uncontrolled experiment and we will be the guinea pigs.  
I am concerned that the adverse effects we have already heard about are just the tip of the iceberg.  
The wise choice would be to sit on our assets and watch what happens elsewhere, in Pennsylvania for example, where the experiment has already begun.  
We should watch not only the short term outcomes, but the long term outcomes as well.

I support the zoning amendment to ban oil and gas drilling in Dryden.  
I hope the Dryden Town Board will have the courage to pass this amendment.

Vicki Meyers-Wallen  
5 Redwood Lane

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Vicki N. Meyers-Wallen, VMD, PhD, Dipl. ACT Associate Professor, Baker Institute for Animal Health, College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University, Hungerford Hill Rd, Ithaca, NY, 14853  
607 256 5683  
<http://bakerinstitute.vet.cornell.edu/faculty/view.php?id=180>

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Jennifer Heatley [jheatley@twcny.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2011 4:12 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer  
**Subject:** support for proposed drilling ban

Dear Board members,

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the meeting last night.  
I am writing to express my support of the proposed drilling ban for Dryden.  
Perhaps, in the future, if a safe way to extract gas becomes available, a ban can be lifted.  
Until such time, we must have the protection of the ban for all residents of Dryden.

Thank you all for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Heatley  
1321 Ellis Hollow Rd.

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Jill Kellner [jkellner@twcny.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2011 2:29 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; Jason Leifer; David Makar; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** fracking ban

Dear Members of the Board,

I attended the meeting last night at the town offices regarding the ban on fracking.

I listened for a long time and although it is grievous that the lines are divided, that is often the way things are.

I know your work is difficult but I think it is absolutely unsafe to frack, period...not now...who knows about the future...a lot would have to change in the extraction process for me to believe it would do no harm.

Thank you for your diligence.

Sincerely,  
Jill Kellner  
1321 Ellis Hollow Road

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Larri Richmond [LRichmond@twcny.n.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2011 12:49 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer  
**Subject:** fracking ban

Dear Board members,

Although I was in attendance at the meeting last night, I did not speak. I am writing you to say that I support the proposed drilling ban.

I am saddened to see that this issue is dividing our community but I see no way to compromise at this time. The stakes are too high. Perhaps, in the future, if a safe way to extract gas becomes available, our ban can be lifted but, until such time, we must have the protection of the ban for all residents of Dryden.

Thank you all for your attention to this issue and for all your work toward, what must be, a difficult decision.

Sincerely,  
Larri J. Richmon  
1139 Ellis Hollow Rd.

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Marie P Read [mpr5@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2011 10:33 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer  
**Subject:** Please vote in support of hydro-fracking ban

Dear Members of the Town of Dryden Board,

Thanks for your hard work over the past months on the issue of horizontal hydro-fracking, and for patiently listening to residents' concerns about this important topic.

As a Town of Dryden resident, homeowner and property-tax payer for 27 years, I urge you to vote in favor of a ban on horizontal hydro-fracking in the Town of Dryden.

I live here for the rural landscape, the peaceful country environment and the abundant wildlife, especially the birdlife, of this region. All these would be profoundly affected if hydro-fracking were allowed to proceed. Our landscape would be forever changed by an influx of what amount to industrial sites. Truck traffic would increase enormously, bringing with it noise and air pollution, and changing our country roads into super highways.

Equally important would be the impact on our forests, which harbor the birds and other wildlife that many of us enjoy and appreciate. Forest birds are already under threat throughout this country due to habitat loss and degradation. Because of clearing needed to build access roads in addition to the drilling pads themselves, hydro-fracking in forests and wooded areas contributes to forest fragmentation, one of the main causes of the decline of forest birds such as the Wood Thrush and Scarlet Tanager. Forest fragmentation facilitates access by mammalian predators, which can destroy eggs and young birds, as well as by the Brown-headed Cowbird, a brood-parasite that lays its eggs in other birds' nests at the expense of their own broods. Allowing hydro-fracking would be dealing yet one more blow to our declining native bird populations.

Please vote to help our wildlife survive, and to maintain the rural lifestyle we enjoy here in the Town of Dryden, by supporting this ban.

Thanks very much

Marie Read

Marie Read Wildlife Photography  
452 Ringwood Road  
Freeville NY 13068 USA

Phone 607-539-6608  
e-mail [mpr5@cornell.edu](mailto:mpr5@cornell.edu)

<http://www.marieread.com>

Now on FaceBook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Marie-Read-Wildlife-Photography/104356136271727>

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Sarah Wraight [segwraight@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2011 9:59 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Steve Stelick; Joseph Solomon; Jason Lelfer  
**Subject:** Comments on the Proposed Amendments to the Town of Dryden Zoning Ordinance

Dear Town Board officials,

My name is Sarah Wraight and I live on Redwood Lane. I attended the public hearing tonight but was unable to stay late enough to speak, so I am sending my comments to you electronically. I'd like to thank you for your courageous work to protect Dryden from hydraulic fracturing. I can't say that the debate over natural gas extraction is black and white. However I keep coming back to the question, what will we have when the gas is all gone? Gas supplies and royalty checks won't last forever. I went to school in Syracuse, and I spent some time becoming acquainted with its history. That city started its industrial boom with the harvesting of two non-renewable resources: salt and limestone. By the time that those resources gave out 100 years later, residents were left with environmental disasters of staggering proportions. The environmental damage in turn harmed the communities in the region's watershed. They're still struggling to recover, and they will be for many years to come. It's so easy to say that "we know better now." Yet the fact of the matter is, the people of Syracuse didn't know what environmental effects their industrial activities would bring. Likewise, we don't know for sure what hydrofracking will bring. We do know that this industry carries a heavy risk. If it's too risky for Syracuse and New York City, I think it's too risky for us. People with wells understand the value and the fragility of their water supply. History teaches us what happens when we don't consider the costs of environmental damage to future generations. History teaches us that it's not hard to mess up the environment, but it's extremely hard to clean it up.

I love living in Dryden. I love the fact that it's not an industrial landscape. Granted, we have major challenges here, including energy conservation and breaking the fossil fuel addiction. Let's not shoot ourselves in the proverbial foot by taking on the added burden of this massive environment risk. Instead, let's work to find sustainable solutions to our problems. I really want to find a sustainable way to make a living here. I thank you for drafting this legislation and for all of your other efforts to ensure that Dryden will always be a healthy place to live.

Respectfully,  
Sarah Wraight

9 Redwood Lane  
Ithaca, NY 14850



**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** John Allison Kiefer [jak14@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2011 9:46 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** middle ground on fracking

Dear Supervisor Sumner,

My wife and I listened to this evening's (7/20 Board Meeting) proceedings for 2 hours and then had to leave. Perhaps middle ground is to issue a term ban, 5 years perhaps, with a list of environmental risks that will be reevaluated in 2016.

Until recently the gas companies have had little motivation to seek safe ways to extract shale gas. Let Dryden lead the way in demanding the industry clean up its act. My guess is that the medium and long term risks will be solved – but only if we force a solution.

Respectfully,

John and Patti Kiefer  
30 year residents of  
260 Irish Settlement Road  
Freeville, NY 13068  
844-9343

**Improving the “Resolution in Support of Adopting Amendments to the Town of Dryden Zoning Ordinance Clarifying the Town’s Prohibition of Natural Gas Exploration and Extraction” received from Supervisor Mary Ann Sumner by email, June 7, 2011**

**From: Joseph M. Wilson, Dryden resident living at 75 Hunt Hill Road**

**Date: July 11, 2011**

Three of the “Whereas” paragraphs can be improved by using information from competent, independent sources. As each paragraph reads now, the statement and justification for the ban of “fracking” is equivocal. This equivocation makes the Resolution and, therefore, the ban amendment itself less defensible than it can otherwise be.

**I. Resolution paragraph no. 18 reads: “There is a continuing open debate concerning the environmental and health effects of natural gas exploration and extraction.”**

**The negative health and environmental effects of natural gas extraction (i.e. Fracking) are well known and well documented. Below are competent, disinterested statements and authorities to that effect. They should be relied on in re-drafting the Resolution. (See pages 1-6 below.)**

**A. Resolution of the Medical Society of the State of New York:**

“RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York supports a moratorium on natural gas extraction using high volume hydraulic fracturing in New York State until valid information is available to evaluate the process for its potential effects on human health and the environment.”

Counties that passed their own calls for a moratorium include: Broome County Medical Society, Herkimer County Medical Society, Cayuga County Medical Society, Chemung County Medical Society, Chenango County Medical Society, Madison County Medical Society, Oneida County Medical Society, Onondaga County Medical Society, Oswego County Medical Society, Otsego County Medical Society, and Tompkins County Medical Society. The Delaware and Tioga Counties do not have separate Societies but fall under what is called the sixth District which also declared support for a moratorium.

Retrieved 7/10/11 from <http://gdacc.wordpress.com/2010/12/10/new-york-state-medical-societies-call-for-moratorium/>

**B. Resolution by the Medical Society of Tompkins County: (June 2010)**

“Physicians of Tompkins County care first and foremost about the health of our community. When an activity raises potential harm to human health, precautionary measures should be taken until cause and effect relationships are fully established scientifically.

“The exploitation of natural gas in the Marcellus shale involves high-pressure injection of over 200 billion of gallons of water and billions of gallons of water-soluble chemicals into the shale formations to allow the release of natural gas. Backflow from this process contains heavy metals, radioactive

materials and volatile organic compounds. The effects of this process on human health have not been subject to rigorous medical research. The review reported by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in the draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement contains no high quality medical data.

“We support a moratorium to natural gas extraction using high volume hydraulic fracturing in New York State until completion of the recently announced Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) study to evaluate its effects on human health and the environment. Provided by the Medical Society of Tompkins County through Sixth District Medical Societies, Executive Director, Cynthia Burger, CAE, at [medsociety@medsocieties.org](mailto:medsociety@medsocieties.org)

**C. Specific air pollutants are produced by Fracking.**<sup>1</sup>

[On an electronic copy of this memo, one can click on each category to read details about the pollutant or the source activity.]

	Fugitive Emissions	Dehydration	Vehicles	Flaring	Engines	Pits	Venting
Particulate Matter		x	x		x		
Dust		x	x				
Hydrogen Sulfide	x			x			x
Ozone	o	o	o		o		
Carbon Monoxide			x	x	x		
Nitrogen Oxides			x	x	x		
Sulfur Dioxide			x	x	x		
VOCs	x	x		x	x	x	x
BTEX	x	x		x	x	x	x
PAHs				x			
Methane	x	x				x	x

1. 'x' means that a pollutant is emitted as a direct result of the particular activity
2. 'o' means that the pollutant is generated in a secondary reaction associated with the particular oil and gas development activity.

**D. There are significant, negative effects on human health associated with this air pollution.**

The EPA labels the criteria pollutants listed in Paragraph A (HAP's, VOCs, BTEX, and n-hexane) as each being dangerous to human health and the environment.<sup>2</sup> In a to-be-published study released

<sup>1</sup> Earthworks' Oil and Gas Accountability Project, "Oil and Gas Air Pollution," retrieved 2/9/11 from <http://www.earthworkSACTION.org/oilgasairpollution.cfm>

<sup>2</sup> EPA, "Outdoor Air-Industry, Business, and Home: Oil and Natural Gas Production-Additional Information, retrieved 2/25/11 from [http://www.epa.gov/oaqps001/community/details/oil-gas\\_addl\\_info.html](http://www.epa.gov/oaqps001/community/details/oil-gas_addl_info.html)

September 2010, Dr. Theo Colborn studied 980 products used in natural gas production. He found that 90 percent of them were associated with negative health effects.<sup>3</sup> (See also, "E.1." below.)

Immediate reactions to air pollutants are called "acute effects." Acute effects associated with fracking include irritations of skin, eyes, nose, throat, and lungs, headaches, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, rashes, elevated tension, negative personality changes, depression, confusion, muscle cramps, irregular heartbeat.

Re-occurring and longer-term reactions are labeled "chronic effects." Chronic effects associated with air pollution from fracking include damage to liver, kidneys, lungs, developing fetuses, and nerves. Additional chronic effects include: reproductive system damage, damage to the nervous system including the brain, cancers, negative changes to blood, leukemia, aplastic anemia, and developmental malformations.<sup>4 5</sup>

**E. One cannot avoid the negative effects of this pollution. Everyone in the vicinity of Fracking will be affected to a greater or lesser degree.**

"When the air in your environment is contaminated, you automatically [are affected by] the contaminants."<sup>6</sup> In addition to breathing polluted air, one can be exposed by eating air-contaminated food products, drinking water contaminated by polluted air, and by putting contaminated soil into one's mouth.<sup>7</sup> What determines the negative impact is the amount of exposure, one's susceptibility to the particular pollutants, one's age, and one's health.<sup>8</sup>

**F. Additional Documentation re. Negative Health Effects of Fracking Caused Air Pollution:**

1. *Natural Gas Operations from a Public Health Perspective*, Theo Colborn, Carol Kwiatkowski, Kim Schultz, and Mary Bachran, TEDX, *The Endocrine Disruption Exchange, Paonia, CO, USA--IN PRESS: Accepted for publication in the International Journal of Human and Ecological Risk Assessment, September 4, 2010.*

*Expected publication: September-October 2011.*

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<sup>3</sup> "Chemicals in Natural Gas Operations," "Summary Statement," Retrieved 2/20/11 from <http://www.endocrinedisruption.com/files/Multistatesummary1-27-11Final.pdf>.

See also, "Natural Gas Operations from a Public Health Perspective," September 2010, by Theo Colborn\*, Carol Kwiatkowski, Kim Schultz, Mary Bachran, retrievable from [http://www.endocrinedisruption.com/files/NaturalGasManuscriptPDF09\\_13\\_10.pdf](http://www.endocrinedisruption.com/files/NaturalGasManuscriptPDF09_13_10.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> Wilma Subra, "Community Air Monitoring," a lecture and Power Point presentation at the People's Gas and Oil Summit, Pittsburgh, November 19 & 20, 2010. Talk and Slides retrievable from [http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/moshannon/shalegas/PDFs/Panel1\\_WilmaSubra-HealthSurveys-from-TX-WY.pdf](http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/moshannon/shalegas/PDFs/Panel1_WilmaSubra-HealthSurveys-from-TX-WY.pdf) For a similar list focused on the health effects of emitted HAP's, VOCs, BTEX, and n-hexane, see EPA, "Outdoor Air-Industry, business, and Home: Oil and Natural Gas Production-Additional Information," retrieved 2/25/11 from <http://www.epa.gov/air/community/details/oil-gas>.

<sup>5</sup> See Dr. Colborn's Excel spreadsheet summarizing chemicals, health effects, and some precautions that can be taken at <http://www.endocrinedisruption.com/chemicals.multistate.php>.

<sup>6</sup> Wilma Subra "Community Air Monitoring," a lecture and Power Point presentation by at the People's Gas and Oil Summit, Pittsburgh, November 19 & 20, 2010, retrievable from [http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/moshannon/shalegas/PDFs/Panel1\\_WilmaSubra-HealthSurveys-from-TX-WY.pdf](http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/moshannon/shalegas/PDFs/Panel1_WilmaSubra-HealthSurveys-from-TX-WY.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> EPA, "About Air Toxics," retrieved 2/21/11 from <http://www.epa.gov/air/toxicair/newtoxics.html>. See also EPA, "Air Pollution Emissions Overview," retrieved 2/9/11 from <http://www.epa.gov/airquality/emissns.html>.

<sup>8</sup> EPA, "Air Emission Sources, Basic Information," retrieved 2/21/11 from <http://www.epa.gov/air/emissions/basic.htm#dataloc>.

“ABSTRACT: The technology to recover natural gas depends on undisclosed types and amounts of toxic chemicals. A list of 944 products containing 632 chemicals used during natural gas operations was compiled. Literature searches were conducted to determine potential health effects of the 353 chemicals identified by Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) numbers. More than 75% of the chemicals could affect the skin, eyes, and other sensory organs, and the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems. Approximately 40-50% could affect the brain/nervous system, immune and cardiovascular systems, and the kidneys; 37% could affect the endocrine system; and 25% could cause cancer and mutations. These results indicate that many chemicals used during the fracturing and drilling stages of gas operations may have long-term health effects that are not immediately expressed. In addition, an example was provided of waste evaporation pit residuals that contained numerous chemicals on the CERCLA and EPCRA lists of hazardous substances. The discussion highlights the difficulty of developing effective water quality monitoring programs. To protect public health we recommend full disclosure of the contents of all products, extensive air and water monitoring, coordinated environmental/human health studies, and regulation of fracturing under the U.S. Safe Drinking Water Act.”

2. [Air Pollution from Fracking Harms Health: A Doctor's Review of the Research \(9/27/10\)](#)  
*Hydraulic Fracturing Study-Comments to the EPA. Eric London, MD. September 27, 2010.*

Written by a physician and researcher, this letter asks the EPA to include air pollution effects in its hydraulic fracturing study. Much of its six pages is devoted to reviewing the research data showing that hydraulic fracturing releases into the air many chemicals that have been proven to damage human health. The author describes in detail the evidence that hydraulic fracturing operations create dangerous levels of hydrogen sulfide and ozone; he then cites data on their adverse effects on health. He also discusses particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), and their sources and effects on health. Fracking-related air pollution can cause respiratory ailments, brain damage, cancer, higher infant mortality rates, low birth weight, prematurity, growth retardation, birth defects, and a host of other health problems. London says that “Despite the overwhelming evidence of mortality, illness, and adverse birth outcome correlating with air pollution there is a shocking complacency on the part of most regulators, policy makers and medical professionals. If similar numbers of subjects were killed or sickened from infectious diseases, it would be declared a national emergency.”

3. [How Air Pollution Affects Health Near High-Traffic Areas \(6/2003\)](#)

“Key Studies on Air Pollution and Health Effects Near High-Traffic Areas.” *Compiled by the Environmental Law and Policy Center and the Sierra Club. San Diego Earth Times. June 2003.* This Web page includes citations and brief (less than 100 words) synopses of 15 journal articles on the health effects of living near heavy traffic. The studies indicate that people living near busy

roads die sooner, have more childhood asthma hospitalizations and more asthma generally, are more likely to have premature and low-birth-weight babies, have much greater exposure to particle pollution, and are more likely to have childhood and adult cancer. A German study found that over a lifetime, traffic-related air pollution was more likely to kill people than was motor vehicle accidents. A short, easy-to-read summary of fairly recent research.

**G. The noises associated with Fracking cause negative effects on humans and animals:**

[Note: One established result of widespread shale gas extraction is a huge increase in truck traffic during drilling. Current practice causes this traffic to continue 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Compressor stations are powered by locomotive style engines which also operate 23-7. As a result, humans and animals in the vicinity experience dramatically increased levels of noise.]

1. Traffic Noise Increases Hypertension (12/11/2007)  
“Hypertension and Exposure to Noise Near Airports: The HYENA Study.” *Lars Jarup, Wolfgang Babisch, Danny Houthuijs, et al. Environmental Health Perspectives. 116: 329–333. Online December 11, 2007.*  
Hypertension (high blood pressure) is a major risk factor for heart disease and stroke. This study examined the relationship between hypertension and noise from traffic and aircraft. The study looked at 4,861 people 45 to 70 years old who had lived near a major airport for at least 5 years. Blood pressure was assessed three times, and standard methods were used to measure road traffic noise. The study found a statistically significant positive relationship between exposure to daily road traffic noise and blood pressure, especially for men. Traffic noise, then, may be a risk factor in heart attacks and strokes and contribute to cardiovascular disease. The authors suggest that measures to reduce road traffic noise be considered. [Note: The expected noise from truck traffic related to hydraulic fracturing is relevant to the gas drilling issue, so this summary focuses on that aspect of the study.]
2. Noise, Even During Sleep, Increases Stress and the Release of Stress Hormones (2003)  
“Stress Hormones in the Research on Cardiovascular Effects of Noise.” *W. Babisch. Noise & Health: A Quarterly Inter-disciplinary International Journal. 5(18):1–11. 2003.*  
This research review of over a hundred scientific papers lays out the evidence that noise causes stress, even when we are asleep, and that increased stress may, over the long term, result in cardiovascular disease. Noise, even low-level traffic noise, appears to cause the release of a variety of stress-hormones into the blood, which have effects on the body that are known to increase the risk of cardiovascular disease. Stress hormones increase the heart rate, blood pressure, and retention of fluid by the kidneys, and cause the body to ready energy and oxygen reserves. The author notes that “Current noise research in general, does not need to prove any longer the noise/stress hypothesis as such. It is common knowledge that noise is a psycho-social stressor that can affect physiological functioning.” The references include many studies of noise effects from different sources on various human physiological systems.
3. “The Costs of Chronic Noise Exposure for Terrestrial Organisms.” *Jesse R. Barber, Kevin R. Crooks, and Kurt M. Fristrup. Trends in Ecology & Evolution. 25(3): 180–189. September 16, 2009.*

This review article documents that chronic noise, from resource extraction and many other sources, is a threat to the world's ecosystems. Increased noise, much of it from increased road and air traffic, masks sounds that animals would otherwise use as environmental cues to locate prey, avoid predators, and find mates. Loud, persistent noise actually restructures animal communities. Some studies have found that birds near noisy compressor stations were less successful than those farther away. Frogs in noisy environments may have less ability to locate mates. The extent to which human-caused noise influences species depends in part on the overlap between the sound frequencies (wavelengths) and the frequencies relevant to the species. Study evidence indicates that noise pollution worsens problems caused by habitat fragmentation and other consequences of human activities. The authors suggest that we should take "immediate action to manage noise in protected natural areas."

4. Compressor Station Noise Reduces Ovenbird Pairing Success (2007)

"Chronic Industrial Noise Affects Pairing Success and Age Structure of Ovenbirds *Seiurus aurocapilla*." *Lucas Habib, Erin M. Bayne, and Stan Boutin. Journal of Applied Ecology. 44: 176–184. 2007.*

In Alberta, Canada, the authors compared pairing success and age structure of ovenbirds at noisy natural-gas compressor stations to quiet nearby well pad sites with similar degrees of habitat disturbance. They found a "significant reduction in ovenbird pairing success at compressor sites (77%) compared with noiseless well pads (92%)....Significantly more inexperienced birds breeding for the first time were found near noise-generating compressor stations than noiseless well pads (48% vs. 30%)....[T]he ultimate cause of the changes seems to be noise pollution."

5. Songbird Density is Lower Near Compressor Stations (2008) "Impacts of Chronic Anthropogenic Noise from Energy-Sector Activity on Abundance of Songbirds in the Boreal Forest." *Erin M. Bayne, Lucas Habib, and Stan Boutin. Conservation Biology. 22: 1186–1193. 2008.*

In a Canadian boreal forest, the authors investigated total songbird density and density of individual species near noisy compressor stations and nearby quiet well pads. They found that total songbird density was 33% lower at the noisy sites than at the quiet sites. Densities of three species were significantly lower at the compressor stations sites than at similar quiet sites, and five species were less likely to occur near compressor stations than at the quiet well pads.

6. Noise Reduces Species Richness and Changes Species Interactions (2009)

"Noise Pollution Changes Avian Communities and Species Interactions." C. D. Francis, C. P. Ortega, A. Cruz. *Current Biology. 19: 1415–1419. 2009.*

This study, conducted in pinyon-juniper woodlands in northwestern New Mexico, studied species composition and interactions at sites near active natural gas compressor stations and at similar but quiet well pads nearby. They found that "noise alone reduces nesting species richness and leads to different avian communities," and suggest that "noise can have cascading consequences for communities through altered species interactions."

## H. Fracking Threatens Streams and Aquatic Life, Even with No Spills or Leaks

(10/12/10) "Philly Academy Study Finds Gas Drilling Threatens Streams." *Sandy Bauers. Philadelphia Inquirer. October 12, 2010.* This article describes a preliminary study of Pennsylvania streams, which suggests that a high density of drilling in the Marcellus Shale may degrade nearby streams, even if there are no spills or other accidents. The study found that water conductivity, an indicator of salt contamination, was twice as high in streams near high-density drilling, and populations of salamanders and aquatic insects, two groups of animals sensitive to pollution, were 25 percent lower. [Note that many fish feed on aquatic insects.] Results of the preliminary study,

conducted by the Academy of Natural Sciences, will be used to apply for funding for a larger, more comprehensive study. David Velinsky, VP of the Academy's Patrick Center for Environmental Research, is quoted in the article as saying that he knew of no similar studies that had been completed. The article notes that, as of Oct. 1, 2010, the number of Marcellus wells drilled in Pennsylvania is 2,237, yet there have been no independent studies of their ecological consequences for streams; scientists are just now applying for funding for such studies.

On Sept. 23, 2010, Velinsky testified before joint committees of the Philadelphia City Council on the effects of Marcellus shale drilling on aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. His remarks included a discussion of the preliminary stream study. Velinsky's testimony is archived at: [http://www.ansp.org/about/news/pdf/David\\_Velinsky\\_CityCouncilTestimony\\_2010-09-23.pdf](http://www.ansp.org/about/news/pdf/David_Velinsky_CityCouncilTestimony_2010-09-23.pdf)

**II. Resolution paragraph no. 22 reads: "... the potential adverse impacts associated with natural gas exploration, extraction, treatment, storage, and transportation MAY threaten the economic future of town residents and taxpayers and their quality of life ..."**  
" [CAPS added]

**There is competent documentation by disinterested authorities establishing that Fracking harms the quality of life and economies of small rural towns like Dryden. The economy, property values, and daily lives of the great majority of Dryden residents will be negatively affected by Fracking. Local governments such as Dryden's and that of Tompkins County lack the resources with which to successfully cope with the cumulative environmental, health, social, and economic effects of Fracking. There is no system for causing Frackers to pay or reimburse local governments for the cost they will incur to address these effects. This documentation should be used in redrafting the Resolution. (See pages 7-10 below.)**

**A. Fracking is already affecting Tompkins County. The State is not acting to mitigate these effects.** *Lansing Star*, "[Cornell Expert Says Hydrofracking Already Affecting New York](#)," Friday, June 24, 2011 00:00 | by -Staff

Economic Geographer Susan Christopherson, of Cornell's Department of City and Regional Planning, has been studying the economic effects of hydrofracking, looking at the experience in nearby Pennsylvania and effects in New York. Since there is "no border fence between New York and Pennsylvania," she said, drilling produces a regional industrial effect, and cautioned there will be "important impacts to Tompkins County"—from such aspects as heavy truck traffic, water resources, and waste disposal— even if a single well is not drilled here. She maintained State officials are showing "willful ignorance and disinterest" in failing to address those issues and, because of that, the state is unprepared. Retrieved 7/10/11 from <http://www.lansingstar.com/news-page/7420-cornell-expert-says-hydrofracking-already-affecting-new-york>

**B. Gas and Oil Leases Cause a Negative Impact on Residential Lending—Excerpt from statement made by Greg May, VP – Residential Mortgage Lending Tompkins Trust Company, March 24, 2011**

1. There is not a cost effective or reliable way to determine if a residential property has a



gas lease to allow an Appraiser to establish an appraised value. Title examinations of each property would add significant cost to each transaction in NYS.

2. Surface or sub surface rights within 200 feet of a residential structure would not be acceptable for conventional financing in the Secondary market.
3. NYS title insurance gas endorsements specifically void title insurance coverage if the premises are used for any commercial venture.
4. Lenders are responsible to warrant several items to the investor in the Secondary market that can not be done leaving lenders with significant liability.
5. NYS licensed Appraisers are not able to consider the impact on value if a gas lease exists as noted in item #1 above and hence their Appraisals would not meet Secondary market requirements.
6. Surface or sub surface rights within 300 feet of a residential structure OR within 300 feet of property boundary lines would not be acceptable for FHA (Department of HUD) financing. Retrieved from 7/10/11 <http://innovationtrail.org/post/gas-lease-fine-print-impacts-home-loans>. See also: [http://www.tompkins-co.org/tccog/Gas\\_Drilling/Focus\\_Groups/LandValues\\_Assessment.html](http://www.tompkins-co.org/tccog/Gas_Drilling/Focus_Groups/LandValues_Assessment.html)

### **C. The Cumulative Effects of Fracking Threaten Serious Damage to Tourism:**

“Natural Gas Drilling in the Marcellus Shale: Potential Impacts on the Tourism Economy of the Southern Tier,” STC Regional Planning & Development Board, [info@stcplanning.org](mailto:info@stcplanning.org)

“[The cumulative effects of wide spread gas drilling] threaten to do serious damage to the tourism sector by degrading visitor experiences and creating an industrial landscape that far outlives the profitability of gas extraction.” p.10 retrieved 7/9/11 from <http://www.stcplanning.org/index.asp?pageId=195>

### **D. Farmland is Damaged by Fracking**

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania *Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Extraction Study, 2009-2010, Study Guide II, Marcellus Shale Natural Gas: Environmental Impact*, p. 8

“When heavy drilling and fracking equipment travels over farmland, soil compaction occurs. There are two types of soil compaction. First, topsoil compaction is caused by tire pressure, and this can severely reduce plant production in the short term. Second, subsoil compaction is caused by axle loads which reduce productivity for decades and cannot be alleviated over time by any natural means (Grafton County Conservation District, n.d.). It results in decreased soil percolation and increased soil run off. This, in turn, leads to less growth of vegetation and more soil erosion. One might compare topsoil compaction to a bicycle rider or car riding at a uniform speed across the a well-drained lawn and subsoil compaction to a fully loaded cement mixer driving across a lawn

immediately after a heavy rainfall. The first creates tread marks while the second creates ruts that will not be alleviated by time alone.”

#### **E. Ozone is produced by Fracking and Ozone Damages Crops:**

1. “Effects of Ozone Air Pollution on Plants.” *Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Article last modified November 6, 2010.*

This is a brief, heavily illustrated, easy-to-understand account of how ozone harms crops. It states that “Ground-level ozone causes more damage to plants than all other air pollutants combined.” After describing the sources of ozone, the article explains when and where (with a map) it is most likely to occur in the U.S. Symptoms of leaf damage by ozone include stippling, flecking, bronzing, and reddening. Yield losses due to ozone are greatest on dicot plants such as cotton, peanuts, and soybeans, and lower on monocot species such as winter wheat, field corn, and sorghum. Research papers are cited in the references.

2. “The Ozone Component of Global Change: Potential Effects on Agricultural and Horticultural Plant Yield, Product Quality, and Interactions with Invasive Species.” *Fitzgerald Booker, Russell Muntifering, Margaret McGrath, et al. Journal of Integrative Plant Biology. 51(4): 337–351. 2009.*

This scientific journal article documents that many agricultural and horticultural crops are harmed by ground-level ozone, an air pollutant. It typically reduces photosynthesis, speeds aging, decreases growth, and lowers yields. Although ozone’s effects vary in different crops, in different varieties of the same crop, and from year to year, the research shows that in sensitive plants, yield losses range from 5% to 15%. In grapes, it can injure leaves, reduce fruit size, and increase acidity. Other sensitive species include alfalfa, beans, clover and other forage crops, cotton, lettuce, oats, peanuts, potatoes, rape, rice, soybeans, spinach, tobacco, tomatoes, watermelons, and wheat. Climate models suggest that episodes of high ground-level ozone will become more common during the growing season in regions such as the northeast US.

#### **F. Fracking Traffic Destroys Rural Roads and the Dust Created Reduces Air Quality**

1. Randall, CJ. 2010. “Hammer Down: A Guide to Protecting Local Roads Impacted by Shale Gas Drilling.” Working Paper Series for *A Comprehensive Economic Impact Analysis of Natural Gas Extraction in the Marcellus Shale*, Cornell University Department of City and Regional Planning. Available at:  
<http://greenchoices.cornell.edu/development/marcellus/policy.cfm>

“Dust, noise, and road damage from industry truck travel are tops on the list of citizen complaints in areas where gas is extracted via shale gas drilling. A typical Marcellus well requires 5.6 million gallons of water during the drilling process, in almost all cases delivered by truck. Liquid additives are shipped to the well site in federal DOT-approved plastic containers on flatbed trucks; hydrochloric acid and water are delivered – and flowback is

hauled away – in tanker trucks. Millions of gallons of liquid used in the short (weeks-long) initial drilling period account for half of the estimated 890 to 1340 truckloads required per well site. Because of its weight, the impact of water hauled to one site (364 trips) is the equivalent of nearly 3.5 million car trips. Few roads at the town level in New York State have been built to withstand this volume of heavy of truck traffic.”

2. The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania *Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Extraction Study, 2009-2010, Study Guide II, Marcellus Shale Natural Gas: Environmental Impact*. p. 10

Heavy trucks cause potholes and break pavement, especially along the edges. Heavy trucks on gravel roads raise enough dust to change air quality. [See also “Traffic Studies” below.]

#### **G. Fracking causes rents to skyrocket sometimes with negative social consequences:**

"Bradford County Placing Kids in Foster Care Due to Housing Shortage." *James Lowenstein. The Daily Review (Towanda, PA). July 29, 2010.*

This article notes that six children had to be separated from their families and placed in foster care in the past year because their families were evicted and no inexpensive housing was available to accommodate the entire family. There's currently a shortage of affordable housing locally because many landlords have increased rents to profit from the relatively high wages paid to gas industry workers. The article says "the placements appear to represent at least the beginning of a new trend." The article implies that the high wages are going to large numbers of outsiders, not local people. The comments following the article illustrate the divisiveness that can follow when a community faces an influx of gas extraction workers. They include statements of shock and disappointment that local people who have lived in the community their whole lives are priced out of the market, of anger with landlords (including a complaint by a woman whose husband works in the gas industry that they, too, are unhappy about paying the "absurd" \$1500 rent), and of fears that the quest for short-term profits for a few will result in long-term damage to the entire community.

**H. Fracking produces more crime, more emergencies, and greater needs for related services.**  
Taft, P.B., (1981) Keeping the Peace in the New Wild West, Police Magazine Vol. 4(4) Dated: (July 1981) Pages: 8-15, 17.

Oil and Energy News, May 24, 2010, Harrisburg, PA, PRNewswire-USNewswire

“Public Health Implications for Marcellus Shale Development” Charles Christen, DrPH, Med, Center for Healthy Environments and Communities University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, August 27, 2010 retrieved 7/11/11 from [http://www.chec.pitt.edu/documents/Marcellus%20Shale/GSPH\\_8-27-10\\_MarcellusHealthOverview\\_Christen.pdf](http://www.chec.pitt.edu/documents/Marcellus%20Shale/GSPH_8-27-10_MarcellusHealthOverview_Christen.pdf)

- “There is a lack of information related to long range planning of drilling sites and gas industry related activities.
- “This lack of information makes it difficult for emergency services planning throughout the state and regionally.
- “We also recognize that coordination with the gas industry and emergency management agencies such as PEMA is necessary to train first responders in the event of accidents, spills, and industry related disasters.
- “Thousands seeking well-paying jobs have expanded energy town populations beyond the capacity of housing and public services to cope with their needs.
- “Many coming into the towns have criminal records, and the pressures of long hours at work, poor public facilities, and limited recreation opportunities have produced sizeable mental health and alcoholism problems.
- “The frequency and seriousness of crime has soared. In addition, the police in Evanston, a typical 'boom town,' complain about lack of equipment, staff, and facilities.
- Although new personnel and equipment are added each year, the demand for police response continues to exceed the department's capability. Because of this, most police work is reactive, with little time for preventive measures and little time to train personnel in new techniques or plan for the future.”.

See also: “The Economics of Extracting natural Gas from Shale Formations,” “Costs to Local Communities,” Gasmain.org, retrieved 7/11/11 from <https://sites.google.com/site/outreachmaterials/economics>

#### **I. Local Governments Lack the Resources to Address the Effects of Fracking.**

“How Should We Think About the Economic Consequences of Shale Gas Drilling?,” May 2011, Susan Christopherson and Ned Rightor, retrieved 7/8/11 from [gasleasing.cce.cornell.edu/](http://gasleasing.cce.cornell.edu/)

“The consistent theme is that local governments – counties, cities, townships, villages – are subjected to a wide range of demands for new services or increased levels of service, and that the administrative capacity, staffing levels, equipment, and outside expertise needed to meet those demands are beyond anything that has been budgeted.”

Susan Christopherson, Presentation to TCCOG, June 23, 2011

The existing tax systems and current proposal for a severance tax are completely inadequate to meet the needs of local governments to respond to Fracking.

#### **IV. No. 19: “... it has not yet been conclusively determined that natural gas exploration and extraction is in the overall best interests of the residents ... of Dryden**

**Neither current disinterested analysis nor history support this equivocal statement. Fracking as it is expected to be practiced in New York State is not in the best interests of the vast majority of Dryden residents. A tiny percentage of residents might be entitled to “signing bonuses,” but overall, the estimated income from Fracking is dwarfed by which will come from existing industries. Both general economic benefits and job creation in Pennsylvania from Fracking have been modest while being exaggerated by the industry. Past experience with extraction industries across the country shows that it is a poor economic development strategy for small rural communities like Dryden. (See pages 11-19 below.)**

**A. The only persons assured of making money from fracking are those paid bonuses on the signing of a lease for their property. All other income and profit is speculative and depends on uncontrollable factors like the price of natural gas, costs of production and transportation, the number and speed with which wells can be drilled and fracked, productive life of wells, etc.**

“How Should We Think About the Economic Consequences of Shale Gas Drilling?,” pages 8-11, April 2011, Susan Christopherson and Ned Rightor, retrieved 7/8/11 from [gasleasing.cce.cornell.edu/](http://gasleasing.cce.cornell.edu/)

“ \*\*\* The evidence from the Barnett shale suggests that individual Marcellus wells may have short production lives. Because the Marcellus Play is large and geologically complex, however, the play as a whole is likely to have natural gas drilling and production over an extended period of time. Individual counties and municipalities within the region are likely to experience accelerated boom and bust cycles, \*\*\*

“ \*\*\* These more widely distributed impacts need to be taken into account when anticipating what effects natural gas drilling will have on [individuals], communities, [and] their revenues, \*\*\* “ p. 11

**B. Very few in Tompkins County (and Dryden) are entitled to gas lease bonuses or royalties.**

The best available research shows that between 5.7 and 6.3 percent of the adult population of Tompkins County owns all of the land under lease for fracking. It follows that 94 percent of the adult residents of the County will suffer the myriad burdens fracking brings while this tiny percentage garners the only definite, non-speculative benefit.

See “Lease Holders as Percent of TC Population.pdf” attached as Appendix A.

**C. The Estimated Income from Existing Industries Dwarfs What is Expected from Fracking.**

“Drilling for Natural Gas in the New York State Marcellus Shale, What are the Potential gains and risks? What are the trade-offs?” Dr. John Schwartz, Ithaca College, June 2009, retrieved 7/8/11 from <http://www.tcgasmap.org/media/Marcellus%20Royalties%20Compared%20to%20Other%20Income.pdf>

Estimated income from sources other than Fracking over 20 years of natural gas extraction are: Farm Cash Receipts \$48 billion, Dairy Products, \$39 billion, Grapes and Wine: \$69 billion; Estimates of attractions that bring visitors: Tourism 173 billion, Hunting and Fishing, \$32 billion, Wildlife Watching, \$32 billion

Total other of non gas extraction: \$392 billion.

Estimated Natural Gas Income for 20 Years will be \$22 Billion

**D. The positive effects of fracking on the economy in Pennsylvania since intensive Fracking began have been exaggerated by the industry and are minimal compared to other industries.**

“Drilling Deeper into Job Claims, The Actual Contribution of Marcellus Shale to Pennsylvania Job Growth,” Stephen Herzenberg, June 20, 2011, Keystone Research Center, retrieved 7/8/11 from [http://keystoneresearch.org/sites/keystoneresearch.org/files/Drilling-Deeper-into-Jobs-Claims-6-20-2011\\_0.pdf](http://keystoneresearch.org/sites/keystoneresearch.org/files/Drilling-Deeper-into-Jobs-Claims-6-20-2011_0.pdf)

“The Marcellus Shale is making a small positive contribution to recent job growth in Pennsylvania. The size of that contribution, however, has been substantially inflated based on a basic misunderstanding of the difference between “new hires” and job creation.

The modest contribution of the Marcellus Shale to job growth must also be balanced against the impact of drilling on other industries, such as tourism and the Pennsylvania hardwoods industry. It is also important to balance the contribution of the Marcellus Shale to job growth against the so-far unfunded environmental liability of the industry.” p. 7

“The Economic Impact of Shale Gas Extraction: A Review of Existing Studies.” By Thomas Kinnaman, Bucknell University, Forthcoming in *Ecological Economics*, DOI: 10.1016/j.ecolecon.2011.02.005 retrieved 7/10/11 from <http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg21128193.400-economic-benefits-of-shalegas-extraction-unclear.html>

“Studies into shale gas extraction are typically supported by industry bodies. Because their reports are not peer-reviewed, economist Thomas Kinnaman of Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, decided to review six of them himself. \*\*\*

“Kinnaman found that they all contained flaws that exaggerated the benefits of shale gas extraction to local economies. \*\*\*

“Kinnaman also claims that none of the studies measured all the costs and benefits of extracting shale gas, so could not determine if it really offers a net gain.”

See also “How Should We Think About the Economic Consequences of Shale Gas Drilling?,” May 2011, Susan Christopherson and Ned Rightor, retrieved 7/8/11 from [gasleasing.cce.cornell.edu/](http://gasleasing.cce.cornell.edu/)

**E. Most jobs created are not high paying. In Pennsylvania, three-quarters of the jobs required only a high school education. The higher paying jobs go to itinerant workers typically to those from out of state who already possess specialized skills.**

See *Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Extraction Study, 2009-2010, Study Guide III, Marcellus Shale Natural Gas: Its Economic Impact*, League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania,

“In most parts of Pennsylvania where drilling will occur, there is little if any existing industry and infrastructure. Therefore, at least initially, firms and employees from outside of Pennsylvania will conduct much of the economic activity. This will lessen the impact on existing local businesses.” p. 25

“The higher paying jobs are in the drilling sector according Kelsey (Penn State Webinar presented in Indiana County, October 14, 2009). Kelsey estimated that three-quarters of the jobs require only a high school education, and local people are often hired as laborers and for security. Low paying jobs, such as those found in hospitality and local retail, are also created.” p. 27

“So far, gas jobs mainly in related fields,” *Scranton Times-Tribune*, Elizabeth Skrapits, November 7, 2011, retrieved 7/8/11 from <http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/so-far-gas-jobs-mainly-in-related-fields-1.1060490#ixzz1RRl6GgK8>

“Working at a drilling site is not for everybody, said Larry Milliken, director of energy programs at Lackawanna College's Towanda center. It is strenuous, hard labor, and can involve 12-hour days and sometimes seven-day weeks, according to Tracy Brundage, Penn College's managing director of Workforce Development and Continuing Education.

“It's a whole different type of work culture and work schedule than what we're used to here,” Ms. Brundage said. “We try to train them in that, what the industry expects.”

“Mr. Milliken said he has heard from the industry that gas companies find people willing to start work, but not see work through to completion.

“This business is very intensive and very demanding, and although it pays very well, they (gas companies) expect the commitment,” he said. “I think there's a disconnect for people going into the business, about what the demands are.”

**F. Historically oil, gas, and mineral extraction has proved a poor strategy for economic development for small rural communities like Dryden and Tompkins County.**

*The Economic Impact of Marcellus Shale Gas Drilling What Have We Learned? What are the Limitations?* David Kay, 1 April, 2011, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Working Paper Series, A Comprehensive Economic Impact Analysis Of Natural Gas Extraction In The Marcellus Shale, retrieved 7/8/11 from <http://cce.cornell.edu/energyclimatechange/naturalgasdev/Documents/pdfs/kayformattedmarcellus%20workingpaperrevised4-4-2011.pdf>

“ ... smaller rural economies without much existing economic diversity, gas development might offer the possibility of a diversification strategy. However, in such places the potential for a hard boom bust cycle, and for the gas industry’s competition with pre-existing economic anchors, may be the greatest. For some individuals and communities, the wave of big money would likely rise and fall with an abruptness that many would find deleterious even as for others, the wave would be more sustained and positive.”

*Are Energy-focusing Counties Benefiting?* September, 2008 - revised 07/11/0, Headwaters Economics, p. 22 retrieved 7/8/11 from <http://headwaterseconomics.org/results?cx=016795607439837894123%3Anfjymjoitpi&cof=FORID%3A9&ie=UTF-8&q=Fossil+Fuel+as+a+Development+Strategy&sa.x=11&>

“ \*\*\* In counties that have pursued energy extraction as an economic development strategy—places we call energy-focusing (EF) in this report—the long-term indicators suggest that relying on fossil fuel extraction is not an effective economic development strategy for competing in today’s growing and more diverse western economy. P.22

"Mining the Data: Analyzing the Economic Implications of mining for Nonmetropolitan Areas, Freudenburg, William R. and Lisa J. Wilson. 2002. retrieved 7/8/11 from <http://www.savethewildup.org/files/swup/119.pdf>, p. 572,

“ ... What is abundantly clear, however, is that caution is also in order for a set of conclusions that have rarely been treated with caution in the past—namely, the common conclusion or in some cases even the strongly asserted conviction that mining must be good for local economics. ... [T]he present analysis has shown that there is remarkably little evidence to support them; instead, most of the more systematic approaches to the data point instead to the opposite conclusion; often at high levels of statistical significance. “

“Unanswered Questions About The Economic Impact of Gas Drilling, In the Marcellus Shale: Don’t Jump to Conclusions,” March 27, 2010, Jannette M. Barth, Ph.D. retrived 7/10/11 from [http://www.dangerdrilling.com/?page\\_id=433](http://www.dangerdrilling.com/?page_id=433)

“The entire Marcellus Shale region in New York may be at risk both economically and environmentally. While the environmental risks have been a focus of concern, many stakeholders have assumed that a positive economic impact would result. In reality, the economic impact may very well be negative. And the likelihood is that gas drilling would adversely affect other economic activities such as tourism and sport fishing and hunting. \*\*\* “



**G. The actual productivity of Marcellus Shale gas wells in appears to have been exaggerated according to emails written by industry insiders.**

“Insiders Sound an Alarm Amid a Natural Gas Rush, Ian Urbina, June , 2011 retrived 7/10/11 from [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/26/us/26gas.html?pagewanted=1&\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/26/us/26gas.html?pagewanted=1&_r=1)

In the e-mails, energy executives, industry lawyers, state geologists and market analysts voice skepticism about lofty forecasts and question whether companies are intentionally, and even illegally, overstating the productivity of their wells and the size of their reserves. Many of these e-mails also suggest a view that is in stark contrast to more bullish public comments made by the industry, in much the same way that insiders have raised doubts about previous financial bubbles.

See actual emails in “Drilling Down: Industry Privately Skeptical of Shale Gas” retrieved 7/10/11 from <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/us/natural-gas-drilling-down-documents-4-intro.html?ref=us> and

**H. And, there are serious doubts about the economic viability of the entire industry.**

See: *Shale Gas—Abundance or Mirage? Why The Marcellus Shale Will Disappoint Expectations*, Arthur E. Berman Labyrinth Consulting Services, Inc., Washington, D.C. October 8, 2010 downloaded from <http://www.theoildrum.com/node/7076>, October 28, 2010

“Shale gas plays in the United States are commercial failures and shareholders in public exploration and production (E&P) companies are the losers. This conclusion falls out of a detailed evaluation of shale-dominated company financial statements and individual well decline curve analyses.”

See also: “Shale Gas or Shell Game,” presentation at National People’s Gas and Oil Summit, November 19, 2010 retrieved 7/8/11 from <http://www.spectraenergywatch.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/deborahrogers-shalegasshellgame.pdf>

## Appendix A

### **Percent Leaseholders Compared to Total Residents in Tompkins County: Bill Podulka Tompkins County Census Data:**

U.S. Census Bureau estimates 101,136 residents in Tompkins County as of July 1, 2008. This number includes college students. 15.5 % of the residents are under 18, by the 2007 US Census Bureau estimate. (So 84.5% are over 18.)

From: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/36/36109.html>

**Adults:**

84.5% of 101,136 is 85,460 adult residents of Tompkins County.

**College Students:**

At Cornell, 2008-2009 enrollment was 19,639 (13,562 undergrads and 6,077 grads and professional students)

(From: <http://www.cornell.edu/visiting/ithaca/>)

At Ithaca College, Fall 2008 enrollment was 6,323 (5,951 undergrads and 372 grad students)

(From: [http://www.ithaca.edu/ir/facts/Ithaca\\_College\\_Facts\\_in\\_Brief\\_2008-09.pdf](http://www.ithaca.edu/ir/facts/Ithaca_College_Facts_in_Brief_2008-09.pdf)).

Total College Students in Tompkins County:  $19,639 + 6,323 = 25,962$

So,  $85,460 - 25,962 = 59,498$  adult, non-college-student residents.

**From our data gathered at the Tompkins County Clerk's Office:**

**(Counted only leases signed between 1/1/2005 and 9/30/2009).**

**2,332 different names appear as the principal name on a lease:**

Note that this number includes organizations, such as churches, school districts, cemeteries, towns, and clubs, who have leased their land. There are only 68 of these, so they are only 2.9 % of the total. For this purpose, each organization was counted as 1 individual. In some cases this overcounts because the same individuals also have personal leases. In other cases it undercounts because more than one person may share the royalties (although the more people sharing royalties, the smaller they are, of course).

1.6 adults signed per lease (calculated from a sample of 140 leases):

**3,731 lease holders:  $3,731/59,498 = 6.3$  % of non-college-student, adult population (local voters)**

**Leases from Years Prior to 2005:**

There were 744 gas leases signed in Tompkins County between 1/1/2000 and 12/31/2004. Some of these are still in effect, and some have expired. Some are for tax parcels that also are included in our database of leases signed between 2005 and the present (because new leases were signed on these parcels). When a lease expires, it is not usually recorded in the Tompkins County Clerk's office, so we have no way to determine how many of these leases are active. Below is the number of leases recorded at the Clerk's Office for each of these years:

**2000:** 75 leases

**2001:** 250 leases

**2002:** 193 leases

**2003:** 60 leases

**2004:** 166 leases

At the Tompkins County Clerk's Office for 2005 to 2009, there were 2,673 leases recorded. That number, after misfiled documents were taken out and duplicate names were omitted, translated to 2,332 different names on leases, which is 87 % of the total recorded.

If we assume the same percent reduction in leaseholders for the years 2000 to 2004, there are potentially 647 more leaseholders. If these were all different people with different parcels from the 2005 to 2009 data, and all the leases were still in effect, it would only increase the percent of leaseholders to 8.0 % (assuming 1.6 people per lease, so  $1,035 + 3,731 = 4,766$ , and thus  $4,766/59,498$ ). In reality, the increase is probably much smaller than that, as many leases have expired and others are for the same people who signed leases between 2005 and 2009.

There are 1,159 leases recorded at the Tompkins County Clerk's office for the years between 1900 and 2000. Because so many of these have expired or are for lands that have been re-leased in the last 5 years, we will not consider them.

**Leases from Years Prior to 2005:**

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**Mahlon Perkins**

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**From:** "Bambi Avery" <townclerk@dryden.ny.us>  
**To:** "David Makar" <dmakar@dryden.ny.us>; "Jason Leifer" <JLeifer@dryden.ny.us>; "Joseph Solomon" <JSolomon@dryden.ny.us>; "Steve Stelick" <sstelick@aol.com>; "Mary Ann Sumner" <supervisor@dryden.ny.us>  
**Cc:** "Mahlon Perkins" <mperkin3@twcny.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 8:28 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Drilling ban

ate addition

ambi L. Avery  
 ryden Town Clerk  
 3 East Main Street  
 ryden, NY 13053  
 07-844-8888, ext 210

---Original Message-----

rom: Mitchell Baker [mailto: Mitchell.Baker@qc.cuny.edu]  
 ent: Monday, August 01, 2011 5:08 PM  
 o: Bambi Avery  
 bject: Drilling ban

o whom it may concern;

thank you for reading this and I will try to keep this short. I am strongly in favor of a drilling ban through zoning restrictions in the Town of Dryden. The state and federal governments are not going to regulate this industry safely, and it is up to local government to protect its citizens. We have a small farm on 13.5 acres at 234 Lower Creek Rd, that we are just now making our permanent residence and would like to develop for teaching and small scale vegetable and fruit production. None of our neighbors as far as we know has signed a gas lease, nor have we, but some of our neighbors' neighbors have, and the thought of horizontal wells and waste water spills degrading our groundwater is terrifying. It means that we will have no right to enjoy our own property, nor will we be able to sell it for close to its previous value if the groundwater is polluted. Let the experiment in horizontal hydro-fracking run in Pennsylvania for another decade before Dryden allows a small fraction of its residents to profit at an unknown cost to future generations and all landowners in town. There is no rush to drill, the gas isn't going anywhere unless we push it out now. If it can be extracted safely, we should know that better in 10 years, and by then it will be worth more as well. Finally, my understanding is that these new wells have very rapid depletion rates, up to 60% per year, which means this is a real one-time bubble that will not have a lasting economic benefit to balance the long term economic costs of the environmental damage.

Good luck making a difficult and correct choice.

Best,  
 Mitchell and Jocelyn Baker  
 34 Lower Creek Road

## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** John Eliot Parks [jep5@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2011 6:52 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stellck; Jason Leifer  
**Subject:** hydrofracking issue

### **To Whom It May Concern:**

Robin and I have lived in the more rural area east of Ithaca since moving to New York in 1983, first in Brooktondale and for the past 15 years on Snyder Hill. As others have expressed, we are very concerned about the impact hydrofracking will have on the quality of life in our neighborhood and the many similar neighborhoods throughout the region. A negative impact on the landscape, water quality, private wells, property values, and other consequences are certain to happen; questions remain who and how many will be directly affected versus everyone else who will be indirectly affected. The argument that that hydrofracking will boost the local economy fails to acknowledge that once the resource is exhausted in an area in just a few short years, the economic boom for that area and ultimately the region will be over. Perhaps of greatest concern is the potential impact on water quality and who will bear the responsibility for mistaken projections and accidents that will almost certainly occur. We hope the supervisors will give appropriate consideration to these issues and protect the majority of residents who will have to bear the unwelcome, negative consequences of hydrofracking.

John and Robin Parks  
30 Genung Circle  
Ithaca, NY 14850

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Patricia Booth Taylor [taylorfit@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 11:50 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** In favor of strong gas drilling ban...

Dear Ms. Sumner,

My husband and I are Dryden residents (1879 Ellis Hollow Road) and we STRONGLY oppose the threat that hydrofracking creates. We are raising children and are advocates for clean air and water.

Please vote for this ban against gas drilling in our community.

Thank you!

Patricia and Kelsey Taylor  
607-200-4057

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Patricia Booth Taylor  
603.661.8348  
[taylorfit@gmail.com](mailto:taylorfit@gmail.com)

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Quede, Nathalie [NQuede@PKaufmann.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Ban Hydro fracturing in Dryden

Dear Dryden Town Board,

As a property owner in Freeville, I urge you to outlaw gas drilling involving hydrofracking within the town of Dryden. The threat to the public health is grave and the environmental damage would be beyond repair. Let's maintain Dryden's water, air and land clean and available for its inhabitants and its agricultural economy. Let's be responsible and preserve a sane place for the future generations to come.

Sincerely,  
Regards,  
Nathalie Quede

From:  
Nathalie Quede  
384 Ed Hill Road  
Freeville, NY 10708



## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** lindenoyer@gmail.com on behalf of Lin DeNoyer [lindenoyer@spectrumsquare.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 11:09 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Why I want you to ban horizontal fracking

Mary Ann Sumner, Dryden Town Supervisor  
David Makar, Dryden Town Board member  
Jason Leifer, Dryden Town Board member  
Steve Stelick, Dryden Town Board Member  
Joe Solomon, Dryden Town Board member

Why I want you to ban horizontal fracking in the Town of Dryden:

1. You have **limits on wind turbines** - height limits, "beauty" limits, noise limits. But you are going to allow drilling and **hydrofracking without limit?**

No way! Ban fracking!

2. The people who would potentially benefit do not care if my water well becomes polluted. And the **Town of Dryden has neither plans nor the financial resources to connect me to good town water.**

I can't take the chance that my well would be polluted and I would have no remedy. I am 70 years old and do not have the resources to move. It would be financial disaster.

No way! Ban fracking!

Linda DeNoyer  
Snyder Hill Road  
Town of Dryden

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Danila [dapasov@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 11:01 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; Joseph Solomon; Jason@jmleifer.com; Steve Stelick; David Makar  
**Subject:** Gas Drilling Ordinance

Dear Mary Ann Sumner and Dryden Board Members,

I'm writing to express my wish that you pass the natural gas ordinance this evening and protect Dryden from hydraulic fracturing. As a Dryden resident and landowner, I am proud that our local government is taking matters into its own hands, and protecting our incredible resources from complete degradation. Passing a ban allows Dryden to take time and learn from other areas where hydraulic fracturing is taking place. If and when safer drilling methods are devised, Dryden can revisit the issue and investigate gas drilling further. Many people have made great comments about the issues with hydraulic fracturing, so I will end with a sincere thank you for your courage and commitment to Dryden's future.

Sincerely,

Danila Apasov

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Bryna Silbert [bryna@silbert.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 9:53 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Cc:** kevin mayer  
**Subject:** Ban Fracking in Dryden NY

Dear Dryden Town Board,

We feel that Kevin Mayer makes a very strong case for banning fracking in Dryden.

Bryna and David Silbert  
335 Ed hill Road  
Freeville, NY 13068  
607-898-3879

Hi folks,

I understand the Dryden Town Board may vote on the zoning ban as early as August 2. SO IT'S ESSENTIAL TO GET THOSE COMMENTS IN TO THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TOMORROW (if you haven't already done so.

My letter to the town is below. Feel free to use it obviously. I've pasted an email from Catskill Mountainkeeper if you need other ideas of what to say. If you don't have time for a detailed statement, then at least register your desire that they pass the zoning ordinance to outlaw gas drilling in Dryden! A quick email. Thanks!!!

Kevin

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** kevin mayer <[kevinmayer3@gmail.com](mailto:kevinmayer3@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, 1 Aug 2011 22:56:56 -0400  
**Subject:** proposed zoning ordinance re: fracking  
**To:** [supervisor@dryden.ny.us](mailto:supervisor@dryden.ny.us)

Dear DRYDEN TOWN BOARD,

As a Dryden resident I urge you to pass the zoning ordinance outlawing gas drilling within Dryden. Hydrofracking is totally inappropriate for our community and would destroy our public roads and the peaceful, beautiful and healthy environment that makes Dryden a home to cherish and protect. Drilling has caused serious and widespread damage to the environment and public health in other states where it is practiced. Even when operating "as planned", such drilling routinely fouls the air with benzene, volatile organic compounds, smog and diesel fumes, destroys rural tranquility with the noise of pumps, compressor

stations and bright lights 24 hrs a day, damages public roads, increases traffic and undermines public safety and social cohesion.

As you may know the gas industry is specifically exempt from regulation under the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. Many of the chemicals the industry uses and releases are carcinogens and endocrine disruptors; however the EPA is forbidden from regulating them as hazardous materials when they are used by the gas industry. This outrageous state of affairs allows the industry to get away with murder. We can expect little protection from the federal government under these circumstances.

On the state level, The DEC's rules in their current form have numerous flaws and weaknesses. Among the flaws of the current plan as identified by Catskill Mountainkeeper are the following:

- Handling of toxic wastewater is still a major problem.
- Protection of primary aquifers is only for a limited time.
- Bans on drilling in state-owned land is inadequate.
- The DEC plans to begin processing permitting applications before the rulemaking process is complete.
- The cumulative impact requirements are incomplete.
- Regional areas of geological risk are not protected.
- Open waste pits are not outlawed.

Under the circumstances we cannot rely on the DEC to protect our interests. It is only the Town Board that can do this. Thank you for the good work you have done on this measure. Please pass the ordinance.

Thank you,

Kevin Mayer  
384 Ed Hill Rd.  
Freeville, NY 13068  
607-898-4704

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From Catskill Mountainkeeper:

**THE EMERGING FACTS ABOUT THE NEW NATURAL GAS PERMITTING CONDITIONS**

**WHY NYS WON'T BE PROTECTED AND WHY A BAN IS NOW THE ONLY SOLUTION**

On July 8, 2011, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) released its draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Study (dSGEIS) - the proposed permitting conditions for the hydraulic fracturing of horizontal wells in New

York State.

While the dSGEIS may appear at first glance to be a significant improvement over the previous document (released by the DEC in 2009), Mountainkeeper's investigation into the text's fine print has identified massive deficiencies. These include failing to present a mitigation plan for the inevitable public health impacts associated with fracking, and a blatant disregard to adequate drinking water protections.

Additionally, this document presents the industry with a clear road map for fracking in the Catskill Park, the Delaware River Watershed, and throughout the Southern Tier of New York.

The reality is that NO amount of regulation, NO amount of permitting guidelines, and NO amount of laws and ordinances can protect our water and communities from a reckless industry as long as our regulatory industries continue to lack the staff and resources they need to properly enforce such mandates.

Catskill Mountainkeeper believes that the only option to ensure protections for all New Yorkers is to ban hydraulic fracturing in New York State. We recognize that the process to approve fracking may go forward, and if it does, we will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that New York State receives the most stringent environmental regulations possible.

Some of the issues:

#### The Handling of Toxic Wastewater Still a Major Problem

The plan by the DEC to track the solid and liquid wastes that are generated in connection with fracking sounds positive until you read that they are leaving the tracking of these wastes up to gas industry operators. We've all seen what happens when the industry is asked to police itself. Even more upsetting is that the DEC is still not classifying some of the waste that normally qualifies as hazardous, as hazardous, meaning that fracking waste could be sent to treatment facilities that are unable to properly treat it.

#### Protection of Primary Aquifers is only for a Limited Time

The DEC is proposing to prohibit fracking in primary aquifers that serve as public drinking water supplies but this "prohibition" is only limited to a couple of years after which the state could "reconsider" the bans. In addition, the DEC does not lay out the conditions under which "reconsideration" would be reviewed.

## Bans on Drilling in State-Owned Land Inadequate

The ban on drilling in state-owned lands looks good until you read that while the state will prohibit well pads above ground they will allow drilling under these same lands.

## Plan to go ahead before a Rulemaking Process is in Effect

The document lays out a rulemaking process that would formalize its proposed safeguards in a single set of uniform, legally enforceable regulations, which is critical, but in a totally backward move they have said that they would begin processing permit applications before the rulemaking is finished.

## Cumulative Impact Requirements Incomplete

References to how an area would be affected by the cumulative impact of many, many wells is only addressed for some aspects of that cumulative impact but the DEC has failed to lay out a comprehensive, focused plan to review and analyze the consequences of a full build out.

## Regional Areas of Geological Risk Not Protected

The DEC has not addressed fracking in areas of special geological risk, such as those with fault lines that are potential pathways for the upward gradient of contaminants into aquifers because they claim that contaminants can't rise into aquifers. However, independent scientific studies have proven that upward migration of contaminants is not only possible, but also likely. The DEC based their assertion on industry studies that looked at just 5 days in the fracking process.

## Open Waste Pits Not Outlawed

The DEC has sidestepped banning deplorable open waste pits because they say that the gas industry has asserted that they are unlikely to use open pits for the storage of wastewater. Instead of prohibiting open pits out right, which should be done, they have proposed a system where a lone DEC employee could grant approval without doing an individual environmental impact study.

So what's next?

We are waiting for the dates to be released for the public hearings that the DEC will schedule to collect comments on their plan.

GETTING A LARGE TURNOUT TO THESE HEARINGS IS CRITICAL.

Catskill Mountainkeeper will alert you as soon as we know the dates and locations of these meetings and we urge you to plan to be there.

[Click here to read our New York Times letter to the editor explaining our position on fracking published on July 13, 2011.](#)

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## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Kathy Russell [Kathy.Russell@cortland.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 9:33 AM  
**To:** William Russell; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** ban hydrofracking in Town of Dryden  
**Importance:** High

Dear Town of Dryden Board Members,

I am attending the Town Board meeting tonight, August 2, to signify my support of a ban on slick water hydrofracking in the town of Dryden. My husband and I live at 434 Snyder Hill Road; he has also written to you asking you to support the ban. Neighbors just 1000 feet from our front door have signed leases! They are either ignorant of the consequences of fracking or unwilling to recognize its long term impact in the face of only possible short term economic benefits.

As a philosophy professor at Cortland College I teach environmental ethics. I also teach philosophy of science and political economy. I am very well informed about arguments about slick water hydrofracking from all sides of the spectrum. It is up to you as political leaders of our Town to look at the ethical considerations. They trump only possible economic development perspectives. I say "only possible" because as Cornell professor of economic geography Susan Cristopherson testified to members of the Tompkins County Council of governments (TCCOG), the boom/bust cycle of gas development generates more harm than good. This has been demonstrated across the country.

There are two ethical principles I urge you to consider. One is the precautionary principle which has been a guiding light in scientific policy making globally: "When an activity raises threats of harm to the environment or human health, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically."

The second comes from Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic: "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

Thus I appeal to you to do the morally correct thing: BAN HYDROFRACKING IN THE TOWN OF DRYDEN!

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

--

Dr. Kathryn Russell  
Professor and Department Chair  
Associate Director of the Center for  
Ethics, Peace and Social Justice (CEPS)  
Philosophy Department  
SUNY Cortland  
Cortland, NY  
13045



## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Janie Clark [janiemoonclark@excite.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 8:23 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Hydrofracking Ban

Dear Town Board Members,

It is my hope that you will take the following concerns into account when you consider a ban on hydro-fracturing in the town of Dryden:

1. We are aware that fracking fluid contains many toxic and carcinogenic chemicals. These are chemicals that are known to interfere with hormone systems in animals, including humans. These disruptions can cause cancerous tumors, birth defects, and other developmental disorders. In the event of spills or aquifer contamination, as has happened elsewhere, the physiological effects of such chemicals may not be seen for many years, even in future generations. We cannot risk the health of our residents and our future children and grandchildren.
2. It is unclear if and when safer techniques for the extraction of natural gas techniques will be forthcoming. Many of us are aware that researchers have found high levels of leaked methane in well water collected near shale-gas drilling and hydrofracking sites. Methane is not benign. It's flammable and poses a risk of explosion. In very high concentrations, it can cause asphyxiation. Little research has been conducted on the health effects of drinking methane-contaminated water. Methane has been present for millions of years. It will be present for hundreds of years to come. We should not rush to gas drilling. We need to wait to assure that any and all techniques used in hydrofracking are truly safe before any drilling begins in Dryden. This includes the process and the resultant bi-products.
3. It is not possible to clean up aquifer contamination. On the whole, Dryden residents do not filter their well water; we deserve the same protection that resulted from the DEC prohibition of hydrofracking in the New York and Syracuse watersheds was because these communities do not filter their water.
4. If a ban on hydro-fracturing is not endorsed, the gas companies can begin to drill. In the event of aquifer contamination, everyone relying on that aquifer will be impacted for tens to hundreds of years.

I urge you to ban hydro-fracturing in the town of Dryden. Our environment is priceless for its beauty and uncontaminated natural resources. Let's keep it that way.

I am IN FAVOR of a STRONG gas drilling ban ordinance.

Jane Clark  
41 Hartwood Road

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** rszymanski@frontiernet.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 7:43 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** DSEC drilling ban ltr of Aug01,11

MaryAnn,

The letter you received from the Dryden Safe Energy Coalition on August 1, 2011 regarding the zoning amendment to prohibit natural gas drilling is sobering. It is clear a YES vote will legally and financially jeopardize the taxpayers and you personally. Please act prudently on this matter for all of us.

I have not received a response on the questions I left with you at the July 20, 2011. I am happy to discuss a mutually agreeable meeting time. I need your answers today or as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Ron Szymanski

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** William Russell [russellw@oacsd.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 7:20 AM  
**To:** David Makar; Jason Leifer; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Support Hydrofracking Ban

Dear Ms. Sumner, Mr. Makar, Mr. Leifer, Mr. Stelick, and Mr. Solomon:

I am writing to urge you, in the strongest possible terms, to support the proposed ban on hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden. Nothing, in my view, could be more important at this juncture.

My family has lived on Snyder Hill Road for 15 years. We moved here for the gorgeous countrysides, the quiet residential and rural character of our neighborhood, and the proximity to the many attractions of the Finger Lakes region. Where we live, all of the neighbors, and ourselves, have purchased the surrounding undeveloped land to "keep it green" and to support a natural habitat for wildlife, which is abundant. Our road is a major recreation way, with bikers, joggers, and walkers using it constantly. Many of these same attributes could, of course, be used to describe many other locations in our beautiful Town of Dryden.

We are worried sick that gas drilling might intrude on all that matters to us about where we live. We have looked at the issue closely and have the following concerns:

- It would turn a rural residential zone into an industrial zone, with very negative impact on the quality of life of residents. This would be a major breach of faith with residents who have invested their savings and sweat equity into building homes in the township.
- Hydrofracking poses a major threat to domestic water supplies. Our well water is sweet and clear - if it were contaminated, the value of our property would plummet.
- We know of no safe way to dispose of or treat the huge volume of wastewater resulting from the fracking process - especially when the gas companies won't reveal the chemical composition of their fracking fluids, or of the contaminated water coming out of the ground after fracking. Certainly, there is no facility locally equipped to handle this wastewater.
- The volume of heavy truck traffic on our rural roads would decimate our infrastructure (and the town budget). The frequency of needed repairs and rebuilding would badly disrupt travel around the town. Reports from Pennsylvania say that the truck traffic is unceasing, delays commuting and travel time enormously, and creates an unending volume of noise as heavy water trucks labor up steep hills.
- The noise and light pollution resulting from 24-hour drilling and fracking operations would destroy our idyllic natural setting.
- Experience across the country has shown that the industry is replete with accidents, many leading to contamination of surrounding land, streams, lakes, and rivers. The release of many known carcinogens and radioactive substances is especially alarming.
- We are not convinced that this method of extracting natural gas is more environmentally benign than any other form of fossil fuel production. Thus it is not a "green" energy solution, as some have maintained. It is a source of huge profits for large energy companies, however, who have little interest in the quality of life of residents in our local area.

Part of the issue, as we understand it, is whether local communities can control land use within their jurisdictions. On my view, nothing brings this fundamental democratic right to the fore more forcefully than the question of hydrofracking. It is critical that you insist on our right to regulate all land uses in the township, with no exceptions.

I am familiar with the trials and tribulations of serving the public, as you do (I am the school superintendent in Owego Apalachin). I know about the courage it takes to do the right thing in the face of public controversy. In this case, I hope all of you can stand together and support the large number of your constituents and neighbors who want nothing to do with gas drilling and hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden.

Sincerely,  
William C. Russell, Ph.D.  
434 Snyder Hill Road  
Town of Dryden

607-273-4523

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** kevin mayer [kevinmayer3@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 10:57 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** proposed zoning ordinance re: fracking

Dear DRYDEN TOWN BOARD,

As a Dryden resident I urge you to pass the zoning ordinance outlawing gas drilling within Dryden. Hydrofracking is totally inappropriate for our community and would destroy our public roads and the peaceful, beautiful and healthy environment that makes Dryden a home to cherish and protect. Drilling has caused serious and widespread damage to the environment and public health in other states where it is practiced.

Even when operating "as planned", such drilling routinely fouls the air with benzene, volatile organic compounds, smog and diesel fumes, destroys rural tranquility with the noise of pumps, compressor stations and bright lights 24 hrs a day, damages public roads, increases traffic and undermines public safety and social cohesion.

As you may know the gas industry is specifically exempt from regulation under the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. Many of the chemicals the industry uses and releases are carcinogens and endocrine disruptors; however the EPA is forbidden from regulating them as hazardous materials when they are used by the gas industry. This outrageous state of affairs allows the industry to get away with murder. We can expect little protection from the federal government under these circumstances.

On the state level, The DEC's rules in their current form have numerous flaws and weaknesses. Among the flaws of the current plan as identified by Catskill Mountainkeeper are the following:

Handling of toxic wastewater is still a major problem.

Protection of primary aquifers is only for a limited time.

Bans on drilling in state-owned land is inadequate.

The DEC plans to begin processing permitting applications before the rulemaking process is complete.

The cumulative impact requirements are incomplete.

Regional areas of geological risk are not protected.

Open waste pits are not outlawed.

Under the circumstances we cannot rely on the DEC to protect our interests. It is only the Town Board that can do this. Thank you for the good work you have done on this measure. Please pass the ordinance.

Thank you,

Kevin Mayer  
384 Ed Hill Rd.  
Freeville, NY 13068  
607-898-4704

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Barbara McGarrigle [celticsister@live.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 9:22 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Ban on drilling

Dear Supervisor Sumner,

I am writing to ask you and other board members to support a ban on gas drilling in the Town of Dryden. I own land and reside in the Town of Dryden adjacent to the Hammond Hill State Forest. Drilling for gas is a invasive process that will impact all residents not just those with leases, therefore I do not feel that only leased landowners should determine whether we drill or not. One of my biggest concerns is the exemption of the oil and gas industry from major environmental laws including the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act. As a private citizen this is the only way myself and others could bring suit should something go wrong especially if we haven't leased. I already question the integrity of a industry that came in the back door and negotiated leases with landowners without discussion within the communities they planned to operate, pitting neighbor against neighbor. Please support a ban and let's explore alternative energy options.

Thank-you for your time and consideration of this important issue,

Sincerely,

Barb McGarrigle  
241 Canaan Road  
Brooktondale NY 14817

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Robyn Bem [ithacabyrd@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 8:11 PM  
**To:** Robyn Bem  
**Cc:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** hello

I'm writing to you to thank you for all the work you have been doing in researching and listening and reflecting about the proposed ban on hydrofracking. I continue to support you in this effort.

At one of the meetings I described what it is like in Towanda, Pennsylvania. The drilling traffic is nonstop (huge tankers and many trucks), causing "gridlock" in the town throughout the day as the tankers and trucks go back and forth. As I drive in Ithaca when it's busy, I shake my head as I can foresee what driving in the Finger Lakes area will be like should the drillers and money-seeking landowners have their way. Tourists will find somewhere quieter to visit. Citizens in other areas, such as where the gas is being used, don't care what happens here. We need to take care of ourselves in this regard.

Our lives will be changed if we allow the drilling to take place. The noise pollution, particulate matter from all the trucks, the use of millions of gallons of our water will be used (where is all that going to originate?), and the huge problem of what to do with the used fracking solution. In a way, I'm glad that I will be sixty years old in a couple of days and won't live long to see the destruction and pollution of our beloved area if the industry is allowed to proceed. I've been in my home twenty years and can't imagine living elsewhere, but . . .

Last year I went to Towanda every couple of weeks to care for a friend who was ill. We went on a few driving tours to see the sites being developed there. There is nothing like seeing it firsthand. All the large white water containers in front of homes whose wells have been polluted. The positioning of cemented centers of drilling and processing placed uphill from nearby homes. The inadequate "containment" of the waste material in hollowed ground lined with black plastic. The condition of the roads (which the drilling companies try to keep repaired). The workers are mostly from elsewhere, so the claim of the industry that local employment will rise significantly just isn't true. And the industry tries to be a good "citizen" by contributing to the library, etc etc. It goes on and on.

PLEASE VOTE FOR A BAN ON FRACKING. SAVE WHERE WE LIVE.

Thank you,  
Robyn Bem  
3 Ringwood Court West

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** David Quinn Jacobs [dqj@ecornell.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 4:54 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick  
**Subject:** Re: Hydrofracking Ban Comments

Dear Town Board,

I attended the Dryden town hearing on the hydrofracking ban, with all the members of my family. There are four voters in our household. We own 80 acres in Dryden, and run a local business (Ludgates). We are long-time residents and committed to living here the rest of our lives. Our health and wealth are definitely at stake in this issue, and we strongly favor the ban.

We appreciate very much your efforts in becoming informed and active. At a time when state and federal governments have been sold to the highest corporate bidders, we need our local government to be strong and to represent the interests of everyday people. There are numerous good reasons to ban fracking in our region -- all covered pretty well by the public comments. There is only a single motivation for allowing a few individuals in our community to jeopardize the collective well-being: money. That short-term, myopic and selfish perspective simply cannot be justified.

As with a lot of things that are just, it will take a great deal of courage to pass the ban. Please know that you will have our active support.

Best regards,  
David Quinn-Jacobs

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** David Quinn Jacobs [dqj@ecornell.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 6:59 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; David Makar; Jason Leifer  
**Subject:** Re: Hydrofracking Ban Comments

I forgot to mention one thing in my last note. I just returned from a family reunion in Niagara Falls. The splendid city of my childhood now looks like Beirut after the bombing, due to the effects of post-industrialization. Love Canal was the tip of the iceberg there. After the factory owners found it more profitable to move to Mexico in the 1980's, they left behind a toxic, hideous wasteland of buildings, rusted railroad tracks, giant paved areas and poisoned water. My god-father's nice house downtown sold for \$12,000 recently, and he was glad to get that. I read in the local paper that 45% of the population is on public assistance. Most of my uncles and aunts lost their jobs after the industry left, and most of my generation had to move away to make a living.

Anyone that still thinks corporations will benefit Tompkins County through industrialization should take a trip to Niagara Falls (USA) and drive down Main St.

Best regards,  
-dqj



## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Peter Gregory [pg46@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 4:02 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Please vote for the ban on hydrofracking tomorrow

**Importance:** High

Dear Town Board Members,

With your key vote on Fracking coming up tomorrow, we would appreciate your taking into account our strong belief that there should be a ban on hydrofracking in Dryden. We urge you to vote for this ban.

On July 20 we wrote:

QUOTE:

We are deeply distressed by the prospect of fracking in the Town of Dryden and in the Finger Lakes in general. Please join our neighboring towns and ban this process from Dryden.

Fracking, because of the environmental pollution that can come with it (noise, contamination of our drinking water, etc.), truck congested roads, plus the drilling rig-related eye sores that would ruin our region's treasured scenery could have a serious adverse effect on this region. The effects would reach far beyond the purely aesthetic and destroy our valuable tourist industry forever.

At Finger Lakes. Com their opening statement is "The Finger Lakes are an ideal destination, drawing countless visitors to the natural, scenic beauty of the region." Add fracking to the equation and this statement could be re-written as follows: **"Want to see the destruction of the most scenic, environmental treasures of the USA? Come to the Finger Lakes!"**

Perhaps the most tragic aspect of this is the strong possibility – recognized by some companies in the fracking business – that they might not find the gas even having mutilated our landscape in their rush to extract it. This was illustrated in a recent NY Times article at

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/26/us/26gas.html?\\_r=1&emc=eta1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/26/us/26gas.html?_r=1&emc=eta1) which stated that "Natural gas companies have been placing enormous bets on the wells they are drilling, saying they will deliver big profits and provide a vast new source of energy for the United States. But the gas may not be as easy and cheap to extract from shale formations deep underground as the companies are saying, according to hundreds of industry e-mails and internal documents and an analysis of data from thousands of wells. In the e-mails, energy executives, industry lawyers, state geologists and market analysts voice skepticism about lofty forecasts and question whether companies are intentionally, and even illegally, overstating the productivity of their wells and the size of their reserves."

This is not the only evidence of dishonesty in the industry. On the front page of July 16-17, 2011 edition of The Ithaca Journal an article entitled 'Landowners look for an escape after signing drilling contracts' highlighted the lies that are told to potential lessors. In one case, the company stated that the target lessor had no choice

but to lease, citing the “forced integration” that could be imposed on her by the company. Such a circumstance, she was told, would give her zero control over her land. As it turned out, this was false.

Again, we strongly urge you to ban fracking from the Town of Dryden.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Nerys and Peter Gregory

END QUOTE

Since we sent that message we have become even more convinced about the negative aspects of fracking but we have heard nothing persuasive on the positive side. Of course, some landowners in this area are likely to make a good profit from leasing their land to companies involved in fracking. But does that compensate the population at large for the harmful environmental, financial, infrastructural and quality of life issues that fracking will bring to us? Perhaps, in the longer term, even those landowners who would make short-term gains from fracking might suffer from the longer-term negative effects.

Specific negative aspects that became more apparent to us after we sent our July 20<sup>th</sup> message to you include:

- Fracking’s toll on roads: In the Ithaca Journal of July 27 a front page article was headed ‘Fracking’s toll on roads estimated: Repairs could cost hundreds of millions annually....’ This statement was based on a leaked internal New York State Department of Transportation document that projected a fracking-related increase of up to 1.5 million heavy truck trips per year in the State – an increase that NY is not in a position to address. And neither is Dryden prepared to cope with our share of that increase.
- Drill wastewater being used on roads: In the Ithaca Journal of July 21 another front page article addressed a serious negative consequence of fracking – the use of drill wastewater in road maintenance. This fluid often contains brine, heavy metals, and radioactive materials – a stark contrast to the DEC’s claim that it was just “salty water”.

The July 30-31 issue of the Ithaca Journal had a front page article entitled ‘Finger Lakes wine industry a boon to area economy’. Just imagine what fracking would do to our present idyllic surroundings, clean water, and our little piece of heaven. Let’s stand together with our neighboring towns and make sure that such wonderful progress in our area is not destroyed by the abuses that come with fracking.

Please defend our Town and all of us who enjoy life here now.

Many thanks for all of your heroic efforts to make the Town of Dryden such a wonderful place to live.

Sincerely,

Peter and Nerys Gregory

14 Hunters Lane, Ithaca, NY 14850 (Town of Dryden)

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Eric Liner [eliner@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 3:51 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** I Support The Ban on Gas Drilling In Dryden

Mary Ann Sumner  
Town of Dryden Supervisor  
93 East Main Street  
Dryden, NY 13053  
CC: Town of Dryden Planning Board

August 1, 2011

Dear Supervisor Sumner,

I am writing to express my strong support of the proposed legislation banning gas drilling in the Town of Dryden.

Hydro-fracking poses substantial threats to our health, safety, quality of life, and financial security; and the drilling industry has not sufficiently demonstrated that they are capable of containing or managing the hazards inherent in the drilling process. On at least one occasion this Spring, thousands of gallons of fracking fluid were spilled in Bradford County, Pennsylvania causing residents living in proximity to the drilling sites to be evacuated from their homes. A number of Pennsylvania and Colorado families are subsisting on water trucked to their homes because their private wells no longer supply clean drinking water. Many claim of dizziness, headaches, and increased illness as a result of exposure to polluted air and water. A recent Duke University study showed that methane levels were 17 times higher in wells located near hydro-fracking sites. This specter of environmental disaster is not something that Dryden residents should be forced to live with, and certainly not in the name of royalty checks or property rights. We can't afford to be evacuated from our homes, bathe our children in contaminated water, or breathe polluted air. These aren't, as some might suggest, emotional arguments; these are legitimate concerns based on real scenarios playing out in gas towns across this country.

There will no doubt be spills, accidents and disasters, it's only a question of where and when. For those of us that care for our friends and families more than our wallets that option is unacceptable; there is no monthly check or new car that will compensate for the safety and good health of our children and spouses. Please don't let us fall victim to this reckless industry that cares only about whether they can buy our compliance and loyalty.

Thank you for taking such a serious and considerate approach in your examination of this issue. Now is the time to plan and make decisions to protect our community. Please pass the ban on gas drilling in Dryden.

Sincerely,

Eric Liner  
12 Hollister Road, Freeville, NY 13068

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Jillian M Liner [jmb249@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 2:27 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Cc:** David Makar; Jason Leifer; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick  
**Subject:** I support the ban

Mary Ann Sumner  
Town of Dryden Supervisor  
93 East Main Street  
Dryden, NY 13053  
CC: Town of Dryden Planning Board

August 1, 2011

Dear Supervisor Sumner,

**I am writing to express my strong support of the proposed legislation banning gas drilling from the Town of Dryden.** I attended the public hearing, but did not speak then and want to express my position here.

I moved to Dryden in 2001 and quickly realized how fortunate I was to have chosen to live in Dryden. I was not familiar with the area and there were a number of towns around here where I could have settled. Initially I rented on Irish Settlement Road, and when my husband and I were ready to buy a home, we knew that we wanted to stay in that area. It took us over two years to find a home, but we found one just a few miles away on Hollister Road. It was important to us to find a quiet street as we wanted to start a family yet still be in the beautiful, rural part of Dryden. We have invested a lot in our house and it is our largest financial investment.

The thought of our "neighborhood" becoming industrial and losing what we love most about the area is beyond disappointing. You have heard all the points in support of the ban, and I agree with them. The potential impacts are potential, but they are real risks. To say that the risks won't become a reality in our town because the risks are low or technology has improved is ignorant and short-sighted. We don't have to look far to see what can happen to residents and communities. A friend used to vacation every year in Mansfield, Pennsylvania and since drilling moved to that area she has stopped going because it is no longer a place you want to take a vacation. That is not my vision for Dryden. It is disheartening to think that potential financial gains are driving the support for drilling when it could greatly reduce our quality of life and our financial investment. Why should my neighbor have the right to do something on his/her land that could have serious consequences to my health and finances?

If the potential impacts start to become a reality, we will move. If hydrofracking comes to our area our largest financial investment, our home, will take a hit, but we will move before our health and other quality of life issues are impacted. There is nothing more important to me than my family's health and life is too short to live in an area that jeopardizes that. It just isn't worth it. My husband already had cancer and our young family deserves better than putting any of us at risk to the known threats associated with hydrofracking.

**Now is the time to plan and make decisions to protect our community. I have great admiration for the Town of Dryden officials who are considering banning drilling; it speaks so highly of the vision and values that the Town officials hold for Dryden, and makes me very proud to be a resident. Thank you for putting**

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** dmmmermin@gmail.com on behalf of Dorothy Mermin [dmm12@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 1:53 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** fracking

Dear Dryden Town Board members,

I urge you to vote in favor of a ban on fracking. I am concerned about threats to our water supply and roads; noise, traffic, and pollution of various kinds. Our quality of life will decline drastically, and so will property values. (Last week someone told me that her family has decided not to buy what seemed like their dream house because land near by was leased for drilling, and without a strong ban this will happen more and more often -- even before the effects of drilling actually kick in.)

Many people signed leases in ignorance of what fracking is and the effects of signing on their own property and on the community. They now bitterly regret what they did and would undo it if they could. The large amount of land that has been leased does not in fact mean large-scale support for drilling. I hope you will take this into account when you consider the wishes of your constituents.

Until we have more information, surely the safe thing to do is to ban fracking now. If our fears turn out to be wrong, we can undo the ban, but if they're right, this is probably our last chance to save our community.

Thank you for your attention --

Dorothy Mermin  
75 Hickory Rd  
Town of Dryden

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Katie Quinn-Jacobs [kqj@quinn-jacobs.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 1:26 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Hydrofracking Ban comments

Dear Town Board Members,

I attended the public hearing on the proposed Town of Dryden fracking ban on July 20th. Like the majority of town residents, I too have researched this issue and have grave concerns about the safety of allowing the oil and gas industry to drill here (or anywhere) and I am also skeptical about the long-term economic benefits of fracking for our community. In addition, I haven't yet seen the cradle to grave net energy analysis that convinces me that fracking makes sense in terms of energy return on energy invested.

It was beneficial to have a chance to listen and read the arguments against the ban at the July 20 hearing, but I remained unconvinced by them. The anti-ban argument boils down to playing a dice game with our local environment for the monetary benefit of a few landowners - and outside interests in the oil & gas industry. The suggestion that the ban amounts to confiscating private property is flawed as it's obvious that industrialization by gas companies will impact the entire area, not just an individual farmer's private decision to sell their mineral rights. Although, due to state regulations, zoning laws don't apply in the case of fracking, the principal behind zoning laws establishes a strong, long-held precedent that individual rights can be superseded by the greater good. It is the town's responsibility to protect residents against personal land use choices that could be deleterious to others.

And the thinly veiled threat of lawsuits if the ban is put in place, should be tempered by the reality that lawsuits can go both ways. Residents who suffer damages to property or person as a result of industrialization may also bring suit.

Beyond our local township, the reality of the current position of both our federal and state governments is that they are heavily influenced by the lobbying and financial efforts of the oil & gas industry. We cannot reasonably look for assistance beyond our own communities to protect ourselves from the externalities of gas extraction. It is clear that the new Governor does not intend to even grant us equal protection, as evidenced by his decision to exclude the Syracuse and NYC watersheds from drilling, but allow it elsewhere. In an era where cutting the budgets of regulatory agencies, like the EPA and DEC, continues at the federal and state level, it is beyond naïve, perhaps even purposefully negligent, to consider that industrialization of the Marcellus shale bed can be adequately regulated.

Like it or not, it is up to us at the local level to be good stewards to the land, air and water that has been passed down to us. Landownership has its responsibilities as well as its benefits. My family owns over 80 acres of land and a local service business (Ludgate Farm & Market) in Dryden. Although we could gain financially in the short-term from selling our mineral rights and supplying goods to gas industry workers, we would not rest easy knowing we had jeopardized our neighbors well-being and played a part in permanently altering the local landscape for short-term personal gain.

It is up to us to learn from other communities in Colorado, Alabama, Texas and Pennsylvania and not only not repeat the same mistakes, but change the game. How are we ever to convince our state and federal governments without sending a clear unified message back to them? How are we ever to get the safety measures needed, if we don't stand together and let them know that what has come to pass in other regions of the country is not acceptable to those of us who live in the Marcellus? Friends and families who live in other townships in the Marcellus

& Utica shalebeds are watching what happens in Dryden and hoping we ban fracking, so they can do the same.

Those who argue for a "middle of the road" solution need to take their ideas to Albany & Washington and convince the state and federal agencies to adopt the safeguards they are promoting and to fund the implementation of the necessary regulatory measures. This is a tall order, I know. But without it, since the town's options are limited, "middle of the road" just means "business as usual."

I am sure each of you on the town board feels the weight of the decision before you and have researched this issue thoroughly. I truly thank you for your service to this community. Given the situation we're collectively in, I see no other option but to impose the ban. We must stand with the Town of Ithaca and force Albany and Washington and the gas industry to take notice.

Thank you and wishing you all the best,

Katie Quinn-Jacobs

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Andrew Rappaport [ajr@holt.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 12:10 PM  
**To:** Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer; David Makar; Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Dryden Town Ban on gas drilling - Vote YES for Ban

Dear Dryden Town Board members:

As a 19 year resident of the town of Dryden and I'm am writing to express my very strong support for a strong gas drilling ban ordinance for Dryden township.

Having followed all of the bad news from Pennsylvania, and even the Ithaca Journal article this week on the over \$200,000,000 expected cost of annual road repairs, I'm convinced that hydraulic fracking will be devastating to New York State. The natural beauty of the Fingerlakes and our whole tourism industry will be replaced with truck traffic, contaminated water, and industrial sites. As an architect, I've been personally involved with hazardous materials left over on building sites and I can't imagine the environmental devastation the gas industry will leave in its wake.

Please vote yes on the gas drilling ban and help save NY from its self.

Thank you,  
Andrew Rappaport

571 Main Street, Etna

**Andrew J. Rappaport, AIA, LEED AP**  
Architect, Project Manager

**HOLT Architects, P.C.**  
217 N. Aurora St.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
phone 607 273-7600  
fax 607 273-0475  
<http://www.holt.com>



**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** reuben rappaport [reuben.rappaport@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 12:00 PM  
**To:** Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer; David Makar; Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Dryden township gas drilling ban- comment in favor of

Dear dryden board members, as a resident of dryden township I am quite concerned by the possibility of the contamination of my water by the hydrofracking process. Please vote in favor of a strong ban, otherwise this region may soon no-longer be livable.

Sincerly, Reuben Rappaport  
571 Main Street  
Etna NY 13062

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Lorna Bayer [leb2@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 11:42 AM  
**To:** Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer; David Makar; Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Dryden Town Ban on gas drilling - comment in favor of Ban

Dear Dryden Town Board members:

I am writing to express my support for a strong gas drilling ban ordinance for Dryden township. As a town resident with water supplied by a drilled well, I am concerned about the potential effects of the drilling procedure on our water safety and potability. The DEC report recommendation against gas drilling in the NYC watershed region is an admission of the potential harm to water safety that this procedure may create. Residents of Dryden Township are entitled to the same caution and concern for our water safety as residents of NYC. Please vote yes on the gas drilling ban.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lorna Bayer  
571 Main Street  
Etna, NY 13062

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Renee [mediterranee@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 11:39 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Vote to Ban Hydraulic Fracturing

Dear Ms. Sumner,

I live with my spouse and small children in the Town of Dryden, where we value the natural beauty, the wild animals, and the clean water. Tomorrow you will be voting on the issue of drilling and pumping enormous amounts of potentially toxic chemicals into the earth we live on. I am sitting in front of the computer now to try to compose a compelling letter to ask you to help prevent this very bad thing from happening.

Banning hydraulic fracturing is necessary for many reasons. First of all, it is not safe. Consider the important fact that New York's DEC has banned hydro-fracking in the New York City watershed because they know something of its dangers. Just as they have decided to protect New York City's residents and land from the dangers of hydro-fracking, so too should we decide to protect our town's residents.

There is no way to keep the bad and irreversible effects of hydraulic fracturing confined within the perimeter of leased property. And the health and safety of our environment and people should not be sacrificed so that a few may profit in the short term. Many people who have leased their land to gas companies do not understand how formidable are both the hydraulic fracturing process and its effects. They may have believed it to be a good idea for themselves in the short term, but failed to consider all its different potentially harmful effects -- for themselves and the people and nature around them. I have talked to people who have told me that, at the time when they signed the lease to their land, they were simply unaware of all the ramifications, or did not consider the damage that fracking could cause.

If we think about all this, and if we consider the damage that has already happened in places where hydro-fracking has already occurred, we see that we must not allow it to happen here in Dryden. So, I urge you -- on behalf of my children, my community, the people who do not see the whole picture, the natural resources, and the animals around us -- to do the right thing: Please vote to ban hydraulic fracturing.

Thank you.

Truly,

Renee Morgan-Knapp

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Catherine Mary Wagner [cmw18@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 11:38 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** ban fracking!

Dear Ms. Sumner,

I am a resident of Dryden living on Ellis Hollow Road. I depend on a well for all of my water. We moved here from Cayuga Heights in 2006 because we wanted to be in a more rural environment. Now we are worried that we will lose our water and be surrounded by air pollution, loud noises and lights (all of this 24/7).

If we had known about the possibility of fracking in our area we would not have purchased a home in the country. But a ban by the town could preserve our home and our surroundings.

A friend of ours who lives in Arkansas has watched her state go down hill and knows many people who cannot even give their homes away at this point. Please do not let this happen in Dryden.

I have been looking into the economic aspects of fracking and see nothing but a downside for communities such as ours. A few will gain and the rest of us will pay the bills (which will be substantial) while also seeing our home values go down. Even ignoring the serious environmental issues the economic issues are serious.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,  
Catherine M. Wagner

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Beverly Hillman [bbhillman1@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 11:23 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Hydro fracking

Dear Supervisor Mary Ann Sumner, Please be responsible for all of us and our health, well water, children, farm animals, and pets when you vote NO for Hydro Fracking. My husband Bob and I have 13 acres in Ellis Hollow. We have an acre size pond stocked with fish fed by underground springs connected to a koi pool and then a stream which feeds into the pond across the road which feeds into the creek along the Ellis Hollow Creek Rd. All of the ground water is connected. Once contaminated this is a dead source of water for three or more generations. We were approached by a company wanting to drill on our pastures, We said "No" but they were very persistent and even rude. We still said "No" even when the hazards were not known to us. Please ban Hydro Fracking. Sincerely, Beverly Hillman and Dr. Robert B. Hillman, D.V.M. of 159 Ellis Hollow Creek Rd. Ithaca, N.Y. ph: 273 8838

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Christopher Knapp [cknapp@binghamton.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 10:10 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** My support for a strong ban on hydraulic fracturing

Dear Ms. Sumner,

I am a Dryden resident, and I strongly urge you to vote to ban hydraulic fracturing in our town.

There are many reasons why a ban is necessary. The most important is that hydraulic fracturing is not safe. This is evinced by the fact that New York's DEC has banned hydrofracking in the New York City watershed. Just as they have decided to protect New York City residents, so too should we decide to protect our town's residents.

We should not sacrifice the health and safety of our people or our environment so that a few may profit in the short term. There is no way for those who lease their land to gas companies to keep the harms of drilling confined to their property. So this is clearly an issue to be decided on by the community as a whole, no matter what your views are about the proper scope of government. And it is clear that if we look at hydrofracking from the perspective of the whole community, it is something we should prohibit.

Sincerely,

Christopher Morgan-Knapp

14 Knoll Tree Road

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Fred L. Conner [conner@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 9:38 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Cc:** David Makar; Jason Leifer; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick  
**Subject:** Please vote for the HVHF ban

To: Dryden Town Board members

From: Fred Conner, Irish Settlement Rd., Dryden

You have not heard my voice before or read any letters to the editor written by me. But perhaps you've seen me at your town board meetings during the last year or so. I signed the DRAC petition, and I emailed my friends and neighbors to do the same. I am part of the silent MAJORITY in Dryden that has worked behind the scenes to protect Dryden's present quality of life and abundant, precious resources, and especially its future potential for the sake of our children and grandchildren.

I applaud all the hard work and "homework" you've done over the past two years. I know that you take this issue seriously, and that the extremes of available "facts" and opinions make "doing the right thing" particularly challenging. Please vote to enact the ban now, and then move quickly to ensure that the ban is incorporated in the revised zoning law, too, when that vote is taken.

Thank you for all the studying and listening you've done over many, many months.

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Richard G. Dudley [rgd6@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 8:43 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** We need a ban on the hydraulic fracturing method of gas extraction

Dryden Town Board:

I fully support a ban on gas drilling and related activities especially the use of the hydraulic fracturing technique.

These activities are likely to result in environmental damage especially to waterways and in particular to groundwater which, as many of us know, is already of rather marginal quality in many parts of the town. I have worked with natural resources in many parts of the world, and the use of "fracking fluids" of unknown composition, the likely increase in methane emissions, the heightened possibility of spills, increased trucking traffic all definitely worry me.

Some believe that drilling will improve "the economy". But in reality most new jobs would be temporary, and would be taken by "outsiders" already familiar with the drilling procedures. These people will very likely leave the area after drilling is complete, leaving the degraded roads, and abandoned sites for the rest of us to clean up. It is my sincere belief that the need for tax revenue would rise in Dryden, even as land values drop. A quick visit to any "resource rich" area will tell us that it is not the local people who benefit from resource extraction. West Virginia and parts of Pennsylvania come to mind.

Please work to keep Dryden healthy, clean, and quiet.

Richard G. Dudley

21 Etna Lane  
Etna, NY 13062

607 379 9999

Richard G. Dudley  
Adjunct Associate Professor  
Cornell International Institute for  
Food, Agriculture, and Development  
[rgd6@cornell.edu](mailto:rgd6@cornell.edu)  
<http://earth01.net/RGDudley/>  
cell phone: 607-379-9999  
Skype: rgdudley



## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Carol Colfer [cjpcolfer@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 8:06 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** We need a ban on hydrofracking.

**Importance:** High

Dear officials,

I would just like to register my strong feeling that we in Dryden need a serious, long term ban on fracking---at least until there is believable evidence that it will do no harm. Everything I've read and heard suggests it DOES do serious long term harm, and we should avoid it like the plague here in Dryden. Thank you for your attention, and I hope you share my concern and vote accordingly.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Pierce Colfer, PhD, MPH  
Book Review Editor, *Agriculture and Human Values*  
Visiting Fellow, CIIFAD, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA, 14853  
Senior Associate, Center for International Forestry Research, Bogor, Indonesia  
Phone: 1-607-291-4058  
Cell: 1-607-379-9977  
Address: 21 Etna Lane, PO Box 280, Etna, NY 13062-0280, USA  
Email: [c.colfer@cgiar.org](mailto:c.colfer@cgiar.org)  
Skype: carol.colfer

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Jessica Evett-Miller [je18@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 6:41 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; Joseph Solomon; Jason@jmleifer.com; Steve Stelick; David Makar  
**Subject:** Strong support of a drilling ban

Dear Dryden Town Board Members,

I own property in Etna, and have lived in Tompkins County my entire life.

I would like to thank you in advance for all the careful planning and strategizing that you have done to protect Dryden from the effects of large scale industrialization that hydrofracking will be bringing to our region if New York State fails to institute a state-wide ban.

I do not believe that Dryden residents stand to gain from the affects of drilling operations. Instead, we risk seeing a decrease in our property values while simultaneously seeing a rise in rental prices, forcing local residents to seek more affordable housing elsewhere. We risk having our emergency responders and road crews stretched thin with an increase in traffic accidents due to a higher volume of traffic and degraded roads. We risk seeing an increase in crimes committed by out-of-state workers who care little about our community and the people living here. We risk losing our abundant sources of clean water and clean air to breath, resulting in an increase in asthma and other health problems. These are all the affects that other areas have suffered where hydrofracking has taken hold. These are risks that Dryden would be prudent to avoid.

To my mind, these risks outweigh any temporary economic benefits. Wherever extractive industries come to remove a finite resource, local regions fall prey to a boom, bust cycle. I know that you have all read studies about the environmental damage wrought by hydrofracking and have followed the reports coming out of Pennsylvania, and understand the risks that drilling brings with it wherever it is done. Thank you for taking so much time to educate yourselves on this VERY important topic.

I will not be able to attend Tuesday night's meeting, but will be there in spirit and want you to know that I greatly support your votes in favor of an amendment to our current zoning ordinance that will restrict and prohibit heavy industry in our Town.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Evett-Miller  
30 Upper Creek Road  
Etna, NY

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** David Ruppert [dr24@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 4:31 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Cc:** David Ruppert  
**Subject:** ban gas drilling in Dryden

Dear Ms. Sumner,

I am writing to urge the Dryden Town Board to vote in favor of a gas drilling ban. The DEC will not permit hydrofracking in the Syracuse and NYC watersheds. This is an admission that hydrofracking is not safe. Large cities are being protected from hydrofracking, but small communities such as the Town of Dryden must protect themselves. If gas drilling is not banned in the Town of Dryden, then large amounts of toxic and carcinogenic chemicals will be pumped into the ground. Inevitably, these chemicals will contaminate our drinking water because of accidental spills, improper casings, and other human errors. These chemicals are volatile and will contaminate our air as well. The costs to human health will be serious and long-lasting. Property values will decrease since the Town of Dryden will become a less desirable place to live.

Sincerely yours,

David Ruppert  
154 Ellis Hollow Creek Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Zorika Henderson [zorika@lightlink.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 3:39 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Fracking ban

7 Sunny Knoll  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
July 31, 2011

Dryden Town Board  
93 E. Main St.  
Dryden, NY 13053

Dear Dryden Board Members:

A fracking ban is the only way to protect the town's water and other natural resources, its infrastructure, and its budget. We cannot count on the state or federal governments to protect the town's resources or bail the town out financially when the tab from this technology's fallout comes due. The DEC's revised SGEIS, which exempts the New York City and Syracuse watersheds from fracking while leaving the rest of the state's water at risk, is an indication of how little help Dryden can expect.

Unlike the residents of Pennsylvania, Texas, Arkansas, Colorado, and Wyoming, we have the advantage of having been forewarned about fracking.

Fracking proponents typically make the false claim that this technology has been around for many years. In reality, high-volume, slickwater (chemical) fracking is an experiment that has been used in actual field conditions for approximately a decade: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/02/AR2009120204305\\_2.html?sid=ST2009120204375](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/02/AR2009120204305_2.html?sid=ST2009120204375) .. Mitchell Energy started experimenting with it sporadically in the early 1980s. Mitchell could not get anyone in the industry to buy the company or sign onto the new method. In 2002, Devon Energy ultimately acquired Mitchell Energy and began fracking in Texas.

Underscoring the newness of the method, an article in the winter 2005/2006 edition of *Oilfield Review*, [http://www.slb.com/~media/Files/resources/oilfield\\_review/ors05/win05/04\\_the\\_source\\_for\\_hydraulic.ashx](http://www.slb.com/~media/Files/resources/oilfield_review/ors05/win05/04_the_source_for_hydraulic.ashx) , states:

“Clearly, the exploration and production (E&P) industry still has much to learn about hydraulic fractures” and “All hydraulic fracture models fail to predict future behavior precisely, and in many cases, models fail completely, largely because of incorrect information and assumptions used in the models” (p. 44 for both quotes).

Fracking entails excessive trial and error. A famous lawsuit (*Coastal Oil & Gas USA LP v. Garza Energy Trust*) involved subsurface trespass by Coastal Oil & Gas. The fracking company essentially pled that it couldn't help itself because accurate drilling isn't possible. As noted in an article on the lawsuit, <http://splashdownpa.blogspot.com/2010/07/dispute-has-industry-mineral-owners..html> :

“Fracture stimulation isn't a precise science, and doesn't always crack the shale in equal portions. In some ways, cracking the shale evenly could be thought of as trying to hammer a dinner plate into equal pieces - it's not easy.

"You may plan a fracture that will go 1,000 feet, and it might go 2,000 feet or 400 feet," said John S. Lowe, a professor of energy law at Southern Methodist University's Dedman School of Law."

A pro-fracking claim that has been made locally is that New York State doesn't have to follow the "anything-goes" weak regulatory regime of Pennsylvania. Stricter regulations might help reduce the environmental and public health problems, but they will never be able to solve a fundamentally hazardous drilling method. In addition, however lax the Pennsylvania regulations may be, Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection cited 1,751 violations in just the first five months of this year: <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/minres/oilgas/OGInspectionsViolations/OGInspviol.htm>. The recorded violations are undoubtedly the tip of the iceberg; the DEP is understaffed, similar to the inadequate staffing at the DEC. The DEC has said that it will have 17 drilling inspectors statewide--overseeing potentially thousands of gas wells.

Inspectors should be evaluating the cementing job on every gas well casing. Careful cementing is crucial to protecting water and avoiding serious accidents whose consequences may be irreversible. The BP oil spill, for instance, occurred because of a rushed cementing job and poor regulatory oversight.

Fracking fluids can easily migrate into groundwater, <http://fracfocus.org/faq>:

"Fracturing fluids can enter a fresh groundwater zone if there is sufficient bottom hole pressure to raise the fluid level from the fractured zone to the fresh groundwater zone, and there is a conduit through which the fluid can flow such as an open annulus between the casing and the formation. They may also enter fresh groundwater if there is a hole in the casing above the depth of the groundwater zone and the cement outside of the casing is not adequate to prevent fluid flow between the casing and the formation. Under normal circumstances hydraulic fracturing fluid is confined to the inside of the production casing, the formation being treated and nearby formations."

"An improperly designed or poorly performed stimulation treatment can allow a hydraulic fracture to enter a water zone" (Unexpected Increases in Water Production, Chapter 5, p. 21. In *Produced Water and Its Associated Issues: Manual for the Independent Operator*. Rodney R. Reynolds and Robert D. Kiker. Petroleum Technology Transfer Council, 2003: [http://www.ogs.ou.edu/PTTC/pwm/produced\\_water.pdf](http://www.ogs.ou.edu/PTTC/pwm/produced_water.pdf)).

The definition of produced water, as used in the book cited above, illustrates the risks for drinking water, <http://www.producedwaterdevelopment.com/water-problem.html>:

"Produced water is the name for water that is pumped to the surface concurrently with the extraction of oil, gas, and coal bed methane from underground formations. The water's composition generally includes inorganic salts, hydrocarbons, solids such as sand or silt, metals, dissolved gases, bacteria and other living organisms, and chemicals and additives resulting from production activities. It is, in other words, contaminated--impure to the point it is generally unsuitable for either residential or agricultural use."

Fracking is sufficiently unsafe that Halliburton needs indemnification language releasing it from all liability, including death, loss of water, subsurface trespass, and radioactivity (*Ruckdeschel v. Falcon Drilling Company, L.L.C.*): <http://www.leagle.com/xmlResult.aspx?xmlDoc=in%20wvco%2020100423a24.xml&docbase=cs1war3-2007-curr>.

There are significant long-term risks of this new drilling method, according to Marc Durand, professor emeritus of geological engineering at the University of Quebec in Montreal,

<http://webyxorp.com/glype->

[proxy.php/Oi8vd3d3/LmZhY2Vi/b29rLmNv/bS9ub3Rl/cy9zaGFs/ZS1nYXMt/aW5mby9z/aGFsZS1n/YXMtbXkt/cG9pbnQt/b2Ytdmll/dy1vbi13/ZWxscy10/aGUtZXhw/ZXJpbWVu/dC10aGUt/bG9uZ2V2/aXR5LW9m/LXN0cnVj/dHVyZXMv/MjExMjg2/OTA4OTA3/MjQw/b15/](http://proxy.php/Oi8vd3d3/LmZhY2Vi/b29rLmNv/bS9ub3Rl/cy9zaGFs/ZS1nYXMt/aW5mby9z/aGFsZS1n/YXMtbXkt/cG9pbnQt/b2Ytdmll/dy1vbi13/ZWxscy10/aGUtZXhw/ZXJpbWVu/dC10aGUt/bG9uZ2V2/aXR5LW9m/LXN0cnVj/dHVyZXMv/MjExMjg2/OTA4OTA3/MjQw/b15/) :

..  
“A really important but little known problem with the exploitation of shale gas is the well's post-exploitation life. This question must be analysed very carefully, for there is an essential element which is of considerable importance in this new industry: this is the fact that hydraulic fracturing initiates the migration of methane in the whole volume of the geologic unit, while only a small amount of this gas is recovered. The extraction takes place over only a few years, but the migration of the gas, once begun by fracturing, continues at least a thousand times longer. . . .

“Each of the new fractures constitutes a small zone of great permeability in the shale. The methane and other fluids that are present will migrate towards the fracture. What has taken millions of years in the case of conventional gas deposits will be reproduced in a tiny fraction of that time, and, as all the new fractures are created at the same time, at first the flow is strong. But it falls off very quickly. More than three quarters of the methane (80% according to the National Energy Board) (*ref. 1*) remains underground at the end of the exploitation. It will continue to migrate toward the network of fractures and re-pressurize the wells, after they are closed and abandoned.”

A fracked well is optimized to extract gas but then, at the end of the well's useful life, “to transform it into a structure for the diametrically **opposite** function, that is, to contain the remaining gas--*the same well and the fracturing of 50 million cubic meters + a concrete plug downhole + a soldered steel plate near the surface + some other elements. . . .*

“I do not know of any engineer who would put his professional reputation on the line to guarantee, on closure, the security for an indefinite number of years of a subterranean reservoir of 50,000,000 m<sup>3</sup> [cubic meters] of methane with the current drilling plans, of works which moreover, will be uncared for, un-inspected and hidden under a camouflaged surface.”

Energy independence is worth the risks of fracking, some fracking advocates in Dryden have said. But as a number of articles in the national media have pointed out, gas producers want to liquefy and import the gas. For example, a proposed plan for exporting domestic gas through a liquefied natural gas terminal in Oregon is part of a nationwide push by gas producers that could have a “disastrous impact on the price of natural gas for U.S. consumers”: [http://www.oregonlive.com/business/index.ssf/2011/07/oregon\\_lng\\_terminal\\_plans\\_reve.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/business/index.ssf/2011/07/oregon_lng_terminal_plans_reve.html) .

The fevered rush of a dangerous drilling method, along with the corporate lobbying that has made too many state and federal lawmakers favor industry over the public--including forced pooling that severely violates property rights--can and should be resisted.

Dryden residents have said consistently over the years that they want Dryden to remain a livable rural area. That goal is incompatible with the massive type of industrialization, water and air pollution, loss of wildlife habitat, scarred land, and overall environmental degradation posed by fracking. For an idea of the radical transformation that Dryden would undergo if fracking were allowed, see aerial views of the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania, <http://www.marcellus-shale.us/MARCELLUS-AIR-II.htm>, and the Barnett Shale in Texas: <http://texassharon.com/2010/06/19/barnett-shale-an-aerial-view-2/> ..

The local economy is unlikely to benefit from fracking, contrary to what the gas drilling industry claims about fracking's economic benefits. Studies on fracking's effects on local economies have been sponsored primarily by the industry and have not been peer reviewed. Economist Thomas Kinnaman of Bucknell University decided to review six of the industry-funded studies, <http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg21128193.400-economic-benefits-of-shalegas-extraction-unclear.html> ..

“Kinnaman found that they all contained flaws that exaggerated the benefits of shale gas extraction to local economies. Most rely on an economic model called IMPLAN, which supposes, say, that local services such as hotel rooms are going unused until the gas industry comes along to spend money on them. In fact, such spending may displace other consumers, creating no net benefit. Kinnaman also claims that none of the studies measured all the costs and benefits of extracting shale gas, so could not determine if it really offers a net gain.”

Fracking should not be Dryden’s future.

Sincerely,  
Zorika Henderson

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Peter J. Kahn [pjk7@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 10:45 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Cc:** Jason Leifer; David Makar; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** fracking bill

Dear Ms. Sumner, et. al.,

I want to register my strong support for the bill currently being considered to ban horizontal hydrofracking (and other heavy industrial activity) in the Town of Dryden. I have heard all the arguments both against this form of gas extraction and in favor of it (as, no doubt, have you) so it would not be useful for me to cite chapter and verse at this late date. I want only to emphasize one or two points in opposition to those who claim that the ban deprives them of their rights to do what they wish with their property and thereby deprives them of income that is rightfully theirs.

All of us residents and landowners have restrictions on what we can do with our property. Zoning ordinances make this obvious. Local government has a right to deem certain uses of land against the public interest: e.g., I cannot install a gas station on my residentially zoned property, even though I might make some money by doing so. Only recently have we become aware of the tremendous social, economic, and environmental cost of the techno-industrial processes now in use in this new form of mineral extraction. So, only now have we (the citizens of the town) been able to assemble the facts, marshal the arguments and come to a considered conclusion that this form of land use is not in the interest of the town and the overwhelming majority of its residents. The small minority of those who are sitting on these windfall gas assets are apparently eager to cash in quickly, perhaps recognizing the rapid fall-off in productivity after early drilling phases. But a zoning ban such as that contemplated will not necessarily forever deprive them of financial gain. The simple fact is that the technology and the standards enforcement mechanisms must be greatly improved before extraction of Marcellus Shale gas becomes compatible with the lifestyles and livelihoods of current local residents and landowners.

And one further point, which I have heard made at a recent Town meeting that I attended: I am a landowner and Town of Dryden taxpayer with rights every bit as valid as those of people complaining about the proposed ordinance(s). I have the right to "the peaceful enjoyment of my property," to be assured of the quality of water that I derive from my well, for drinking, washing, etc., and to the assurance that access to my home will not be impeded by battalions of heavy trucks engaged in distributing toxic fluids. I don't want radioactive fracking reflux brine dumped on my road (Ellis Hollow Road) as part of a cheap ice-control process: that endangers my health and that of my family. I don't want to see my already very high local taxes go up to support road and other repairs necessitated by the excessive use by these trucks, I don't want higher taxes for the increased social services needed by the (non-local) armies of fracking workers. In short, I strongly resent the idea that I should support by my taxes and decreased quality of life the windfall profits of those whose only virtue has been to have found themselves on a certain piece of land at a certain time in our history.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Kahn  
1665 Ellis Hollow Road



## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** the Russos [goclimbit@frontiernet.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 9:25 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** please move forward with the ban on hydrofracking

Dear Town Supervisor and Town Board members,

I am writing to let you know that my family and I are strongly in favor of a ban on hydro fracking. We value the importance of healthy air and water quality too much to see anything that could contaminate these things be allowed to take place in Dryden. We have read many articles about hydrofracking and have listened to many discussions. It has been sad to see people's water sources and air quality become contaminated in Pennsylvania and we do not want that to happen here. We do not feel that the possible economic gains that may come from allowing hydrofracking in Dryden out weigh the possible health and environmental risks. We need to protect the basic needs of our environment- clean air and water and hydrofracking contains too many risks. PLEASE continue to work towards a ban on hydrofracking, as Itahca has so wisely done. Thank you for your time and all the work that you are doing for our town.

Sincerely,

Andrea Edwin-Russo

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Steven Bissen [spbissen@toxicstargeting.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2011 9:56 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** My thoughts on the ban of gas drilling in Dryden

Hi Mary Ann,

I wanted to give you my reasons for supporting the ban on gas drilling in the Town of Dryden.

- 1. Hydrofracking uses a lot of water which becomes contaminated with fracking chemicals.** - The fracking water is the biggest environmental issue at present with the hydrofracking process. Lots of contaminated water requires lots of trucks or holding ponds for this water. This water then has to be either recycled, which means moving the water to the next drilling location or treated, which means moving the water to a waste water treatment plant. Either way it means lots of truck traffic and lots of wear on roads at a time when road repair budgets are being slashed. With the moving of this fracking water, there is increased probabilities of spills and environmental contamination. Some of these fracking chemicals are cancer-causing and fracking waste water contains naturally-occurring radioactivity. Waste water treatment plants do not know how to treat this type of waste.
- 2. The risks to surface water are too great.** - There have been accidents with major contamination in Penn. Spills happen no matter how careful the oil & gas companies try to be. A spill of fracking water near Fall Creek, 6-Mile Creek or Dryden Lake could ruin these waterways for decades.
- 3. The risks to ground water are too great.** - There have been private drinking water wells that have been contaminated with gas. Whether this is from the drilling directly or indirectly due to shifting underground soil and rock structure is unknown but the ability to light water on fire started when the drilling started. Even though the oil & gas companies argue that the hydrofracturing is done 1 mile underground, the high pressure that causes fracturing of rock may cause changes to rock structure and thus changes to ground water flow even at the shallower depth of ground water. Underground cracks in drilling well casings could also cause ground water contamination. In other words, more study is needed to address these problems with drinking water wells.
- 4. Quality of the quiet country life will be affected.** - This may be a minor point but with increased industry there is increased noise. People live in the Town of Dryden because they enjoy the rural atmosphere with peace and quiet. Increased noise from truck traffic and industrial activity will wreck the quality of life.
- 5. And finally - the gas isn't going any where and the cost for that gas is only going to go up.** - because the increase gas supplies from Penn. and other states, the price of natural gas has dropped. It seems to me to make more sense to wait for 2 reasons - the technology of extracting this gas will only improve and get safer and the price of the gas will only be higher in the future.

There needs to be more study of the technology and find ways to address the shortfalls of this process. This will take time. That is why I believe a ban of gas drilling should be done at the current time because of all this uncertainty.

I hope my reasons help you with your decision. The choice is Risk vs. Profit, some may feel the risk is acceptable but I believe the risk is too great.

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Morgan [morgankolb@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2011 5:23 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Fracking ban

My name is Morgan Kolb I am 15 years old and I am strongly in favor of a ban on fracking in the town of Dryden.

Morgan Kolb

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Anne Rhodes [arf1945@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2011 4:43 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** I support the ban on hydrofracking in Dryden

Hi Mary Ann,

I just wanted to go on the record as supporting the proposed ban. I am most concerned about the possible contamination of the water, but also about the negative economic effects industrial drilling might have.

At the very least I think we need more time, more information, and better protection from the DEC. The ban will buy us this time, even if it is challenged in court.

Thank you for your support of this,

Anne Rhodes

91 Ed Hill Rd., Freeville 13068

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** n w [nwallace11@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2011 12:25 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Joseph Solomon; Stephen Stelick; Jason Leifer  
**Subject:** Fracking Ban

Dear Board Members,  
I am writing to say that I am in favor of the fracking ban. Please vote to pass it.

Sincerely,

Noah Wallace  
1139 Ellis Hollow Rd  
Ithaca, NY 14850

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Thom Baker [thombaker@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2011 12:05 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Enact a Ban on Hydrofracturing in Dryden

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to support a ban on Hydrofracturing in Dryden. My concern is not the "hydro" part or the "fracturing" part, but the information that the gas companies do not tell us: the poisons they put into the ground, to stay in the ground. Once the ground and ground water are ruined the area will no longer be a nice place to live. Neither will the area be suitable for tourism.

Dryden cannot afford to host hydrofracturing. Our Highway Department did not have enough money to keep my street appropriately plowed this winter, making me park at the bottom of the hill and walk the quarter mile through the snow, groceries in arms straight uphill five different times. We don't have the money to repair roads demolished by heavy trucks and machinery making money on the backs of many Dryden taxpayers who will not get a cent from their industry.

The underground gas is not going away. We can afford to wait until a safe, efficient mode of extraction is invented.

Thank you for your time.

Thom Baker  
10 Sunny Slope Road

Music Director, Ithaca Gay Men's Chorus  
Voice Faculty, The Community School of Music and Arts  
Director, Daytime Chorale, The Community School of Music and Arts  
Coordinator, CSMA First Fridays Chamber Music Series  
Choir Director and Music Coordinator, First Unitarian Society of Ithaca  
(607) 227-0681

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Mary B. Patterson [mary.b.patterson@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2011 9:20 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Cc:** jwshay@aol.com  
**Subject:** Please vote NO to fracking in Dryden

To the Dryden Supervisors,

I ask that you vote NO to fracking/heavy industry in Dryden, NY.

I am retired, age 70, live on Ringwood Road and am very concerned for many reasons.

- 1) road damage, then higher taxes for repair
- 2) heavy truck traffic with danger of toxic spills
- 3) possible damage to water wells from heavy industry drilling, explosions, etc
- 4) lower property value because of heavy industry zone
- 5) toxic spills affecting watershed, creeks, Cayuga Lake
- 6) history of companies using lawyers to avoid compensating people who were negatively affected - using big dollars to avoid responsibility

This list could go on and on. What is the rush? The gas will still be there 10-50 years from now. I suspect companies want to get in and take their profit before the real costs/damages become evident.

Thank you for all your thoughtful consideration of this critical issue.

Thank you.

Mary B. Patterson  
673 Ringwood Road

607-539-7056

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Caryn Davies [caryn.davies@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 7:17 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** gas drilling in Dryden

Dear Dryden Town Board,

As the daughter of current Dryden residents (and still a registered voter in Dryden), I am concerned about the legacy you will be leaving me if you allow hydrofracking in Dryden.

My father bought our house more than 40 years ago. It is the only real home I have ever known. Two of my favorite aspects of coming home from law school in the city are the fresh well water and the quiet nights; they are rejuvenating and relaxing in comparison to the sour New York City water and roaring traffic. Yet the land surrounding our property on three sides is currently leased for gas drilling. I worry that the house I grew up in will cease to be a home when the trucks move in to pollute our water with chemicals and our air with noise.

Please consider the next generation when you vote next week on the ordinance banning gas drilling in Dryden.

Many thanks,  
Caryn Davies  
2008 Olympic gold (rowing)  
Columbia Law School '13  
Harvard College '05  
Ithaca High School '00



## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Shira Golding [shiragolding@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 12:32 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Please vote for the gas drilling ban

I am writing to express my strong recommendation that you vote to ban gas drilling in Dryden. I would much rather see our community invest in infrastructure that will support renewable energy production such as wind, solar and geothermal. I also think that tremendous measures should be taken to reduce energy consumption by improving insulation and other strategies.

Sincerely,  
Shira

Shira Golding  
[shiragolding@gmail.com](mailto:shiragolding@gmail.com)  
<http://www.shirari.com>

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Sharon Buechel [sharonbuechel@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 12:44 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** in support of a gas drilling / fracking BAN ordinance

**Dear Ms. Sumner,**

**We are Dryden residents and landowners who are IN FAVOR of a STRONG gas drilling BAN ordinance. We have owned property and lived in Freeville and Dryden since 1979 and are lifelong residents of Tompkins County. We feel that the benefits that some claim might be gained by hydrofracking are FAR outweighed by the negative effects that will surely take place such as water and land pollution, road and bridge damage, decreased tourism, increased noise, traffic problems, and irreversible damage to our beloved, fragile, and beautiful Finger Lakes area.**

**PLEASE VOTE FOR A BAN ON FRACKING! We need your continued vigilance on our behalf and for generations to come.**

thank you,  
**Sharon and Richard Buechel**

--  
133 Southworth Rd  
Dryden, NY 13053

[sharonbuechel@gmail.com](mailto:sharonbuechel@gmail.com)

607-423-2647

## **Dryden Safe Energy Coalition (DSEC)**

**c/o Henry S. Kramer**

**1524 Ellis Hollow Road**

**Ithaca, New York 14850**

**(607) 275-3635, Fax (607) 275-3671**

**Drydensec@gmail.com**

August 1, 2011

Dryden Town Supervisor  
Members, Town Board  
By E-Mail and hand delivery to Town Clerk

As it appears that the Dryden Town Board will be voting on a complete energy development ban on August 2, 2011, this to present DSEC's position, to amplify Henry Kramer's prior statement, and to put the Board on formal notice that if it passes a total energy development ban it will be engaging in knowing prospective violations of constitutional rights, federal, and state law.

If the Board enacts the proposed ordinance it may subject the Town not only to litigation costs but also to potentially hundreds of millions of dollars of taking liability, which would ultimately have to be borne by the taxpayers. The Board should not take lightly the risk of such potential liability.

Whether or not the Board believes it may somehow legally prevail, the Board should weigh the cost to benefit ratio of adopting this ban. Even assuming, *for argument only*, that the possibility of success were 50-50, can the Board risk the chance of a nine figure liability? Not reasonably.

First, the ban would violate the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution and constitute a taking requiring just compensation. The ban entirely confiscates mineral rights to an estimated value of \$175 million (valuations may vary, but the significance of the sum involved remains), not including the additional value of royalty rights also likely in the many millions and the costs of litigation. Alternatively, the Board's action may be viewed as a 100% confiscatory tax on wealth in mineral rights, a tax outside the Board's powers, not authorized by and preempted by state law. Board members have fiduciary responsibilities. Given the magnitude of potential damages and the outsized legal risks, it is simply not fiscally prudent behavior to adopt this ban.

Second, the ban would be in violation of the state's preemption of the regulation of drilling. In the May Dryden newsletter, the Town Supervisor so

acknowledged. Legal authorities give ban ordinances little chance of surviving court challenge. The wiser course, when faced with legal doubt, is not to act.

Third, the ban as a zoning ordinance is in violation of many of the holdings of the New York Court of Appeals in the Udell zoning case, a copy of which was previously supplied the Board. Read the case and it should guide the Board.

Fourth, the ban is *ultra vires*, that is outside the authority of a town board. There is no authorization in state law for the Town to enact a complete ban, on the contrary Town action is preempted. An Article 78 proceeding may follow.

Fifth, a Town may not, by local ordinance, nullify, or make entirely nugatory, state created and recognized mineral rights and general laws. To do so would, in effect, nullify state law and state created rights within Dryden. If towns could do this, they could pick and choose which state laws would apply.

Sixth, section 5 of the proposed ban which would have the Dryden ban trump state and federal permits and actions, as a matter of black letter law, is invalid. It is reasonable to conclude that the Town Board will be knowingly attempting to override and destroy constitutional, federal, and state rights.

Seventh, the ban is discriminatory. It shifts the entire alleged environmental protection costs onto land and mineral rights holders instead of the general population. This is not an incidental shift but an overwhelming burden, extinguishing millions of dollars of thousands of individuals' property rights. If such an action is taken, it must be a general charge on the population of the Town. The survey on which our comprehensive plan is built calls for compensation for takings. Further, such compensation was provided when the Town bought development rights, recognition of the injustice of unpaid taking.

Eighth, adoption of this ban would cloud the land titles of thousands of Dryden residents who have signed leases on 41% of Dryden land. A ban is a classic force event and may prevent these leases from ever expiring. A ban could thus condemn many Dryden residents to land sale and mortgage difficulties for years to come, a harsh and selective punishment.

Ninth, the Town may not be insured for any act it takes which it knows, or reasonably should know, is illegal. The Town is notified it will be in violation of constitutional and legal rights if it enacts the ban.

Tenth, if Town Board members, having notice, violate constitutional and legal rights, they may lose their qualified immunity and be subject to suit in their personal (possibly uninsured) capacities.

In conclusion, the Town should affirmatively anticipate that federal and/or state court action against it is highly probably, if not virtually certain, on one or more of the above cited or other claims. You cannot extinguish hundreds of millions of dollars of property values held by thousands of residents and separate mineral rights held by both in and out of state people without anticipating legal actions. The energy industry has its own causes of action and may also sue.

It is highly probable that this overly broad ban, as written, will have unforeseen or unintended consequences. For similar reason, the County Legislature deferred action on a road law.

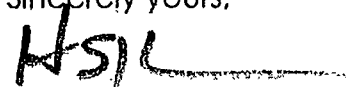
The more sensible alternative and responsible fiduciary response is to defer any action on a ban until ban challenges elsewhere are litigated. Certainly, the State is far from ready to begin permitting wells, so there is no need for haste. You have at a minimum into 2012; if not longer.

The Town should take notice that a ban is inconsistent with environmental advocates' position favoring the development of natural gas under the Kyoto protocols. It is also inconsistent for the Town and individuals to use energy from elsewhere while refusing to allow its regulated development locally. And, failure to develop domestic energy means foreign energy dependence, foreign wars to protect vital energy interests, and the sapping of revenues the government could use to pay debt and provide programs.

DSEC's mission is to offer balanced, data driven information on safe energy development, to logically and numerically evaluate benefit-to-risk ratios, free of emotional bias or ideology, and to bring together people interested in an analytical approach to energy issues. A ban does not serve to meet this mission. It does not allow for a "middle way" in which there is lawful, safe, regulated energy development. Legally, we believe a total ban is an unnecessary high risk strategy for the Town and which in its uncompensated takings is unjust.

The Board is now on notice. It is DSEC's hope the Board will do the prudent thing and recognize there is both division of opinion in Dryden and significant, large scale dollar risk. Both drilling without regulation and refusal to drill are equally extreme solutions. We oppose both. Please opt for deliberate moderation and do not adopt in haste this radical total ban.

Sincerely yours,



Dryden Safe Energy Coalition  
By Henry S. Kramer, Tracy Marisa

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** acengst@gmail.com on behalf of Adam Engst [ace@tidbits.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 10:12 AM  
**To:** Adam Engst  
**Cc:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon; Tonya Engst; Herbert J Engman  
**Subject:** Thought about Dryden watershed pointing toward a drilling ban

Hi folks,

Given that the Town of Ithaca has passed a ban on gas drilling, and that there is no drilling currently in the City of Ithaca, and that the Town and City water supplies are fed in part from the Town of Dryden, wouldn't it make sense for Dryden to make its plans compatible with Ithaca and ban drilling? Surely there's some coordination that's necessary to ensure the safety of upstream drinking supplies for downstream users?

This gets back to the whole "what's special about New York and Syracuse?" argument - it would seem that all citizens deserve the same protections, and whether or not the gas industry has managed to get itself exempted from the Clean Air and Water Acts, it seems clear that the actions of one can affect the many, and even the State is acknowledging that with NY and Syracuse - we should as well.

cheers... -Adam

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Jack@youngbros.com  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2011 4:47 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Gas Drilling in Dryden

I'm writing as a Dryden landowner to express my concern about recent proposals to restrict gas drilling in the town.

My family has had numerous wells drilled on our properties in Pennsylvania over the years, and have never had any problems of the sort people are worrying about locally. Once the wells have been drilled and the locations restored, you hardly even know they're there. But the financial benefits they provide the area remain. And so do the environmental advantages that gas has over it's competing fuels.

What I find sad about the current debate is that those who claim to be environmentalists are actually pushing the area towards a greater dependence on strip-mined coal. Even a NIMBY can't escape the impacts this will have on global warming. Does Dryden really want to be partly to blame for that?

Perhaps as importantly for some people, any ban on drilling or fracing will prevent geothermal wells from being drilled, as many of those are completed by a process much like hydrofracing. And you risk effectively condemning all the oil and gas rights in the town as well, which could be a big financial liability for the local government.

As a long-time environmentalist and supporter of natural gas, I've been stunned by the lynch-mob attitude that's developed towards natural gas locally in the last year or two. As a Dryden landowner, I urge you not to get caught up by it.

John Young 69.-2-3.2 95.64 acres

Gerald Angelover  
20 Mill St -  
Dryden, N.Y. 13053

Dear Board members:

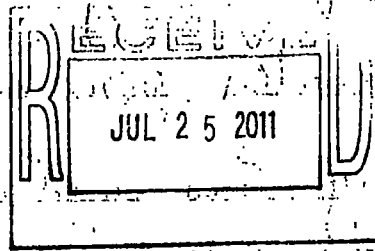
The issue of gas drilling and hydro-fracking need to be carefully considered to protect this areas water supplies. Economic development is a good source of income for this area, but not at the cost of loosing our water supplies, once lost it will take years before they return also the waste water ponds that will be developed by this hydro-fracking will degrade our land. I urge you not to

(over)



allows this to happen to this  
beautiful area. Ban the  
Hydro-fracking drilling. Thank you.

*Robert Miller*



## **Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Marie McRae [mmmcræ@juno.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 10:51 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Good Morning in Dryden

Good morning Mary Ann, and welcome to a peaceful August 1st in Dryden. The Milky Way was a gorgeous sight last night in the dark sky out here in the hills.

I am thinking about how you have worked to ensure that this date in 2012, and beyond, will be as peaceful as today is - without drilling trucks and lights and noise and attendant industrial pollutions - as you have brought us to the brink of having a ban on those activities in Dryden. I look forward to being in the room with you tomorrow as you make your vote on the zoning amendment that can protect us.

I've learned a lot in the past year and one of those things is that democracy and freedom ain't as easy as I used to think it was. Thank you for your hard work. I look forward to working with you, going forward, to ensure that the protection I hope you put into place tomorrow will remain there, for all of us, into the future.

Marie McRae

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Tim Gallagher [twg3@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 12:56 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Stephen Stelick; Joseph Solomon  
**Subject:** Ban hydrofracking . . . Please!

I am writing to strongly support a ban on hydrofracking in the Town of Dryden. Not enough is known at this time about the potential harmful effects on our local water supply if it becomes contaminated by the chemicals used in this process or other chemicals contained in the shale that might be released during the fracturing process. And I would also hate to see the picturesque rural nature of our area destroyed by industrial-scale gas extraction. The things that have already taken place in Pennsylvania do not make me feel confident that these natural gas extraction companies have our best interests at heart.

Thank you,

Tim Gallagher  
31 Main Street  
Freeville, NY 13068

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Gretchen Ryan [glr5@cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 1:41 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Ban Hydrofracking

Dear Supervisor Mary Ann Sumner,

I fully support the ban on hydrofracking because I believe that our land and water are far too precious to risk with this procedure. While the financial gain may be enticing, it will not sustain our future generations as well as our wonderful land and water can.

Sincerely,

Gretchen L. Ryan, homeowner in the Town of Dryden  
9 Cardinal Drive

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Ari Moore [arimoore@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 2:29 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Please, vote for the gas drilling ban!

Dear Supervisor,

Please help us by voting to ban gas drilling in Dryden.

My partner and I recently bought a home here and hope to have children. Based on the evidence I've seen, I'm convinced that natural gas drilling is not a safe practice, and am worried that if it happens in our community, it will poison our water and soil and air, and make this beautiful place uninhabitable. Instead, Dryden could reduce energy use, and invest in and contribute to clean and renewable wind, solar, and geothermal solutions!

We the people really need your help to ensure that our community retains its autonomy from this exploitative industry.

Thank you for reading my letter.

Peace to you and yours,  
Ari

--

Ari Moore - [ari@shirari.com](mailto:ari@shirari.com)  
<http://shirari.com>

"When individuals join in a cooperative venture, the power generated far exceeds what they could have accomplished acting individually."

- Buckminster Fuller

**Mary Ann Sumner**

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**From:** Carol Chase [cchase1971@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 1:08 PM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner  
**Subject:** Ban on Hydrofracking

We are in favor of a ban on hydrofracking & urge The Dryden Town Board Members to vote for this ban.

signed,

Richard & Carol Chase  
52 Yellow Barn Rd.  
Freeville, NY 13068  
607-844-4386

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Hilary Lambert [hilary\_lambert@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 10:17 AM  
**To:** Mary Ann Sumner; Joseph Solomon; Steve Stelick; Jason Leifer; David Makar; drydenrac@googlegroups.com  
**Subject:** Comment re proposed ordinance...MARCELLUS AIR FIVE : Aerial photos of Marcellus Shale gas production

Dear Supervisor Mary Ann Sumner and Dryden Town Board:

Please see the link below to view June 2011 photos from a recent flight over gas production activities going on right now just to our south in Pennsylvania. Count me in as a Dryden resident and landowner who does not want this to happen in our town. I ask that you all please vote in favor of the gas drilling ordinance on Tuesday August 2 (7 pm, Dryden Town Hall).

Sincerely yours,  
Hilary Lambert  
1676 Hanshaw Road  
Ithaca (Dryden) NY 14850

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [sustainableotsego-owner@lists.riseup.net](mailto:sustainableotsego-owner@lists.riseup.net)  
[\[mailto:sustainableotsego-owner@lists.riseup.net\]](mailto:sustainableotsego-owner@lists.riseup.net) On Behalf Of Richard Averett  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 31, 2011 9:37 AM  
**To:** Richard Averett  
**Subject:** [sustainableotsego] MARCELLUS AIR FIVE : Aerial photos of Marcellus Shale gas production

<http://www.marcellus-shale.us/MARCELLUS-AIR-V.htm>

MARCELLUS AIR FIVE takes you on an early-June 2011 flight over Marcellus Shale gas production activities in southwestern Pennsylvania and the panhandle of West Virginia. Enjoy your flight!

Aerial photos of fracking, wastewater impoundments, compressor stations, and active drilling operations, as well as newly excavated drilling pads and recently completed Marcellus Shale gas wells.

## Mary Ann Sumner

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**From:** Patty Millard  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2011 8:03 AM  
**To:** Bambi Avery; David Makar; Jason Leifer; Joseph Solomon; Mary Ann Sumner; Steve Stelick  
**Subject:** FW: Town of Dryden Contact: Comment

Forwarding to you from the website - it is signed.

Patty Millard  
Deputy Town Clerk  
Town of Dryden  
(607) 844-8888 ext. 211  
93 East Main Street  
Dryden, NY 13053  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Susan Yanoff [<mailto:susan.yanoff@us.army.mil>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2011 9:02 PM  
**To:** Patty Millard  
**Subject:** Town of Dryden Contact: Comment

**To:** General

**From:**  
Susan Yanoff  
[susan.yanoff@us.army.mil](mailto:susan.yanoff@us.army.mil)

Message:

To the Town Board re: The hydrofracking ban:

I spent about 45 minutes at the Public Hearing this evening (July 20). I live on Irish Settlement Road. I support the ban on hydrofracking for three main reasons:

1. I do not want to risk contaminated water.
2. I do not want the gas drilling to have a negative effect on the environment.
3. I do not want gas drilling to negatively impact my property value.

If you can guarantee that any or all of the above will NOT happen, go ahead and allow gas drilling. Otherwise, please ban it in the town of Dryden.

Thank you.

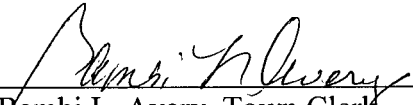
Sue Yanoff

Sent from (ip address): 74.32.165.10  
(74-32-165-10.dsl1.nrw.ny.frontiernet.net)  
Date/Time: July 21, 2011 1:02 am  
Coming from (referer): <http://dryden.ny.us/contact-us> Using (user agent): Mozilla/4.0  
(compatible; MSIE 8.0; Windows NT 6.1; Win64; x64; Trident/4.0; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; SLCC2;  
.NET CLR 3.5.30729; .NET CLR 3.0.30729; Media Center PC 6.0; MDDC)



STATE OF NEW YORK     )  
COUNTY OF TOMPKINS ) SS:

BAMBI L. AVERY, the Town Clerk of the Town of Dryden, a respondent in the above captioned matter, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete transcript of the record of the proceedings held before the Town Board on August 2, 2011.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bambi L. Avery, Town Clerk