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ALBANY

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37TH Assembly District
Queens County

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July 10, 2013

Honorable Joseph Martens, Commissioner
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-4500

Dear Commissioner Martens:

I am pleased that your agency has been working closely with the state Department of Health (DOH) in order to study the potential effects that hydraulic fracturing may have on residents of the state.

I am concerned, however, that the 'Health Impact Statement' which is currently being worked on by the state Department of Health has been has had no public process to inform the residents of its progress. Once the report is finished, will your agency have some form of public process to ensure that the residents around the state have the ability to respond once the health impact statement is completed? The public needs a comment period to respond to the study and both agencies, DEC & DOH, need to hear this feedback from the different communities around the state.

I would also like to inquiry about the panel you created known as the Hydraulic Fracturing Advisory Panel. Have there been any meetings of this panel to discuss the Health impact statement? Has the panel come up with any recommendations? I would strongly urge you to call a meeting of this panel so that they could discuss the ongoing work that DOH is doing for the 'health impact statement'. This will allow for a more public process to occur while keeping the many communities around the state involved.

Thank you for your attention on this matter and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Catherine Nolan

cc: Honorable Nirav R. Shah, M.D, Commissioner, NYS Department of Health
Members of the Hydraulic Fracturing Advisory Panel

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Honorable Nirav R. Shah, M.D., Commissioner
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza,
Albany, NY 12237

Dear Commissioner Shah:

I am writing to ask you for an update on the "health impact statement" that your agency is conducting in regards to regulating the practice of hydraulic fracturing in New York State. I am pleased that your agency has been working closely with the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in order to study the potential effects that hydraulic fracturing may have on residents of the state.

I am concerned, however, that the 'health impact statement has had no public process to inform the residents of its progress. As we move forward, will your agency have some form of public process? I believe it is imperative that we have a more transparent process to ensure public participation and feedback on this very important issue.

I know that you share my interest in doing whatever is necessary to protect New York State and its citizens and I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,

Catherine Nolan

cc: Commissioner Joseph Martens, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

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CATHERINE T. NOLAN
Assemblywoman 37th District

*I thought that the enclosed might be of interest
to you.*

Cordially,

Catherine Nolan