

Town of Middlefield
PO Box 961
Cooperstown, NY 13326

RESOLUTION #10 OF 2010

WHEREAS, there has been great debate in the Town of Middlefield, and Otsego County regarding the practice of hydrofracking and horizontal drilling for natural gas in Otsego County, and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of drilling companies that “fracking fluid” never enter ground water, but known cases are in existence in Northern Pennsylvania where wells have been contaminated, and

WHEREAS, even though manufacturers have a “proprietary” right to non-disclosure of the composition of the “fracking fluid” used in this process, analysts have found at least 63 different compounds in “fracking fluid” and of these, about three quarters have one or more toxic chemicals known as neurotoxins which affect the activity of the brain and nervous system, and

WHEREAS, it is alleged that operations of gas drilling companies, including test drillings, well drillings, hydrofracking, building pipelines, and the processing of gas, all including the increased vehicle traffic caused by such operations, results in contaminants entering the atmosphere, thereby polluting the air that sustains the plants and animals; and

WHEREAS, it is our understanding that federal laws have exempted such gas industry operations from the Federal Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS, we have concern that our water supply and air consumed by our Town residents are at risk by such gas industry operations, resulting in safety and health risks to our citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Middlefield favors a repeal of federal law that exempts such gas company activities, including exploration, extraction, and processing from the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act.