

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION NO. 11-219

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A BAN ON FRACKING

Mr. DuPont offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for natural gas involves the use of chemicals and hazardous materials during construction, drilling, hydraulic fracturing, gas production and delivery, well maintenance, and workover operations; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing of underground geologic formations is often accomplished by injecting a complex mix of fluids and chemicals, including large volumes of water, on average 4.5 million gallons per well, under very high pressure to create fractures in gas bearing geologic formations; and

WHEREAS, many of the chemical constituents injected during hydraulic fracturing have documented adverse health effects and/or adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, there have been more than a 1,000 documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites; some people who live near these sites can now light their drinking water on fire; and

WHEREAS, wastewater from fracking can contain radioactive elements and has been discharged into rivers that supply drinking water for millions, according to the *New York Times*; and

WHEREAS, use of these hydraulic fracturing mixes exposed adjacent land and surface waters to the risk of contamination through open pit storage, truck transport on roadways, and activities during well development; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, as part of the federal Energy Policy Act and over objections of health care, scientific, environmental, and conservation communities, regulation of hydraulic fracturing fluids under the Safe Drinking Water Act by the Environmental Protection Agency was exempted, thereby allowing oil and gas companies to use these substances without federal oversight or standards; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry is not required by federal law to publicly disclose chemical formulas of hydraulic fracturing fluids so that this information is publicly available for health and safety purposes; and

WHEREAS, Former President George W. Bush's EPA point person on water now admits fracking should never have been exempted from regulation; and

WHEREAS, the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act ("FRAC Act"), which is currently pending in Congress, would repeal the fracking exemption to the Safe Drinking Water Act and require disclosure of chemicals used in fracking; and

WHEREAS, the wise stewardship of our natural resources involves protection of the Borough of Red Bank's water supply and water resources for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, protection of the Borough of Red Bank's water supply and resources is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation, rather than attempting to cleaning up contamination and restoring degraded environments after the fact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Red Bank supports a statewide and national ban on hydraulic fracturing for natural gas,

banning the import and disposal of dangerous fracking waste in New Jersey and preventing our drinking water supplies from being depleted for fracking.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough of Red Bank supports the FRAC Act and calls on our federal representatives to join Senator Lautenberg, Congressman Pallone and Congressman Holt as co-sponsors of the FRAC Act, H.R. 1084/S. 587.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk forward a certified true copy of this Resolution to the Governors of the states of New Jersey and New York, Clean Ocean Action, Senator Frank Lautenberg, Senator Robert Menendez, Congressman Frank Pallone, Congressman Rush Holt, State Senator Jennifer Beck and Assemblywoman Caroline Cassagrande.

Seconded by Ms. Lewis and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Lewis	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Ziprich	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. DuPont	(x)	()	()	()
Ms. Horgan	(x)	()	()	()
Ms. Lee	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Murphy	(x)	()	()	()

Dated: November 9, 2011