

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 100515)

RESOLUTION

Authorizing City Council's Joint Committees on Transportation and Public Utilities and the Environment to hold hearings on the economic and environmental impacts that hydraulic drilling of Marcellus Shale will have on Philadelphia and the surrounding region.

WHEREAS, The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) recently stopped all new Marcellus Shale drilling in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region until such time as appropriate environmental regulation is in place; and

WHEREAS, While natural gas is recognized as a cleaner-burning substitute for petroleum which if safely extracted could lessen our dependence on foreign sources of energy while meeting our pressing energy needs and could facilitate the transition from non-renewables towards more renewable sources of energy; and

WHEREAS, Every natural gas well project inherently has the potential to endanger water resources and pollute the environment, as the Marcellus well blowout in Clearfield County on June 3, 2010 illustrated; and

WHEREAS, It is currently unclear whether the Philadelphia Gas Works is already or will be purchasing gas extracted from Marcellus Shale drilling; and

WHEREAS, Natural gas extraction injects toxic water into the well to fracture the rock and poses a risk to our public health and the potability of our drinking water; and

WHEREAS, Extracting natural gas in Marcellus Shale could potentially benefit the Commonwealth economy if managed properly and safely, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That it hereby authorizes the Joint Committees Transportation and Public Utilities and the Environment to hold hearings on the economic and environmental impacts that hydraulic drilling of Marcellus Shale will have on Philadelphia and the surrounding region.

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RESOLUTION NO. 100515 continued

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the seventeenth of June, 2010.

Anna C. Verna
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Jones, Kenney and Reynolds Brown

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Jones, Kenney, Reynolds Brown, DiCicco, Greenlee, Goode and Green