

Town of Bristol
Focus Panel
April 4, 2012

Attending: Nate Harvey, Tom Stevens, Judi Salzburg-Taylor, Jude Ellis, Scott Battle, Lon Chase, and Sandy Riker, secretary

Nate told the other Panel members that Tom Stevens, Sandy Riker and he attended the *Empire Energy Forum* held in Geneseo this morning. He came away having a better understanding of fracking but aware that many questions still need answering before this should be allowed in NYS. He went on to say that NYS government makes it very difficult to do business here, we have the highest corporate taxes in the country and the country has the highest corporate taxes in the world so between legislation and taxation he got the impression that the gas industry was not looking forward to doing business here. Tom mentioned that both Dryden and Middlefield's law suits have been appealed. There are two more levels of court for them to go through before finally reaching the Appellate Court at the top.

The SGEIS review started in 2008 was because of the changes with horizontal drilling that had been previously addressed by the GEIS of 1992. This has been a very long process and it appears that the DEC is being very careful to explore all avenues of concern before allowing drilling to start in NYS.

This evening's meeting included the proposed three new members even though they are awaiting the Town Board's appointment at the next Town Board meeting, Monday April 9, 2012. Nate advised the new members that the purpose of the Panel is to assimilate and review information regarding all aspects of Hydrofracking and provide the Town Board with suggestions and recommendations how best to deal with this heavy industry and its associated activities that have not previously been addressed in our community. It's the Focus Panels job to work together to succeed with this challenge. While we may not all agree on one solution, we can provide the Town Board with options to consider.

Scott mentioned that his concern lies in the tremendous amount of truck traffic and its impact on the community and while the town does not have a say in the number of permits that could be issued it does have the ability to regulate the roads of the town, not state or county but our own and this is obviously done through zoning regulations.

Lon said he still felt it would be in the best interest of the town to have an unbiased geologist speak to the community. Scott said he thought that aquifer mapping would be a tool that should be used prior to any drilling.

Judy and Tom both agreed that as many of the Town's people should be educated as to Hydrofracking and the heavy industry that goes with it sooner than later. How to accomplish this is the main focus of this meeting. It was suggested that a series of forums with different speakers and topics (due diligence must be taken to present all perspectives) presented over the next few months ending with a poll of what is wanted by the Towns people would be a way to complete the task.

A possible group of topics would be:

1. SGEIS and its ramifications

2. Geologists/Hydrologists Pro and Against
3. Economics and Property Values
4. Public Health, Public Impact and First Responders
5. Truck Traffic and its effect on the infrastructure of our roads

Nate said he would like all to be thinking for the next meeting:

1. Define what we would ask for if a budget were available
2. How to run the Forums themselves
3. Suggestions of possible speakers at the Forums
4. How best to communicate with the community, both sides
5. Timing the first Forum for some time in June , possibly the 13th of June
6. Activities for the April 27th trip to Pennsylvania
 - a. Nate thought it would be good to meet at 7:00 am to get an early start
 - b. He would like to visit a well site
 - c. A capped Well
 - d. And then all would be free to split up and talk with the locals

The next meeting will be April 18th, 7:00 pm here at the Town Hall.
Nate will provide email and phone numbers of all panel members.

Respectfully submitted

Sandy Riker