



## BERTIE COUNTY

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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
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JOHN E. WHITEHURST, Interim County Manager  
MISTY J. GIBBS, Assistant County Manager

### RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DISPOSAL OF FRACKING WASTE IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

**WHEREAS**, hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," is a method of extracting natural gas that involves injecting, at an extremely high pressure, a mixture of water, sand, and toxic chemicals to break up shale or other rock formations otherwise impermeable to the flow of natural gas; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina does not currently allow either horizontal drilling or hydraulic fracturing, and studies across the United States show conflicting results on the effects of revising this ban; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 76, which would lift the state's ban on fracking, was co-sponsored by Senator Bill Cook, was passed by the Senate, and will be considered by the House of Representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, fracking operations in North Carolina would be concentrated in Central and Western North Carolina, however it has been reported that there are no viable options for disposal of fracking waste in the western part of the state and the Eastern North Carolina might be an option for deep-well disposal of fracking waste; and

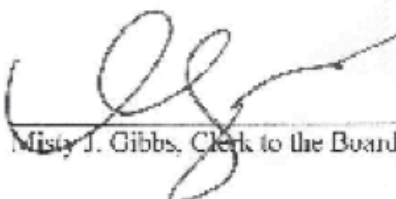
**WHEREAS**, the disposal of fracking byproducts into the aquifer could have a detrimental impact on the environment, including contamination of drinking water wells and surface waters; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 5 of the North Carolina Constitution states that "It shall be the policy of the State to conserve and protect its lands and waters for the benefit of all its citizenry, and to this end it shall be a proper function of the State of North Carolina and its political subdivisions... to control and limit the pollution of our air and water... and in every other appropriate way to preserve as part of our common heritage of this State its forests, wetlands, estuaries, beaches, historical sites, open lands, and places of beauty"; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bertie County Board of Commissioners is greatly opposed to the disposal in Eastern North Carolina of fracking waste and byproducts from other areas of state.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Bertie County Board of Commissioners urges the North Carolina General Assembly to take no action that would weaken existing laws barring hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling before a viable option for disposal of fracking waste is found that does not include Eastern North Carolina.

ADOPTED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013.

  
Misty J. Gibbs, Clerk to the Board

  
J. Wallace Perry, Chair