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**OPPOSITION TO HYDRAULIC FRACTURING OR FRACKING IN NORTH CAROLINA**

**RESOLUTION**

**STOKES COUNTY**

**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 industrial chemicals to break up shale or other rock formations in order to reach pockets of natural gas; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina does not currently allow either horizontal drilling or hydraulic fracturing, and the current North Carolina study of in-state shale gas resources and of the potential impacts of reversing this ban and allowing drilling and fracking to extract these resources is being undertaken without adequate funding and with insufficient time; and

**WHEREAS**, millions of gallons of freshwater are used to drill and to hydraulically fracture each shale gas well, and such development would exacerbate water shortages that have stemmed from North Carolina’s recent droughts; and

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**WHEREAS**, a majority of the citizens of Stokes County rely on private water wells supplied from groundwater; and

**WHEREAS**, drilling and fracking for shale gas could bring a significant increase in heavy-duty truck traffic, causing traffic congestion and accelerated road damage in and around Stokes County; and

**WHEREAS**, disposal of hydraulic fracturing wastewater by high pressure underground injection can potentially cause seismic activity; and

**WHEREAS**, tourism is an economic engine in Stokes County with the Dan River and its tributaries and “fracking” could have an adverse effect to this very sensitive natural resource in Stokes County; and

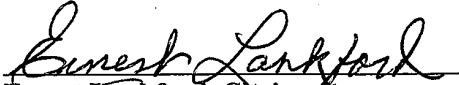
**WHEREAS**, the Dan River Basin in Stokes County has been identified as having geologic shales that contain underground deposits of natural gas; and

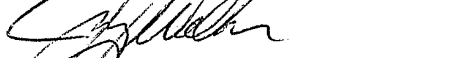
**WHEREAS**, there are many unanswered questions on how “fracking” could negatively impact the specific geological formations located in Stokes County.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Stokes County Board of Commissioners urge the North Carolina General Assembly to take no action and pass no legislation that would legalize hydraulic fracturing or horizontal drilling in North Carolina before it is fully demonstrated that North Carolina public health, waters, land, air, economy, and quality of life can be fully protected from the impacts of allowing shale gas development in the State.

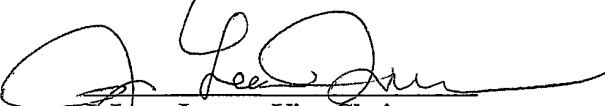
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this adopted resolution be sent to the leadership of the North Carolina General Assembly and the Stokes County Legislative Delegation.


Adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2012.

  
Ernest Lankford, Chairman

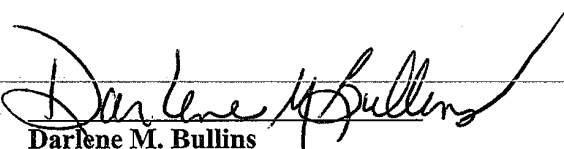
  
Jimmy Walker, Commissioner

  
James D. Booth, Commissioner

  
J. Leon Inman, Vice Chairman

  
Ronda Jones, Commissioner

Attest:

  
Darlene M. Bullins  
Clerk to the Board