



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF SWAIN**

**Resolution # 900-2014-04**

A resolution opposing hydraulic fracturing

WHEREAS, the horizontal 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 work over operations; and

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

WHEREAS, "Fracking" is being explored in North Carolina on June 4, 2014, Gov. Pat McCrory lifted the moratorium on fracking, through the Energy Modernization Act allowing permits to be issued in early 2015; and

WHEREAS, there have been documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites; and potentially lethal, toxic and carcinogenic chemicals are used in fracking detrimental to public safety; and it is illegal to disclose those chemicals, thereby rendering it nearly impossible to show that a person's water supply has been poisoned by a fracking company; and

WHEREAS, Swain County has publicly owned lands consisting of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, US Forest Service, NC Wildlife and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Swain County has approximately 13% of taxable, private land for use and development by Swain County citizens;

WHEREAS, Swain County is very diverse and abundant in natural resources that is enjoyed by millions of visitors each year;

WHEREAS, Swain County has a vested interest in the cleanliness and safety of all waterways for use by residents and visitors of the area for recreational activities. Fracking could have a direct impact to the residents and visitors of Swain County; and

WHEREAS, the wise stewardship of our natural resources involves protection of water supplies and water resources for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the passage of the Energy Modernization Act restricted Swain County from the right to pass local laws to restrict "Fracking" in our jurisdiction;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE SWAIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY RESOLVES THAT:

Swain County, North Carolina hereby goes on record to strongly urge the State of North Carolina to reverse the decision of horizontal hydraulic fracturing in any part of the state, but specifically Swain County, North Carolina; reissue the ban on hydraulic fracking until the safety of the processes and its related chemicals have been fully investigated and vetted through the North Carolina and U. S. Environmental Protection agencies; reinstate the authority of local governments in North Carolina the right to restrict companies from fracking, if the local elected officials deem necessary.

This the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2014.

  
Philip Carson, Chairman  
Swain County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

  
Cindi C. Woodard,  
Clerk to the Board