

**Town of Sylva**  
**Resolution Opposing Hydraulic Facturing (Fracking)**

**Whereas**, the horizontal hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for natural gas requires the use of hazardous chemicals and materials during construction, drilling, hydraulic fracturing, gas production and delivery, well maintenance; and

**Whereas**, the horizontal hydraulic fracturing of underground geologic formations process often involves injecting a complex combination of liquids and chemicals, requiring excessive amounts of water (millions of gallons per well) under very high pressure to create cracks in gas bearing geologic formations; and

**Whereas**, as of June 4, 2014, North Carolina began considering “fracking” after Governor Pat McCrory lifted the moratorium on fracking, through the Energy Modernization Act allowing permits to be issued in early 2015; and

**Whereas**, fracking’s use of potentially lethal amounts of toxic and carcinogenic chemicals are detrimental to the health of the public, as well as the local environment; and it is illegal to not reveal those chemicals, causing it to be next to impossible to show that the fracking company is in fact responsible for poisoning of water supply, livestock, and all health effects and environmental damage that have resulted; and

**Whereas**, it is unknown the effect on the atmosphere and the climate that releasing potent greenhouse gases will have and the potential environmental disasters including earthquakes and landslides that can result from hydraulic fracturing;

**Whereas**, the proper safeguards must be in place to protect the public and the environment;

**Whereas**, local governments must retain the authority to make decisions regarding environmental health and as a town we believe we should have the right to pass legislation restricting fracturing in our town should we so choose;

**Whereas,** Sylva is a strong, inter-connected community which relishes in its beautiful, lush mountain location; and fracking will have a negative impact on water supply, wastewater treatment, and stormwater runoff; it also increases the risk associated with emergency responders in the event of a hazardous material emergency or environmental disaster.

**Now Therefore,** the Sylva Town Board of Commissioners strongly urges the state not to explore future horizontal hydraulic fracturing in any part of North Carolina, but specifically not in the Town of Sylva and Jackson County; reissue the ban on hydraulic fracking until the safety of the process and its chemicals are regulated and have been fully investigated and vetted through the North Carolina and U.S. Environmental Protection agencies.

Adopted this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014.

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Maurice Moody, Mayor

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Brandi Henson, Town Clerk