

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Deputy Commissioner

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Joe Martens
Commissioner

July 3, 2013

Mr. Jim Barre
Keuka Lake Association
Box 35
Penn Yan, NY 14527

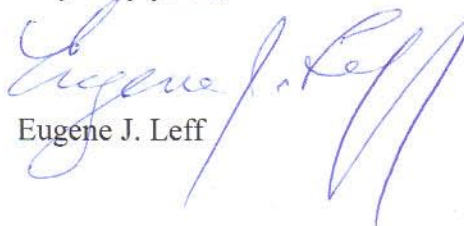
Dear Mr. Barre:

I have your letter enclosing a recent article from the Lake to Lake Bulletin regarding the possible approval of High-Volume Hydraulic Fracturing (HVHF) in certain limited geographic areas of New York State.

As you know, the State Department of Health (DOH) is conducting a review to determine whether the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) thoroughly evaluated potential health-related impacts of HVHF in DEC's Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SGEIS). No decision will be made regarding whether to issue permits for gas drilling using HVHF until DOH completes its review and any necessary revisions have been made to the SGEIS.

Only after that basic decision has been made (and assuming for the moment that it is a positive decision), will DEC also determine whether there should be additional geographic limitations on HVHF beyond those already identified in the SGEIS, for example, the exclusion of the New York City Watershed or the ban on surface drilling in Primary and Principal Aquifers.

Very truly yours,


Eugene J. Leff

cc: Steve Hicks