

Dear _____,

I am writing to you about my concern with gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale in my capacity as a member of the Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association. The mission of the Association is to preserve and enhance the water quality of the Seneca Lake and its watershed.

The lake and its watershed will be damaged if New York State does not provide better protections that are contained in the New York State Department of Conservation's DRAFT Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement on the Oil, Gas and Solution Mining Regulatory Program (dSGEIS) issued, September 30, 2009.

I agree with the comments filed by the Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association with the DEC on the dSGEIS. As noted in our comments, the dSGEIS and the original GEIS documents are woefully inadequate to protect our state's water resources, environment and the health of our residents, especially as we stand on the threshold of an expansion boom of drilling and exploitation of our natural gas resource.

The Association has sent a letter to Governor Patterson urging him to instruct the Department of Environmental Conservation to revisit both the 2009 dSGEIS , and the original 1992 GEIS and take the time necessary to draft rules and regulations sufficient to protect the environment of New Your State from the impact of drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale. I urge you to support this effort.

I recognize the significant economic impact that these natural gas reserves can have on the State of New York. We are at a critical juncture. We can take a chance and forge ahead with the drilling hoping that there will be no impact on our environment, or we can take the time to ensure that the environment and ultimate economic viability of New York State is protected for generations to come. We have the time today to do it right rather than rely on Superfunds and future generations to clean up our mistakes.

Natural gas has been in the Marcellus Shale for millions of years and it will be there for many years to come. Let us take a relatively short time now to make sure we don't live with the environmental impact of drilling for this gas for generations to come. Let's not pass along another set of problems when we can take a few additional months to make sure that New York State and the Department of Environmental Conservation has the proper regulations and is staffed to manage and regulate the drilling for the natural gas in the Marcellus Shale.

Sincerely,