



Morgan County Commission
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- COMMISSIONERS-

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**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE MORGAN COUNTY MARCELLUS SHALE
NATURAL GAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, The Morgan County Commission, being a branch of government closest to the people, is the first line of protection of the people's security and well-being, and the branch of government most responsible for administering order in the case of any major threat to the public health, or in the event of any catastrophe; and

WHEREAS, The introduction of new technologies, including the process known as hydraulic fracturing, into the exploitation of natural gas in the Marcellus shale region, which includes a portion of Morgan County, has raised questions among scientists about whether the possible effects of these technologies on the environment, and on the health and property of the population, have been sufficiently researched; and

WHEREAS, The uncertainty of the effects of the process of hydraulic fracturing has led the government of New York State to declare a moratorium for six months on its use; and the government of the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to declare a ban on the use of the hydraulic fracturing process within the city limits; and

WHEREAS, Every agency and department in the Morgan County government, especially those administering public health and safety, has the potential to be seriously affected by the possible adverse consequences of the process of hydraulic fracturing, which consequences remain the subject of intense scientific investigation and research; and

WHEREAS, The Morgan County Commission, especially in its administrative and planning functions, has the responsibility of maintaining a public order that encourages county economic development, and that protects the health, security, property and property rights of the citizens of Morgan County, West Virginia;

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, This 16th day of June 2011 that a majority vote of the Morgan County Commission shall establish the Morgan County Marcellus Shale Natural Gas Advisory Committee; and

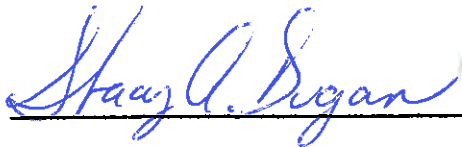
That said Committee shall consist of between four and twelve citizens of Morgan County; and that the membership of said Committee shall, as far as possible, reflect the broadest range of public interest, with every stakeholder group represented, including the gas industry, landowners, small business owners, farmers, public health representatives, environmentalists and other concerned citizens; and

That said Committee, at the conclusion of six months from its establishment, shall present a preliminary report to the Morgan County Commission, with recommended guidelines for any actions the County Commission, within the parameters of its authority, should undertake to prepare Morgan County citizens to face the consequences of the projected increase in natural gas development within the County borders and in neighboring counties; and at the conclusion of eighteen months, shall produce a final report, with recommendations; and

That said Committee shall undertake a campaign of public information and public awareness, to prepare Morgan County citizens to adapt and respond to whatever changes increased natural gas development, and the introduction of new resource extraction technologies, may have upon the lives and property of County citizens; and

That said Committee shall continue in an advisory capacity, indefinitely, at the pleasure of the Morgan County Commission; and

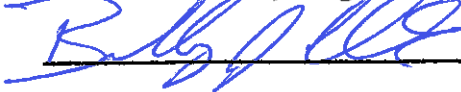
That the termination of said Committee shall occur only by a majority vote of the Morgan County Commission.



Stacy Dugan, President, Morgan County Commission



Brenda Hutchinson, Morgan County Commission



Bradley Close, Morgan County Commission

ATTEST:



Debra A. Kesecker
Clerk of the County Commission