

Watershed Agricultural Council

Agriculture ♦ Forestry ♦ Conservation Easements ♦ Economic Initiatives

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Comment on Hydraulic Fracturing

Many people and organizations are working on this project, many more qualified and educated on the topic than we are. We are not a regulatory agency, nor an advocacy group. **Our mission is to promote the economic viability of agriculture and forestry, the protection of water quality, and the conservation of working landscapes through strong local leadership and sustainable public-private partnerships.** We wholeheartedly support the efforts of our state and local officials to find these answers to these sensitive issues and, with abundant caution, act in order to preserve our region's precious environment and its long-term economic well-being.

The Watershed Agricultural Council's Board of Directors has voted not to have an official position on gas fracking, neither endorsing nor denying this activity.

Program participant properties that hold a conservation easement with the Council are not permitted to conduct gas exploration per the contract agreement.