

## Position Statement in Support of a Long-Term Moratorium on Fracking in Maryland

*Signatories as of January 10, 2015*

Concerned by the rapidly expanding evidence of harm and the growing uncertainties caused by unconventional natural gas development and production, we, the undersigned organizations, call for a long-term moratorium on high-volume hydraulic fracturing in Maryland.

The emerging science now includes hundreds of peer-reviewed studies, case studies, and reports demonstrating that permitting fracking in Maryland poses significant threats to the health and safety of Marylanders and to the quality of our air, water, and soil. Furthermore, it is clear that fundamental data gaps remain regarding the long-term and cumulative health effects of fracking and how to effectively mitigate risks. There is no evidence that the state can regulate hydraulic fracturing in a way that adequately protects public health, natural resources, or the economy.

Citing significant public health risks, including those documented in Maryland's own health study, New York recently announced that it would ban hydraulic fracturing in the State. Maryland, too, should proactively protect the health of its residents.

Based on what we know now, we believe that fracking endangers public health and is the wrong approach to building a robust Maryland economy and a clean energy future. We urge Maryland's legislature to pass an extended moratorium in 2015.

Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Food & Water Watch  
Alliances of Nurses for Healthy Environments  
Maryland Environmental Health Network  
Maryland Public Health Association  
Save Western Maryland  
Howard County Climate Change  
Transition Howard County  
Environment Maryland  
Progressive Democrats of America - Maryland  
Progressive Democrats of America - National  
Earthworks  
WaterKeepers Chesapeake  
Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake  
Greenbelt Climate Action Network  
Maryland Sierra Club  
Mountain Watershed Association/Youghiogheny Riverkeeper  
Cahaba Riverkeeper  
Interfaith Power and Light (DC, MD, NoVa)  
Riverkeeper  
Calvert Citizens for a Healthy Community  
Organic Consumer Association  
Berks Gas Truth  
Environment Action

Our Health, Our Future, Our Longmont  
Chesapeake Climate Action Network  
Rachel Carson Council  
Myersville Citizens for a Rural Community  
Maryland Pesticide Education Network  
Moms Clean Air Force  
Community Research  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Midshore Riverkeeper Conservancy  
Clean Water Action  
University of Maryland Student Sustainability Committee  
Town of Mountain Lake Park  
Maryland League of Conservation Voters  
Patuxent Riverkeeper  
Friends of the Earth  
Mountainside Education and Enrichment  
Daily Kos  
Gunpowder RIVERKEEPER  
Mid-Atlantic Council Trout Unlimited  
Altamaha Riverkeeper  
The Harvest Collective  
Earthjustice  
Democracy for America  
PASE