

Resolution 11A

RELEASE OF INFORMATION FROM A STUDY ON HYDRAULIC FRACTURING (PASSED)

⇒ County of Kings

WHEREAS hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as “fracking”, is a process used in the mining of natural oil and gas to increase or restore the rate at which these resources can be extracted from subterranean natural reservoirs; and

WHEREAS a degree of anxiety exists in the public domain concerning the impact of industrial fracking on human health, the environment, and fresh water resources and aquifers; and

WHEREAS there is a current study being conducted in Nova Scotia on this subject, which is scheduled to conclude in 2012; and

WHEREAS it is self-evident that municipalities and their public constituents should have ready access to research which reveals important, new knowledge about industrial processes which may affect human health and the environment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities support the release of the results of the Provincial study on hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, upon its completion, to all municipalities in Nova Scotia.

Forwarded to:
Minister of the Department of Environment

RESPONSE:

On November 21, 2011, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities sent a copy of eight Resolutions passed at their November Annual Conference for response by the Department of Environment.

Resolution 11 A was then forwarded to the Department of Energy as this issue is under our umbrella of responsibility.

As you noted in the Resolution, the Departments of Environment and Energy are undertaking a review of hydraulic fracturing to examine the extent to which Nova Scotia legislation and regulation appropriately address the issue.

The review is expected to be completed in early spring of 2012 and once complete, will be made available to the public. At this time, the review will be

made accessible to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities and all Nova Scotians through the Department of Energy's website.

*Ms. Carly Currie
Correspondence Coordinator, Office of the Deputy Minister
Nova Scotia Department of Energy
December 13, 2011*