

COMMUNITY BOARD #3

655 Rossville Avenue
Staten Island, N. Y. 10309

Environmental Committee Minutes

June 11, 2009

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Frank Morano, Chairman of the Board
Thomas Barlotta, Chairman Environmental Committee
Edward Canlon
Frank Santarpia

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Frank Contrera
Judy Goodstein
Maribel Sansone

GUESTS:

Wendy Byrne – NY H2O
Ann Arlen – NY H2O/Manhattan Community Board #2
Susan Blankensop – NY H2O

NYH2O

A nonprofit advocacy group based in New York City that is dedicated to protecting New York's water resources from the threat posed by the gas extraction industry.

Members of NYH2O requested that Community Board #3 draft a resolution to Governor David Paterson opposing the practice of Hydraulic Fracturing in the upstate water shed region. They also requested, at minimum, public hearings in each borough so that the public can be informed of the possible effects of the process. Committee Members and NYH2O representatives debated the issue at length.

MOTION: by Thomas Barlotta that Community Board #3 support an opposition resolution.

SECOND: Edward Canlon

DISCUSSION: Frank Santarpia opposed the motion on the grounds that under his research he has found no proven connection between hydraulic fracturing and nearby water contamination. He also said consideration should be made weighing in the low chance of problems with the increasing needs and associated cost of natural gas.

VOTE: 3-1-0

MOTION PASSED

The committee agreed that we need more information from proponents of the process. Thomas Barlotta invited NYH2O representatives to make a presentation at the General Board Meeting. He will also reach out to the New York State Petroleum Council and invite a representative to speak in favor of hydraulic fracturing.

Goethals Bridge Replacement

The committee discussed attending the public comment session for the Draft Environmental Impact Study for the replacement of the Goethals Bridge. Two Staten Island sessions will be held on July 9th, one at 4:00 p.m. and another at 6:00 p.m. at The Staten Island Hotel.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Barlotta