



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement from Brad Gill, Executive Director of the Independent Oil & Gas Association of New York

Yesterday our Association, the Independent Oil & Gas Association of New York, participated in a NYS Assembly hearing on Natural Gas and Oil Drilling in Albany. Our Association provided explanations of the process of horizontal drilling as well as hydraulic fracturing. These processes are currently being used in other parts of the country, and NY is now poised to benefit from the "ramp up" of technology. Our Association reminded panelists that gas drilling in New York began in 1821 and there are currently 14,000 active gas wells in New York. There have been no instances of environmental hazards as a result of the existing drilling as the industry takes safety and adherence to New York's strict regulatory requirements most seriously. Assembly panelists, as well as numerous interested parties, voiced concerns on how the development of New York's valuable natural gas resources might impact the environment.

As local residents and businesspersons who work in the natural gas drilling profession, we understand these concerns and will continue to work to assure the public that natural gas exploration is now and will continue to be undertaken safely. This drilling in the Marcellus Shale does also present a wonderful economic development opportunity for New York. Again, companies drilling in New York follow strictly enforced environmental regulations, which is why oil and gas companies have an exceptional safety record and have had such a record for over 100 years of drilling.

For a copy of IOGA-NY's testimony, please visit our Marcellus Shale blog at: www.marcellusfacts.com. This relatively new site also provides information regarding the drilling process, leasing, informational meetings, and links to other relevant sites.