

March 2013 Newsletter

KLA Awaits DEC's Hydrofracking Decision in Late February

The Keuka Lake Association (KLA) continues to wait for the release of the New York State Department of Conservation's Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SGEIS) on High Volume Horizontal Hydraulic Fracturing for natural gas (HVHF) in New York State.

The KLA again communicated with the DEC in December and then with Lieutenant Governor Duffy in January through a combined effort with the Committee to Preserve the Finger Lakes (CTPFL) and Keuka Citizens Against Hydrofracking (KCAH). In both of these communications, the KLA reemphasized its position of prohibiting HVHF in the Keuka Lake Watershed plus a 4000 foot buffer. The KLA has taken this position to prevent an environmental risk to the Watershed. This position is similar to the DEC's already approved decisions to safeguard the water sources of New York City and Syracuse Skaneateles Lake.

On January 23, Dr. Terry Engelder of Penn State University and Dr. Tony Ingraffea of Cornell University debated the risks and benefits of HVHF to the environment and the region at the Dundee High School Auditorium. Dr. Engelder stressed the need and importance of natural gas to developing energy independence in the United States while Dr. Ingraffea indicated that the risks of HVHF to the environment and our fresh water sources should prevent HVHF in our region.

The KLA awaits the decision of the New York State DEC on permitting HVHF and will then decide on a future course of action. Stay Tuned!