January 3, 2013

The Honorable Robert Duffy  
Lieutenant Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY  12224

Keuka Lake Association Executive Summary of High Volume Hydraulic Fracturing

Dear Lieutenant Governor Duffy:

The Keuka Lake Association (KLA) established in 1956 is an association dedicated to preserving and protecting the Keuka Lake Watershed now and for years to come. The KLA has been instrumental in ensuring the continuing quality of the water and maintaining its New York State Department of Health AA rating. The KLA was active in getting the Keuka Lake Watershed Improvement Compact established (KWIC), an inter-municipal organization for protecting and preserving the Keuka Watershed. Today, the Watershed continues to show improving quality based on frequent testing.

The KLA firmly believes that High Volume Hydraulic Fracturing (HVHF) poses the most serious risk to the preserving the quality of the Watershed of any issue that has arisen over its history. Over 75% of the KLA membership in a written questionnaire support prohibition of HVHF in the Keuka Lake Watershed.

The steep hillsides surrounding Keuka Lake, the depth of the Lake and the long water retention times are all significant reasons for prohibiting HVHF in the Watershed.

For these reasons the KLA has consistently and emphatically asked the DEC and the Governor’s office to prohibit HVHF in the Keuka Lake Watershed plus a 4000 foot buffer in both Yates and Steuben Counties. The KLA position is not significantly different from Governor Cuomo’s suggestion of only permitting HVHF in the five Southern Tier counties. Only 16% of the Keuka Lake Watershed is in Steuben County, one of those five Southern Tier Counties. This prohibition would apply to HVHF in both the Marcellus and Utica Shale formations.

Sincerely,

James F. Barre  
Chair of the Hydrofracking and Well Disposal Committee  
Keuka Lake Association