

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A MORATORIUM UPON CONDUCTING HYDRAULIC FRACTURING PENDING THE ISSUANCE OF A REPORT THEREON BY THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY:**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Madison Township Trustees recognizes that water is essential for life, prosperity, sustainability, and health of the community; and**

**WHEREAS, the process known as "hydraulic fracturing" as an aid in the extraction of oil and gas from drilled wells has risks associated with the vertical and horizontal drilling technique to reach the Marcellus and Utica Shale formations under our state to release the natural gas sequestered in these deep shale deposits and bring it to the surface; and**

**WHEREAS, the fluid used in this process contains chemicals, the identity of which often remains unknown due to what is known as the "Halliburton Loophole"; and**

**WHEREAS, broken or cracked vertical well casings have been shown to release natural gas/oil/fracking fluid near the surface of the ground; and**

**WHEREAS, a portion of the spent fluid from this process is extracted from the wells and stored or disposed of in above-ground facilities; and**

**WHEREAS, all aspects of the process pose a risk of contamination of the ground water and aquifers that provide us with drinking water individually and collectively; and**

**WHEREAS, municipalities and townships have a legitimate interest in the protection of their aquifers and ground water sources; and**

**WHEREAS, the trucking in and out of mass quantities of water and fluids for this process poses significant risk of damage to municipal and township roadways; and**

**WHEREAS, the Ohio Legislature has vested complete authority over the permitting, location and spacing of oil and gas wells and production operations in the state in the Division of Mineral Resources Management, leaving local governments with no discretion or regulatory control over oil and gas drilling within their boundaries, and**

**WHEREAS, the gas and oil industry has secured broad exemptions from Federal regulations under the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act since 2005; and**

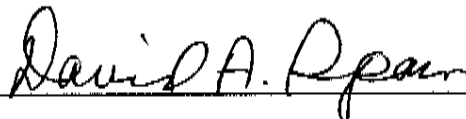
WHEREAS, the extraction of natural gas by hydraulic fracturing poses a potential threat to the health, safety and welfare of residents living near these operations; and

WHEREAS, the USEPA is currently conducting a study of the safety of hydraulic fracturing for drinking water, public health and the environment to be completed in 2012.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Board of Madison Township Trustees, Richland County, Ohio, calls on the Governor and the Ohio Legislature to place a moratorium (or enact a ban) on hydraulic fracturing until an adequate environmental study is completed showing that hydraulic fracturing can be done safely and without affecting local water supplies within the state of Ohio, and until mitigation regulations and facilities are in place to adequately protect Ohio's water supply and environment from such operations, and calls on the United States Congress to enact laws to eliminate the exemption of hydraulic fracturing federal regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The Trustees Secretary for Madison Township, Richland County, Ohio, is hereby authorized and directed to forward a duly attested copy of this Resolution to the office of John Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, the Ohio House of Representatives, and the Ohio Senate.

Passed in open session of a Regular Meeting by the Board of Madison Township Trustees this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.



David A. Spain, Chairman

Board of Madison Township Trustees



Mark McDaniel

Madison Township Trustee

ATTEST:



Sharon Willcox, Trustees Secretary