RESOLUTION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE MORATORIUM ON
ISSUANCE OF ADDITIONAL PERMITS FOR HORIZONTAL DRILLING IN
MARCELLUS SHALE UNTIL ADEQUATE STATE REGULATIONS ARE
PROMULGATED TO PROTECT THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES, PUBLIC
HEALTH, AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Whereas, the mile deep drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale utilize horizontal
drilling and hydraulic fracturing techniques which involve the use of millions of gallons of
fresh water for each frac job, and the transport, storage and use of hazardous chemicals,
and the production of drill tailings and waste water which contain heavy metals and
naturally occurring radioactive materials, and

Whereas, the harmful large and sometimes untimely withdrawals of water from streams, the
mismanagement of the construction of cement drilling casings, and the mismanagement of
spills and disposal of large quantities of used brine chemical solutions can pose serious
damage to drinking water supplies, public health, and public safety as well as to fish,
livestock, wildlife and other living organisms, and

Whereas, the present State regulations for governing the management of Marcellus Shale
and other lower formations are inadequate to protect water resources throughout the State
including the Monongahela River watershed, and

Whereas, state regulations do not adequately protect the sources of water for public water
supply from contaminations by chemicals used in drilling and fracking and from total
dissolved solids (TDS) which cannot be filtered by municipal water and sewer treatment
systems, and

Whereas, in its 2011 regular session, the State Legislature did not support additional
funding for the State Department of Environmental Protection to increase its number of
inspectors to safely and adequately monitor development of 900 permitted Marcellus Shale
wells as well as to manage the existing 59,000 operating oil and gas wells and the
approximately 20,000 abandoned oil and gas wells in the State, and

Whereas, in its 2011 regular session, the State Legislature did not complete its work to
safely and effectively establish guidelines for the protection of State water resources, air
quality, nor roadways in the development of Marcellus Shale, and

Whereas, the City Council of Morgantown wishes to join with 23 or more Delegates and
other cities to halt permits being issued to drill in the Marcellus Shale and to encourage the
Governor to call a special session of the State Legislature to address these issues in a timely
manner:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the City Council of Morgantown urges the State
Department of Environmental Protection to use its emergency authority to temporarily
freeze the issuance of drilling permits until comprehensive legislation and inspection
resources for horizontal well drilling are established to effectively protect public water
resources, public health and public safety.

Adopted this fifth day of April, 2009.

Mayor, City of Morgantown

Attest: ________________________________
City Clerk