RESOLUTION 2011-07

A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PHOENIXVILLE, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA ASSERTING LOCAL CONTROL TO BAN CORPORATE GAS DRILLING

WHEREAS, local elected officials are responsible for protecting the health, safety, and welfare of residents of their municipality; and

WHEREAS, laws and regulations adopted by State government authorizing certain harmful corporate activities within our municipalities have gutted our ability to protect our residents and the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, those State actions constitute the empowerment of a corporate minority over our community majority, and thus violate our inherent right to local, democratic, self-government; and

WHEREAS, making the rights of our community subordinate to corporate and State decision-makers is seen most clearly in the assertion of legal privileges and powers by gas extraction corporations focused on the Marcellus Shale formation to stop municipal governments from controlling gas drilling within their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Phoenixville is determined to make a stand on behalf of the inherent right to local self-government, to the benefit of all our municipalities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Phoenixville supports the City of Pittsburgh’s adoption of its Community Protection from Natural Gas Extraction Ordinance; which bans corporate gas drilling while challenging the authority of corporations to override Pittsburgh’s assertion of local self-governing powers; and that the Borough of Phoenixville calls for the constitutional recognition of the right to community local self-government in Pennsylvania.

PASSED by Borough Council this 8th day of March, 2011.

By: [Signature]
Richard M. Kirkner
President, Borough Council

ENACTED this 8th day of March, 2011.
By: __________________________
E. Jean Krack, Borough Manager/Secretary