RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF POINT PLEASANT
POINT PLEASANT, NEW JERSEY

# 121-2012

DATE OF ADOPTION: May 15, 2012

MOTION: Resolution Calling for a Ban on Fracking

Councilmember presented the following Resolution

Seconded by

WHEREAS, the hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for natural gas involves the use of chemicals and hazardous materials during construction, drilling, hydraulic fracturing, gas production and delivery, well maintenance, and worker operations; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing of underground geologic formations is often accomplished by injecting a complex mix of fluids and chemicals, including large volumes of water, on average 4.5 million gallons per well, under very high pressure to create fractures in gas bearing geologic formations; and

WHEREAS, many of the chemical constituents injected during hydraulic fracturing have documented adverse health effects and/or adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, there have been more than 1,000 documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites; some people who live near these sites can now light their drinking water on fire; and

WHEREAS, wastewater from fracking may contain radioactive elements and other toxic components and has been discharged into river that supply drinking water for millions; and

WHEREAS, use of these hydraulic fracturing mixes exposed air, aquifers and adjacent land and surface waters to the risk of contamination through spills and accidents, open pit storage, truck transport on roadway, and activities during well development; and

WHEREAS, Former President George W. Bush’s EPQ point person on water now admits fracking should never been exempted from regulation; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s Legislature and Governor have enacted a one-year moratorium on fracking set to expire in January of 2013; and

WHEREAS, since the New Jersey Legislature originally acted to ban fracking, the case for a ban on fracking is strengthened by a US EPA report of fracturing fluids in an aquifer in Pavillion, Wyoming; and separate incidents involving earthquakes in Ohio linked to fracking waste disposal using injection wells; and

WHEREAS, wastewater, wastewater solids or sludge, drill cuttings and/or other byproducts from the fracturing process are known to contain toxic levels of contaminants, including unknown quantities of undisclosed chemical additives used in hydraulic fracturing fluid, as well as contaminants from sources underground; Benzene, naphthalene, formaldehyde, cadmium, mercury, arsenic, total dissolved solids, and radioactive material, such as radium, are among the known contaminants; and

WHEREAS, methods of treatment and disposal for fracking waste do not eliminate the risks that hydraulic fracturing wastewater, wastewater solids or sludge, drill cuttings and/or other byproducts pose to human health and the environment; and

CC: Eric Cramer
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Point Pleasant supports the FRAC Act;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Point Pleasant support the BREATHE Act;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Point Pleasant opposes LNG facilities in New Jersey and off our coast; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Point Pleasant will send a letter to our Congressional Representative and US Senators alerting them to our concerns with fracking and urging them to support a federal ban on fracking and co-sponsor the FRAC and BREATHE Acts and oppose the NATGAS Act;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Point Pleasant will send a letter to our NJ Assembly and Senate members alerting them to our concerns with fracking and urging them to co-sponsor S246/A567 to prohibit hydraulic fracturing in New Jersey and A575/S253 to prohibit the treatment, discharge, disposal or storage of hydraulic fracturing waste in New Jersey.

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1. David A. Maffei, BM, CMFO, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Point Pleasant, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Point Pleasant Borough Council at a meeting held on the 15th day of May, 2012.

BOROUGH OF POINT PLEASANT, IN
THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY

DAVID A. MAFFEI, BM, CMFO, CMFO, DMR, OPA
Municipal Clerk/Administrator