

Office of Governor Rick Scott  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

(850) 717-9337

Honorable Governor Rick Scott,

Suwannee County has a rich heritage steeped in agriculture ranging from row crops to timber production. This industry has made us good stewards of the land and water bestowed upon us. We realize there is a give and take with the environment to further our interests in making our futures great here in the State of Florida. With that sentiment in mind we feel the issue of fracking now facing you as the State Leader is one we must weigh in on from a local perspective.

After considering all the facts surrounding the use of hydraulic fracturing for extraction of natural energy resources from below the surface we feel the risk-reward analysis leans in favor of a ban in the State of Florida from a policy perspective. The karst geology below the ground is sensitive and any proposed impacts to them must be considered with a great deal of scrutiny. The Floridian Aquifer runs through these karst formations and the methods used to extract could pollute this sole source of drinking water for our residents. Repeated attempts to locate and extract with the use of chemicals could infect that water and render it useless.

Other areas of our Country and State have welcomed and allowed this practice. That is their right to do so. We also feel that the right to choose is paramount. In the event that a ban is not implemented for our State within the current legislation a Counties right to choose should be. Home rule should be protected and not eroded through any State or Federal Legislation.

Please consider our request as we add our voice to the chorus of Counties who oppose fracking.

Sincerely,

Jason Bashaw, District 1 County Commissioner  
Chairman of the Board