



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

January 11, 2012

Revised dSGEIS Comments
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-6510

Dear Sir or Madam:

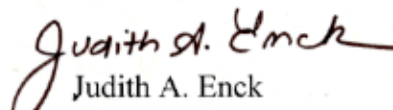
Thank you for providing an opportunity for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to review the September 2011 revised draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (revised dSGEIS) for horizontal drilling and high-volume hydraulic fracturing to develop the Marcellus Shale and other low-permeability gas reservoirs.

We appreciate the NYSDEC's efforts on this environmental review of the potential environmental impacts associated with horizontal drilling and high-volume hydraulic fracturing. New York has demonstrated leadership with this issue and will help set the pace for improved safeguards across the country.

Natural gas plays a key role in our nation's clean energy future and the process known as hydraulic fracturing is one way to access this resource. It is vitally important that it be conducted with proper safeguards to avoid impacts to ground water and surface water quality in ways that may damage human health and the environment.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (212) 637-5000 or Enck.Judith@epa.gov.

Sincerely,


Judith A. Enck
Regional Administrator

Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>

Recycled/Recyclable • Printed with Vegetable Oil Based Inks on Recycled Paper (Minimum 50% Postconsumer content)