

## ***THE SAVE THE HILLS ALLIANCE***

### ***CONCERNED CHIPPEWA CITIZENS-SAVE OUR HILLS- LOYALTY TO OUR LAND AND MANY OTHERS***

**Website:** [www.ccc-wis.com](http://www.ccc-wis.com)

**Take a look at the air quality monitoring going on at several sites in Chippewa Co!**

### **The Frac Sand Times-January 15, 2012**

**The next meeting of the Concerned Chippewa Citizens/TSTHA will  
be Sunday Feb. 12, 2012 at Charlie's Place at 3:00 p.m. You are  
welcome to attend!**

Frac Sand mining in Western Wisconsin continues to take over Wisconsin lands and hills, ridges, and bluffs. This newsletter is an amalgamation of information providing insight on a complex topic.

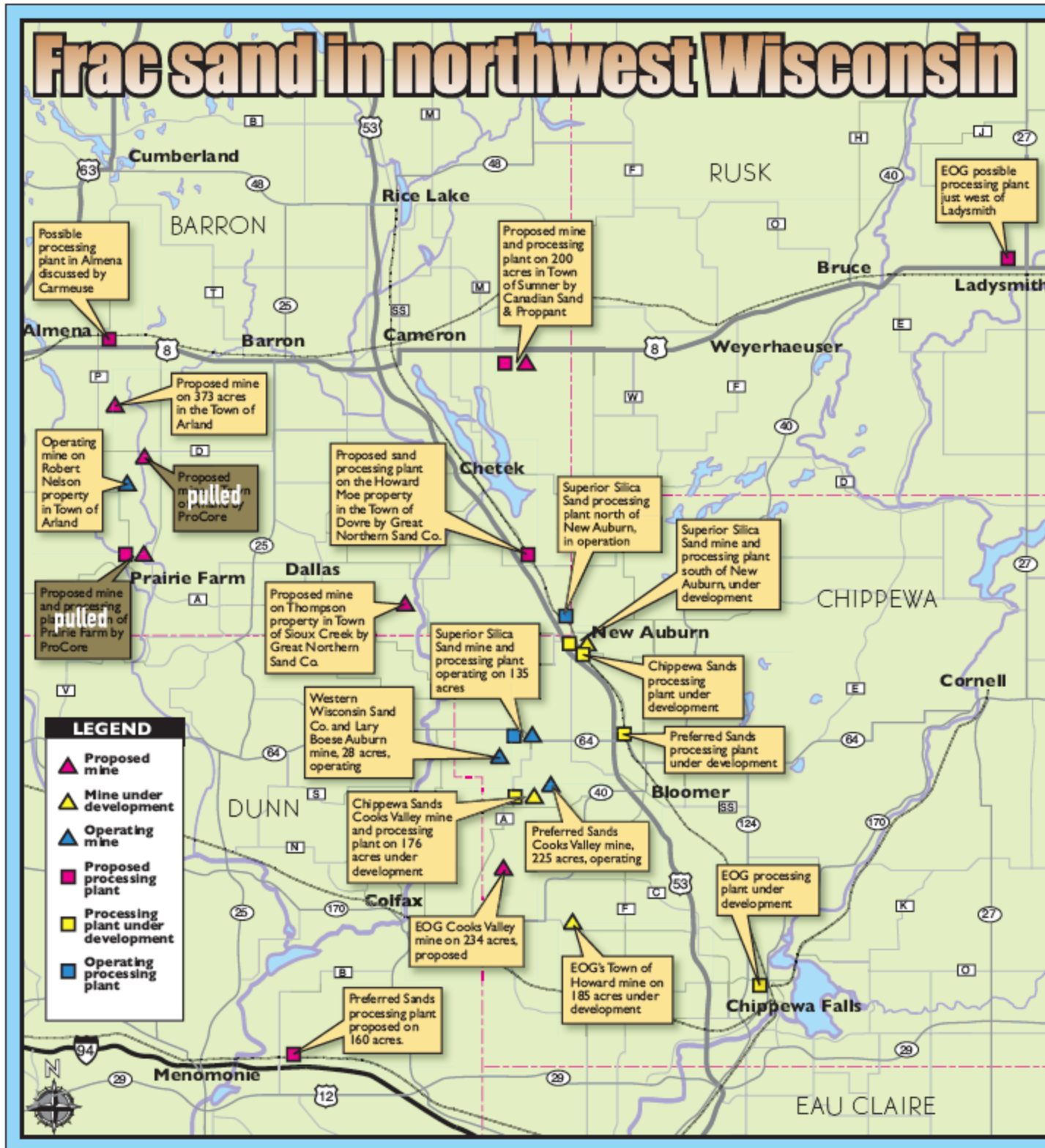
***In the end, our society will be defined not only by what we create, but by what we refuse to destroy.***

***John Sawhill, former president, Nature Conservancy***

***DONATIONS, LARGE AND SMALL, ARE NEEDED TO GET THE SAVE THE HILLS ALLIANCE, INC. UP AND RUNNING. WE NEED A STRONG COALITION MORE THAN EVER. PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECKS OF ANY SIZE TO The Save the Hills Alliance, Inc. Ken Lestrude, Treasurer, N 7225 690<sup>th</sup>, Menomonie, WI 54751 Donations are not deductible.***

***If you would rather give gifts "in-kind", we could use stamps, 8 1/2x11 copy paper and/or colored copy paper, a supply of legal envelopes.***

<https://sites.google.com/site/hayriverfrac/home> MORE ARE IN THE WORKS for Chippewa Co. Over 5000 acres anticipated. Chippewa Co. folks must call their county supervisor for a moratorium.



**Winona County board OKs 3-month frac sand mining moratorium**

Click on the link or Copy and Paste the address into your internet browser window.

[http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/local/article\\_e7ed1522-3c06-11e1-97ec-001871e3ce6c.html](http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/local/article_e7ed1522-3c06-11e1-97ec-001871e3ce6c.html)

**Great Northern/High Country not exempted from Eau Claire moratorium because of relations (or lack of) with town officials**

[http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/front\\_page/article\\_e120a11a-3c19-11e1-a64c-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/front_page/article_e120a11a-3c19-11e1-a64c-0019bb2963f4.html)

**Two Eau Claire county committees vote to amend moratorium**

<http://www.wqow.com/story/16493025/committees-support-amendment-to-sand-mining-moratorium>

**Eau Claire listening session**

<http://www.wqow.com/story/16491545/eau-claire-county-wants-to-hear-from-residents-on-sand-mining>

**Chippewa citizens push for County moratorium!**

<http://www.wqow.com/story/16492631/chippewa-county-group-asks-for-sand-mining-moratorium>

**Another story on the Utica decision...competing views on changes in property values.**

<http://mywebtimes.com/archives/ottawa/display.php?id=448284>

**ND oil production**

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700214089/ND-oil-production-exceeds-500000-barrels-daily.html>

**Great Northern/High Country doesnt understand why EC doesnt want them??**

[http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/front\\_page/article\\_e21a1ea8-3ce5-11e1-adeb-001871e3ce6c.html](http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/front_page/article_e21a1ea8-3ce5-11e1-adeb-001871e3ce6c.html)

**Barron County visit to proposed CSP site - Public welcome!**

[http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20468936&BRD=1132&PAG=461&dept\\_id=157660&rfi=6](http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20468936&BRD=1132&PAG=461&dept_id=157660&rfi=6)

### **Stanley Township - Barron Co passes moratorium!**

<http://www.ricelakeonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=32&SubSectionID=113&ArticleID=23083>

### **375 attend Frac Sand Conference in EC**

[http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/front\\_page/article\\_d59fdfb0-3dac-11e1-8c8e-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/front_page/article_d59fdfb0-3dac-11e1-8c8e-0019bb2963f4.html)

### **Houston Co MN considers moratorium (Southern MN)**

<http://hometownargus.com/2012/01/11/houston-county-board-considers-a-frac-sand-mining-moratorium/>

### **EC Co tours Hi Crush proposed area**

[http://www.weau.com/home/headlines/County\\_board\\_members\\_tour\\_potential\\_sand\\_mining\\_site\\_137134343.html](http://www.weau.com/home/headlines/County_board_members_tour_potential_sand_mining_site_137134343.html)

<http://www.wqow.com/story/16501272/eau-claire-county-officials-tour-hi-crush-proppants>

### **Winona Frac 101**

[http://www.winonapost.com/stock/functions/VDG\\_Pub/detail.php?choice=45789&home\\_page=1&archives=](http://www.winonapost.com/stock/functions/VDG_Pub/detail.php?choice=45789&home_page=1&archives=)

### **Winona permits**

<http://www.hometown-pages.com/main.asp?SectionID=12&SubSectionID=21&ArticleID=41269>

### **Public listening session in EC Monday Jan 16-HERE IS EAU CLAIRE'S CHANCE TO SPEAK OUT!!! Pro or Con!**

[http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/daily\\_updates/article\\_c4835a34-3d59-11e1-a973-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/daily_updates/article_c4835a34-3d59-11e1-a973-0019bb2963f4.html)

### **IL Frac Sand mining moving forward**

[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505244\\_162-57358322/plan-for-sand-mine-near-starved-rock-moves-forward/](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505244_162-57358322/plan-for-sand-mine-near-starved-rock-moves-forward/)

**Please look at the picture. Is this what the sand plant will look like in Chippewa Falls at night when it is fully operational.....2 silos vs. 9.....a lot smaller operation. Read the article, too.**

<http://www.wisconsinrapidstribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/201201140357/CWS03/301140087>



\*\*\*\*\*

**Hard to imagine it could get much worse than this. A village annexes 562 acres, and rezones it to Ag to allow mining. \$400 grand in blood money in lieu of impact fees. I wonder when they give the \$1 grand a year as a “good neighbor” if there are strings attached that people sign something waiving their rights to any action against the company??? And it doesn’t look by its track record that the company is much of a good citizen.**

<http://www.newstrib.com/articles/news/local/default.asp?article=31731&aname=Utica+votes+5-1+to+allow+sand+mine+near+U.S.+6>

## **Utica votes 5-1 to allow sand mine near U.S. 6**

Tuesday, January 10, 2012

By Tom Collins

[courtreporter@newstrib.com](mailto:courtreporter@newstrib.com)

**Another story on the Utica decision...competing views on changes in property values.**

<http://mywebtimes.com/archives/ottawa/display.php?id=448284>

## **Utica board OKs sand mining operation**

**01/10/2012, 12:41 pm**

**Steve Stout, [steves@mywebtimes.com](mailto:steves@mywebtimes.com), 815-431-4082**

**Yep, It looks like Extension is gearing up to help transform us into sand mining believers.**

## **State and local research and education resources on mining**

<http://lacrosse.uwex.edu/files/2010/05/MiningResourceSheet.pdf>

We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.

## **Community Development**

### **Frac Sand: Mining and Use**

Frac sand mining is a new topic for the Coulee Region and the Nation. This presentation gives a geologic overview of where frac sands are found in the Coulee Region, as well as the practical issues that may be faced by local government officials when a sand mine (quarry) is proposed. Below are some useful resources regarding Frac Sand.

[Frac Sand- Mining and Use](#) - 3 slides per page (11 pages, 2 MB, .pdf)

[Geology of La Crosse County Report-WGNHS](#) (40 pages, 10 MB, .pdf)

[Geologic Map of La Crosse County-WGNHS](#) (1 page, 2MB, .pdf)

[Metallic Mineral Deposits-WGNHS](#) (2 pages, 600 KB, .pdf)

[Silica sand in Wisconsin-WGNHS](#)

[Iron mining in Wisconsin: Locations- WGNHS](#) (2 pages, 600 KB, .pdf)

[Mining Resource Sheet- UWEX](#) (1 page, 100KB, .pdf)

Record air pollution hammers California's ag heartland

....and it's the unhealthiest kind— microscopic, chemical-laden particles that can get into lungs and absorbed into the bloodstream to create health risks in everyone, not just the young and infirm.

The southern San Joaquin half of the valley stretches 200 miles from Stockton to Bakersfield and is home to 4 million people. It traditionally records the highest level of particulate matter and ozone pollution in the United States and has a rate of asthma three times the national average, according to the American Lung Association.

\*\*\*\*\*

An interested person from Winona talked with several folks in McGregor, Iowa. (There, 200+ trucks are going thru their little historic community of 900 people every day delivering sand to Prairie Du Chien.)

\*\*\*\*\*

From the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters:

Dear Conservationist,

We are happy to report that the Assembly has just announced that they [will NOT vote on the mining bill next week](#), as was originally expected. This is a development worth celebrating! It means that your efforts – turning out at hearings, sending emails, making phone calls – are working!

Please help us keep up the pressure and stop this bill...for good. [Donate to WLCV Today!](#)

Rumor has it that legislators are not hearing *any* support for the mining bill. And we know for a fact that the opposition (ie YOU) has made thousands of contacts with legislators telling them not to jeopardize our land and water for the benefit of an out-of-state mining company.

It's no coincidence that they've had to put the bill on hold. Don't let up now. If you haven't already, [send your message to legislators right now!](#)

Thank you for your conservation efforts. Keep it up!

Jennifer Giegerich, Legislative Director  
Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters

\*\*\*\*\*

From Time Magazine <http://www.onearth.org/blog/fracking-time>

Amazing blog- some big wig environmental leaders in Pennsylvania blogging w folks about fracking. Since this is a blog, save to favorites or bookmark and read when you have time.

.....

Check out the newly consolidated site of: [www.monroecountysandmines.org](http://www.monroecountysandmines.org) It has much good information and is up to date on the latest Wisconsin battles. The videos are excellent and point the way for what we can use to demonstrate the dangers and devastation of silica sand mining.

Also bookmark The Save the Hills Alliance website: [www.ccc-wis.com](http://www.ccc-wis.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Proposed Mining legislation and fact summary sheet

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/related/proposals/ab426.pdf%20>

[http://www.cleanwisconsin.org/proxy.php?filename=files/CW\\_MiningBillFacts.pdf](http://www.cleanwisconsin.org/proxy.php?filename=files/CW_MiningBillFacts.pdf)

\*\*\*\*\*

<http://www.ricelakeonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=32&SubSectionID=113&ArticleID=23083>

1/11/2012 12:24:00 PM

## **Stanley Township passes sand moratorium**

The Town of Stanley passed a mining and processing moratorium last Wednesday, Jan. 4. The action followed a meeting of the township's Plan Commission and Board of Supervisors. The moratorium is for 11 months.

The moratorium directs the town Plan Commission to study the impact and issues of mining and make a recommendation to the Town Board by Oct. 1. About 40 people attended the Plan Commission meeting.

The Town of Sioux Creek passed a 1-year mining moratorium in May. It has since been working with sand companies, with an ordinance proposal coming before the Sioux Creek Plan Commission on Jan. 19.

Town of Prairie Lake Board members were scheduled to meet last night to discuss a proposed non-metallic mining ordinance in that township. That ordinance was drafted by the Prairie Lake Plan Commission. Prairie Lake is between Sioux Creek and Stanley. Prairie Lake has a 6-month mining moratorium that began in September.

Eau Claire County also has a moratorium in place.

On the Stanley agenda was a rezoning request for a sand drying and loading facility along the Union Pacific railroad line. The rezoning request was from Carmeuse Industrial, just south of the new Lakeland Cooperative grain facility. The property is owned by Lakeland. Carmeuse is an international company operating in 13 countries.

A few months ago a new frac sand loading operation began just south of Cameron in the Town of Stanley. That site, about 10 acres, is just outside the Cameron village limits. It's south of Hwy. 8 on the west side of the Canadian National railroad.

The moratorium prohibits the expansion of any existing operation.

'Adequate time'

The title of the moratorium ordinance, which is published as a legal notice in this week's Chronotype, is "Town of Stanley Ordinance to Impose a Moratorium on the Expansion of Existing and Creation of New Nonmetallic Mining Operations Within the Town of Stanley, Pending the Study of Possible Legislative Action."

The ordinance states "The purpose of this moratorium is to allow the Town of Stanley adequate time to study the possible impacts that nonmetallic mining operations and processing plants related to nonmetallic mining may have on the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Town of Stanley, including air quality and water quality concerns;



potential impact to the infrastructure of the town, property values, and the local economy; to allow the town and town residents the opportunity to consider enacting zoning or other regulatory ordinances; to determine the advisability of amending the Town Comprehensive Plan; and to review and consider amending or adopting other police powers, licensing ordinances or zoning ordinances so as to effectively regulate nonmetallic mining operations and related processing plants."

The ordinance states that the Town Board has the authority granted under the village powers of the Town Board to impose the moratorium, and it defines mining as extraction and manufacturing as any processing that may involve the use of equipment for the crushing, screening, separation, or blending of the mineral aggregates or nonmetallic minerals obtained by extraction from the mining site or with minerals transferred from off-site, including stockpiling and transporting material to or from the extraction site.

The ordinance directs the Stanley Plan Commission to research issues associated with mining and make recommendations to the Town Board regarding regulatory and police powers necessary to manage mining. Those issues shall include zoning, licensing, blasting, developers agreements, health concerns, environmental impacts, impacts on town infrastructure, impacts on the local economy and financial considerations for the town.

**January 13, 2012**

## **Fracking and the Halliburton Loophole**

Among the many dubious provisions in the 2005 energy bill was one dubbed the Halliburton Loophole. This loophole stripped the Environmental Protection Agency of its authority to regulate a drilling process called hydraulic fracturing (aka fracking). Invented by Halliburton in the 1940s, it involves injecting a mixture of water, sand and chemicals, some of them toxic, into underground rock formations to blast them open and release natural gas.

Fracking has been implicated in a growing number of water pollution cases across the country. The safety of the nation's water supply should not have to rely on luck or the public relations talents of the oil and gas industry. Also fracking uses millions of gallons of water and not all of it is recovered. Some of the recovered water is not always disposed of properly considering the fact that it contains toxic chemicals.

Just recently fracking has proven to cause an earth quake in Ohio and is suspected of causing earth quakes in Oklahoma. In the past few months the oil and gas industry has spent a lot of money on TV ads touting how great the benefits are from the safe drilling for gas and oil. We need energy almost as much as we need oxygen, so if extracting it from the ground is so safe why are they spending thousand or millions of dollars in TV ads.

It's time to restore the EPA's rightful authority to regulate hydraulic fracturing and to require the oil and gas industry to disclose the chemicals it uses.

\*\*\*\*\*

Jerry N has started a petition "Repeal the Halliburton Loophole" that will be distributed to Congressional House and Senate members on the Energy Committees. Currently 880 people have signed this petition and you can help in this drive by signing the petition at <http://signon.org/sign/repeal-the-halliburton>. Also you can write your Senator and Representative to support H. R. 1084, Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act. The companion bill in the Senate is S.587. **SEND THIS ONE AROUND THE WORLD. 917 SIGNATURES TO DATE! THERE SHOULD BE THOUSANDS MORE!**

## **William Rivers Pitt | In the Clearing Stands a Boxer: One Man's Fight Against Fracking**

William Rivers Pitt, Truthout: "All well and good, yes ... but when the moment arrives to actually lay oneself upon the gears and wheels, so many of us become daunted, diminished, or simply too afraid to act. What can the 'little person' do against such might? One man is about to give his answer."

[Read the Article](#)

## **Fracking waste dump checks for radioactivity**

[http://www.willistonherald.com/news/dump-checks-for-radioactivity-loads-were-turned-away-since-last/article\\_ed15cf0a-3e07-11e1-bad0-001871e3ce6c.html](http://www.willistonherald.com/news/dump-checks-for-radioactivity-loads-were-turned-away-since-last/article_ed15cf0a-3e07-11e1-bad0-001871e3ce6c.html)

City employees and officials are unable to comment on the cause of radioactivity, although Septka said frac-sand bags "are always hot." **NOTE: DOES ANYONE HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON RADIOACTIVITY IN SILICA? SANDSTONE? PLEASE SEND ME ANY INFORMATION YOU MIGHT HAVE SO I CAN SHARE IT!!!**

FROM JEAN LARSON: Here is a copy of my notes as you requested.

For me, the question is not whether to have a moratorium on sand mining and processing, but rather - how long the moratorium should be.

I work in the health industry where it would be unthinkable to proceed with something that could harm human health without doing studies first.

Here are my top 10 reasons on, not only why we should have a moratorium, but how long we need one:

#1 - Til the entire big oil and gas industry is held accountable to someone in authority by complying with the standards of the 2005 Energy Bill. Right now, they are exempt because of a loophole established by Dick Cheney and Halliburton.

#2 - Til it can be shown that the fracking industry using our precious sand is not irreversibly destroying the air, land and water in our country and possibly even be the cause of earthquakes from their injection well usage.

#3 - Til it can be shown that the respirable crystalline silica that is produced whenever our sand is moved (and then able to travel long distances), is not a threat to the health of all the surrounding residents.

#4 - Til the DNR officially adds respirable crystalline silica to its list of hazardous substances which they have printed is one), so that they can have the authority to regulate it. And then every mine and plant will be forced to monitor the air quality at and around their site.

#5 - Til there is agreement on methods of monitoring the air quality and acceptable levels of fugitive respirable crystalline silica.

#6 - Til safe and acceptable methods of storing and transporting the freshly mined sand are established that will not harm anyone in its path.

#7 - Til it can be shown that the use of the many high capacity wells required in the sand industry , is not draining the level of our ground water table so much that drought like conditions result.

#8 - Til it can be shown that the chemicals used in the washing and processing of the sand are the least toxic that is possible to do the job. I have seen the MSDS on the chemicals to be used at a plant near Bloomer which state: "Side effects are irreversible", and "Must not enter the ground water." There is no remedy if an accident occurs. And accidents will occur.

#9 - Til it can be shown that 1 accidental spill of chemicals will not contaminate an entire aquifer that supplies water to thousands.

#10 - Til strict guidelines are established regarding the construction of holding ponds used to store contaminated water for re-use and what is to be done to protect the environment and penalize the company if the pond fails.

Quote from Eau Claire County lawyer defending their new moratorium:  
"It is irresponsible to put economics before public health and safety issues."

Jean Larson, Bloomer-Presented at Chippewa Co. Board Meeting: Jan. 10, 2012

\*\*\*\*\*

**[Check out this article from WSJ. There's so much natural gas being produced by fracking--oil pipelines are full--that companies are flaring it off. Check out the VIDEO as it gives the whole story.](#)**

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204124204577153062896262468.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204124204577153062896262468.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

\*\*\*\*\*

**[Patrick McElligott & anti-fracking fast on MLK Day](#)**

<http://www.truth-out.org/clearing-stands-boxer-one-mans-fight-against-fracking/1326401455>

**[After Battling Fracking and Cancer, Lucinda Lost, and Found](#)**

Stephen Cleghorn, Truthout: "Before she became ill, Lucinda was writing a book about her love for our farm.... If I finish it for her, it must be titled 'Lucinda's Book of Joy' ... As much as her scientific mind knew about the ravages sure to come with shale gas drilling ... Lucinda was just so tickled that she had become an organic farmer that she wrote almost exclusively in the key of joy."

[Read the Article](#)

# Walter Hang does a GREAT job here in New York!

- - Jay

**From:** signatories\_list@lists.toxicstargeting.com [mailto:signatories\_list@lists.toxicstargeting.com] **On Behalf Of** Walter Hang  
**Sent:** Friday, January 13, 2012 10:35 PM  
**To:** signatories\_list@lists.toxicstargeting.com  
**Subject:** Wow/Powerful EPA Comments/Keep slugging

Greetings,

I write to thank everyone who has worked so hard these last two and a half grueling years to maintain New York's *de facto* moratorium on Marcellus Shale horizontal hydrofracturing. Your diligence and sacrifice are greatly appreciated. What you have collectively achieved is almost beyond belief. I am sure the gas industry is chagrined to feels likewise.

Even against that background of impressive political achievement, the last ten days have been noteworthy in the annals of NYS grassroots action. Wow.

We started the year off with a bang by generating massive press coverage for our State-of-the-State Rally. That event is still generating political buzz. Governor Cuomo learned in no uncertain terms that we would be pushing him very hard right from the get-go to withdraw the Revised Draft SGEIS.

The very next day, four colleagues who have known each other for more than 30 years met for a full and frank discussion. That meeting set in motion heavy-lifting events that could really help protect New Yorkers from gas extraction hazards. Thanks very much for your friendship and help when the chips are down. Time flies, eh?

Just before the deadline for public comment on the Revised Draft SGEIS, I submitted the coalition letter which requests that Governor Cuomo withdraw that fatally flawed document. Our letter had just under 22,000 signatories and monumentally dwarfed every other large signatory effort. That is mind-boggling given the millions of bucks given to huge public and private-sector entities. For good measure, I also submitted every significant gas drilling

document and data set I compiled since 11/09.

I then made concerted efforts to assure that EPA Region 2's comments regarding the Revised Draft SGEIS would receive maximum beneficial press coverage. When EPA submitted 14 pages of comments on 12/30/09, it dramatically revealed the shortcomings of the draft SGEIS proposal. I hoped that EPA would take equally effective action once again.

It turned out to be a very long couple of days of waiting, but we are finally good. Three hours before the midnight deadline Wednesday evening, EPA submitted a total of 26 pages of extremely detailed technical comments. The agency's written concerns strongly buttress our argument that the Revised Draft SGEIS is fatally flawed and must be withdrawn yet again.

Following up on EPA's release required considerable effort because the agency included a specious cover letter likely required by the nation's highest authority. Fortunately, a quick analysis of the comments eventually resulted in good coverage:

<http://www.toxicstargeting.com/news/publication/elmira-star-gazette-ithaca-journal-press-sun-bulletin>

<http://www.toxicstargeting.com/MarcellusShale/news/2012-01-10/fracking-foes-hope-epa-support>

<http://www.toxicstargeting.com/MarcellusShale/news/2012-01-12/epa-questions-fracking-study>

<http://www.toxicstargeting.com/MarcellusShale/news/2012-01-12/epa-weighs-new-york-fracking-plan>

***See my letter to Governor Cuomo with regard to EPA's comments:*** <http://www.toxicstargeting.com/node/30510>

***TAKE ACTION TODAY. CALL AND EMAIL GOVERNOR CUOMO!!!  
REQUEST THAT HE IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAW THE REVISED DRAFT  
SGEIS.***

Contact info below.

***Note that EPA's comments echo the key concerns expressed in our coalition letter.***

***EPA provided 26 pages of detailed comments that criticize virtually every aspect of the Revised Draft SGEIS.***

***EPA repeated over and over that DEC failed to resolve many of the critical concerns spelled out in EPA's 2009 comments.***

***EPA is extremely concerned about DEC's failure to address:***

**gas drilling wastewater disposal problems,**

**inadequate radiation safeguards,**

**gas drilling air pollution,**

**drinking water threats and**

**water quality contamination.**

Please keep beating the bushes for more signatories, notably local officials, farmers and businesses. Signatories from other states and nations are warmly accepted. We need at least 100 signatories in each category.

Another big week looming. Much more to come shortly.

Walter

\*\*\*\*\*

**Actions you can take:**

Talk to your friends and neighbors; send this newsletter out to others; save this information for future reference; if you have something to share, send it; **help build the coalition!** Write or call legislators at all levels including those at the local level; learn about hydraulic fracturing and see the connections between what is happening in 32 states in the hydraulic fracturing industry and the “gold rush” for sand efforts in WI, MN , Iowa, and Illinois to obtain the silica for use in the oil/gas industry. We all have commonalities in which we are fighting. We can work together to make it known this is NOT what we want for our state nor for our nation! Alternatives must be found or at least reasonable protections should be put in place if frac sand mining is to be done at all.

**Wrap up:**

The Frac Sand News is going out to many (close to 500 and some are groups); if wish no longer to receive messages, please send me a note. If you have other names to add, please share the names and email addresses of people who want to be added. If you have ideas, concerns, suggestions, or want to share information, send an email or call.

Please, get involved at your local level to write acceptable ordinances and protections for yourself. Call for MORATORIUMS until proper ordinances and safety measures are in place to protect the health, safety, and welfare of everyone. We’d love to publish links to articles, videos, photos and opinions.

Thanks for your support, your hours, and your interest in ACTION! **Chippewa County residents: please call your county supervisor (those of you living in the city of Chippewa Falls have a supervisor, too, so**

please call to ask for a moratorium! If you check out the Chippewa Co. website you will find your supervisor's name. Ask for a one year moratorium. Dunn Co. has Towns that have declared moratoriums. Barron Co. has Towns that have also declared moratoriums. Eau Claire Co. has a 6 mos. moratorium. Despite pleas to the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, Jan. 10, we have heard nothing more about a discussion session on a moratorium for this county! Why a MORATORIUM?

Chippewa County , the City of Chippewa Falls, towns, and surrounding counties have been permitting sand mining and processing plants in the past number of years. During the past 3 years, Chippewa Co. has acquired 6 operating mines and is in the process of permitting two additional mines. In addition, there are 4 processing plants, one of which is in the Town of Dover which greatly impacts the Village of New Auburn. Citizens are greatly concerned about issues related to the mining and processing of silica and the expansion of additional mines, processing plants and resin plants. We ask that the Chippewa County Board impose a moratorium on the expansion and creation of new non-metallic mining operations in Chippewa County for a minimum of one year. The purpose of a moratorium would allow time to obtain and study more data from existing sites and operations, to allow the county adequate time to study the possible impact silica sand mining operations may have on the health, safety and welfare of citizens of Chippewa Co., including air and water quality concerns, provide opportunity to study the compatibility with existing comprehensive plans, give time to develop new ordinances and strengthen existing ordinances at Town and County levels, allow the County to direct educational forums for towns so they can learn without pressure of incoming projects, and study what constitutes conflicts of interest for government officials. In addition, studies on the future potential impacts to the infrastructure of the County must be considered. With the increasing demand for silica sand and the potential for even larger scale mining operations, it is imperative that all necessary regulations and safeguards be in place before any additional mining operations expand or commence.

What happens in Chippewa County and the Towns, impacts other Towns, Cities, Counties, and the State. Therefore, it is crucial that efforts be coordinated to work with other governmental bodies throughout the county, the region, the state, and the nation to reduce the number of issues this industry is creating and will continue to create without a united front. A moratorium will allow time for those efforts.

It is up to the CITIZENS OF CHIPPEWA COUNTY make this happen. It can't be done by a few. Your county board members may not receive letters or phone calls from their constituents but this is the time NOT to sit back! Go to the website and determine who your county board rep is and take ACTION! Who is responsible? Who will be the rule makers? Who will follow through? Until these questions are resolved, there will be no protection from this industry! Within the next couple of months, over 5000 acres of valuable agricultural land, hills, ridges, bluffs in Chippewa County alone will be consumed by the silica sand industry. Is that why you live here? How will it affect you? Send an email, a hand written letter or make a phone call!

715-723-6398      [www.ccc-wis.com](http://www.ccc-wis.com) (website; stop by and add something new to the discussion sessions!)

