

For Immediate Release March 3, 2014

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Town Hall Meeting in Rochester Hills on Oil & Gas Drilling and "Fracking"

Tuesday, March 11th. 6p.m.

Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner Jim Nash will hold another in a series of town hall meetings to focus on the impact of new state-issued oil and natural gas drilling leases in Oakland County. These leases could bring drilling and potentially "fracking" to our area.

The town hall meeting will begin at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 11th at the Rochester High School, 180 S. Livernois Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48307. A question and answer period will follow presentations by Commissioner Nash and representatives invited from the oil and gas industry and/or the Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality.

Horizontal Oil and gas drilling appear to be coming to the area, although high volume fracking may not necessarily be part of process. Many homeowners are worried about spills, noise, and increased truck and equipment traffic in urban and suburban settings.

Fracking, the common term for slick water horizontal fracturing, drills wells up to two miles into the earth, then turns the drill bit horizontally to drill up to several miles. The resulting well is then filled with millions of gallons of fresh water mixed with sand, salts and chemicals. This mixture is then subjected to bursts of intense pressure to loosen rock formations and release natural gas. Many fear possible contamination of groundwater resources and have voiced concerns about disposal of the resulting fracking fluids.

"We want our residents to be informed and learn about topics that can affect our quality of life," said Jim Nash. "As more and more leases are being signed in Rochester Hills and across the county, residents need to know how this industry can affect the environment," he added.

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Over the past year Jordan Development Company and other companies have leased or purchased mineral rights in Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills and thousands of acres of land in Oakland County and the region for exploration and possible drilling.

Come learn more about how this can affect your community and environment.

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