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August 1, 2024

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Re: League of Women Voters NYS Report on New York's Economically Recoverable Shale Gas

Dear Governor Hochul:

During this past legislative session, The League of Women Voters of New York State supported S8357/A8866: "A bill to amend the energy conservation law to broaden the current ban on high volume hydraulic fracturing to include use of carbon dioxide" which was passed by the New York legislature and awaits your signature to pass it into law. We write today to urge you to sign this legislation into law.

The League of Women Voters of New York State (League) has been engaged in research and advocacy regarding the impacts of fracking for more than a decade. In 2014 the League contracted with Labyrinth Consulting Services, Inc. to perform an evaluation of potential economically recoverable Marcellus shale natural gas in New York which concluded then that New York is unlikely to have economically recoverable shale gas volumes overall; and that resource estimates are significantly smaller than those indicated in previous studies.

This report was sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo before he decided to ban high volume hydraulic fracturing in New York.

Enclosed herewith is the study commissioned in 2014 by the League of Women Voters NYS which is as valid today as it was in 2014. Please see especially Mr. Bermans last section of the report.

It is in New Yorker's economic and environmental best interest to broaden the ban. We look forward to you taking action to enact this amendment to the energy conservation law without delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erica Smitka". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Erica Smitka
Executive Director, League of Women Voters of New York State