



Elected Officials to Protect New York is a statewide network of elected officials committed to transitioning New York State away from fossil fuels and towards clean, renewable energy.

Founded in 2012 by elected officials, Elected Officials to Protect New York (EOPNY) **played the central role in organizing local lawmakers across New York State to take a public stand in support of a continued moratorium on expanded fossil fuel extraction in the form of fracking.** The initiative was centered on a sign-on letter that called on New York Governor Andrew Cuomo to postpone permitting of drilling until specific studies were undertaken and issues were addressed, and until or unless fracking was scientifically proven to be safe.



EOPNY successfully organized over 850 local elected officials from all 62 counties across the state and in a wide swath of the political spectrum, demonstrating the widespread concern New Yorkers have about fracking. By leveraging elected officials' credibility and access to the news media, EOPNY garnered over 120 news hits in major news outlets, testified at legislative hearings, had important dialogue with the Governor's Office, and played a key role in the continuation of the state's moratorium on fracking into its sixth year and Governor Cuomo's eventual announcement of a statewide fracking ban on December 17, 2014.

EOPNY continues to educate and empower officials to stand for 100% renewable energy for New York State, advance clean energy policies locally, and highlight the environmental, health, and socioeconomic costs posed by fossil fuels.

Accomplishments

- Grew to **850 officials from all 62 counties** in New York State
- Earned **120 media hits** in almost every major state news outlet
- Helped **provide credibility to and legitimize the concerns** of scientists, health professionals, business leaders, and advocates about fracking.
- **Met with the Governor's office and DEC Commissioner Martens**, and testified before the State Assembly.
- Served as **inspiration for the founding of Concerned Health Professionals of New York**, a group of doctors and public health experts who released the Compendium of scientific findings on harms of fracking, which was later cited by the DEC in its decision
- Supported home rule with an **amicus brief in support of Towns of Dryden and Middlefield's** right to enact local bans & moratoria

From the Elected Officials



*I joined Elected Officials to Protect New York because **our collective voice of concerned elected officials was much stronger than each of us individually could ever be in our efforts to protect our citizens from the harmful effects of fracking.** We have become a force in the movement to stop fracking and to promote safer sustainable energy solutions.*

Town of Rochester Supervisor Carl Chipman



*Acting as a large group of elected officials, all with the aim of protecting our environment and advancing a sustainable economy, **carries far more weight than acting as individuals or a single municipality.***

Village of Cooperstown Trustee Lou Allstadt



*As a co founder of Frack Action and a long-time member of Elected Officials to Protect New York, **I can only marvel at the success of our collective movement.** Fracking in New York has not happened because of the single voice of so many. It is especially important for elected officials to speak together. It gets noticed, has an impact and will continue to be a force in the movement.*

Former New Paltz Town Supervisor Susan Zimet



Let history remember this as the moment that elected officials came together to uphold our responsibility to protect our great state for current and future generations.

EOPNY Co-founder, Former Caroline Deputy Town Supervisor Dominic Frongillo