



County of Mathews
Mathews County Board of Supervisors
Office of the County Administrator

**RESOLUTION REGARDING PROTECTION
OF
COASTAL PLAIN AQUIFERS**

WHEREAS, Mathews County consists of a peninsula and an island that are at-or-near-sea level on the Chesapeake Bay; and

WHEREAS, Mathews County and other Tidewater localities are dependent on well water drawn from Coastal Plain aquifers; and

WHEREAS, potable water is vital for economic development and community health; and

WHEREAS, plans for industrial oil and gas development in Tidewater Virginia include horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing through or near Coastal Plain aquifers; and

WHEREAS, leaks, spills and fires are proven risks from fracking; and

WHEREAS, Coastal Plain aquifers have ill-defined, unstable boundaries; and

WHEREAS, environmental and health effects from fracking-related operations in high water table areas are unknown;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Mathews County, Virginia, requests the Commonwealth of Virginia:

- Prohibit fracking in or near aquifers that are sole sources of drinking water for jurisdictions within the Commonwealth; and
- Ensure water quality and water withdrawal targets are managed as required by Virginia State Water Control Board Regulation 9 VAC 25-780; and
- Fund the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy and the Department of Environmental Quality sufficiently to enable them to inspect and monitor fracking-related activities; and
- Work cooperatively with local jurisdictions to ensure water, drawn from Coastal Plain aquifers, remains safe to drink for Tidewater populations.

Adopted: March 24, 2015

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