

## **Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracking**

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as "fracking," is a drilling technique that injects water, sand, and toxic chemicals at high pressure deep into the ground, often traveling horizontally, to extract oil or gas from shale or other dense rock;

WHEREAS, fracking uses large amounts of water, thus reducing its availability for agriculture and other public use; uses chemicals that can contaminate the water supply and can cause cancer; creates wastewater that can bring deep earth contaminants to the surface; releases methane gas that exacerbates climate change and pollutes the air with asthma-causing smog; can induce earthquakes; and continues our dependence on fossil fuels;

WHEREAS, fracking is currently exempt from regulation under the Safe Water Drinking Act and is not yet regulated in California, and as a result the chemicals are treated as trade secrets and locations of fracked wells is not made public;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party supports an immediate moratorium on fracking with such a moratorium to remain in place until (a) legislation, ordinances, and regulations are put in place that guarantee public health and safety, and address the impacts of climate change; (b) immediate testing and disclosure of all sites currently being fracked or that have been fracked in the past; and (c) substitution of renewable energy wherever possible;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of California, United States Senators representing California, members of Congress representing any part of Santa Clara County, members of the State Senate and State Assembly representing any part of Santa Clara County, and all members of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, asking them to take action.