



AUGUST 3, 2020 | Albany, NY

Governor Cuomo Signs Legislation Regulating Oil and Gas Related Waste

ENVIRONMENT

LEGISLATION

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Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today signed legislation (S3392/A2655) regulating waste from oil or natural gas in New York as hazardous waste.

"New York has taken an aggressive approach to protecting our natural resources by banning hydrofracking and advancing a nation-leading environmental agenda that is accelerating our transition to a carbon-neutral green economy," **Governor Cuomo said.** "As we do everything possible to reduce our reliance on polluting fossil fuels, we have to make every effort to diminish the impact of the hazardous waste they produce and by signing this legislation we are enacting smart, necessary regulations that will protect both our environment and New Yorker's health."

Senator Rachel May said, "Central and Upstate New York are home to precious freshwater resources that our advocates have spent years fighting to protect against dangerous fracking waste. Today, New York takes another step forward as an environmental leader. I am incredibly proud that my colleagues in the Senate and Assembly have closed this dangerous loophole that has put our waterways and our health in jeopardy, and I thank Governor Cuomo for signing this bill into law."

Assemblymember Steve Englebright said, "New York State has often had to step up when the federal government falls short, especially when it comes to environmental protection. New York is a leader in this regard, and I'm proud to sponsor legislation to close a huge loophole in how hazardous waste produced by the oil and gas industry is regulated. I wish to thank Governor Cuomo for signing this legislation into law."

All such waste will be subject to current State law regulating the transportation, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste. The legislation goes into effect immediately.

New York Ban on Fracking in FY 2021 Enacted Budget

In April, Governor Cuomo signed the FY 2021 Enacted Budget which codified the Governor's 2014 ban on the Department of Environmental Conservation approving permits that would authorize an applicant to use high-volume hydraulic fracturing as a means to complete or recomplete a well. The budget also included a moratorium on future gelled propane hydrofracking applications until the DEC can conduct an analysis of the impacts of this completion method. This will protect the health of New Yorkers and permanently ensure that our environment is not harmed by this practice.

Contact the Governor's Press Office

**Contact us by phone:**

Albany: (518) 474 - 8418

New York City: (212) 681 - 4640

**Contact us by email:**Press.Office@exec.ny.gov

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo

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