



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Yorkers Rally to Protest Cuomo's Theft of Property Rights

BINGHAMTON – January 6, 2015 – The Joint Landowners Coalition of New York issued the following press release:

On Monday January 5, 2015, over 600 landowners, farmers, organized labor, business and federal, state and local political leaders rallied to protest Governor Cuomo's decision to ban hydraulic fracturing.



Political leaders speaking at the rally where Senator Tom O'Mara, Assemblyman Cliff Crouch, Assemblyman Chris Friend and Broome County Executive Debbie Preston together with representatives speaking for Senator Tom Libous, U.S. Congressman Tom Reed and US Congressman Richard Hanna. They were joined by landowners, farmers and representatives from labor.

Many of the speakers cited recent comments by U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell who said bans on hydraulic fracturing in certain counties and in states like New York are "the wrong

way to go” and “I think that localized efforts or statewide efforts in many cases don’t understand the science behind it.”

Those in attendance cheered when Joe Sempolinski, speaking for U.S. Congressman Tom Reed, said that Representative Reed will ask the federal government to require New York to compensate landowners for taking their property rights.

Senator Tom Libous said in a statement: “Natural gas development is one of our last hopes for creating real jobs in the Southern Tier. Banning this process is the easy way out rather than standing up to those who spread fear.”

U.S. Congressman Richard Hanna said in a statement: “The Governor's decision on natural gas production seems to be driven more by politics than sound science. Albany laws and regulations have held back the Upstate economy for far too long, especially here in the Southern Tier and Binghamton. Across the board, New York should start saying ‘yes’ to economic growth and jobs and stop searching for ways to just say ‘no’ when presented with an opportunity.”

Dan Fitzsimmons, President of the Joint Landowners Coalition of New York said: “Governor Cuomo is committed to taking our property rights, jobs and economic opportunities. We will not stay silent while Governor Cuomo plays politics with our lives!”

Scott Kurkoski from the JLCNY cited Governor Cuomo’s recent comments at his inaugural address: “Governor Cuomo said ‘While American capitalism never guaranteed success, it did guarantee opportunity. . . . For too many the dream of economic mobility has been replaced with the nightmare of economic stagnation’. Who is Governor Cuomo kidding? He is denying our region the biggest opportunity we have seen in decades. He is the cause of our economic stagnation.” Kurkoski urged the crowd to continue the fight. “The Governors of 35 oil and gas producing states and the President of the United States say this can be done safely. Only Governor Cuomo stands in your way.”

About The Joint Landowners Coalition of New York

The mission of The Joint Landowners Coalition of New York (JLCNY) is to foster, promote, advance and protect the common interest of the people as it pertains to natural gas development through education and best environmental practices. JLCNY gathers and provides factual, objective information about safe and responsible natural gas development to landowners and community members. ###