

CHRISTINE KANE, Clerk

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At the Steuben County Legislature's monthly meeting of the Agriculture, Industry & Planning Committee, held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Legislative Chairman, Patrick Donnelly, updated the members of the Committee on the status of the County's Natural Gas Task Force.

Chairman Donnelly informed the Committee that two additional members to the Steering Committee had been appointed – Legislator Joseph Hauryski, representing the County's Agriculture, Industry & Planning Committee and David Erwin, Town of Erwin Supervisor, representing local government. Chairman Donnelly's appointments were authorized by the Legislature on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Donnelly also took the opportunity to remind the Committee of the limitations which are, by State Law, placed upon the County as far as the issue of natural gas drilling is concerned. Chairman Donnelly stated "At this point in time I think it is imperative that the members of this Committee, the Legislature and the public at large understand that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has **exclusive** jurisdiction over natural gas, and in particular Shale Gas exploration, development and operations. Towns have jurisdiction over land use planning and control by various means such as Comprehensive Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement. The County does not have those options."

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