

MOTION BY RULING ELDER RICK UFFORD-CHASE FOR A WORKING GROUP ON WATER

I move that the Synod encourage each PPG to name a representative to a “Working Group on Water” that will focus on creating common action and work together regarding issues of water safety and environmental stewardship, with a particular concern for hydro-fracking and issues of safety around nuclear power.

I further suggest that, given the urgency about deadline for public comment in the approval process in NY on permitting for Hydro-fracking, the Working Group on Water convene immediately, and that David Moore be asked to chair that group - to meet at least initially by conference call.

Rationale:

Our synod covers the Susquehanna, Delaware, Hudson and Connecticut River watersheds. Those watersheds provide drinking water for most of the east coast from Maryland north. Further reach out to Synod of the Trinity and and Synod of the Covenant in our efforts to pursue a solution to the problem of hydrofracking.

The environmental safety concerns about hydrofracking are significant, and the involvement of the church is critically important in this debate.

In light of Fukushima and the earthquake in Virginia in August, grave concerns exist regarding the safety of Nuclear Power plants throughout our synod as well.

Approved by the Synod Assembly on October 20-22, 2011

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From: DAVID MOORE <dmoore6@nycap.rr.com>

Date: November 10, 2011

Dear SNE Presbytery Leaders and Leadership Teams of the Synods of the Trinity and Mid-Atlantic:

The Synod of the Northeast, at its October meeting adopted the following motion to establish a Water Working Group. This note extends an invitation to those within your bounds to participate in an organizing conference call. Thanks, David Moore.

I (Rick Ufford-Chase) move that the Synod encourage each PPG (Presbytery Partnership Group) to name a representative to a “Working Group on Water” that will focus on creating common action and work together regarding issues of water safety and environmental stewardship, with a particular concern for hydro-fracking and issues of safety around nuclear power.

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Notes from the debate/comment:

- Do careful education
- Be aware and sensitive to the dynamics of Presbyterians whose communities are being directly affected.
- add synods of trinity and covenant
- Meet by conference call, SPC will host a gathering at our expense if necessary (in Allison House)
- Send invitation to everyone in the synod to participate
- cooperate with PPAN

Please forward this invitation to participate in the first conference call of the SNE - Water Working to agencies or particular individuals within your bounds.

This is an invitation to participate in the first conference call of the Synod of the Northeast - Water Working Group. The call is on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at 4:00pm. The telephone # is 559-546-1000 access code: 373594#

I suppose my matters to consider on the call is to hear from each one the particular concern which brings them to this gathering; to sort out how to organize and relate to the particular PPG each relates too and how to relate regionally.

For the time being please forward this invitation to folk across the Synods of the NE, Trinity and Mid-Atlantic.

I'll add folks email to list as you share or I receive.

David Moore