

## **Local council to hold forum on DEC drilling regs and impact statement**

6:00 PM, Nov. 11, 2011 |

Ithaca -- The Tompkins County Council of Governments will sponsor a public hearing Dec. 1 on documents the State Department of Environmental Conservation has published on gas drilling in New York.

The draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement on gas and oil drilling and proposed state regulations governing high-volume hydraulic fracturing will be the subject of a four-hour hearing in Ithaca's State Theatre, to take place Thursday, Dec. 1 from 7 to 11 p.m.

TCCOG will accept written and oral testimony at the hearing to present the comments to the DEC prior to the Dec. 12 deadline for comments.

The DEC will hold hearings on the sGEIS and regulations in Dansville, Binghamton, Loch Sheldrake, and New York City this month, but no DEC-sponsored hearing is scheduled in Ithaca or the Finger Lakes region.

Caroline Town Councilman Dominic Frongillo will moderate the Dec. 1 hearing. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

Speakers must register prior to the forum. Forms will be provided for written comments. Oral presentations will be limited to three minutes and speakers will present in the order registered, as time permits.

Those wishing to make comments will be asked to focus their comments specifically on the contents of the draft SGEIS, rather than general statements for or against gas drilling.

The dSGEIS can be viewed at [www.dec.ny.gov/energy/75370.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/75370.html) and the proposed regulations at [www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/77353.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/77353.html). Paper copies are available at the Tompkins County Public Library.

For questions, please contact: Michelle Pottorff at 274-5434