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# Petition Drive to Ban Hydraulic Fracturing in Michigan

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# About the Petition Drive

- On Feb. 15, 2013, the State Board of Canvassers approved petition language for a potential legislative initiative that would ban the use of hydraulic fracturing in Michigan.
- The current ballot proposal is being pushed by the same groups of environmentalists that attempted to put this issue on the ballot last election cycle but failed to collect the needed signatures.
- The Committee to Ban Fracking in Michigan began collecting signatures on April 12, 2013. Reports indicate that only a small number of the 258,087 signatures needed to qualify the proposal for the November 2014 ballot have been collected.
- The Committee has 180 days to collect the necessary signatures. The 180-day period will end on or near October 12, 2013.



# Next Steps After Signatures Have Been Collected

- The Secretary of State evaluates the petition and certifies it for the ballot, if the required number of valid signatures have been collected.
- Because this is a statutory initiative and not a constitutional initiative, the proposal will first go to the State Legislature where lawmakers will have 40 days to do one of three things:
  1. Approve the proposal outright and declare it law without the Governor's signature;
  2. Offer an alternative; or
  3. Allow the proposal to go on the ballot.



# Where We Stand

- Each time the media has asked the Committee's Chairwoman Luanne Kozma for their signature total, she has refused to answer.
- Of the \$10,000 the Committee has in total expenditures to date, they have spent \$1,000 to print blank petitions and \$4,800 on buttons. No money has been spent on signature gathering services or professional campaign assistance.
- None of the top 35 environmentalist organizations in the state have donated a dollar to the Committee's campaign.
- The Michigan Environmental Council has stated publicly that it does not support an outright ban on Fracking in Michigan and would rather see stronger regulations and oversight.



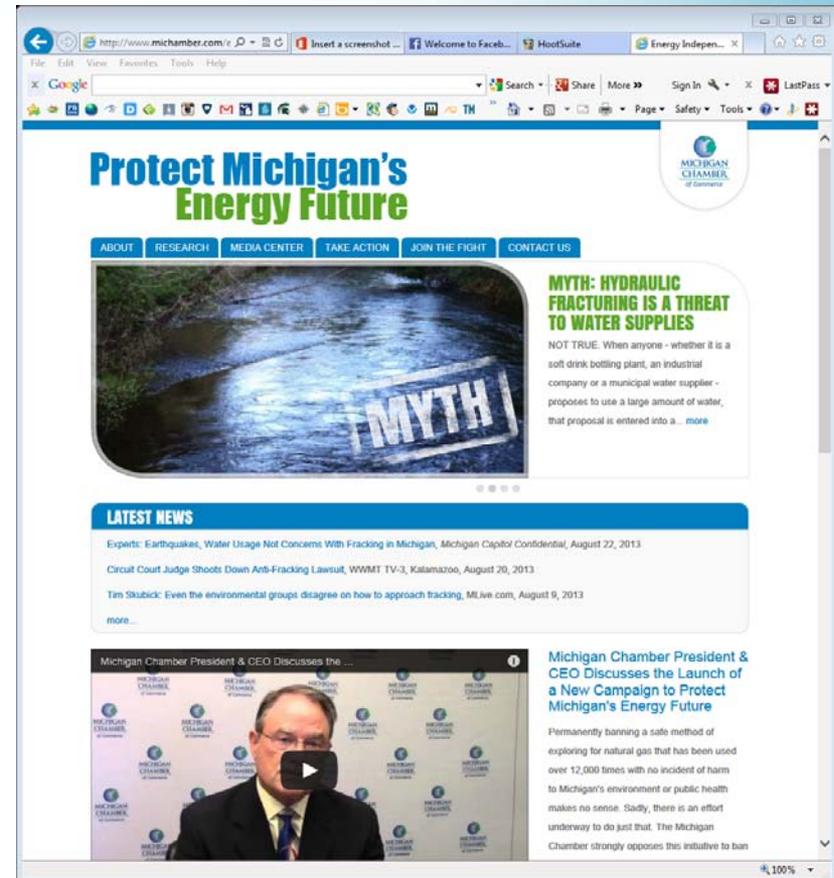
# Where We Stand - Continued

- Polling shows strong public support for “Natural Gas” but split public support for “Fracking.”
- Public support for “Fracking” quickly increases as the facts on the issue are explained.
- This issue is likely to return in 2016/2018. Any effort to educate the public during this election will pay dividends in later years.
- Bottom Line: We must be prepared for battle. Opening the door to California-style government by petition drive would be a big mistake for Michigan. Last year, Michigan voters wisely said “No” to five different ballot proposals that would have done just that.



# Chamber Launches Statewide Voter Education Campaign

- On August 5, 2013, the Michigan Chamber launched a statewide voter education campaign, called “Protect Michigan’s Energy Future.”
- The campaign includes billboards, posted across the state, a web site, and internet advertising to educate voters about the benefits of energy production in Michigan.



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# Campaign Billboard #1

**Safe Natural Gas = Jobs For Northern Michigan**

Powering our future.  
Learn more at [MICHamber.com](http://MICHamber.com)

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# Campaign Billboard #2

**Safe Natural Gas = Energy Independence for Michigan**

Powering our future.  
Learn more at [MICHamber.com](http://MICHamber.com)

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# Campaign Billboard #3

**Safe  
affordable  
environmentally-friendly natural gas**



Powering our future.  
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# Grassroots Outreach



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**Safe Natural Gas = Energy Independence for Michigan**

Learn more at [MlChamber.com](http://MlChamber.com)



## Protect Michigan's Energy Future

September 3, 2013

### Campaign Launch Gamers Media Attention

The campaign to [Protect Michigan's Energy Future](#) had a terrific kickoff last month, educating Michigan citizens about the benefits of natural gas. Michigan Chamber staff has had the opportunity to appear on multiple radio shows across the state setting the facts straight on hydraulic fracturing. Visit our [Media Center](#) to listen to radio interviews and for other news.

Every day we receive encouraging phone calls from fellow Michiganders that see our billboards and want to join our [Grassroots Action Network](#) to help ensure Michigan's energy policy focuses on lower heating costs. If you are talking with friends or family and someone mentions the dangers of hydraulic fracturing, there is only one response you need to say: "The process of hydraulic fracturing been done for 50 years in Michigan with over 12,000 wells drilled, and we have not had ONE negative impact on human health or the environment."

This fight to Protect Michigan's Energy Future will be a

**DONATE NOW  
TO STOP  
JOB KILLING  
BALLOT  
PROPOSAL**

**JOIN THE GRASSROOTS  
ACTION NETWORK**



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**BECOME A MEMBER!**



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# 2013-2014 Legislative Priorities

## Regulatory Reform

**GOAL: Reinvent the Regulatory System; Promote Wise Use of Natural Resources**

*Chamber Members Advocate:*

- Supporting efforts to improve Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) customer service and encouraging increased and consistent stakeholder involvement.
- Prohibiting state agencies from promulgating rules more stringent than the federal standards unless specifically authorized by statute. Rescinding or amending existing rules that impose significant costs on job providers with minimal benefits to the environment. Ensuring that local ordinances related to environmental protection do not extend beyond state or federal standards.



# 2013-2014 Legislative Priorities (continued)

- Supporting ongoing efforts to reform rules and the rulemaking process.
- Supporting challenges to excessive and unnecessary rules being promulgated and positions being taken by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- Encouraging efforts to work with other Great Lakes states to improve water quality, and to identify solutions to the spread of invasive species.
- Limiting, through the legislative process, the rulemaking authority of the DEQ and Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Reducing the number of rules by writing them into statute when the flexibility of rules is not needed. And engaging with the DEQ and DNR to identify more effective and efficient means of communicating with stakeholders.



# 2013-2014 Legislative Priorities (continued)

- Working closely with the Governor and the Legislature to ensure that Michigan implements a strong energy policy utilizing a diverse portfolio that balances cost, reliability, efficiency, and investing in the future.
- Supporting efforts to create a comprehensive recycling program.



# Energy & Environment Policy Committee

- Develops policy recommendations for Chamber Board
- Meets only four times a year
- Next meeting is December 12th



# Thank you!

Please feel free to contact me with questions.



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