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Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility Applauds Governor Hogan’s Support for a Ban on Hydraulic Fracturing in Maryland

Baltimore, MD — Today Governor Hogan announced his support for a ban on hydraulic fracturing in Maryland, virtually assuring that Maryland will become the first state in the country to statutorily ban this dangerous form of natural gas extraction.

“We applaud Governor Hogan’s announcement that he supports a ban on fracking in Maryland,” said Dr. Gina Angiola, member of the Board of Directors of Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility. “Research now confirms that fracking has the potential to cause both short-term and long-term health impacts, many of which will be irreversible. In the last two years, highly reputable research institutions have released studies showing statistically significant associations between fracking activities and an array of illnesses, including asthma, premature births, and childhood leukemia. No regulations can adequately protect; therefore, a ban is the only rational option for Maryland.”

“The Governor made the right move,” said Tim Whitehouse, executive director of Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility. “We don’t need more dirty fossil fuels in Maryland. We need to move in a new direction, one that supports clean, renewable energy and increased energy efficiencies.”

For more information on the health effects of fracking, please visit, http://www.chesapeakepsr.org/fracking-in-maryland/