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July 25, 2011

Commissioner Joseph Martens
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-1011

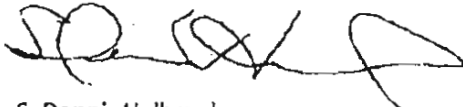
Dear Commissioner Martens,

In its July 1, 2011 press release, the Department of Environmental Conservation identified an impressive collection of lawmakers, environmental advocates and a single industry representative to serve on the Hydraulic Fracturing Advisory Panel. Norse Energy Corp. USA (Norse) feels that the initial panel members were an excellent start to develop recommendations and procedures so that high volume hydraulic fracturing may proceed safely in New York State. We believe that providing economic opportunities for New York State while ensuring the environmental safety are of the utmost importance to our citizens.

Although the initial advisory panel was a solid start, the panel can only be strengthened by including additional, relevant viewpoints. Specifically, the panel is light in terms of industry representatives, in particular those representing small to medium business operators such as Norse Energy. Our company has been operating safely in New York State for nearly 30 years and in recent years has been among the most active drillers operating in this state. While many others have left, Norse has stayed, adding over 50 full time professionals in offices in Buffalo, Jamestown and Norwich in the past three years. We encourage you to add representation from trade groups such as IOGA of NY, but we also believe it is important to add industry companies such as Norse that provide their own unique perspective.

I met with you this past spring, as part of an introductory industry group, shortly before your confirmation as Commissioner. My background spans nearly 40 years industry work experience which includes the Washington, DC staff of U.S. Senator James Buckley, the staff of the Federal Energy Administration, Vice President of National Fuel, Executive Committee Chairman and General Counsel of the Gas Industry Standards Board and over 15 years in private practice before joining Norse Energy in 2008 as Executive Vice President. I would welcome the opportunity to participate on your advisory panel.

Very truly yours,



S. Dennis Holbrook
Executive Vice President