

BIOGRAPHIES OF AUTHORS

(regarding White Paper on need for CHIA)

Dr. Sheila Bushkin-Bedient: a physician who specializes in public health and preventive medicine, with a particular focus on environmental health. She is a cofounder of Concerned Health Professionals of New York. She has been a member of the Medical Society of the State of New York for 17 years, and is the former Vice-chair of the Committee for Preventive Medicine and Family Health. She is a member of the Institute for Health and the Environment at SUNY Albany. Her specific areas of interest involve environmental health issues, chronic diseases, and health concerns of vulnerable populations. She has a particular interest in the continuing education of physicians, as well as public health education and advocacy.

Dr. Larysa Dyrszka: a graduate of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Following residency and board certification in pediatrics, Dr. Dyrszka practiced general pediatrics and held the position of Director of Pediatrics at Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck, NJ. Her recent work has been focused on children's rights with the Conference of NGOs at the United Nations Committee on Children's Rights. She has been a SUNY (State University of New York) Sullivan Community College Board of Trustees Member since 2009, appointed by Governor Paterson. Dr. Dyrszka is an advocate for health on the issue of natural gas exploration and production. She is a founding member of Sullivan Area Citizens for Responsible Energy Development, vice-chair of the CME curriculum committee for Physicians, Scientists and Engineers for Healthy Energy and on the board of Physicians for Social Responsibility – New York. Together with fellow NY medical colleagues, she founded Concerned Health Professionals of New York.

Ansje Miller: the Eastern States Director for the Center for Environmental Health. In that role, she represents CEH with elected officials and others in New York and Washington. Ms. Miller has led a number of successful legislative and regulatory campaigns that removed the use of toxic chemicals like lead and cadmium from consumer products. Her organizing efforts, research reports, and popular articles have also led to the creation of numerous policies on global warming including California's AB32. Ansje currently serves on the board of the Reproductive Health Technologies Project (RHTP). Prior to her work at CEH, from 2001 to 2006, Ansje founded and directed the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative, a coalition that brought together the nation's leading environmental justice, faith-based, and policy organizations to advocate socially just policies on climate change.

Dr. Kathy Nolan: a pediatrician and bioethicist, with training in epidemiology and research design. She serves as Senior Research Director for Catskill Mountainkeeper (www.catskillmountainkeeper.org), where her work has focused on articulating the health impacts of high-volume horizontal fracturing. She is member of the Steering Committee of the New York chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, a co-founder of Concerned Health Professionals of New York and co-author of CHPNY's Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of High Volume Horizontal Hydro fracturing.

Charles E. Sullivan, Jr., Esq: an attorney who served 27 years in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, nine years as its Director of Environmental Enforcement and the last two years as Special Counsel to the General Counsel. His practice mainly focused on solid waste regulation and enforcement and on hazardous substance remediation.

Ellen Webb: Energy Program Associate in the Center for Environmental Health's New York office for initiatives relating to energy and environmental health. She is currently assisting with the development of a research report evaluating various energy sources based on a comparative assessment of their impact on the environment and human health. Ellen has over a decade of experience working at the intersection of health, science, and policy and has experience working in the private, government and non-profit sectors. Prior to joining CEH, Ellen worked on a range of environmental health initiatives including a study of toxic exposures in hospital environments. She worked with a variety of hospital governance structures in NYC coordinating planning efforts across private, federal and public hospitals for the purpose of improving New York City Hospitals' ability to respond to bio-terrorist attacks as well as other public health emergencies. Her past work includes the development of disaster preparedness guidance documents for hospitals to meet the special needs of New York City's children and improve radiation disaster preparedness. Ellen has her B.A. in Health Sciences from Hampshire College and a M.P.H. in Health Policy & Management from Columbia University.

=====