

24 Reasons To Halt Fracking In California – Demand Full Disclosure of Wastewater Injection Chemicals and Toxicity per well location.

Arkansas:

Former gas company executive Sheffield Nelson is calling on the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission to halt all hydraulic fracturing of wells near lakes, rivers and streams after the blowout of a Chesapeake Energy well in Pennsylvania.

<http://www.kuar.org/kuarnews/20816-suspend-hydraulic-fracturing-gop-official-urges.html>

'Fracking' Disposal Sites Suspended, Likely Linked To Arkansas Earthquakes

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/03/06/fracking-arkansas-earthquakes_n_831633.html

California: Dec 19 2012

Wading into one of the hottest environmental debates in the nation, California on Tuesday released its first-ever regulations for hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," the increasingly common and controversial practice of freeing oil and gas from rock formations by injecting chemicals under high pressure into the ground.

The rules proposed by the administration of Gov. Jerry Brown would require energy companies to disclose their fracking plans to the state 10 days before starting operations. The companies also would be required to post to an online database with the locations of their work and the chemicals used, and would face new rules for testing and monitoring their wells.

Environmental groups immediately blasted the rules as weak and riddled with loopholes.

"These draft regulations would keep California's fracking shrouded in secrecy and do little to contain the many threats posed by fracking," said Kassie Siegel of the Center for Biological Diversity. "The rules are going to have to be completely rewritten if the goal is to provide real protection for our air, water and communities."

http://www.mercurynews.com/science/ci_22219233/california-releases-first-ever-fracking-regulations

Colorado: Sept 2012

The Denver Post reported this month that Colorado has experienced more than 2,000 fracking-related spills in the past five years, and that 17 percent of them resulted in groundwater contamination. In one county, 40 percent of spills reached groundwater. Some of the spills contained cancer-causing benzene, the newspaper reported.

Colorado has nearly 50,000 active wells, up 31 percent since 2008, the Denver Post reported.

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2012/12/20/3736632/former-colorado-governor-advises.html>

Dec 2012 Colorado oil and gas industry sues to kill Longmont fracking ban. However, when Longmont's council passed tougher regulations this year, Gov. John Hickenlooper directed state attorneys to sue the city, challenging local authority. "The governor believes Longmont's

fracking ban violates the law and we aren't surprised that the city has been sued," the governor's spokesman, Eric Brown, said. State lawmakers have established the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission to simultaneously regulate and promote development of oil and gas resources. COGA's lawsuit aims to set a precedent

The voters on Nov. 6. changed the city charter to prohibit fracking, or hydraulic fracturing, and the storage of fracking waste in the city.

http://www.denverpost.com/environment/ci_22211514/colorado-oil-and-gas-industry-sues-kill-longmont

July 2012 The Fight Over Fracking in Colorado's North Fork Valley – a history and review
The North Fork Valley has become one of two certified American Viticultural Areas in Colorado and is gaining an international reputation for handcrafted wines made from the highest altitude vineyards in the Northern Hemisphere. It has become a leader in sustainable agriculture and home to the largest concentration of organic farms in the Rocky Mountains. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2007 census, direct sales of farm products (via farm stands, farm-to-home cooperatives, etc.) in the county, with over 90 percent coming from the North Fork Valley, are some of the highest in the rural U.S. Last summer 80 chefs came to the valley to do farm-to-table workshops. The valley produces 77 percent of the state's apples, 71 percent of its peaches, and there are vineyards.

On Dec. 8, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced that 30,000 acres in 22 parcels along the North Fork were being nominated for oil and gas development. It's all Mancos shale here, so that meant hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, the process by which water mixed with chemicals and sand is injected at high pressure as much as 10,000 feet beneath the surface or on a horizontal plane to release trapped gas.

There is a lot to frack. Colorado has an estimated 23 trillion cubic feet of dry natural gas reserves (8.5 percent of all U.S. reserves), and a few areas in the state are in the middle of booms. One is Weld County, on the Front Range, northeast of Denver, where over 20,000 oil and gas wells make it the most intensely fracked county in the U.S.; another is Garfield County in the Colorado River corridor, where the river flows through the towns of Silt, Rifle, and Parachute, and where companies such as Antero Resources, EnCana, and WPX Energy are drilling to the edges of suburban development.

Energy is a lonely bright spot in a state economy that has been struggling. According to the Colorado Oil & Gas Association, natural gas now supports 137,000 jobs in Colorado, or roughly 6 percent of total employment.

<http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2012-07-12/the-fight-over-fracking-in-colorados-north-fork-valley>

Delaware:

In 2009 and 2010, about 1.4 million gallons of partially treated wastewater collected from hydraulic fracturing wells outside the Delaware River basin were further processed and flushed

into Delaware waters through the commercial side of DuPont's wastewater plant in Deepwater, New Jersey, near the foot of the Delaware Memorial Bridge. Delaware regulators only learned when contacted by The News Journal in May 2012 that the drilling wastewater passed through DuPont's plant for treatment, exiting from a discharge pipe under the river on Delaware's side of the state line. DuPont said that it received gas well wastewater for treatment and added that DuPont discontinued its industrial treatment-for-hire business in Delaware on March 30, 2012.

http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Delaware_and_fracking

Idaho:

May 2011 Idaho's first commercial natural gas wells come to life, raising questions about a controversial mining technique

<http://www.inlander.com/spokane/article-16569-fracking-idaho.html>

Some people have the potential of getting rich, but the Boise Weekly is reporting that a lot of residents are watching this new development with some trepidation, as Colorado-based Bridge Resources is set to "frack" four natural gas wells in Payette County.

That trepidation is not without cause: residents are outraged throughout the 33 states that are currently part of this new boom in natural gas production. Grandmothers are finding out that they've been bathing their grandchildren in arsenic-laden water days after a well drilling. Aquifers and springs are contaminated with radioactive heavy metals and neurotoxic chemicals. Earthquakes are rumbling the ground due to subsidence. The "blow out" noises from gas compressor stations roar at levels that are hazardous to health and many of the compressor stations act as mini refineries and lace the air with neurotoxins like benzene at rates 100 times the allowed EPA limit.

These developments are by-products of a new technology called hydrofracturing which the industry labels as an unconventional gas production technique.

http://riverjournal.com/vivvo/news/2208-idahonowopen_fracking_noell_072011.html

The discussion about oil and gas regulation in Idaho so far has centered on the issue of hydraulic fracturing or fracking and groundwater protection. But Ben Ysursa, Idaho's Secretary of State asked hard questions this week about other issues such as who will have control of the issues of the rights of surface owners versus the rights of sub-surface mineral right issues. Landmen for Bridge Resources and other companies are running around Payette County right now trying to put under lease as many acres as possible of potential drilling sites.

http://voices.idahostatesman.com/2011/02/17/rockybarker/idaho_gas_issues_go_beyond_fracking_environmental_threats

Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky

The Devonian-Mississippian New Albany Shale produces gas in the southeast Illinois Basin in Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky. The New Albany has been a gas producer in this area for more

than 100 years, but recent higher gas prices and improved well completion technology have increased drilling activity. Wells are 250 to 2000 feet deep. The gas is described as having a mixed biogenic and thermogenic origin.

The Shale is difficult to access without fracking. As of April 2012, up to \$100 million has been spent to secure mineral rights in nineteen counties considered favorable for gas exploration.

A 2011 report by the U.S. Energy Information Administration estimated recoverable natural gas reserves in the New Albany shale at about 11 trillion cubic feet, or slightly less than half of what the entire nation consumed in 2010

http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Illinois_and_fracking

Louisiana: Fracking corporation turns Louisiana bayou country into toxic sinkhole

For residents in Assumption Parish, the boiling, gas-belching bayou, with its expanding toxic sinkhole and quaking earth is no longer a mystery; but there is little comfort in knowing the source of the little-known event that has forced them out of their homes.

<http://dgrnewsservice.org/2012/12/10/fracking-corporation-turns-louisiana-bayou-country-into-toxic-sinkhole/>

Michigan:

By April 2012, oil companies signed 167 leases with people in Michigan's Barry County, compared to 81 signed in 2011. The leases give the oil companies permission to frack the land looking for oil. In Barry County, leases typically range from \$10 to \$80 per acre per month

Unlike other shale gas plays such as the Barnett Shale, the natural gas from the Antrim appears to be biogenic gas generated by the action of bacteria on the organic-rich rock. In 2007, the Antrim gas field produced 136 cubic feet of gas, making it the 13th largest source of natural gas in the United States.

The 2011 Common Cause report, "Deep drilling, deep pockets, in Washington and Michigan," found that "from 2001 through June 2011, the fracking industry gave \$20.5 million to current members of Congress and spent \$726 million on lobbying." For Michigan, Rep. John Dingell was the top recipient with \$203,453, followed by Rep. Dave Camp with \$154,627, and Rep. Fred Upton with \$153,917. Rep. Upton chairs the House Energy and Commerce Committee, where the FRAC Act, which would require drillers to disclose the chemicals used in fracking, has been stalled.

In June 2012 Reuters reported that, under the direction of CEO Aubrey McClendon, Chesapeake Energy plotted with top executives of competitor EnCana to suppress land prices in the Collingwood Shale formation in Northern Michigan. In emails between Chesapeake and Encana Corp, the rivals discussed dividing up Michigan counties and private landowners to avoid bidding against each other in a 2010 public land auction and in at least nine prospective private deals. Price-fixing between competitors is illegal under the Sherman Antitrust Act. In

Michigan alone, the two companies combined now hold more than 975,000 acres of land - an area about the size of Rhode Island.

http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Michigan_and_fracking

Mississippi:

In 2011, Devon Energy and EnCana began drilling in the Tuscaloosa Marine Shale (TMS) play, an “unproven unconventional 7 billion barrel oil resource” spanning the central Louisiana and southwestern Mississippi counties of Amite, Wilkinson, Adams, Franklin, Pike, and Walthall, for a total of 2.7 million acres (the term “play” refers to a geographic area targeted for exploration). In February 2012, Amite County said it will study oil shale and shale gas development in southwest Mississippi.

Missouri:

Although the U.S. shale oil and gas drilling boom has largely passed by Missouri, the energy industry is reportedly considering the state to mine for silica sand, used to prop open shale rock cracks during hydraulic fracturing.

Energy companies say Missouri's sand is nearly pure silica, or quartz, which allows the grains to maintain their shape under the pressure thousands of feet below ground. The sand grains are also nearly spherical, allowing them to flow more easily through fractures. And the silica could be stored and transported along the Mississippi River.

http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Missouri_and_fracking

New Mexico:

In September, the Chile Lovers of New Mexico delivered a petition composed of over 10,000 signatures from New Mexicans in Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Rio Rancho in support of protecting New Mexico's landmark Pit Rule to Governor Susana Martinez. Since then, an additional 3,000 New Mexicans from our rural communities have spoken up in support of a strong Pit Rule.

The Pit Rule is an important safeguard that protects our land and groundwater from oil and gas industry waste. Currently, Martinez's Oil Conservation Commission is considering dismantling the Pit Rule in ways that will hinder its ability to protect the land and water that sustains all New Mexicans.

On Monday Dec 12, 2012 Groups and Community Activists Hold Press Conference in Albuquerque and discuss 12,000 New Mexico petitions in support of our strong Pit Rule; Petitions delivered to Gov. Susana Martinez in Santa Fe.

http://www.democracyfornewmexico.com/democracy_for_new_mexico/2012/12/on-thursday-swop-delivered-pit-rule-petition-signatures-to-the-nm-gov-.html

New York:

The Costs of Fracking: The Price Tag of Dirty Drilling's Environmental Damage

Released by: Environment New York Research & Policy Center

Release date: Thursday, September 20, 2012

<http://www.environmentnewyork.org/reports/nye/costs-fracking>

New York State will miss the November 29th regulatory deadline to complete a review of the health impacts of high volume hydraulic fracturing, Governor Cuomo confirmed yesterday.

The missed deadline means that March 1st next year is the earliest the final version of the regulations to govern fracking in the state will be released. The state now has the option to file for a 90-day extension to the deadline for revised regulations, under a provision of the state Administrative Procedure Act, as long as they do it before November 29th. Allowing the deadline to simply lapse is unlikely as this would trigger a restart of the already lengthy review process managed by the Department of Environmental Conservation, including holding new public hearings.

The decision has been met with approval from fracking opponents including Binghamton Mayor Matt Ryan. Ryan says there shouldn't be any hurry to drill with gas at a low price, and people should know what they're getting into before the process is allowed.

<http://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/20933/20121121/nys-will-miss-fracking-deadline>

North Carolina: is believed to have a small natural gas reserve concentrated around Lee, Chatham and Moore counties that could be used in local manufacturing or in power plants. Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012 RALEIGH North Carolina's fracking commissioners picked up some pointers on public safety and public relations from a former governor of Colorado who five years ago oversaw that state's overhaul of its fracking rules.

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2012/12/20/3736632/former-colorado-governor-advises.html>

North Dakota:

Sinkholes have developed in the Pembina Gorge of northeastern North Dakota along the route of TransCanada Keystone pipeline, and some of them have swallowed pine trees.

The first sinkhole was discovered in March on the pipeline right of way along the Cavalier-Pembina county line. State Forester Larry Kotchman says an assessment team is working on an environmental restoration plan for the area, which includes the Tetrault Woods State Forest.

<http://www.texassharon.com/2009/07/31/sinkholes-and-gas-drilling-go-hand-in-hand/>

Ohio: Earthquakes lead to consideration of a Statewide ban in 2012

<http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2012/03/09-1>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/03/us-fracking-ohio-idUSTRE8021WD20120103>

A 4.0 New Year's Eve quake in Ohio prompted officials to shut down five wells used to dispose of fluid used in the hydraulic fracturing process. That comes less than a year after Arkansas declared a moratorium due to a surge in earthquakes as companies developed the Fayetteville Shale reserve.

Oklahoma: Earthquakes tied to Fracking in science reports in 2012

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/45903873/ns/technology_and_science-science/t/geologists-say-ohio-quakes-directly-tied-fracking/

In Oklahoma, which saw a tenfold increase in earthquakes since 2009 to over 1,000, officials at the Oklahoma Geological Survey (OKGS) say more proof of a link to fracking is needed.

"The strong correlation in time and space as well as a reasonable fit to a physical model suggest that there is a possibility these earthquakes were induced by hydraulic fracturing," according to a OKGS report released in August.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/03/us-fracking-ohio-idUSTRE8021WD20120103>

Pennsylvania: Poisoned Aquifers

"We've got to get it right," said Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., a sponsor of the so-called FRAC Act, which would repeal the 2005 exemption and require regulation of fracking by the EPA under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/38334031/ns/us_news-environment/t/epa-drills-down-fracking-technique/

Pennsylvania Farmers Speak Out: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHoAHQEz5Fk>

Texas: Quakes & Sinkholes

In early October, three unusual quakes shook a west Dallas suburb. The quake was linked to wastewater disposal from local hydraulic fracturing operations, [according to a geophysicist](#) who has studied earthquakes in the region.

<http://www.examiner.com/article/man-made-quakes-by-drilling-and-fracking-new-report>

Utah: Drilling Boom Tied to Spike in Utah Air Pollution

<http://www.water-contamination-from-shale.com/utah/utah/>

According to a New York Times report, in 2010 federal regulators discovered an unusual winter weather pattern in the Uinta Basin that caused ozone concentrations to reach potentially dangerous levels in January, February and March. Air monitors installed in the Uinta Basin measured ozone concentrations exceeding federal health standards more than 68 times in the first three months of 2010, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The problem was equal to the worst summertime ozone tracked by the EPA in San Bernardino, California, the most polluted place in the U.S.

The air pollution problem didn't go away the following year. In the first six months of 2011, the monitors in Uinta Basin recorded more than a dozen violations of the federal ground-level ozone standard.

Ground-level ozone pollution is linked to health problems like asthma. It's generally at its worst in summer, and is most likely to occur in places with a great deal of industrial development.

In October 2010, the Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) identifying hundreds of existing oil and gas wells in the basin as the primary cause of the ozone pollution, according to The New York Times.

West Virginia:

In February 2011, the NY Times reported that a never-released study by the EPA and a confidential study by the drilling industry concluded that radioactivity in drilling waste cannot be fully diluted in rivers and other waterways, yet federal and state regulators are allowing most sewage treatment plants that accept drilling waste not to test for radioactivity. In West Virginia, a plant in Wheeling discharged gas-drilling wastewater into the Ohio River. Pennsylvania has sent some of its fracking waste to West Virginia for disposal.

The Times also reported that "a 1987 report to Congress by the Environmental Protection Agency that deals with waste from the exploration, development and production of oil, natural gas and geothermal energy ... states that hydraulic fracturing, also called fracking, can cause groundwater contamination.

http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/West_Virginia_and_fracking

Wyoming:

<http://wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org/blog/2011/04/26/suspend-fracking-former-gas-exec-urges/>

Currently Wyoming is proposes approximately 21,000 new wells at the same time natural gas prices are still declining. However, Wyoming natural gas producers are looking to the future, and Wyoming will remain a prime location for gas development for decades to come. With the completion of the Wyoming-to-Oregon Ruby Pipeline this summer, Wyoming will will have more export capacity than production. In 2007, Wyoming produced a record-setting 436.3 billion standard feet of gas. The Atlantic Rim in south-central Wyoming supports nearly 500 natural gas wells. Wyoming is the number three producer of Coalbed Natural Gas. The Powder River Basin accounts for roughly 98% of the the natural gas deposits in the state.

In 2012 the Citizens for the Wyoming Range were opposing PXP's plans to drill 136 natural gas wells in the Upper Hoback Basin, south of Jackson. Called the Eagle Prospect and Noble Basin Master Development Plan (MDP), it could be developed in a pristine area of the Bridger-Teton National Forest with 29 miles of new or upgraded roads and 17 well pads. The group is concerned about impacts on wildlife and local biodiversity. In 2011 the U.S. Forest Service released a draft of its environmental analysis of the proposed project, recommending against

leasing of 44,720 acres for natural gas exploration.

As of 2012, the U.S. Forest Service is conducting a final environmental review of the project. If officials decide that tighter restrictions on drilling near existing roads apply, it's possible that the PXP leases would be less valuable and could be bought out by those who want the Noble Basin preserved in its current wild state.

As a result of Wyoming's disclosure law fracking operators in Wyoming must now provide the names of chemical additives and the Chemical Abstracts Service number, compound type, and compound concentrations or rates proposed to be mixed and injected as part of the hydraulic fracturing process.

However, the disclosure measure allows trade secret exemptions meant to protect companies from being forced to reveal proprietary information. In 2010 and 2011, the state granted 50 chemical secrecy requests by oil and gas service companies, including Halliburton, Weatherford International, and NALCO. Environmental groups discovered the information was being shielded from disclosure after seeking access to records on hydraulic fracturing chemicals used in the state; WOGCC provided some of the requested information in January 2012, but refused to turn over any chemical formulations that had been designated as "trade secrets."
http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Wyoming_and_fracking

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