What is High Volume Hydrofracking?

Not your grandfather’s gas well!

Old Style Hydrofracuring—injecting water, sand, & chemicals to stimulate gas extraction—was developed in the 1940’s and has been used in “traditional” gas well drilling for many years. It uses 20,000-80,000 gallons of water and 700—2800 lbs. of chemicals.

New High Volume Slick water Hydrofracuring (fracking) is different. Since the 1990’s, shale formations have been fracked using 3 million—7.8 million gallons of fresh water and 130,000—280,000 lbs. of chemicals. The new style of fracking uses 40—200 times more toxic fluid than the old style of drilling.

More Toxic Wastewater: Up to 16 Marcellus shale wells can be drilled per square mile. If an average of 100 times more fluids (than old style wells) are used per well, the wastewater generated per square mile will be equal to 1,600 old style wells in that same square mile. 65% of the 300 (or more) chemicals currently used in the fracking process are hazardous to health and the environment. Hydrofracking also brings to the surface radioactive materials, brine, methane, heavy metals, and other potentially hazardous chemicals. There is currently no safe way to treat or dispose of the millions of gallons of toxic fluids that result from gas drilling.

More Truck Trips: A typical Marcellus well pad requires up to 8,000 mega ton truck trips over the life of the well. With hundreds & even thousands of wells in our county, roads and bridges will take a terrible beating at taxpayer’s expense.

More Air Pollution: A toxic side effect of gas drilling is an increase in ozone levels and air pollution. Diesel fumes from trucks, and toxic emissions from gas drilling & compressors poison once pure “country air” resulting in a rise in asthma and other health problems.

Accidents Happen: The gas industry admits that accidents happen. Typical accidents that have happened in other states are: spills from trucks & storage containers • pipeline breaks • flowback fluid spills • seeps from faulty well casings • spills from faulty hoses • leaks from high pressure pumps • gas rig & pipeline fires & explosions.

It only takes 1 accident to ruin an aquifer and pollute private & public water supplies.