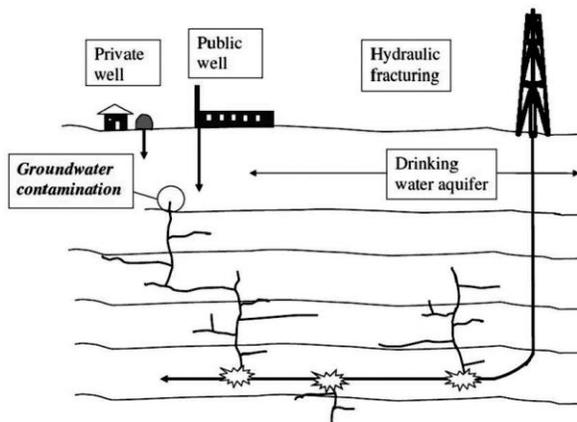


Fracking Threatens North Carolina!



What is hydraulic fracturing?

Hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking” is a method of extracting natural gas that involves injecting high pressure fluids thousands of feet deep with a mixture of water, sand and chemicals to break up shale formations and release natural gas. Fracking uses 3-5 million gallons of water; wells may be hydraulically fractured many times. Federal exemptions for the oil and gas industry have allowed poor state regulation.

Why is this an issue now in NC?

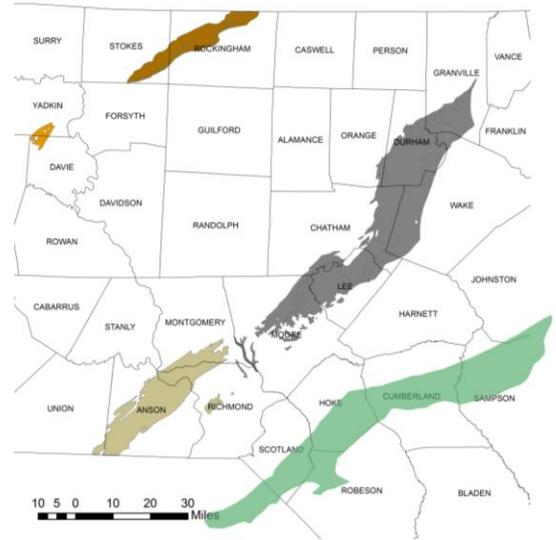
Senate Bill 820 (passed July 2012) legalized hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling. It also set up a Mining and Energy Commission and allows “forced pooling” of land.

Senate Bill 76 (SB76) “The Domestic Energy and Jobs Act” was passed by the legislature and became law in July, 2013. The final version of the bill promotes offshore drilling, but it does NOT include some of the worst provisions proposed by the Senate, including allowing underground injection of fracking wastes, and fast-tracking permitting before regulations are completed! **HB 74** which passed on the last day of session, guts protections for landfills and groundwater and many other regulations; also limits protective environmental ordinances to those that pass unanimously.

Why should communities in NC be concerned?

Gas development impacts include:

- Millions of gallons of freshwater required; threat of water scarcity, stress on local water supplies
- Threat of well contamination from fracking or waste injection. Risk of increased earthquake activity.
- Heavy truck traffic and noise; road damage; emissions from natural gas processing and compressor stations.
- Industrialization of landscape could impact tourism from the mountains to the coast.
- Brief surge in jobs during well construction “boom” followed by production “bust,” leaves weaker economy.
- Increased costs of road repair, public safety, and emergency services could impact local budgets for short “boom”.
- “Predatory” leases may charge landowners for construction costs and damages or require landowners to provide water supply for fracking. Landowners who have leases may be unable to get mortgage financing.
- Large landowners, contractors will profit; most vulnerable residents will bear the burden of adverse impacts.



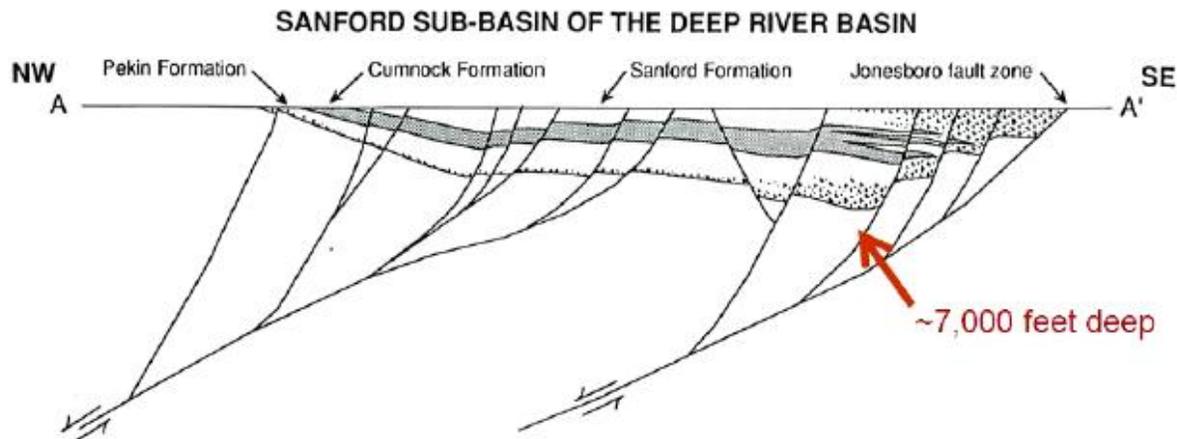
Map of Triassic Basin Shales, based on NC Geologic Survey Publication (2008)

What can YOU do to protect your community?

- **Tell the Gov. you oppose fracking: 919-814-2000.** Sign the petition, <http://frackfreenc.org/get-involved/>
- Visit frackfreenc.org to join a group, or get a speaker for a community meeting, a presentation or film.
- Contact your legislators about fracking! Go to www.ncleg.net and select “Who represents me?”
- Sign up for weekly “FrackUpdates” at www.cwfnc.org – news, events! Call 919-401-9600 to get involved.
- Work with your local government for a local ordinance or resolution against fracking & gas development.

Why would NC be especially vulnerable to fracking impacts?

- The Triassic Basins of NC are shallow, discontinuous, fractured compared to major shale formations in other states. These formations are close to groundwater supplies used for drinking water wells. Movement of toxic natural chemicals from the shale like benzene, heavy metals and radio-active materials could more easily contaminate groundwater after high pressure fracturing occurs.



- NC's shale basins have numerous fractures and faults that can interconnect; allowing fluids and shale contaminants to move to groundwater too, and these fractures may even be widened or disturbed by the fracking process itself.
NC basins have dikes (rock formations that cut across pre-existing rocks) that are oriented perpendicular to faults in the region, which can also cause easier migration of contaminants to drinking water.
- The shale gas basins have the highest population density of any region in North America that has been proposed for fracking, including tens of thousands of private well users. Small land owners and non-owners surrounded by drilling leases could be caught up – against their will – in “forced pooling” of drilling units as well as drinking water contamination, toxic air emissions, industrialization of the landscape and heavy truck traffic.
- Widespread disturbance and eminent domain takings would be required to build pipelines to get gas to market.
- NC has sensitive facilities (nuclear power, high hazard coal ash dams) which could be vulnerable to seismic effects in an already faulted region.



For more information visit www.cwfnc.org

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