WHAT THE GAS COMPANIES DON’T WANT YOU TO KNOW

Gas drilling is a boom-bust industry. Profits are short lived, with little money staying in the community. Large landowners who have financially benefited are likely to leave town. While some reap financial benefits, the entire community must pay for damages and to clean up a degraded environment.

Gas drilling is highly subsidized. Because of the surplus of gas in the market, gas companies cannot turn a profit without the help of your tax dollars. In fact they don't need to produce any gas/oil to turn a profit. A recent New York Times article stated that this is one of the few industries where the after-tax profit is greater than the before-tax profit.

Natural gas is not a bridge fuel: it is a non-renewable fossil fuel. Natural gas production forces our focus away from a comprehensive energy policy and diverts investment funds away from renewable energy sources.

Gas drilling is not about energy independence. Foreign companies are currently obtaining local leases, and gas is being sold on the international market.

Exemptions, deregulation, government cutbacks, and lack of accountability have undermined the ability of state and national agencies, such as the DEC and EPA, to provide adequate protection against the environmental, economic, and social abuses of natural gas development.

Get Informed ~ Get Involved ~ Speak Up!

Tell your local, state and national representatives what you think. Ask them to support legislation which restores home rule and ends the loopholes exempting gas drilling companies from the clean air, clean water and clean drinking water acts.

Talk to your neighbors. Tell them what's involved. Share this brochure with them.

Tell all who will listen what the bankers and insurance agents already know – the risks just aren't worth it.

HELP US WITH OUR WORK.

CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR LOCAL ANTI-FRACKING GROUP

For more information visit: www.DamascusCitizens.org

DRILLING AND HYDROFRACKING FOR NATURAL GAS

What ALL New Yorkers Need to Know

- Villagers
- Unleased property owners
- Second-home owners

IT’S NOT JUST A RURAL LANDOWNER ISSUE
You Can't Drink Gas

The greatest danger in gas drilling is water pollution caused by spills and blowouts. Any contamination of ground water and aquifers is a threat to public health, agriculture, and wildlife. After a recent spill in PA, the USDA quarantined cattle that drank contaminated water, to protect the public from eating potentially harmful products. But humans are not directly protected because the gas industry is exempted from the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. Your drinking water is not protected.

Air Quality Concerns

Inhalation: openings for invasive species
Access roads and pipelines provide "easy" access to wildlife, including native plant species and other natural environments. Without proper maintenance, wells become an escape route for invasive species.

Access roads and pipelines are openings for invasive species. Invasive species may spread to other areas.

Increased traffic
The DEC estimates between 5850 and 8905 truck trips for each well pad. The traffic estimates between 5850 and 8905 truck trips for each well pad. The traffic estimate for each well pad is based on the DEC's report on traffic estimates.

Environmental Issues

Greenhouse gases
Methane, the principal component of natural gas, is as much as 25 times as potent as CO2 as a greenhouse gas. Experts say that during transport, 3-5% of the methane escapes from pipelines. This leakage causes climate change.

Increased traffic
Increased traffic leads to increased accidents. In one study, school bus drivers increased their speed by 30% when passing gas well pads.

Human Health Concerns

Methane, the principal component of natural gas, is as much as 25 times as potent as CO2 as a greenhouse gas. Experts say that during transport, 3-5% of the methane escapes from pipelines. This leakage causes climate change.

Increased traffic
Increased traffic leads to increased accidents. In one study, school bus drivers increased their speed by 30% when passing gas well pads.

Security and Social Costs

Drilling-driven temporary population booms increase demand on police, fire, and EMS services. This strain on emergency services is reflected in the decrease in property values.

Economics

Agricultural production, tourism and recreation contribute almost 50% of the state economy. Gas drilling can negatively affect agricultural production, tourism and recreation. Environmental impacts reduce property values.

You Can’t Drink Gas