

# B. C. TAP WATER ALLIANCE

Caring for, Monitoring, and Protecting  
British Columbia's Community Water Supply Sources

Email – [info@bctwa.org](mailto:info@bctwa.org)

Website – [www.bctwa.org](http://www.bctwa.org)



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News Release

## When the People Shout No!

B.C. Tap Water Alliance Coordinator Will Koop has published a new, major on-line report, *When the People Shout No! – The Friends of the Fraser Valley and the Five Waves of Petroleum Exploration in the Fraser Valley, 1914-1994*.

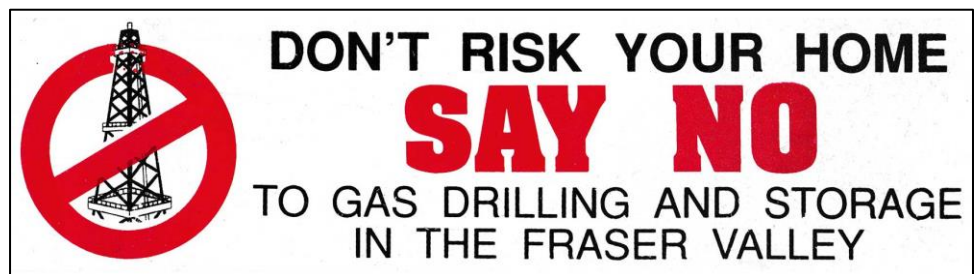
Over a year in the making, the self-financed report investigates the amazing story of how citizens in southwest British Columbia's Fraser Valley and Lower Mainland organized to oppose petroleum exploration for oil and gas and development of underground gas storage during the 'fifth wave' of exploration (1988-1994).

Faced with government's approval for controversial licensed petroleum operations and developments in populated areas, citizenry fought to protect their families, their homes and farms, their groundwater,

their lands and animals, and their air. They did so with persistence, perseverance, and creativity, never afraid to take on the powers that be, including the government's special 1990 Commission of Inquiry.

Their battle is not the only story featured in this ambitious report. It also narrates the historical events and contexts of the "five waves" of petroleum exploration in the Fraser Valley, on Vancouver Island, and in the Gulf Islands that took place over an eighty-year period, 1914 to 1994, events long since forgotten.

Behind the endeavours of the final three waves (1977-1994) was the provincial government's and industry's hunt for an underground gas storage facility, stumped at each attempt. Millions and millions of dollars from corporations and companies that financed and speculated on cumulative petroleum schemes and operations during the "five waves" – sometimes including elaborate public relations endeavours – achieved the same end results – they all came up dry!



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\* [Link here for the short version of the report](#): (Title, Foreword, Dedication, Contents, Introduction, pdf)

\* [Link here for the full report](#): (133 megabytes, pdf)