

# Compilation of 2,238 Media Internet References Concerning Natural Gas “Fracking” (Hydraulic Fracturing) (September 14, 2003 - February 25, 2011)

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February 25, 2011

Source: Environmental Health News  
(<http://bit.ly/eM4mre>)  
Published by Environmental Health Sciences  
(<http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/>)

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**[Hydrofracked? One man’s mystery leads to a backlash against natural gas drilling.](#)** Louis Meeks’ well water contains methane gas, hydrocarbons, lead and copper, according to EPA test results. His personal fight began with something simple: the energy industry’s insistence that fracturing couldn’t contaminate water. [ProPublica](#). 25 February 2011.

**[Groundtruthing Academy Award nominee 'Gasland.'](#)** The filmmaker and industry have each made errors and have spun some facts to their outer limits. So, in an attempt to clear the air before the envelope is opened Sunday night, the claims are being analyzed. [Greenwire](#). 25 February 2011.

**[New Brunswick seeks natural gas, and a safer way.](#)** Southwestern Energy of Houston has been working with the environmental group Environmental Defense Fund on a set of model standards for safe drilling that they have suggested be considered in New Brunswick. [National Geographic News](#). 25 February 2011.

**[Has natural gas disaster already happened?](#)** While many of the effects of the gas industry’s entrance into West Virginia remain to be seen, some residents are noting plenty of damage has already been done. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 25 February 2011.

**[New York wine and tourism industry prepares to battle hydrofracking.](#)** A fault line is opening in upstate New York between the established wine and tourism industries and natural gas drillers. Recent steps by cities to limit or ban drilling seem to be spreading into the rural heart of the gas-rich Marcellus Shale region. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 25 February 2011.

**[National parks will need protection.](#)** Without an overhaul of current regulations, national parks on land above the Marcellus shale could be endangered. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 25 February 2011.

**[N.J. won't decide on pipeline.](#)** The state Department of Environmental Protection has asked federal officials to hold off a review of a natural gas pipeline that will stretch from West Milford under the Monksville Reservoir through Ringwood and into Mahwah because the developer has not submitted enough information. [Bergen County Record](#), New Jersey. 25 February 2011.

**['Volatile vapor' led to drilling site blast: officials.](#)** A "volatile vapor" led to an explosion at a natural gas drilling site Wednesday that left three people injured, according to state environmental officials. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 25 February 2011.

**[Gas drilling foes, backers clash.](#)** Passions ran high as landowners struggling to save family farms and create jobs upstate clashed with area environmentalists who worry natural gas drilling will poison the area's drinking water supply. [Doylestown Intelligencer](#), Pennsylvania. 25 February 2011.

**[Natural gas drilling: Dangerous side effects of an economic boost.](#)** Many West Virginians are concerned that the costs of allowing drillers in the state may be higher than the benefits. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 25 February 2011.

**[Lawmakers scale back proposed Marcellus regulations.](#)** With time running out, state lawmakers scrambled Thursday to advance legislation regulating Marcellus Shale gas drilling in West Virginia - and they significantly scaled back initial proposals. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 25 February 2011.

**[Natural gas development: Regulating a new industry.](#)** A lot of West Virginians, from industry executives to environmentalists, are anxiously waiting on just what West Virginia legislators are going to do about the future development of natural gas in West Virginia. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 25 February 2011.

**[Time running out on shale drilling bill.](#)** The West Virginia House and Senate each have until Wednesday to pass some form of Marcellus Shale legislation on to the other body. Otherwise, no new regulations will be adopted this session. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 25 February 2011.

**[Oklahoma passes fracking test.](#)** Oklahoma won praise Thursday from an independent panel that reviewed its regulation of the hydraulic fracturing of oil and natural gas wells, but there is still some room seen for improvement. [Oklahoma City Oklahoman](#), Oklahoma. 25 February 2011.

**[Corbett: Acres of drilling.](#)** Gov. Corbett is turning out to be consistent – and consistently bad – on the topic of natural-gas drilling. In the previous administration, the balancing of environmental concerns was sometimes missing. But under Corbett, any such concerns appear to be forgotten altogether. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 25 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Controversy behind an Oscar-nominated documentary.](#)** It's the Oscars this weekend, and all the attention is on prominent films like Black Swan and Inception. But an independent film about natural gas extraction has snuck in under the radar and is in contention for best documentary. [New Scientist](#). Opinion, 25 February 2011.

**[The story of Marcellus shale gas.](#)** While the Marcellus shale has recently become a popular news item, there is nothing new about the natural gas it contains. It has been forming under the earth for millions of years. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[Gas drillers make waves in Pa. with NFL tickets.](#)** When John Hanger, then the state's top environmental regulator, was offered a coveted trip to the Super Bowl to see the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2009, he turned it down. [Associated Press](#). 24 February 2011.

**[Corbett repeals policy on gas drilling in parks.](#)** Gov. Tom Corbett has repealed a 4-month-old policy designed to minimize the environmental impact of Marcellus Shale natural gas well drilling in Pennsylvania's parks. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 24 February 2011.

**[Western Pa. gas well blast injures 3 workers.](#)** An explosion and fire at a gas well injured three workers Wednesday night, authorities said. [Associated Press](#). 24 February 2011.

**[Two-year delay proposed in Marcellus shale gas drilling.](#)** O'Malley administration officials told state lawmakers Wednesday that they need up to two years more to study the risks of drilling for natural gas in Marcellus shale deposits in Western Maryland before deciding whether to let the controversial practice go forward. [Baltimore Sun](#), Maryland. 24 February 2011.

**[What are fracking chemicals?](#)** The following is a list of chemicals used in the process of hydraulic fracturing. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[The history of natural gas in West Virginia.](#)** New development of the Marcellus shale has again brought the natural gas industry to the attention of West Virginians, but natural gas has a long history in the state. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[Miley sees Marcellus bill not dead, on life support.](#)** Borrowing a line from a Jerry Reed song, one could say that a comprehensive Marcellus shale bill faces a long way to go, and a short time to get there. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[Legislators excited, cautious about Marcellus shale potential.](#)** Among their other duties, West Virginia lawmakers have been busy weighing two complex bills regarding the Marcellus shale, all while taking input from a wave of industry, environmental and property owner lobbyists. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[Squeezing gas from a porous shale formation.](#)** The relatively new drilling techniques used to tap the Marcellus shale that have drawn the ire of environmentalists and raised the eyebrows of property owners are the same methods that make Marcellus shale wells profitable. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[Lawmakers still mulling legislation.](#)** Members of the West Virginia Legislature are currently considering two markedly different bills regarding the regulation of natural gas, and it's not clear if either will make it through this legislative session. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[Property owner rights before, during and after drilling.](#)** The surge of interest in natural gas reserves in the West Virginia Marcellus shale has left the fate of surface owners' properties — and the resources beneath them — in the hands of Charleston legislators. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[Marcellus bills aim at organizing, setting drilling regulations.](#)** Commissioners from both of Maryland's westernmost counties testified in Annapolis in support of a bill requiring the development of regulations for natural gas exploration and drilling in Marcellus shale. [Cumberland Times-News](#), Maryland. 24 February 2011.

**[DEP chief says lack of funding could slow gas drilling permits.](#)** One of the biggest issues for the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection is the lack of resources to monitor and regulate the number of Marcellus wells operating in the state. [West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[What is the Marcellus Shale?](#)** Despite all the excitement and fear surrounding the development of the Marcellus shale, few seem to understand what the Marcellus shale is or how it got there. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 24 February 2011.

**[Energy regulators could improve in areas of fracturing drilling.](#)** The Oklahoma Corporation Commission has met the challenge of overseeing hydraulic fracturing of natural gas wells, but regulators need to better define sensitive water areas and detail fluids and proppants, or particles, used in the drilling. [Tulsa World](#), Oklahoma. 24 February 2011.

**[Well site fine to aid environment.](#)** One of the state's first fines for air quality violations at a Barnett Shale well site will provide the first pot of money tapped for more ambient air quality monitors in the region. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 24 February 2011.

**[Legal options against gas drilling companies discussed in Colorado.](#)** Attorneys from New York City and Aspen outlined options in a meeting Tuesday for Garfield County residents to consider suing over perceived negative impacts from gas drilling in their neighborhoods. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 24 February 2011.

**[Natural gas can fuel our economy.](#)** Natural gas is critical to solving the American energy puzzle, but anti-drilling activists are intent on keeping our nation's natural gas in the ground. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 24 February 2011.

**[Pennsylvania Governor scales back drilling policy on public land.](#)** A policy that environmental advocates view as an important shield for certain state parks and forests against damage from natural gas drilling has been repealed by new Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett. [Associated Press](#). 23 February 2011.

**[Drillers set sights on shale reserve deeper than the Marcellus.](#)** Another underground strip of shale in Pennsylvania, Utica shale, much deeper than the Marcellus formation, is drawing attention from natural-gas drillers. It stretches far beyond the edges of the Marcellus, covering most of Pennsylvania, New York and West Virginia, along with eastern Ohio and parts of other states. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 23 February 2011.

**[Drilling rig coming soon to a state park near you?](#)** The DEP has quietly rescinded a policy requiring environmental-impact review prior to gas drilling in state parks, one of the few regs giving the state a say on drilling on land where the state doesn't own mineral rights. And it doesn't own rights under 85% of its parks. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 23 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Gas fuels controversy at hearing on proposed drilling regulations.](#)** From "they go too far," to "They don't go far enough," during the first session of public testimony concerning draft regulations of natural gas well development, the only thing people agreed on was that they didn't like the draft regulations. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 23 February 2011.

**[Pa. loosens rule on gas drilling.](#)** The Corbett administration, having just taken a step to make it easier to drill for natural gas on state lands, says it will soon take another, bigger step in that direction. Gov. Corbett plans to lift the moratorium his predecessor imposed on new natural-gas drilling in state forests and parks. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 23 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Utica shale drawing gas drillers' attention in Pennsylvania.](#)** A reservoir of natural gas that's deeper than the Marcellus Shale is attracting the attention of drillers in Pennsylvania who are already cashing in on the Marcellus formation. [Associated Press](#). 23 February 2011.

**[Polarized hearing brings drilling debate to Delaware River Basin.](#)** Natural gas drilling will either save or devastate a region whose fate is in the hands of an interstate commission that regulates water quality, according to the testimony from both sides of the debate. About 90 people spoke at a session attended by more than 300 people. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 23 February 2011.

**[Hundreds attend hearing on gas drilling along Delaware River.](#)** The Delaware River Basin Commission is taking comment on proposed regulations that would require installation of ground and surface water monitors and keep well sites 500 feet from wetlands, bodies of water, surface water supply intake and water supply reservoirs. [Associated Press](#). 23 February 2011.

**[Strong debate rages on gas drilling in Delaware River Basin.](#)** While it lacked the protest signs and organized rallies of similar meetings past, about 250 people showed up for a pair of public hearings Tuesday in Sullivan County related to a set of proposed rules to govern natural gas drilling in the Delaware River Basin. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 23 February 2011.

**[Prospects dim for Marcellus Shale regulation.](#)** A sweeping bill to regulate gas drilling that includes numerous rules to protect the environment and the rights of property owners is unlikely to pass the West Virginia Legislature in this session. [Charleston Daily Mail](#), West Virginia. 23 February 2011.

**[Mayor vows to keep gas drilling fight despite move.](#)** The tiny rural town of Dish at the heart of the natural gas drilling controversy in Texas is losing its most high-profile crusader: Mayor Calvin Tillman, who has sold his house over concerns about his children's escalating health problems. [Associated Press](#). 23 February 2011.

**[Use of diesel in wells probed.](#)** Colorado oil and gas officials have launched an investigation into the use of diesel fuel in the state as a component in the fluid used by drillers to enhance well production. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 23 February 2011.

**[Panel rules against homeowner who said fracking fouled well.](#)** The controversial oil-industry technique known as fracking went on trial at the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission on Tuesday — and fracking won. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 23 February 2011.

**[Origin gets environmental nod for \\$35b LNG project.](#)** The federal environment minister has approved a \$35 billion liquefied natural gas project in Central Queensland despite fears it could poison the Great Artesian Basin. [Australian Associated Press](#). 22 February 2011.

**[Karoo mobilises against fracking.](#)** Farmers, landowners and community members in the Karoo are bolstering their opposition to applications by energy companies Shell, Bundu and Falcon to explore for shale gas, a non-renewable form of energy, in the Karoo. [Cape Town Cape Times](#), South Africa. 22 February 2011.

**[BHP Billiton makes \\$4.75 billion push into U.S. shale gas.](#)** BHP Billiton is buying shale gas reserves from Chesapeake Energy Corp for \$4.75 billion, pitting itself for the first time against oil giants and China in the battle for the fast-growing energy source in North America. [Reuters](#). 22 February 2011.

**['Fracking' threatens Western Australia water resources.](#)** Groundwater resources in the South-West, Mid-West and Kimberley are at risk of being polluted with a cocktails of chemicals from coal seam gas proponents keen to develop an industry here, the WA Greens have warned. [Perth Now](#), Australia. 22 February 2011.

**[Australia gives Origin environmental approval for LNG.](#)** Australia's government gave the environmental go-ahead for ConocoPhillips' and Origin Energy's \$35 billion coal seam-gas project in eastern Queensland state, clearing the way for a final investment decision on the project. [Reuters](#). 22 February 2011.

**[AgForce demands talks on coal seam gas.](#)** A farm lobby group has challenged two Queensland ministers to meet immediately with landholders concerned about the environmental impacts of the emerging coal seam gas (CSG) industry. [Australian Associated Press](#). 22 February 2011.

**[EPA e-mail stirs call for agency documents on Range Resources order.](#)** Responsibility for methane contamination of two Parker County water wells, a controversy pitting the U.S. EPA against Fort Worth-based natural gas producer Range Resources, is drawing attention in Congress after disclosure of an e-mail written by an EPA Regional Administrator. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 22 February 2011.

**[Competing claims over fracking discussed on Capitol Hill.](#)** Concern about natural gas extraction has grown into "a substantial movement," according to a documentary film director who wants President Barack Obama to declare a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. [Oklahoma City Oklahoman](#), Oklahoma. 22 February 2011.

**[Penn Township approves draft of oil, gas ordinance.](#)** Penn Township commissioners last night unanimously approved the draft of an oil and gas ordinance. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 22 February 2011.

**[Groups target 'fracking': Environmentalists want new rules on gas extraction.](#)** Environmentalists concerned about controversial methods used by petroleum companies in fracturing shale formations to release natural gas are pressing for new state regulations on "fracking." [Knoxville News Sentinel](#), Tennessee. 22 February 2011.

**Fears over gas drilling more than hot air.** Why is an advanced wealthy country like Australia so compelled to sacrifice agricultural land for financial gain by exporting coal seam gas, which isn't required for our own energy needs? [Australia ABC News](#), Australia. Opinion, 22 February 2011.

**W.Va. Marcellus gas legislation ready for review.** West Virginia lawmakers hope to focus this week on a single, catchall bill for developing the Marcellus shale natural gas field. The legislation up for review seeks to address industry needs, environmental concerns, and the rights of mineral and surface owners. [Associated Press](#). 21 February 2011.

**Farmers count cost of coal seam gas rush.** The company behind a \$15 billion coal seam gas development in Queensland is being investigated for damaging an underground water source within the Great Artesian Basin system, Monday's Four Corners program reveals. [Australia ABC News](#), Australia. 21 February 2011.

**Oscar buzz for Gasland fuelled by US energy lobby attacks.** There is no such thing as bad publicity. But the PR adage seems to have been overlooked by America's energy lobby, whose attacks on a documentary on natural gas drilling have dramatically raised the film's pre-Oscar buzz. [London Guardian](#), United Kingdom. 21 February 2011.

**Forum looks at dangers of fracking.** Residents concerned about the impact of gas well drilling on their community filled the Aurora Town Hall auditorium Sunday afternoon for an informational presentation that focused on the practice of hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," and the steps a community can take to protect itself. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 21 February 2011.

**Preserved farms protected from development but not gas drilling.** An exploratory natural gas well planned for Benton Twp. will be drilled on a handful of the 3,700 acres of farmland in Lackawanna County that have been preserved forever from development through state- and county-owned conservation easements. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 21 February 2011.

**Natural gas big, thriving and growing across W.Va.** Marcellus shale is hogging the limelight in this legislative session, eclipsing a thriving and growing natural gas industry across all of West Virginia. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 21 February 2011.

**Team looks at natural gas drilling.** Researchers from several disciplines at the University of North Texas and the UNT Health Science Center are building a new data set that will help identify impacts of the Barnett Shale drilling boom on the region's population. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 21 February 2011.

**Effect of Marcellus drilling on West Virginia fisheries could be profound.** Fisheries scientists and conservation groups worry that gas drilling in West Virginia's Marcellus Shale might affect fish and other aquatic life, particularly in small streams. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 20 February 2011.

**Dunmore landfill accepting gas drilling waste that may be radioactive.** Keystone Sanitary Landfill in Dunmore has accepted tons of gas drilling waste that can contain radioactive material and heavy metals, according to documents obtained by The Sunday Times. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 20 February 2011.

**[Consol offered 2009 Super Bowl trip to key Pennsylvania regulator.](#)** The large coal and natural-gas company that treated Pennsylvania legislators to free Super Bowl trips this year made the same offer in 2009 to the state's top environmental regulator. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 20 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Shale tax is a fair solution.](#)** As Gov. Corbett prepares to deliver a budget full of proposed cuts next month, there's one source of available revenue he should tap. Natural-gas production is surging here. The industry is no longer in its infancy, but Pennsylvania is still the only major gas-producing state without a tax on extraction. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 20 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Utilizing Marcellus Shale has Monroe residents talking.](#)** Residents of Monroe County are weighing in on recent proposals by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin and other lawmakers to utilize the Marcellus Shale for economic development and as always, there are strong opinions on both sides of the issue. [Bluefield Daily Telegraph](#), West Virginia. 19 February 2011.

**[Fears voiced at Marcellus Shale hearing.](#)** Joe Miller's family has owned a tree farm in Preston County for 150 years. But he's worried about what might happen to his business if drilling for natural gas in the state's Marcellus Shale formation isn't controlled. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 19 February 2011.

**[Limit gas drilling to 1 mile away from schools.](#)** A study to be released next week says that natural gas drilling operations produce high levels of pollution. The study, which will be presented to the Fort Worth Independent School District board on Tuesday, recommends such operations be kept one mile from schools. [Dallas KXAS TV](#), Texas. 19 February 2011.

**[Fort Worth Democrat's bill would require 'tracer' in drilling water.](#)** A bill filed by a Fort Worth Democrat on Friday aims to end an impasse between natural gas drillers and landowners who say their drinking water has been contaminated by hydraulic fracturing by requiring drillers to include a unique "tracer" fluid in the fracking water. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 19 February 2011.

**[Natural gas pipeline through Windsor gets approval.](#)** A pipeline that will connect Marcellus Shale natural gas wells to a major Southern Tier transmission line received the green light Thursday from the state, clearing the final regulatory hurdle for the long-debated project. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 18 February 2011.

**[US anti-fracking bill gets Oscar hopeful's support.](#)** Hoping success rubs off, a U.S. lawmaker had the director of the Oscar-nominated film "Gasland" near when announcing he will reintroduce a bill making companies reveal chemicals used in natural gas drilling. [Reuters](#). 18 February 2011.

**[Forced pooling imperils shale bill.](#)** A bill to protect the state's water supply could be derailed amid a fight between natural gas companies and mineral rights owners. [Charleston Daily Mail](#), West Virginia. 18 February 2011.

**[Deep public concern about Marcellus drilling in WV.](#)** Legislators got an earful Thursday from people worried about the impact of the fast-growing practices of extracting natural gas from West Virginia's Marcellus shale. [Public News Service](#). 18 February 2011.

**[Drilling study finds high pollution levels near Fort Worth schools.](#)** A study of the air quality around natural gas drilling sites near Fort Worth schools found significantly high levels of the pollutant carbon disulfide, a committee of the Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods Association reported Thursday night. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 18 February 2011.

**[In support of fracking: things we need to know.](#)** Hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling have transformed the U.S. gas industry from a declining resource to a vast source of domestic energy and jobs. Yet it has also brought new environmental concerns about air pollution and drinking water contamination. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Opinion, 18 February 2011.

**[Influence-peddling hurdles party lines.](#)** In a previous column, I criticized state Senate Pro Tem Joe Scarnati for accepting Super Bowl tickets and other expensive perks from Consol Energy Inc., at a time when the Legislature is being lobbied about Marcellus Shale natural gas issues. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 18 February 2011.

**[Growing in power, natural gas attracts enemies.](#)** As natural gas fuel grows in market share and political power, several green groups have launched campaigns highlighting potential problems. They raise questions about everything from how natural gas is extracted to how much of a climate benefit it offers over competitors. [Greenwire](#). 17 February 2011.

**[Fracking fluid tainted water may have been processed in Buffalo.](#)** Last week Buffalo's Common Council banned hydraulic fracturing for natural gas, even though that's not happening locally. This week Buffalo banned the city Sewer Authority (BSA) from treating fracking fluid. Which apparently was happening. [Western New York Public Broadcasting](#), New York, Toronto. 17 February 2011.

**[Cumulative effects of Marcellus shale wells.](#)** Welders are hard at work building a giant natural gas compressor station in German Township, Fayette County, that will be fed by Marcellus Shale wells in the area. Environmental groups are pushing regulators to consider the combined air pollution from 73 gas wells that are near the German Township plant and will be connected to it. [Pittsburgh WTAE TV](#), Pennsylvania. 17 February 2011.

**[Supervisors recommend residents pass on seismic testing.](#)** Supervisors recommended residents pass on a request by natural gas industry representatives to allow seismic testing this spring. The testing operation — scheduled for later this year — will be used to determine the depth, thickness and location of Marcellus Shale deposits in the region, according to industry representatives. [Somerset County Daily American](#), Pennsylvania. 17 February 2011.

**[Group wants more water quality monitoring, gas well inspections.](#)** As the state legislature continues its debate on adopting gas drilling standards, citizens groups concerned about water quality in Northern West Virginia are hoping more permits won't be issued until more inspectors are hired. [West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), West Virginia. 17 February 2011.

**[Bill would allow tax on gas drilling rigs.](#)** As West Virginia legislators ponder whether to enact new regulations on Marcellus Shale drillers, a new bill would tax drilling rigs and allow tax credits for alternative fuel vehicles. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 17 February 2011.

**[Texas tax break for natural gas production scrutinized amid budget shortfall.](#)** A 22-year-old tax break that has figured heavily in natural gas production in the Barnett Shale is coming under scrutiny in the state Capitol as lawmakers hunt for ways to plug a multibillion-dollar budget shortfall that threatens deep cuts in state services. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 17 February 2011.

**[Midland gas marketer urges caution in pursuing shale gas plays.](#)** Amid the frenzy of shale gas drilling that has extended from the Barnett Shale to the Marcellus in the northeast, one Midland expert is holding a stop sign. "My pitch is to slow down," said Bill Munn, manager of gas marketing with Mack Energy. [Midland Reporter Telegram](#), Texas. 17 February 2011.

**[Industries can fight, or cooperate, with EPA.](#)** This is a tale of two Pennsylvania industries: coal and natural gas. Pennsylvania ranks second in the nation in mercury pollution, and coal power plants are the main culprits. The reason is simple: companies are not motivated to upgrade because the EPA currently does not have any standards in place. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 17 February 2011.

**[Fort Worth must wait and wait for Barnett Shale air quality study.](#)** Fort Worth City Council members wanted an update Tuesday on what they're getting for the \$1 million they're spending on an Air Quality Study tied to Barnett Shale natural gas drilling. They might have come away disappointed. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. Editorial, 17 February 2011.

**[Tap water, fracking chemicals don't mix.](#)** Though fracking additives may be "found in common consumer products," the acids, corrosion inhibitors, iron control agents, bactericides, scale inhibitors, friction reducers, surfactants, gelling agents, and breaker chemicals that may well be in the corner of the garage do not belong in our tap water. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. Opinion, 17 February 2011.

**[Greens sour on natural gas.](#)** After years of basking in a green glow as the cleanest fossil fuel and a favorite short-term choice to replace cheap-but-dirty coal, gas now finds itself under attack from environmentalists, filmmakers and congressional Democrats. Serious doubts are surfacing as to whether its total emissions are as climate-friendly as commonly believed. [Politico](#). 16 February 2011.

**[Landowners looking for legal options to fight energy companies.](#)** As energy companies attempt to extend some oil and gas leases because of New York's hydraulic fracturing moratorium, local law firms are trying to assemble groups of landowners to fight those claims in federal court. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 16 February 2011.

**[GAO report adds Interior Department's oversight of oil and gas leases to high-risk list.](#)** Concerns about how the Interior Department manages the nation's oil and gas resources have earned it a spot on a closely watched list of the government's most at-risk offices and programs. [Washington Post](#). 16 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[9 NY families sue gas driller, say wells tainted.](#)** Nine homeowners have filed a lawsuit against a Denver-based natural gas driller and its subcontractors, claiming the companies contaminated drinking water with gas and silt. [Associated Press](#). 16 February 2011.

**[Frack water fears.](#)** Hanover residents fear a new frack water treatment plant may cause air and noise pollution; traffic; chemicals, heavy metals and radioactive materials in the water; and Susquehanna River contamination. After 18 months of study, sanitation officials couldn't answer these questions, or say who requested the plant be built. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 16 February 2011.

**[Tomblin creates task force on Marcellus ethane development.](#)** Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin says West Virginia could revive its manufacturing and chemical industries by developing technology related to natural gas byproducts. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 16 February 2011.

**[Two gas well pad sites in Fort Worth exceed pollution limits.](#)** Two active natural gas well pad sites within the city exceeded the threshold for pollutants, according to an interim report on air quality released Tuesday. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 16 February 2011.

**[South Park, metro-area residents seek curb on sales of gas exploration rights.](#)** Frustrated by gas exploration in Denver's main watershed, South Park and metro-area residents are urging government authorities to hit the brakes. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 16 February 2011.

**[Interior's budget request would boost conservation, increase drilling oversight.](#)** The Obama administration this morning proposed significant new funding for land and water conservation and offshore drilling oversight that would be counterbalanced by cuts to agency construction, the U.S. Geological Survey and some tribal programs. [Greenwire](#). 15 February 2011.

**[Forced pooling for gas drilling debated.](#)** Forced pooling, now illegal for horizontal drilling, would allow natural gas drillers to use land they have not leased to form a well pad. For example, if all of your neighbors have signed leases with a particular drilling company but you refuse, you may be forced to allow your land to be used by gas drillers for the development of your neighbors' gas. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 15 February 2011.

**[Energy group targets Oscar-nominated 'Gasland.'](#)** Energy in Depth, a group representing oil and natural gas producers, has sent a letter to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences arguing that "Gasland" should be ineligible for best documentary feature because it contains inaccuracies. [Los Angeles Times](#), California. 15 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Obama's DOE budget request promotes clean tech, slashes fossil energy.](#)** The White House continued efforts today to beef up investment in nuclear and renewable energy technologies in its \$29.5 billion fiscal 2012 spending request for the Department of Energy. [Greenwire](#). 15 February 2011.

**[Inverness County says no to fracking as a means of extracting oil and gas from underground.](#)** Inverness County council is supporting a provincewide ban on the industrial use of slickwater hydraulic fracturing to extract oil and gas from underground rock formations. [Sydney Cape Breton Post](#), Nova Scotia. 15 February 2011.

**[In depth on fracking.](#)** Horizontal fracturing is more controversial than vertical fracturing, because it requires enormous quantities of water, sand and chemicals. They are injected into the well under enormous pressure to fracture the shale and release the natural gas, raising concerns about effects on water quality and what to do with waste. [Buffalo WGRZ TV](#), New York. 15 February 2011.

**[Red flag thrown on Senator's Super Bowl.](#)** Long before Senate President Pro Tem Joe Scarnati, R-Brockway, accepted an all-expenses-paid trip to the Super Bowl to see the Steelers play the Green Bay Packers, he was already the kind of floozy the natural gas industry knew it could do business with. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 15 February 2011.

**[Ohio EPA tries to limit brine dumps in rivers.](#)** Fast-growing interest in natural-gas drilling could create a flood of cash for Ohio cities eager to treat wastewater used to coax the gas from deep inside Utica and Marcellus shale. [Columbus Dispatch](#), Ohio. 14 February 2011.

**[China bets big on gas technology.](#)** Chinese companies are paying a heavy price to participate in North America's natural-gas boom in a bet on gaining vital new technology and access to a bountiful new source of energy - shale gas. [Wall Street Journal](#). 14 February 2011. [Subscription Required]

**[Fracking cuttings closer to county landfill.](#)** Steuben County is preparing to accept Marcellus Shale cuttings at the county landfill some time this year. The cuttings – soil and rock removed before drilling for natural gas – show no dangerous levels of radiation, Public Works Commissioner Vincent Spagnoletti said, based on an engineering. [Steuben County Courier](#), New York. 14 February 2011.

**[Gas company paid for Penn. senator's Super Bowl trip.](#)** An energy company drilling in Pennsylvania's gas-rich Marcellus Shale paid for a top state senator's trip to see the Pittsburgh Steelers play in the Super Bowl in Texas, a newspaper reported Sunday. Consol Energy paid for Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati's ticket, plane ride and hotel bill, his aides said. [Associated Press](#). 14 February 2011.

**[Go slow on shale drilling.](#)** As Pennsylvania has learned, it's better to ask questions first before allowing energy companies to use hydraulic fracturing to exploit a massive natural gas deposit. [Baltimore Sun](#), Maryland. Editorial, 14 February 2011.

**[What now for the Marcellus Shale?](#)** Gov. Corbett and his team should make a commitment to ensuring natural gas development is done right, all the more so because they are adamant against a severance tax. Without the funds to pay for cleanups later on, the state has to ensure there are fewer accidents. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 14 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Disposing of Marcellus drilling debris.](#)** As Marcellus Shale fracking wells get bigger, they are producing vast quantities of something other than natural gas: Drilling debris — 1,000 tons of material, about 75 truckloads, from a typical well. So instead of burying it nearby the well, drillers truck it to a landfill. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 13 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Perks from Pennsylvania drilling interests.](#)** The state Senate president, a key player in the debate over natural-gas fracking in Pennsylvania, accepted a free trip from one of the state's largest energy companies to see the Pittsburgh Steelers play in the Super Bowl. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 13 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Texas EPA official's e-mails show federal-state tension over sanctions on natural gas drilling.](#)** The Texas-based U.S. EPA official who overrode state regulators in December to sanction a local fracking driller for water contamination quickly announced the order to an environmental activist and another ally minutes after it was issued. [Greenwire](#). 13 February 2011.

**[Geologist warns of fracking water.](#)** Wyalusing may be more than an hour's drive north of Wilkes-Barre, but a natural-gas-drilling wastewater treatment plant proposed in the municipality should concern anyone who lives near the Susquehanna River, a Wyoming County geologist said Saturday. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 13 February 2011.

**[Harveys Lake citizens hear about drilling ordinance.](#)** Residents of Harveys Lake borough, adjacent to the largest natural lake in Pennsylvania of the same name, met Saturday to hear about a possible self-governing ordinance which would protect the municipality from possible problems caused by natural gas drilling. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 13 February 2011.

**[Palace screens documentary critical of fracking.](#)** Flammable tap water. Mysterious ailments. Pits of toxic water. Fouled air. Scenes from the documentary "Gasland" are sure to ignite debate as Stark County and communities around the state consider the future of natural gas drilling. [Canton Repository](#), Ohio. 13 February 2011.

**[Hydrofracking carries too many unknowns.](#)** According to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, more than 590 chemicals are pumped into the ground during hydrofracking. Until the industry can prove that its methods won't harm New Yorkers, the state should continue to withhold all approvals for hydrofracking activities. [Glens Falls Post Star](#), New York. Editorial, 13 February 2011.

**[We can minimize negative side-effects of shale drilling.](#)** In order to help shale drilling operators plan and implement practices to manage and minimize risks, the Environmentally Friendly Drilling Systems Program created a scorecard which produces an ecological understanding of the tradeoffs involved in producing energy. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Opinion, 13 February 2011.

**[Gas co. may be liable for water quality.](#)** For the time being, at least, a natural gas drilling company may be held strictly liable for drinking water contamination near one of its well sites, a federal district judge ruled Wednesday. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 12 February 2011.

**[Wyalusing supervisors to announce decision on permit for controversial fracking plant.](#)** The Wyalusing Township supervisors will be meeting with the township's solicitor to discuss the controversial permit application for three plants, including a plant that would treat waste water from the hydraulic fracturing of natural gas wells. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 12 February 2011.

**[Regulatory program for gas drilling is rated highly.](#)** Ohio's program to regulate drilling for natural gas and retrieving it through hydraulic fracturing is well-managed, according to a new review. It was good news to Ohio's gas and oil industry, but critics contend that the use of hydraulic fracturing or fracking poses a threat to drinking water. [Akron Beacon Journal](#), Ohio. 12 February 2011.

**[Fracking karoo might need trillions of litres of water.](#)** If fracking applicants gets the go-ahead in the Karoo, South Africa's arid heartland faces the prospect of hundreds of thousands of wells using trillions of litres of water, a lawyer representing the anti-fracking lobby said yesterday. [Cape Town Weekend Post](#), South Africa. 11 February 2011.

**[Study strengthens case for moratorium on shale gas wells, Quebec group says.](#)** A recent United States study that projects significant increases in air pollution in and beyond regions where shale gas wells are drilled strengthens the case for a moratorium on the industry in Quebec, a local air pollution watchdog group said Thursday. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 11 February 2011.

**[Environmental impact unknown.](#)** Since Marcellus Shale first became a household name in Pennsylvania, it has been touted as a major economic opportunity for the state. But the possible environmental impact resulting from drilling may hurt some local industries like tourism, and harm the overall quality of life in central Pennsylvania. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 11 February 2011.

**[What's spewing into the air we breathe?](#)** It's invisible to the naked eye, but was caught on tape with a special infrared camera. A startling video shot by the government shows what nearby residents are breathing at a Marcellus Shale natural gas plant: Plumes of unfiltered pollution wafting out of a tank and into the air. [Pittsburgh WTAE TV](#), Pennsylvania. 11 February 2011.

**[Leak shuts down drilling operation at Mich. well.](#)** A leak that forced the shutdown of operations at a more than 1,000-foot-deep natural gas well that was being drilled in Michigan's northwestern Lower Peninsula with a technique called hydraulic fracturing likely will lead to a review of some drilling regulations, the state said Thursday. [Associated Press](#). 11 February 2011.

**[Gov. Kasich says fracking is opportunity for Ohio.](#)** The governor said he thinks wells using hydraulic fracturing — also called fracking — in the Utica shale formation could be a great economic opportunity for Ohio. [Dover-New Philadelphia Times Reporter](#), Ohio. 11 February 2011.

**[EPA's study into oil industry's fracking process includes North Dakota.](#)** Federal authorities plan to continue taking a hard look at the oil industry practice of hydraulic fracturing, a technology that is key to North Dakota's booming oil development. [Grand Forks Herald](#), North Dakota. 11 February 2011.

**[Colo. group seeks to halt auction of energy leases.](#)** A citizens group is asking the Colorado State Land Board to halt an auction of land in the South Park area for oil and gas development, including two parcels next to a reservoir that supplies some of Denver's drinking water. [Associated Press](#). 11 February 2011.

**[Regulation of fracking insufficient.](#)** Fracking is a risky process, especially when used in highly populated areas where there is little margin for error. State and federal authorities need to get a handle on regulation now, before events outpace them. [Charlottesville Daily Progress](#), Virginia. Editorial, 11 February 2011.

**[Nixing natural gas is not in Jersey's interests.](#)** Chris Christie had to make some concessions to environmentalists to get elected governor. But he's going overboard with this move to kill construction of an offshore liquefied natural gas plant. [Newark Star-Ledger](#), New Jersey. Opinion, 11 February 2011.

**[John Hanger, PA's former environmental chief, talks about challenges of keeping gas drilling safe.](#)** I think most Pennsylvanians understand that our energy choices are not perfect. If we are not using more natural gas, we are going to be using more coal and oil, both of which cause many more environmental problems than natural gas does. [ProPublica](#). Opinion, 11 February 2011.

**[China backs shale revolution.](#)** Encana's announcement on Wednesday of a proposed \$5.4-billion investment by PetroChina in its shale gas operations confirms the soaring importance of a resource that 10 years ago was hardly on the commercial map. [Financial Post](#). Opinion, 11 February 2011.  
[Subscription Required]

**[Pennsylvania poised to be energy power.](#)** Pennsylvania looks poised once again to capitalize on a new energy source. The Marcellus Shale formation may well make the Keystone State a major player in natural gas production. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 11 February 2011.

**[You never really win a fight with natural gas companies.](#)** The natural gas industry has taken over Fort Worth. The Barnett Shale drilling boom has brought thousands of jobs to the city and millions of dollars in gas lease revenue to be distributed among local residents who own the rights to minerals deep below their property. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. Opinion, 11 February 2011.

**[Do regulations kill jobs? House report draws on businesses' answers.](#)** The Republican staff of a key House oversight committee has expressed a degree of sympathy for industry arguments that federal environmental regulations are killing jobs. [Washington Post](#). 10 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Maryland lawmakers warned about Marcellus gas drilling.](#)** A former top Pennsylvania official warned Maryland lawmakers to go slow in allowing drilling for natural gas in Marcellus shale deposits underlying the state's western mountains or risk the environmental and social problems his state is now experiencing from a poorly regulated wave of energy exploration. [Baltimore Sun](#), Maryland. 10 February 2011.

**[EPA wants to look at full lifecycle of fracking in new study.](#)** The EPA has proposed examining every aspect of hydraulic fracturing, from water withdrawals to waste disposal. If the study goes forward as planned, it would be the most comprehensive investigation of whether the drilling technique risks polluting drinking water near oil and gas wells across the nation. [ProPublica](#). 10 February 2011.

**[New drilling method opens vast oil fields in US.](#)** A new drilling technique is opening up vast fields of previously out-of-reach oil in the western United States, helping reverse a two-decade decline in domestic production of crude. [Associated Press](#). 10 February 2011.

**[Gas drillers might have violated law.](#)** A dozen natural-gas drilling companies possibly violated federal law by injecting more than 32 million gal of diesel fuel and diesel-laced fluids into the ground between 2005 and 2009 without first obtaining permits from EPA, Democrats from the House of Representatives said last week. [Chemical & Engineering News](#). 10 February 2011.

**[First ban on fracking in New York; legislation also targets wastewater.](#)** Citizens and clean water advocates heralded the Buffalo Common Council's move Wednesday to become the first city in New York State to ban hydraulic fracturing for natural gas. [Oneida Daily Dispatch](#), New York. 10 February 2011.

**[Lawmakers continue Marcellus shale study.](#)** West Virginia could borrow from a coalbed methane program to resolve disputes arising from the vast Marcellus shale natural gas reserve, lawmakers considering pending legislation on the subject learned Wednesday. [Associated Press](#). 10 February 2011.

**[Balance urged in Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** Natural gas drilling in West Virginia has exploded in recent months with the discovery of the Marcellus Shale formation, and state lawmakers repeated Wednesday that they want to make sure developers drill without harming local communities. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 10 February 2011.

**[Environmentalists share concerns on Marcellus shale.](#)** Participants of Environment Day, or E-Day, addressed the media and lawmakers at the Capitol Wednesday to express their concerns about environmental issues across the state. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 10 February 2011.

**[Fracking concerns arise in Yellow Springs.](#)** The prospect of oil and gas drilling in the area is raising worries among some Yellow Springs residents because of a controversial drilling technique called fracking. [Yellow Springs News](#), Ohio. 10 February 2011.

**[Barnett Shale in Denton, Wise counties is candidate for EPA study.](#)** The Barnett Shale natural gas field in Denton and Wise counties is one of five finalists to be a case study as part of the Environmental Protection Agency's examination of hydraulic fracturing. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 10 February 2011.

**[Buffalo, NY bans hydraulic fracturing.](#)** The city of Buffalo, New York, banned the natural gas drilling technique of hydraulic fracturing on Tuesday, a largely symbolic vote that demonstrates concern about potential harm to groundwater from mining an abundant energy source. [Reuters](#). 9 February 2011.

**[U.S. EPA releases draft plan for fracking study.](#)** U.S. environmental regulators issued a draft plan on Tuesday outlining how they will determine whether a technique for drilling natural gas harms supplies of drinking water. [Reuters](#). 9 February 2011.

**[W.Va. officials push for Marcellus permit fee hike.](#)** West Virginia is at least \$1 million short of the funds its regulators need to oversee drilling in the booming Marcellus shale natural gas field, the state's environmental chief told lawmakers Tuesday. [Associated Press](#). 9 February 2011.

**[Greens alarmed over mining applications.](#)** Two Green Party candidates have issued a joint statement saying they were concerned over applications by mining companies to explore for coal seam gas in the Warragamba catchment. Both candidates are calling for a moratorium on all current coal seam gas exploration and extraction in the area.. [Blue Mountains Gazette](#), Australia. 9 February 2011.

**[NY gas drilling draft rules expected in June.](#)** New York's new environmental chief said Tuesday the state needs to proceed cautiously with high-volume hydraulic fracturing for natural gas in deep shale formations, but not wait for the Environmental Protection Agency to complete a federal review of the practice that could take two years. [Associated Press](#). 9 February 2011.

**[New York state continues cautious drilling approach.](#)** Gov. Andrew Cuomo's choice to lead the state Department of Environmental Conservation said Tuesday the state must be careful before allowing an extraction process for natural gas. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 9 February 2011.

**[Council votes to ban hydrofracking.](#)** The Common Council has voted to ban any form of natural gas extraction in Buffalo, including a controversial mining technique known as hydrofracking. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 9 February 2011.

**[Protesting frack water plans.](#)** Activists are circulating fliers warning the public of increased truck traffic, road damage, air pollution and the potential for spills of toxic frack water containing heavy metals, chemicals and radioactive earth minerals. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 9 February 2011.

**[DEP chief wants to double oil & gas staff.](#)** Two new pieces of legislation working their way through both chambers, are designed to regulate horizontal natural gas drilling, hydraulic fracturing and other drilling aspects as well as addressing fee structures and regulatory staffing needs. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 9 February 2011.

**[Bill aims to boost investment in natural gas.](#)** Sen. Brooks McCabe, D-Kanawha, and a dozen other State senators introduced legislation Tuesday to spur investment in the natural gas industry ahead of the anticipated Marcellus Shale boom. [Associated Press](#). 9 February 2011.

**[Plain trustees vote for moratorium on "fracking."](#)** Plain trustees have been looking at the drilling issue since last fall when residents expressed concerns that energy companies were buying drilling rights to property in the township. [Canton Repository](#), Ohio. 9 February 2011.

**[Fracking diesel use 'tiny'.](#)** North Dakota oil and gas regulators are satisfied that the use of diesel fuel in hydraulic fracturing is insignificant and shouldn't be subject to a permitting process. [Minot Daily News](#), North Dakota. 9 February 2011.

**[Feds could study area fracking.](#)** The Flower Mound-Bartonville area is on the shortlist of regions that could be studied as part of a federal review of the hydraulic fracturing method of natural gas drilling. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 9 February 2011.

**[Gas drilling oversight measure rejected in Colorado.](#)** Fracking, a gas-drilling technique that has raised environmental fears among some, won't see more oversight in Colorado after a Republican-led House panel on Monday rejected an idea to step up reporting of water complaints that may be related to drilling. [Associated Press](#). 8 February 2011.

**[Specter of gas drilling evokes action.](#)** Two tiny Delaware River towns hope to do what no other New York town has yet done: control their own gas-drilling destiny. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 8 February 2011.

**[Oil giant Shell's shale gas plans stir controversy.](#)** Energy giant Royal Dutch Shell is targeting potential untapped shale gas reserves in coal-hungry South Africa where landowners - including a Dutch princess - are readying for a showdown. Locals fear "fracking" will pollute underground water which the barren Karoo is almost entirely dependent upon. [Agence France-Presse](#). 8 February 2011.

**[New York State to require environmental impact statement for large scale LPG storage in NY watershed.](#)** Public alarm over plans to store LP gas in salt caverns near Watkins Glen has spiked in recent weeks after the state ruled in November that the project's developer would need to produce a full environmental impact statement. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 8 February 2011.

**[Federal lawsuit filed against DRBC.](#)** Two anti-gas drilling groups filed a federal lawsuit Tuesday against the Delaware River Basin Commission. [Wayne Independent](#), Pennsylvania. 8 February 2011.

**[Report details drilling damage to forest.](#)** A natural gas drilling operation in the Fernow Experimental Forest in Tucker County, West Virginia killed dozens of trees, damaged roads and eroded the land, according to a new U.S. Forest Service scientific report. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 8 February 2011.

**[City officials, residents discuss drilling rules.](#)** Residents and city officials on Monday began public discussions regarding changes to the city's outdated drilling ordinances, which were last revised in 1968. [Galveston County Daily News](#), Texas. 8 February 2011.

**[Dallas-Fort Worth lawmakers ask for 20 more air monitors.](#)** A bipartisan group of 30 state lawmakers, most from North Texas, sent a letter to Gov. Rick Perry on Monday asking him to fast-track legislation to fund more air monitors in the Barnett Shale natural gas drilling region. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 8 February 2011.

**[Thirty lawmakers ask Perry to declare funding for Barnett Shale air monitors a legislative emergency.](#)** A bipartisan group of 30 state lawmakers, most from North Texas, sent a letter to Gov. Rick Perry today asking him to make funding more air monitors in the Dallas/Fort Worth area an emergency item in the state capitol. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 8 February 2011.

**[NYC law firm that handled World Trade Center case eyes natural gas drilling.](#)** Residents of Garfield County neighborhoods impacted by natural gas drilling have been approached by a New York City firm that last year landed a \$712.5 million settlement for workers injured in the World Trade Center cleanup. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 8 February 2011.

**[Panel denies fracking study.](#)** The state will not get involved with a study of chemicals used in natural-gas drilling, legislators decided Monday. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 8 February 2011.

**[Maryland county caught up in fight over energy extraction method.](#)** Land speculators who showed up in picturesque Garrett County dangling offers to lease farm acres, didn't come for the idyllic rural landscape. Their eyes were set on a valuable resource deep underground: natural gas deposits buried in thick layers of Marcellus Shale. [Washington Post](#). 7 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[A dot on the map, until the earth started shaking.](#)** Several years ago, the gas companies arrived, part of a sort of rush in Arkansas to drill for gas in a geological formation called the Fayetteville shale. Local landowners signed leases and royalty agreements with the companies on the promise of a few hundred dollars or more a month. Then the ground started shaking. [New York Times](#). 6 February 2011. [Registration Required]

**[State probes use of diesel in fracking.](#)** A federal investigation into companies' use of diesel fuel in fracking fluids – a concern because of its potential to contaminate drinking water sources – has prompted Colorado state regulators to have their own look into the practice. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 6 February 2011.

**[Safety, noise top residents' concerns.](#)** Safety, pollution and noise are main concerns residents have about a proposed natural gas compressor station on Hildebrandt Road in Dallas Township, Pennsylvania. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 6 February 2011.

**[Marcellus shale could provide economic opportunities in West Virginia.](#)** The Marcellus Shale formation could provide many economic opportunities in natural gas production for the state if the proper regulations are put in place, according to a Wood County man who works in the natural gas industry. [Parkersburg News and Sentinel](#), West Virginia. 6 February 2011.

**[Billions of cracks; millions of barrels.](#)** Oil companies aren't just using a figure of speech when they say they've cracked open the Bakken. [Bismarck Tribune](#), North Dakota. 6 February 2011.

**[Some say diesel in fracturing no big deal.](#)** North Dakota's top oil regulator says a congressional report that 3 million gallons of diesel fuel were injected down oil wells here is wrong and misleading. [Bismarck Tribune](#), North Dakota. 6 February 2011.

**[Lawsuit challenging Colorado drilling regulations is withdrawn.](#)** The Colorado Oil and Gas Association this week withdrew its lawsuit against the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission over the process that led to the state's revised and still hotly debated oil and gas drilling regulations that went into effect in 2009. [Aspen RealAspen](#), Colorado. 6 February 2011.

**[Lobbyist: EPA never set rules for diesel fuel in fracking.](#)** A top Colorado oil and gas industry official today echoed the sentiments of Halliburton and a national lobbying group in reacting to a congressional investigation alleging the possible illegal use of diesel fuel in the controversial natural gas drilling process of hydraulic fracturing. [Aspen RealAspen](#), Colorado. 6 February 2011.

**[Listening to the shale revolution.](#)** With turmoil in the Middle East, look for energy security to make one of its recurrent runs to the top of the national agenda. This time, though, we should listen to the shale gas revolution that has put an unexpected energy bonanza at our feet in places like NY, PA and OH. [Wall Street Journal](#). Opinion, 6 February 2011. [Subscription Required]

**[Anatomy of a gas well.](#)** A new report by the U.S. Forest Service offers one of the most detailed accounts yet of how natural gas drilling can affect a forest. The report, and the well in question, hints at a larger story of the tensions that have emerged as drilling expands across federal lands in the eastern US. [ProPublica](#). 5 February 2011.

**[W.Va. lawmakers get info on gas drilling, roads.](#)** The Marcellus shale natural gas boom has brought both unprecedented investments to northwestern West Virginia and marked damage to its country roads, state lawmakers were told Friday. [Huntington Herald-Dispatch](#), West Virginia. 5 February 2011.

**[Natural gas boom brings investment, damaged roads.](#)** The Marcellus Shale natural gas boom has brought unprecedented investments in northwestern West Virginia and also marked damage to its country roads, state lawmakers were told Friday. [Associated Press](#). 5 February 2011.

**[Many PA gas wells go unreported for months.](#)** The DEP's enforcement staff has increased nearly four-fold in the past two years, but the state is still struggling to keep up with the natural gas boom in the Marcellus Shale. As a result drilling and fracking reports, which are supposed to be submitted within 30 days, are chronically late with no consequences. [ProPublica](#). 4 February 2011.

**[Karoo gas study raises ire.](#)** Citing concerns over the "immense amounts" of water needed for so-called "fracking", a DA MP met representatives of the Shell oil company in Cape Town this week. He raised the party's concerns over a Shell proposal for gas exploration in the South Western Karoo Basin in South Africa. [Midrand New Age](#), South Africa. 4 February 2011.

**[Waycobah drilling facts wrong: oil company head.](#)** Some members of Cape Breton's aboriginal community say they're afraid a proposed oil exploration project will harm their way of life, but the head of the company planning to do the work says the information they have isn't correct. [CBC Canada](#), 4 February 2011.

**[Shale gas exploration on hold.](#)** Strident public opposition to shale gas development in Quebec, along with warnings by environment minister Pierre Arcand, have effectively shut down exploration and shifted the onus to a regulatory report late this month. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 4 February 2011.

**[Ridge defends shale drilling at Carnegie Mellon University.](#)** At the beginning of his speech at Carnegie Mellon University Thursday, former Pennsylvania governor Tom Ridge said he knew when he was invited to the environmentally themed lecture series, it was "designed to be provocative." [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 4 February 2011.

**[Senator seeks wider option for state mineral leases.](#)** The natural gas drilling boom is prompting one senator to propose that the state tap revenue by leasing new categories of state-owned land for development of mineral resources. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 4 February 2011.

**[Gas wells mean jobs, says Ridge.](#)** The shale gas industry is like the auto business -- it might hurt some people, but the jobs it brings to a struggling economy make it worthwhile, gas industry pitchman and former Gov. Tom Ridge said Thursday. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 4 February 2011.

**[Canton water testing results OK.](#)** So far, so good. That appears to be the message from the Canton Borough Authority, which has completed some testing of the borough's water supply in light of the natural gas drilling in the area. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 4 February 2011.

**[Company seeking seismic testing for natural gas.](#)** Property owners within a portion of Somerset County larger than Washington, D.C., are being asked by natural gas industry representatives to allow seismic testing this spring. [Somerset County Daily American](#), Pennsylvania. 4 February 2011.

**[Groups file federal gas drilling lawsuit.](#)** The ongoing debate over the impacts of fracking chemicals used in shale drilling for natural gas and their possible impacts to ground and surface waters in the Delaware River Basin moved to court on Feb. 1. [Pike County Courier](#), Pennsylvania. 4 February 2011.

**[Natural gas 'huge' chance for valley to make up for job losses.](#)** The best possibility for creating jobs in the Kanawha Valley's chemical industry involves exploiting opportunities provided by the development of the Marcellus Shale natural gas field, a Bayer CropScience executive said. [Charleston Daily Mail](#), West Virginia. 4 February 2011.

**[EPA reviews fracking.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will be investigating the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources. [Minot Daily News](#), North Dakota. 4 February 2011.

**[Fracking bill dead in committee.](#)** The Montana Legislature will not require oil and gas companies to disclose what chemicals they use for hydraulic fracturing. [Bozeman Daily Chronicle](#), Montana. 4 February 2011.

**[Undesirable element: Industry and regulators need to address the issues raised by diesel in fracking.](#)** Industry operators assure us that fracking is a safe, economical tool to unlock massive gas reserves vital to future U.S. energy capabilities. This doesn't need to come down to a choice between energy security and clean drinking water. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Editorial, 4 February 2011.

**[Drilling industry says diesel use was legal.](#)** After three members of Congress reported this week that drilling companies have been injecting large amounts of diesel fuel underground, the industry is fighting back -- not by denying the accusation, but by arguing that the EPA never fully regulated the potentially environmentally dangerous practice in the first place. [ProPublica](#). 3 February 2011.

**[EPA close to launching hydraulic fracturing study.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency is close to launching a broad study on hydraulic fracturing, but the probe doesn't guarantee that the federal government will step in and regulate the drilling technique, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson said Wednesday. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 3 February 2011.

**[French minister warns shale oil explorers on environment.](#)** Energy companies will be denied permission to explore for shale oil in France if the environment isn't protected, France's environment minister said. The prospect of drilling in France has sparked opposition from environmental groups worried about contamination of water supply from hydrofracking chemicals. [Bloomberg News](#). 3 February 2011.

**[South Africa farmers oppose Shell's shale gas plans.](#)** Royal Dutch Shell is facing opposition to its plans to seek shale gas in South Africa's semi-desert Karoo region, as farmers fear methods used to extract it will contaminate water and harm the environment. [Reuters](#). 3 February 2011.

**[Much ado about fracking.](#)** The Environmental Defenders Office says the disposal of waste water, the cumulative affect of thousands of shafts and the impact of the "fracking" process are greater concerns than the use of the chemical B-TEX in gas extraction. [Australia ABC News](#), Australia. 3 February 2011.

**[OK for gas wells decried.](#)** The interstate commission overseeing gas drilling along the Delaware River is under fire from environmental groups and two federal lawmakers. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 3 February 2011.

**[Lawyers from New York may sue gas drillers.](#)** Amid concerns about possible water and air pollution from Marcellus Shale activity, New York City environmental lawyer Julia LeMense may sue West Virginia's natural gas drillers. New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver is a partner in the law firm. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 3 February 2011.

**[Legislators had better not mess up Marcellus.](#)** New drilling techniques have given West Virginia a huge economic opportunity. The newfound ability to tap the Marcellus shale could create wealth and many thousands of jobs. But only if West Virginia doesn't West Virginia it. [Charleston Daily Mail](#), West Virginia. Editorial, 3 February 2011.

**[Oil and gas group urges oscar judges to steer clear of 'Gasland.'](#)** The oil and gas industry doesn't want a golden Oscar statuette to grace the mantle of "Gasland" filmmaker Josh Fox. [Greenwire](#). 2 February 2011.

[\*\*Australian state hints it will ban fracking chemicals.\*\*](#) Queensland's Planning Minister has given the strongest sign yet that the state government would ban the use of a group of chemicals in the controversial technique known as fracking to extract coal seam gas. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 2 February 2011. [Registration Required]

[\*\*Shale gas drama sets theatrical writer aflame.\*\*](#) Dominic Champagne is not a green crusader. Oh, he likes clean air and water as much as the next person; but he's not chaining himself to trees or chasing whaling vessels. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 2 February 2011.

[\*\*Dems report that oil, gas drillers pumped diesel into the ground.\*\*](#) Congressional lawmakers from Colorado and elsewhere contend that oil and gas drilling companies have injected more than 32 million gallons of fluids containing diesel fuel underground without first getting government approval. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 2 February 2011.

[\*\*Details few on diesel used in Pa. fracking.\*\*](#) Environmental groups increased calls for public disclosure of the chemical additives used in hydraulic fracturing of natural gas wells after hearing that 32 million gallons of fluids containing diesel fuel have been injected in wells in 19 states, including Pennsylvania. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 2 February 2011.

[\*\*Vail Valley U.S. Rep. Jared Polis leads charge against possibly illegal use of diesel fuel in gas drilling.\*\*](#) Colorado Reps. Diana DeGette and Jared Polis Monday called on the U.S. EPA to investigate whether 12 oil and gas service companies, including Halliburton, violated the Safe Drinking Water Act by using more than 32 million gallons of diesel fuel in the controversial drilling practice of hydraulic fracturing. [Vail RealVail](#), Colorado. 2 February 2011.

[\*\*Gas drilling technique is labeled violation.\*\*](#) Oil and gas service companies injected tens of millions of gallons of diesel fuel into onshore wells in more than a dozen states from 2005 to 2009, Congressional investigators have charged. [New York Times](#). 1 February 2011. [Registration Required]

[\*\*Fracking companies injected 32m gallons of diesel, House probe finds.\*\*](#) Drilling service companies have injected at least 32 million gallons of diesel fuel underground as part of a controversial drilling technique, a Democratic congressional investigation has found. [Greenwire](#). 1 February 2011.

[\*\*Industry officials reject House panel's claim of Safe Drinking Water Act violations.\*\*](#) A House committee panel says companies failed to get permits for diesel use in hydraulic fracturing. The assertion was denied by the Independent Petroleum Association of America, which said there are no state or federal regulations governing hydraulic fracturing. [Oklahoma City Oklahoman](#), Oklahoma. 1 February 2011.

[\*\*Energy companies faulted on fracturing.\*\*](#) Data submitted to Congress by 12 oil and gas companies indicates they pumped hydraulic-fracturing fluids containing diesel fuel into wells in 19 states without proper permits, three House Democrats wrote in a letter released Monday. [Wall Street Journal](#). 1 February 2011. [Subscription Required]

[\*\*House Democrats say drilling companies pumped diesel underground without gov't OK.\*\*](#) Oil and gas companies have injected more than 32 million gallons of fluids containing diesel fuel underground without first getting government approval as required, a report by congressional Democrats said Monday. [Associated Press](#). 1 February 2011.

**[Drillers defend injecting diesel into ground.](#)** Drilling companies injected more than 32 million gallons of fluids containing diesel into the ground during hydraulic fracturing operations from 2005 to 2009, according to federal lawmakers, but the industry says the practice was legal. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 1 February 2011.

**[Halliburton used diesel in fracturing, lawmakers say.](#)** Halliburton Co. and Baker Hughes Inc.'s BJ Services are among 12 oil and gas companies using diesel fuel in hydraulic fracturing, potentially violating the law, three U.S. House Democrats said. [Bloomberg News](#). 1 February 2011.

**[Congressional committee: diesel use in hydraulic fracturing may violate Clean Water Act.](#)** Three of the largest hydraulic fracturing companies may have violated the Safe Drinking Water Act when using diesel fuel — more than 1.3 million gallons in Colorado — to extract oil and gas from state lands, a U.S. House of Representatives committee alleged today after a year-long investigation. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 1 February 2011.

**[Dems: Frackers may have broken law.](#)** Oil and gas companies are injecting millions of gallons of diesel fuels underground in an effort to extract natural gas, in violation of federal drinking water laws, senior House Democrats said Monday. [Politico](#). 1 February 2011.

**[Fracking firms may have broken rules: Probe.](#)** Several energy companies may have violated environmental rules by injecting diesel into the ground without permits as part of a controversial natural gas drilling technique, according to findings from Congressional probe released on Monday. [Reuters](#). 1 February 2011.

**[DEP says air near Marcellus drilling sites is safe.](#)** The air quality in areas with heavy Marcellus Shale drilling is safe for people to breathe. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection released a four week air quality study conducted near Marcellus Shale natural gas operations in Susquehanna and Sullivan counties. [Johnson City WBNG](#), New York. 1 February 2011.

**[DEP finds no health threat from Marcellus air emissions.](#)** A much-anticipated state DEP study of air quality in the Marcellus Shale region found emissions from natural gas activity did not constitute a health threat. While industry advocates embraced the report, others caution that the study is a snapshot in time of a still-fledgling industry. [Times Shamrock](#). 1 February 2011.

**[Drilling fees would increase.](#)** Concerned about the environmental impact of Marcellus Shale drilling, local West Virginia legislators want to increase fees and taxes for natural gas work. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 1 February 2011.

**[Officials: Fracking, with diesel fuel mixture, vital to N.D. oil boom.](#)** The fracking process has been a key factor in the recent oil boom in North Dakota, and state regulators as well as industry spokesmen have declared it vital if the boom is to continue. [Grand Forks Herald](#), North Dakota. 1 February 2011.

**[Democrats raise red flag on drilling, water-safety act.](#)** Twelve companies may have violated the Safe Drinking Water Act when using diesel fuel to extract oil and gas in 19 states, including Colorado, House Democrats charged Monday. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 1 February 2011.

**[Clearing the air on ProPublica's drilling pollution story.](#)** On January 25, ProPublica published a story disclosing that the EPA had more than doubled its estimates of the amount of greenhouse gases believed to be leaked into the atmosphere from the natural gas drilling and extraction processes. [ProPublica](#). Opinion, 1 February 2011.

**[What can Erie expect from the Marcellus shale boom?](#)** The flowing gas, like the gushing oil that devastated the landscape and spawned fortunes in northwestern Pennsylvania more than a century ago, carries the promise of wealth and all the opportunities for prosperity and ruin that accompany it. [Erie Times-News](#), Pennsylvania. 31 January 2011.

**[Marcellus Shale drilling waste OK for area landfills.](#)** Two local landfills have state approval to accept drill cuttings from the Marcellus Shale gas rush, but some residents have questioned whether the drill cuttings can be lawfully disposed of in a landfill because they contain low levels of naturally occurring radioactivity. [Chambersburg Public Opinion](#), Pennsylvania. 31 January 2011.

**[Pegula drew violations as gas driller.](#)** In the course of making his fortune, the Florida billionaire negotiating to buy the Buffalo Sabres contributed heavily to politicians in a position to advance his business interests and established a less-than-stellar track record in the environmentally dicey business of drilling for natural gas by fracking. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 30 January 2011.

**[State wants specifics on fracking's effects.](#)** State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli wants one of the nation's largest gas companies, Cabot Oil and Gas, to say how it would deal with the possible dangers of the horizontal drilling method of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking." [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 30 January 2011.

**[Gas-drilling opponents see different goals for Pennsylvania.](#)** Drilling opponents need to focus their energy on what is feasible, says Jan Jarrett, the president and CEO of statewide environmental group PennFuture. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 30 January 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Experts say shale drilling in Schuylkill County is matter of when, not if.](#)** It is only a matter of time. Marcellus Shale experts believe someone will eventually take the financial risk and drill exploratory gas wells in Schuylkill County, which lies on the outer edge of the shale formation. [Pottsville Republican Herald](#), Pennsylvania. 30 January 2011.

**['Fear, paranoia' surrounding possible Marcellus Shale operation in western Schuylkill County.](#)** "A lack of information causes paranoia." That's how one lawmaker described proposed water extraction for potential Marcellus Shale gas wells in his district and the secrecy that has surrounded the project. [Pottsville Republican Herald](#), Pennsylvania. 30 January 2011.

**[Meeting offers info on controlling gas drilling.](#)** An information meeting on Marcellus shale drilling held Friday night at St. Vincent College addressed how local municipalities can try to control natural gas drilling. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 30 January 2011.

**[Drilling on way.](#)** The northeastern end of Cambria County appears to be getting a Marcellus Shale natural gas well in the area of Glendale Lake, generating some concern by the Cambria County Planning Commission. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 30 January 2011.

**'Gasland' vs. Colorado.** Energy production is an industrial process that involves its share of problems, accidents and, yes, pollution. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Opinion, 30 January 2011.

**Official calls well leak 'very, very worrying.'** An Environment Department official calls an uncontrolled gas leak at a shale gas well near St. Hyacinthe "very, very worrying," and fears the leak "could lead to contamination of underground water." [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 29 January 2011.

**In symbolic move, Philadelphia calls for gas drilling ban.** As the federal government continues to study a controversial gas drilling technique and the states tinker with their own regulations, some cities and towns are trying to halt local drilling. Philadelphia became the latest to do so on Thursday. [ProPublica](#). 29 January 2011.

**Talisman suspends shale-gas fracking after Pennsylvania well incident.** Calgary's Talisman Energy Inc. suspended all "fracking" operations for about eight days across North America this month after what it described as "a well-control incident" in Pennsylvania. [Postmedia News](#). 29 January 2011.

**Quebec to crack down on leaky shale gas wells.** Quebec will "require" shale gas developers to ensure that leaking wells in Quebec are repaired as quickly as possible, Quebec's environment minister said Friday morning. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 29 January 2011.

**Lawmakers get crash course on Marcellus.** Following recent reports detailing the current and potential boon to the West Virginia economy, the West Virginia Legislature is poised to undergo an education on the large natural gas deposit beneath the Marcellus shale. [Associated Press](#). 29 January 2011.

**20,000 jobs?: Marcellus gas boom.** West Virginia is reaping a bonanza from this new energy opportunity. But wise supervision can minimize unwanted side effects. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. Editorial, 29 January 2011.

**Tougher regulations to affect Barnett Shale natural gas drillers.** The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality moved to impose tougher regulations on natural gas drillers but opted to try them out only in the Barnett Shale area in North Texas before applying them statewide. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 28 January 2011.

**Pennsylvania malfunction inflames shale gas debate.** Calgary's Talisman Energy Inc., which has drilled five exploratory wells for shale gas in Quebec, suspended all "fracking" operations for about eight days across North America this month after what it described as "a well-control incident" in Pennsylvania. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 28 January 2011.

**Hydrofracking debate comes to Gowanda.** The controversial topic of hydrofracking is coming closer to home in Gowanda. [Dunkirk Observer](#), New York. 28 January 2011.

**Senator preparing Marcellus package.** The Marcellus Shale drilling boom is prompting a Pennsylvania state senator to prepare bills addressing a host of issues ranging from "pooling" on company-leased land only to applying the hotel room tax to long-term company rentals. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 28 January 2011.

**[DEP investigating new gas well incident.](#)** The Department of Environmental Protection is investigating a well control incident that occurred Jan. 17 at a Talisman Energy natural gas well located on state forest land in Ward Township, Tioga County. [Pike County Courier](#), Pennsylvania. 28 January 2011.

**[W.Va. lawmakers consider Marcellus drilling rules.](#)** The Legislature on Thursday began this session's discussion of how to handle West Virginia's share of the Marcellus shale natural gas field. [Associated Press](#). 28 January 2011.

**[Lawmakers look at Marcellus Shale drilling issues.](#)** Some lawmakers are getting a crash course in Marcellus Shale drilling issues. Marcellus drillers use a controversial practice called 'fracking,' in which millions of gallons of water are mixed with chemicals and pumped underground to fracture shale deposits. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 28 January 2011.

**[Philly's rude gesture on gas drilling?](#)** Did Philadelphia City Council just make a rude gesture to the rest of Pennsylvania . . . one that involves a single finger? That was our immediate reaction to a resolution passed yesterday about natural-gas drilling. [Philadelphia Daily News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 28 January 2011.

**[Labour Party calls for shale gas drilling halt.](#)** The Labour Party has called for a temporary halt to drilling for shale gas while its safety is checked. Shadow energy minister Huw Irranca-Davies has called on the government to put it on hold in England and Wales. [BBC](#). 27 January 2011.

**[Bouchard takes helm of association.](#)** Former Quebec premier Lucien Bouchard is to take the helm of the Quebec Oil and Gas Association as it navigates the choppy waters of shale gas development. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 27 January 2011.

**[GasLand gets Oscar nod, draws industry ire.](#)** When "GasLand," a documentary which details the environmental impact of a process called "fracking," came out, it created a public relations nightmare for the natural gas industry. Now it's going to get worse. That's because "GasLand" is up for an Oscar. [CNN Money](#). 27 January 2011.

**[Council sets Marcellus Shale vote.](#)** Philadelphia City Council is scheduled to vote Thursday on a resolution opposing Marcellus Shale natural-gas development until further environmental studies can be conducted. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 27 January 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Belmont county addresses potential drilling problems.](#)** Greg Bizzarri and Andy Sutak want to make sure Belmont County taxpayers are not left paying the bills for potential road and water damage caused by natural gas activity. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 27 January 2011.

**[Drilling meetings continue; New film raises concerns.](#)** The new Marcellus Shale drilling boom is a modern day gold rush - but at what price? [Steubenville WTOV TV](#), Ohio. 27 January 2011.

**[Chesapeake Bay, Marcellus Shale environmental issues could collide at hearing at Capitol.](#)** Pennsylvania's two biggest environmental issues could be about to collide. Apparently no one factored in the potential water-quality problems from drilling in the Marcellus Shale when figuring how Pennsylvania will pay the bill for cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 26 January 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Pennsylvania fracking blowout spews fluid onto state forest lands.](#)** Talisman Energy has resumed its Marcellus drilling operations in Pennsylvania, a week after one of the company's gas wells experienced a blowout that caused an uncontrolled discharge of sand and fracking fluids onto state forest lands in Tioga County. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 26 January 2011.

**[Warming trend.](#)** A big water fight is brewing as the perfect storm of a Texas population explosion meets the realities of global warming. While local government agencies have explored strategies to prepare for suburban sprawl over the next 50 years, there are still concerns the state is doing little to regulate the oil and gas industry's use of water. [San Antonio Current](#), Texas. 26 January 2011.

**[WVU study details Marcellus permits, income.](#)** Statistics released as part of an economic impact study by the West Virginia Oil and Natural Gas Association, state that between 2002 and 2008, West Virginia led the nation in the number of gas drilling permits issued. More than 2,800 permits were issued for new drilling in 45 of the state's 55 counties. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 26 January 2011.

**[Industry boos Oscar nod for 'Gasland.'](#)** "Gasland," a film that turns a harshly critical eye on the perils of natural gas drilling, has earned an Academy Award nomination for best documentary. [New York Times](#). 26 January 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Shale-gas industry goes Hollywood.](#)** Hollywood has added its lustrous sheen to a controversial documentary that pillories Calgary's Encana Corp. and the entire shale-gas industry over the alleged impacts of hydraulic fracturing drilling techniques. The film "Gasland" has been nominated for a 2010 Oscar in the feature documentary category. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. 26 January 2011.

**[Town vows to outlaw hydrofracking.](#)** Members of the Wales, NY, Town Board vowed Tuesday to craft a law against hydrofracking -- the practice of drilling for natural gas. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 26 January 2011.

**[Portland council members weigh in on fracking.](#)** Before the conclusion of their regular meeting, decision makers for the Town of Portland gave their immediate opinions on the issue of natural gas "hydrofracking," a subject that has sparked some debate recently on local and national levels. [Dunkirk Observer](#), New York. 26 January 2011.

**[Pa. investigating Marcellus well blowout.](#)** Pennsylvania environmental officials said Tuesday they are investigating a blowout at a Marcellus Shale natural-gas well in Tioga State Forest last week. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 26 January 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Warned in the USA: 'Fight the gas plans'.](#)** The drillers claim it will create jobs and lower energy prices – but Americans say the search for shale gas has ruined their lives. Cuadrilla Resources has set its sites on discovering rich deposits of shale rock, containing valuable gas, at three sites on the Fylde River. [Blackpool Gazette](#), United Kingdom. 25 January 2011.

**[Economist says gas drilling won't bring jobs.](#)** Broome County lawmakers claim gas drilling will bring lots of desperately-needed jobs. But one resident economist says a short term economic boom will be followed by a long term bust. Gas companies and a few landowners stand to profit, but independent studies say the rest won't. [Binghamton WICZ TV](#), New York. 25 January 2011.

**[Marcellus is 'game changer' for W.Va.](#)** Natural gas production in West Virginia is expected to set a record in West Virginia next year - mostly because of expanded drilling in the Marcellus shale formation, gas company executives said Thursday. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 25 January 2011.

**[Dallas correct to scrutinize gas-production effort.](#)** Urban areas across North Texas are registering justifiable skepticism about the drive to exploit natural gas deposits in the Barnett Shale amid horror stories from landowners about environmental damages they blame on nearby production sites. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. Editorial, 25 January 2011.

**[Details weighed in Plum drilling limits for Marcellus shale.](#)** The borough planning commission wants a comprehensive look at borough maps before deciding where to permit Marcellus shale drilling. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 24 January 2011.

**[Local natural gas task force formed in Brooke County, WV.](#)** With the Marcellus Shale natural gas rush now on its way to Brooke County, local officials want to make sure they are prepared for any possible fires, spills, leaks or other accidents. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 24 January 2011.

**[NC environmental groups take proactive steps against natural gas harvesting.](#)** Environmental groups maintain that Tarheelers should learn about fracking's impact. The process is currently illegal in North Carolina, but mining companies are contacting some landowners about the possibility of mining their land in the event the process is legalized. [Public News Service](#). 24 January 2011.

**[Charest government likely to frack Quebec.](#)** The Charest government, so quick to condemn Alberta's "dirty" oilsands development, dismisses the overwhelming support among its own constituents for a temporary halt to drilling while the implications of shale-gas exploitation are assessed. [Edmonton Journal](#), Alberta. Opinion, 24 January 2011.

**[Gas in Parker County home's drinking water puts drilling, EPA in national spotlight.](#)** A complaint from a Parker County homeowner to a Texas state agency in August — saying that gas leaking into his water had turned his garden hose into a flamethrower — put the natural-gas bonanza of the Barnett Shale under scrutiny like never before. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 23 January 2011.

**[Exxon to invest millions in Rhineland natural gas drilling.](#)** US oil giant Exxon Mobil has said it will invest several million euros in exploring natural gas reserves in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia — and potentially more than a billion if enough gas is available. [The Local Germany](#), Germany. 23 January 2011.

**[DEC plan may expand gas drilling in state forests.](#)** A state Department of Environmental Conservation plan released this month leaves open the possibility of hydraulic fracturing and expanded natural gas development on New York's state forest land. [Gannett News Service](#). 23 January 2011.

**[Stream group satisfied with drillers' response to spill.](#)** The Bobs Creek Stream Guardians, including chairman Tim Clingerman, had concerns about the effects of a fracking fluid spill in the state-designated Class A trout stream. Clingerman said despite the spill, Chief Oil & Gas has done everything it promised last year. [Altoona Mirror](#), Pennsylvania. 23 January 2011.

**Marcellus shale well being built on Keyser area farm.** Of the 110 natural gas wells permitted in Mineral County, the first one that specifically was permitted to be drilled into Marcellus shale is under construction on Orville and Irene Broadwater's farm, in the Keyser area, according to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. [Cumberland Times-News](#), Maryland. 23 January 2011.

**Think about environment of poverty.** What a wonderful world it would be if we were "clean" and "green" about everything! Imagine it: No coal, no more drilling for natural gas, no chemicals, including medicines, permitted unless they had been proven 100% safe for the environment and consumers. It would be a perfect place. Or not. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. Opinion, 23 January 2011.

**Shareholders press energy companies on risks associated with gas-extraction method.**

Shareholder groups have filed resolutions with major oil and gas companies urging them to disclose their plans for managing water pollution and financial risks associated with hydraulic fracturing, a technique used to extract natural gas from shale. [Washington Post](#). 22 January 2011. [Registration Required]

**Shareholder groups press gas drillers on fracking.** Activist shareholder groups want energy companies to do a better job of reducing the risks of hydraulic fracturing, the drilling technique that's unlocked vast stores of previously inaccessible natural gas while raising concerns about environmental contamination. [Associated Press](#). 22 January 2011.

**State comptroller seeks gas drilling answers.** State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli has joined large institutional shareholders that are pushing oil and gas companies to better explain plans to handle risks associated with hydrofracking, a natural gas drilling technique still to arrive in New York. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. 22 January 2011.

**DiNapoli joins push for disclosure from gas companies.** Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli is among investors who have filed shareholder resolutions with nine oil and gas companies asking them to disclose their plans for managing water pollution and risks with natural gas hydraulic fracturing operations. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 22 January 2011.

**Marcellus shale boosts W.Va. gas production.** Industry executives say the Marcellus shale is a game changer for natural gas production in West Virginia and a key to the state's economic future. [Associated Press](#). 22 January 2011.

**Fracking bill faces industry opposition.** The oil and gas industry, state regulators and landowners lined up against a bill that would require companies to say what chemicals they are pumping into the ground to extract fossil fuels and give neighbors advanced notice of when they plan to do so. [Bozeman Daily Chronicle](#), Montana. 22 January 2011.

**DiNapoli joins bid to manage hydrofracking threat.** New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli is joining a bid to force ExxonMobil, Anadarko and seven other companies to detail their plans for managing the threats of water pollution and lawsuits tied to hydraulic fracturing. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. 21 January 2011.

**[Shell furthers bid to frack the Karoo.](#)** The energy giant hopes to extract vast natural gas reserves believed to lie beneath the Karoo, one of South Africa's most pristine areas. Environmentalists are concerned about the impact of pumping millions of gallons of water into a fragile, water-starved ecosystem. [Johannesburg Mail & Guardian](#), South Africa. 21 January 2011.

**[Firm seeks solid rules on shale gas.](#)** The biggest shale gas player in New Brunswick says it wants solid rules on resource development that even environmental watchdogs would embrace. [New Brunswick Business Journal](#), New Brunswick. 21 January 2011.

**[County plans to update zoning to regulate gas development.](#)** When Lycoming County implemented its zoning ordinance in 1991, the Marcellus Shale wasn't even a blip on its radar screen. Now it almost covers the entire screen and the zoning ordinance is being updated accordingly. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 21 January 2011.

**[Fearing EPA, North Dakota legislators proactively defend frackers.](#)** Seeking a defensive measure in case of future problems with the EPA or any other agency, a committee of state lawmakers unanimously approved a bill Thursday that states hydraulic fracturing is an acceptable recovery process in North Dakota. [Grand Forks Herald](#), North Dakota. 21 January 2011.

**[An environmental group and a gas company cooperate on fracking rules.](#)** Southwestern Energy and the Environmental Defense Fund, both from Texas, are working together to come up with rules to make the exploration for shale gas in New Brunswick and elsewhere in North America safer and greener. [Fredericton Daily Gleaner](#), New Brunswick. 21 January 2011.

**[Range appealing EPA order on gas wells.](#)** Range Resources is appealing an order issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that says the Fort Worth-based natural gas producer "caused or contributed to" methane contamination of two residential water wells in the Silverado subdivision in far south Parker County in Texas. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 21 January 2011.

**[Gas drillers shouldn't get free ride.](#)** The Marcellus Shale natural gas boom has the chamber of commerce boys working overtime to set the stage for out-of-state gas interests such as Chesapeake Energy to reap windfall profits while despoiling Pennsylvania's water and air for generations. [Erie Times-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 21 January 2011.

**[EPA posts frack rules without explanation; oil and gas industry cries foul.](#)** Matt Armstrong, a lawyer who closely follows the issue of "hydraulic fracturing," was poking around on the U.S. EPA website last June and was stunned when he realized the agency had added new language requiring drillers to get permits if they are going to fracture with diesel fuel. [Greenwire](#). 20 January 2011.

**[NSW opposition lets miners write lands policy.](#)** The state opposition has allowed the mining industry to rewrite parts of its regional land use policy, deleting commitments to toughen regulatory compliance on miners, leaked documents reveal. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 20 January 2011.

[Registration Required]

**[Findlay officials tighten rules on gas wells.](#)** Findlay officials want Marcellus Shale development in their township, but they also want to protect residents from the potential side effects of natural gas drilling. So they have tightened the rules on drilling operations and banned gas wells in neighborhoods and other areas where they would most affect residents. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 20 January 2011.

**Philadelphia utility asked to avoid Marcellus gas.** Philadelphia officials on Tuesday recommended a city utility continue its practice of not buying natural gas from the Marcellus Shale formation and asked it to consider adding environmental costs when calculating the price of any future purchases. [Reuters](#), 20 January 2011.

**Two down, one to go for Texas fracking firm.** About 200 residents of Benton, PA sat in a frigid gym to hear a Texas oil company ask township supervisors to allow fracking exploration. Most of the meeting was conducted by one supervisor because the other two have signed gas leases near the proposed well and acknowledged a conflict of interest. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 20 January 2011.

**Murrysville residents clamor for a fracking ban.** Local officials trying to limit where gas companies can drill say a total ban can only be enacted by state legislators, and trying to enact one might leave the entire area open to gas field development. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 20 January 2011.

**Federal judge allows gas company lawyers to depose EPA on fracking suit.** A federal judge in Austin said in a court hearing that investigations by the Texas Railroad Commission and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency into methane contamination of two residential water wells in Parker County are "of extreme significance" and have national implications. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 20 January 2011.

**Niobara oil drilling saps Wyoming's county road budgets.** In 2010, rancher Shawn Hall granted a lease to Chesapeake Energy to drill two exploratory wells into the oil-bearing Niobrara shale. Over the last few months, Hall has seen hundreds of semi-truckloads of drilling materials, water and rig equipment roll down the county road to the well pads. [Boise New West](#), Idaho. 20 January 2011.

**Noble Basin drilling plan sparks expletive-laced tirades.** Energy industry and Forest Service officials on Tuesday heard frustrations, sometimes in the form of expletives, from citizens worried about 136 gas wells proposed for federal land in the Wyoming Range. [Jackson Hole News&Guide](#), Wyoming. 20 January 2011.

**State, others keep close watch on EPA fracking study.** On Thursday in Bismarck, the N.D. House Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing will include a bill, HB-1216, which would designate hydraulic fracturing as an acceptable recovery process in North Dakota. [Minot Daily News](#), North Dakota. 19 January 2011.

**Natural gas in Parker County water wells not from Barnett Shale, driller says.** Methane gas that contaminated two Parker County water wells did not come from Range Resources' natural gas wells drilled into the Barnett Shale, but instead from the much-shallower Strawn formation, company officials and their consultants are expected to contend at a Texas Railroad Commission staff hearing today in Austin. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 19 January 2011.

**Noble Basin gas field would frack, pollute.** Development of a natural gas field in Bondurant's Noble Basin would degrade visibility in the Gros Ventre Wilderness and Shoal Creek Wilderness Study Area, and emissions would cause unknown impacts to ozone levels in Sublette County. [Jackson Hole News&Guide](#), Wyoming. 19 January 2011.

**[UK shale-gas report lacks scientific evidence.](#)** Researchers at the Tyndall Centre at the University of Manchester claim to have demonstrated how the extraction of shale gas risks seriously contaminating ground and surface waters – without providing any scientific evidence to back their claim. [Engineer](#), United Kingdom. Opinion, 19 January 2011.

**[Bid to halt drilling for gas which may be under Pendle Hill.](#)** A bid has been launched to halt the planned drilling for a controversial type of gas below Pendle Hill. The Co-operative has raised concerns over the safety of the extraction of ‘shale gas’, which a firm wants to drill for in Lancashire. [Lancashire Telegraph](#), United Kingdom. 18 January 2011.

**[Warning over UK shale gas projects.](#)** Ministers are being urged to halt controversial projects to drill for shale gas over fears that it poses significant risks to public health and the environment. [London Guardian](#), United Kingdom. 18 January 2011.

**[Montana lawmaker wants disclosure of fracking fluid.](#)** Bozeman Sen. Bob Hawks, a retired optometrist, has introduced a bill to force mining companies in Montana to disclose their fracking fluid recipes. Hawks says he wants the information made accessible to doctors in case the chemicals make people sick. [Bozeman Daily Chronicle](#), Montana. 18 January 2011.

**[Force disclosure in drilling permits.](#)** If New York is to allow fracking, we should at least have a precise understanding of the chemicals used in the process. Our natural resources should be tapped in places, if it can be done responsibly and openly. The onus should be on industry to show those standards can and will be met. [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), New York. Editorial, 18 January 2011.

**[Shale gas: Health report outlines the risks but finds little in the way of hard data.](#)** In its obsequious embrace of the shale-gas industry, the Charest government has not done any original research into the risks that such a venture might pose for health and the environment. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. Opinion, 18 January 2011.

**[Call to ban 'shale gas' extraction.](#)** Campaigners are calling for a ban on the extraction of "shale gas" in the UK until potential environmental and human health risks have been properly assessed. [Press Association](#). 17 January 2011.

**[Tyndall Centre calls for UK shale gas moratorium.](#)** The UK government should put a moratorium on shale gas operations until the environmental implications are fully understood, a report says. [BBC](#). 17 January 2011.

**[Scientists call for UK shale-gas moratorium.](#)** The UK should cease all shale gas exploration until the long term environmental consequences of exploiting the resource are better understood, scientists have said today as reports suggested the first British shale gas deposits have been found near Blackpool. [London Business Green](#), United Kingdom. 17 January 2011.

**[Co-op calls for shale gas extraction ban.](#)** The Manchester-based Co-operative group today called for the banning of a shale gas extraction operation scheduled to begin off the coast of Blackpool, citing environmental and health concerns. [Manchester Evening News](#), United Kingdom. 17 January 2011.

**['Shelve plan to extract gas off Blackpool.'](#)** Campaigners say plans to extract gas from the seabed off Blackpool should be shelved while the dangers are properly assessed. [London Sky News](#), United Kingdom. 17 January 2011.

**[Anti-drilling protesters to rally during Corbett inauguration.](#)** The crowd of well-wishers watching Gov.-elect Tom Corbett take office on Tuesday will be joined in the capital city by hundreds of protestors who want Corbett to halt gas drilling in the state. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 17 January 2011.

**[Monroe residents have reservations over gas.](#)** Though acting Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin has announced he intends to utilize the natural gas of the Marcellus shale, residents of Monroe County, who live above the shale, say drilling into the area will decimate their culture, safety and even endangered species in the area. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 17 January 2011.

**[Delaying drilling will hurt N.Y.](#)** Waiting around a few extra years to tap natural gas resources in New York isn't entirely unreasonable. Continuing to delay the issuance of strict new regulations governing responsible Marcellus development, however, may result in far fewer jobs and much less revenue for the state. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. Opinion, 17 January 2011.

**[Quebec should 'go slow' on shale gas: experts.](#)** Quebec should hold off on shale gas drilling until serious environmental, economic and legal questions about the industry can be answered, a panel of U.S. and Quebec experts told a packed public meeting in Mont St. Hilaire Saturday. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 16 January 2011.

**[Fracking opponents are getting organized.](#)** 25 people gathered in Connellsville on Saturday for lessons on presenting a case to legislators for stricter gas drilling regulations. Environmental groups in Pennsylvania are planning many more such trainings, hoping to create a citizens' army to counter the influence of wealthy pro-fracking advocates. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 16 January 2011.

**[Democratic lawmakers try new tack to force fracking disclosures.](#)** When the GOP took control of the House last year, Rep. Diana DeGette, a Colorado Democrat, knew her efforts to pass a law forcing gas companies to disclose the content of their fracking fluid was dead. Now she and her allies are asking Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to order the disclosure. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 16 January 2011.

**[Anti-drillers may have friend in Albany.](#)** Joe Martens, the new head of New York's Department of Environmental Conservation, is the former head of Catskill Mountainkeeper: one of the state's premier anti-gas drilling organizations. Now, he's leading the agency that decides the fate of drilling in the state. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 16 January 2011.

**[PA's top environmental regulator says state needs stronger enforcement powers.](#)** Calling Marcellus Shale "an environmental threat and an environmental opportunity," departing Environmental Protection secretary John Hanger said Pennsylvania's laws aren't adequate to regulate fracking and ensure gas profits contribute to environmental efforts. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 16 January 2011.

**[Conservation organization turns focus to water quality.](#)** The Westmoreland County chapter of Trout Unlimited, a conservation group devoted to coldwater fisheries, is training volunteers to monitor streams to determine any impact on water quality from Marcellus shale drilling for natural gas. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 16 January 2011.

**[Rendell's legacy: A governor people love, or love to loathe.](#)** Whether they love him or love to loathe him, Pennsylvanians won't soon forget Gov. Ed Rendell. [Associated Press](#). 16 January 2011.

**[Opponents to fracking disclosure take big money from industry.](#)** Congress will not regulate hydraulic fracturing any time soon. But the Department of Interior might. It is mulling whether it should require drilling companies to disclose the chemicals they use to frack wells drilled on public lands. But if money is an indicator, the anti-regulatory group has the upper hand. [ProPublica](#). 15 January 2011.

**[DeGette, Polis leading charge for 'fracking' disclosure.](#)** Colorado U.S. Reps. Diana DeGette and Jared Polis are among 46 lawmakers asking the Interior Department to force oil and gas companies to disclose what chemicals they're pumping into the ground. [Denver KWGN TV](#), Colorado. 15 January 2011.

**[Drill, but carefully, in Ohio's state parks.](#)** As Ohio faces an \$8 billion deficit, it cannot ignore current deposits of oil and gas in state parks and what could turn out to be millions of dollars in natural gas from the Marcellus Shale, a geological formation that stretches from upstate New York, through eastern Ohio and down to West Virginia. [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), Ohio. Editorial, 15 January 2011.

**[Two-thirds of federal oil and gas drilling permits sat idle in 2010.](#)** Oil and gas companies drilled fewer new wells on public lands in 2010 than in any other year over the past decade, leaving nearly two-thirds of their drilling permits unused, according to federal records obtained by Greenwire. [Greenwire](#). 14 January 2011.

**[New York Congressional members push for gas drilling disclosure.](#)** Nine members of the New York congressional delegation are among House Democrats urging federal officials to require natural gas drillers to disclose the chemicals they use under a technique called hydraulic fracturing. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 14 January 2011.

**[Delegate introduces bill to restrict water use in natural gas drilling.](#)** Fueled by concerns about water and air safety, West Virginia Delegate Barbara Evans Fleischauer hopes Northern Panhandle legislators will help her pass new Marcellus Shale drilling rules. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 14 January 2011.

**[The Bakken factor: Could this oil reserve become that reliable bridge to a sustainable energy future?](#)** The existence of large natural gas reserves should be the driver for a revamped national energy policy that relies more heavily on these resources to build a bridge into a future based on renewable energy. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Editorial, 14 January 2011.

**[Gas company attempts to extend leases.](#)** A natural gas company with a leasehold in eastern Broome and Steuben counties and parts of central New York told landowners this week their leases would be extended because of New York's moratorium on a type of hydraulic fracturing. [Gannett News Service](#). 13 January 2011.

**[Honesdale pressed to ban natural gas drilling.](#)** Citizens concerned about natural gas drilling in and around the borough spoke to council Monday evening about being prepared for the inevitable. The group's leader, Jane Prettyman said it is up to the borough's planning commission to update zoning and land use laws and have a road plan for the borough. [Wayne Independent](#), Pennsylvania. 13 January 2011.

**[Va. company picks W.Va. site for natural gas plant.](#)** Virginia energy company Dominion Resources Inc. said Wednesday it has selected a 56-acre site in Natrium, W.Va., for the construction of a plant to process natural gas from hundreds of producers tapping the rich Marcellus Shale deposit. [Associated Press](#). 13 January 2011.

**[Shale gas: Uncle Sam's saviour?](#)** Natural gas may be Uncle Sam's most ignored blessing. With resources now equivalent to Iran's oil reserves, domestic shale gas offers a chance to meaningfully reduce the country's dependence on foreign oil, cut the deficit and even reduce greenhouse emissions. [Reuters](#). Opinion, 13 January 2011.

**[Opposition to fracking affirmed.](#)** On Tuesday, Buffalo city lawmakers unanimously condemned fracking and proposed a local law banning it. But a lawyer supporting the practice wondered aloud why the Council would take up the issue when no one has proposed hydraulic fracturing in Buffalo. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 12 January 2011.

**[Environmentalists worried that plan to sell state park could open way for drilling.](#)** Ohio environmental groups are sounding the alarm over a proposed sale of nearly 1,000 acres of state parkland near Steubenville that they fear could open the way for natural gas drilling there and in other state parks. [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), Ohio. 12 January 2011.

**[Dallas council expected to defer vote on gas drilling permit.](#)** The Dallas City Council is expected to defer a vote today on a controversial zoning permit that would open up Hensley Field to natural gas drilling. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 12 January 2011.

**[Opportunity knocks for economic development in New York.](#)** The rewards far outweigh the risks. It is time to lift the ban on fracking. Drill we must. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. Opinion, 12 January 2011.

**[New bill to raise drilling fees from \\$650 to \\$10,000 plus.](#)** If the West Virginia legislature passes legislation now in committee, the drastically increased permit fees could help employ more Marcellus Shale drilling inspectors. Right now there are 12 active inspectors responsible for 59,000 wells. [Associated Press](#). 11 January 2011.

**[W.Va. lawmakers advance draft Marcellus shale bill.](#)** Reflecting the tough debate that likely lays ahead, a House-Senate subcommittee opted not to endorse the legislative proposal it advanced Monday that would set new rules and licensing fees for drilling into West Virginia's Marcellus shale natural gas field. [Associated Press](#). 11 January 2011.

**[Bill to regulate Marcellus drilling advances.](#)** A contentious draft bill to impose new regulations and higher fees for drilling for natural gas into the Marcellus shale fields advanced out of a legislative interim committee Monday -- but without a recommendation for its passage. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 11 January 2011.

**[Empty promise: A state gas tax.](#)** So far, Pennsylvania has missed out on about \$121 million in revenue from the Marcellus Shale natural gas industry, and the tally spurts higher with each day that drillers siphon the resource from below our forests and farms without paying a popular tax that is common in major gas-producing states. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 11 January 2011.

**[Gov. Cuomo needs to know all the facts of hydrofracking.](#)** Newly elected Gov. Andrew Cuomo has said he would like to get "the facts" about hydraulic fracturing. I'm curious to see what facts the governor finds. The facts that I have found in my research of hydraulic fracturing are quite horrifying. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. Opinion, 11 January 2011.

**[Gas drilling poses threat to people, environment.](#)** Gas companies like to paint the Marcellus shale boom as a wonderful opportunity for our state. But the industry studiously neglects to mention what is happening to people in other areas of the country where natural gas drilling and production have been taking place. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. Opinion, 11 January 2011.

**[Gov. Rendell made a positive mark on PA environment.](#)** With the help of many, Pennsylvania's air, water and land are cleaner than when Gov. Ed Rendell took office. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 11 January 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Green believes gas drilling OK if it's safe for environment.](#)** One of the heavier topics looming for the 2011 Legislature is how to deal with proposed Marcellus shale gas drilling, and one Senate leader expects to see legislation that will work for both industry and environmental forces. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 10 January 2011.

**[Mora County group's water study provides first line of defense against 'fracking'.](#)** A group of residents opposed to drilling for natural gas in Mora County has completed a baseline water quality study of area domestic wells. [Santa Fe New Mexican](#), New Mexico. 10 January 2011.

**[EPA says state air quality drilling rules too lenient.](#)** Federal environmental officials said Thursday they plan to reject Montana air quality rules that allow oil and gas companies to obtain emissions permits after they have already started drilling. [Great Falls Tribune](#), Montana. 9 January 2011.

**[Drilling reforms expected to get legislative attention.](#)** Oil and gas lobbyists and environmental groups are both offering cautious reactions to a Department of Environmental Protection proposal for a wholesale rewrite of the way West Virginia regulates drilling operations across the state. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 9 January 2011.

**[No fracking way.](#)** Hydraulic fracturing – also known as hydrofracking, or just fracking – may not sound familiar, but this process of extracting natural gas is becoming a household term as controversy emerges. [Dunkirk Observer](#), New York. 9 January 2011.

**[Oil's bounty shouldn't distract from diversification.](#)** Farmers know when the crop goes in that unforeseen circumstances - no rain or too much rain, hail, bugs, weeds, falling prices - can ruin a crop and make the local banker your best friend. Legislators should know the same thing. [Bismarck Tribune](#), North Dakota. Editorial, 9 January 2011.

**[Huge mud plant bows after public backlash.](#)** Public opinion appears to have figured into the change of plans for a fluids storage facility in Watsonstown that would support the Marcellus Shale industry. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 8 January 2011.

**[Interest in Ohio natural gas drilling on farmland grows.](#)** Almost every day, Dale Arnold gets phone calls at his office at the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation from farmers in need of advice. The callers usually have been approached by an energy service provider interested in leasing part of their land to drill for oil or natural gas. [Coshocton Tribune](#), Ohio. 8 January 2011.

**[EPA, Range Resources in fight over well contamination claim.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency and Range Resources are locked in a bitter fight over the EPA's claim that two Parker County water wells were contaminated by methane from a pair of natural gas wells operated by the Fort Worth-based company. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 8 January 2011.

**[63 percent of Pa. voters back tax on shale gas industry, poll finds.](#)** Gov.-elect Tom Corbett took a tough stand against any new taxes when campaigning, but many voters who agreed with him apparently did so with a caveat in mind. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 7 January 2011.

**[Township to sell sewage wastewater for fracking.](#)** On Dec. 16, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission approved an application to sell treated municipal wastewater for drilling operations by the natural gas industry. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 7 January 2011.

**[Rep. Dan Boren, other lawmakers oppose natural gas 'fracking' rules.](#)** Rep. Dan Boren and other lawmakers with natural gas interests in their states urged Interior Secretary Ken Salazar this week not to impose new regulations on a widely-used drilling method. [Oklahoma City Oklahoman](#), Oklahoma. 7 January 2011.

**[Montana air quality drilling rules too lax.](#)** Federal environmental officials said Thursday they plan to reject Montana air quality rules that allow oil and gas companies to obtain emissions permits after they have already started drilling. [Bismarck Tribune](#), North Dakota. 7 January 2011.

**[Attorneys look into suit based on Silt Mesa injury claims.](#)** Attorneys from Aspen and New York City have begun talking with residents of Silt Mesa about taking Antero Resources to court over the residents' claims of injuries related to gas drilling activities in the neighborhood. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 7 January 2011.

**[Environment, industry balance considered for oil, gas rules.](#)** Citing alleged impacts to industry investments, many members of Colorado's incoming state government are eyeing unfavorably the oil and gas regulation overhaul passed during the prior legislative session, though no concrete proposals have yet been submitted for their alteration. [Trinidad Times Independent](#), Colorado. 7 January 2011.

**[Lawmakers protect natgas from new drilling regulations.](#)** A bipartisan group of U.S. lawmakers pressed the Obama administration on the first day of the new Congress not to impose regulations curtailing drilling technique that taps hard-to-get natural gas reserves but has generated criticism about potential water pollution. [Reuters](#). 6 January 2011.

**[Pennsylvania's drilling wastewater released to streams, some unaccounted for.](#)** As gas-drilling operations proliferated in Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale over the past couple of years, most of the hundreds of millions of gallons of briny wastewater they produced was eventually dumped into the state's rivers. Much of the rest is unaccounted for. [ProPublica](#). 6 January 2011.

**[Monongahela River watershed groups work for new regulations.](#)** Monongahela River watershed groups want to see new laws regulating Marcellus Shale drilling come from the next legislative session. Two bills are already written but may not go far enough. [Clarksburg WBOY TV](#), West Virginia. 6 January 2011.

**[Gas company sending fracking wastewater to Ohio.](#)** Last January, Watertown accepted and treated 35,000 gallons of wastewater from Gastem Inc. after spending a year going through a permitting process with the state Department of Environmental Conservation. [Watertown Daily Times](#), New York. 6 January 2011.

**[Nonprofit offers help with tests that may link contaminated water to hydraulic fracking.](#)**

ShaleTest.Org, based in Texas, recently launched its nationwide effort, emphasizing the importance of testing for the presence of chemicals before and after drilling, or hydraulic fracturing for underground oil and gas reserves, begins. [Boise New West](#), Idaho. 6 January 2011.

**[Lewisville approves 12 natural gas wells, water facility.](#)** The Lewisville City Council has approved plans for 12 natural gas wells and a centralized water collection facility. The approval this week came over the objections of residents who considered the plans to reduce gas well emissions short on details. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 6 January 2011.

**[Pennsylvania rates an 'F' on fracking regulation.](#)** Residents must demand that their governor and legislators represent their interests in clean water along with safe, well-regulated energy production. Those are not mutually exclusive forces, but if you look at the money industry poured into the 2010 campaigns, gas money drowned out common sense. [Harrisburg Express-Times](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 6 January 2011.

**[New law on drilling needed.](#)** The rule of capture, perhaps rational in medieval England, is now detrimental to West Virginia's shallow gas owners and surface owners. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. Opinion, 6 January 2011.

**[A marketing scheme across the nation.](#)** The community commentary "Natural Gas Is the Answer" (12/13/10) typifies the thinly veiled marketing scheme playing out across the nation, as the gas and oil industry seeks to maintain its strangle hold on our economy and energy future. [Foster's Daily Democrat](#), New Hampshire. Opinion, 6 January 2011.

**[Top stories of 2010: The oil spill and beyond.](#)** In 2010, journalists devoted an extraordinary amount of resources to the largest spill in U.S. history, writing tens of thousands of articles on the Gulf of Mexico oil spill. [Environmental Health News](#). 5 January 2011.

**[Pennsylvania official John Hanger defends fracking discharges.](#)** Pennsylvania's top environmental enforcement official said Tuesday that he is confident that wastewater discharged into rivers and streams by the booming natural gas industry hasn't degraded the state's drinking water. Those discharges have troubled some environmentalists. [Associated Press](#). 5 January 2011.

**[Montco firm was ordered to stop accepting Marcellus wastewater.](#)** Regulators ordered a Montgomery County wastewater-treatment operation last year to halt accepting liquids from a Marcellus Shale natural gas driller after discovering that hundreds of truckloads had been improperly imported into the Delaware watershed. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 5 January 2011.  
[Registration Required]

**[Fracking and the water table: Sinking feelings.](#)** There's the potential that hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," will have long-term effects on South Texas water tables in a region that has long struggled with drought. [San Antonio Current](#), Texas. 5 January 2011.

**[Canada's First Nations face up to industry.](#)** The views of Canada's indigenous peoples on mining projects, pipelines and hydroelectric dams carry increasing weight in the decision-making process. [Le Monde](#). 5 January 2011.

**[Natural gas industry sees little gain from Obama's show of support.](#)** President Obama jumped right in the day after the midterm election when a reporter asked where he might compromise with Republicans. His answer: natural gas development. [Greenwire](#). 5 January 2011.

**[Oil, gas firms find it harder to drill on U.S. land.](#)** Since the Deepwater Horizon accident, the oil industry has complained loudly that the government is dragging its feet in approving new offshore drilling projects. Now the industry says that it's experiencing similar problems in the Rocky Mountains. [Morning Edition](#), NPR. 5 January 2011.

**[Gas boom has downside.](#)** The natural gas boom gripping parts of the U.S. has a nasty byproduct: wastewater so salty, and so polluted with metals like barium and strontium, most states require drillers to get rid of the stuff by injecting it down shafts thousands of feet deep. [Associated Press](#). 5 January 2011.

**[Cuomo picks 'Open Space' advocate for Environment Chief.](#)** Gov. Andrew Cuomo is receiving plaudits from environmental groups for nominating Joseph Martens as the new commissioner of New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation. [New York Times](#). 5 January 2011.  
[Registration Required]

**[Fracking's short, dirty story.](#)** Developed decades ago, hydraulic fracturing involves the process of breaking up heavy oil- and gas-bearing shale formations by pumping millions of gallons of chemically tainted water through vertical and lateral wells at intense pressure. Only in recent years has the practice become cost effective for industry. [San Antonio Current](#), Texas. 5 January 2011.

**[Arlington City Council tables vote on proposed Chesapeake gas well near Cowboys Stadium.](#)** Troubled by the possibility of heavy truck traffic through the busy entertainment district, the City Council tabled a vote Tuesday night on a proposed gas well near Cowboys Stadium. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 5 January 2011.

**[Fracking project could be approved before EPA determines safety.](#)** Bridger-Teton National Forest officials may permit an energy company to use hydraulic fracturing to drill 136 wells in the Noble Basin area before an EPA study determines whether the technique is safe. [Jackson Hole News&Guide](#), Wyoming. 5 January 2011.

**[Pennsylvania allows dumping of tainted waters from gas boom.](#)** The natural gas boom gripping parts of the U.S. has a nasty byproduct: wastewater so salty, and so polluted with metals like barium and strontium, that most states require drillers to get rid of the stuff by injecting it down shafts thousands of feet deep. [Associated Press](#). 4 January 2011.

**[Water woes concern locals.](#)** The head of a local environmental group concerned about the dangers of natural gas drilling was dismayed but not totally surprised by an Associated Press report on the disposal of wastewater from gas drilling in Pennsylvania. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 4 January 2011.

**What happens to frack water in WV?** According to Chesapeake Energy, its most common fracking solution is 0.5% chemicals, including substances found in antifreeze, swimming pool cleaner, deodorant and hair coloring. But West Virginians need not worry, says a spokesman. The company has a goal to eventually recycle all of its fracking water. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 4 January 2011.

**Thousands protest drilling near Cowboy stadium.** Set to vote on allowing gas drilling at a site near the Dallas Cowboys new stadium, the Arlington City Council received thousands of emails urging them to say "no." If the vote is "yes," Chesapeake Energy has agreed not to drill until after Super Bowl XLV, which will be at Cowboys Stadium on Feb. 6. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 4 January 2011.

**State faces tipping point in new year.** As the ball drops on a brand new year, Pennsylvania finds itself facing a grim environmental tipping point. Residents of the state concerned about our outdoors heritage, our woods and waters, our drinking water, and our overall quality of life should cast a cautious, fearful eye toward what lies ahead. [Chester Daily Local](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 4 January 2011.

**Environment forgotten in Israel's gas rush.** Israel must counter the power of the gas barons and the wealthy patrons of the companies promoting the development of shale oil production by imposing a strict regime to regulate and control the environmental fallout from the project. [Haaretz](#), Israel. Opinion, 4 January 2011.

**South Texas shale attracting billions of dollars.** As natural gas prices remain weak, more oil and gas companies are going oil hunting. Some of the world's biggest - including Shell, BP, Norway's Statoil and China's CNOOC - are investing in the obscure Eagle Ford shale formation in South Texas, which could become fracking's hottest site in 2011. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 3 January 2011.

**UK joins 'gas rush' despite pollution fears.** A controversial new technique for drilling gas wells, which campaigners say has polluted water courses in America, is to be tried for the first time in Britain later this month. [London Independent](#), United Kingdom. 2 January 2011.

**Corbett vows 'cop' approach to shale gas industry.** Gov.-elect Tom Corbett vows to get tough with the Marcellus shale gas industry, despite appointing industry lobbyists to his transition team overseeing environmental regulation. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 2 January 2011.

**Let's try to see both sides on gas drilling.** Gas drilling is the most divisive issue to ever hit Sullivan County. It gets your blood boiling and your voices screaming. It pits neighbor against neighbor and family against family. It's literally about life and death. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. Opinion, 2 January 2011.

**2010: An untameable spill, an unpassable bill.** Top 10 lists are often relentlessly negative; the spirit of this list is slightly different: Good or bad, these are environmental moments in 2010 that are most likely to reverberate in the world of environmental in 2011 and beyond. [New York Times](#). 1 January 2011. [Registration Required]

**[Kasich eyes gas riches of vast Marcellus Shale.](#)** Gov.-elect John Kasich on Thursday said natural-gas drilling in a geological formation that stretches into Ohio could boost the state's economy by attracting businesses and helping to put skilled workers back on the job. [Associated Press](#). 1 January 2011.

**[Fracking water sucked from fragile ecosystems.](#)** New Brunswick residents facing the prospect of oil shale development should consider what is happening in remote Fort Nelson. There, Apache Canada has dug enormous pits to suck as much water as possible from delicate marshes, then pump it in record-setting amounts. [Saint John Telegraph-Journal](#), New Brunswick. Opinion, 1 January 2011.

**[Future of natural gas drilling: Cuomo wants 'the facts.'](#)** While the debate surrounding natural gas development and hydraulic fracturing in New York has always centered on "the facts," there are many different perceptions about what those facts really are. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 31 December 2010.

**[Natural gas fracking in New York remains on hold.](#)** As the gas drilling boom continued in Pennsylvania, hydrofracking was still largely on hold in New York. [Corning Leader](#), New York. 31 December 2010.

**[Newton Twp. officials to put weight limits on roads to protect from gas trucks.](#)** As a way to protect the township from an anticipated onslaught of heavy trucks and equipment brought on by natural gas drilling, Newton supervisors have been working with an engineer to set weight limits for their roads. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 31 December 2010.

**[Oklahoma City group developing registry for hydraulic fracturing chemicals.](#)** In an attempt to forestall federal legislation of hydraulic fracturing, two groups in Oklahoma City are developing a voluntary chemical disclosure registry for energy and oil-field service companies. [Oklahoma City Oklahoman](#), Oklahoma. 31 December 2010.

**[More gas wells set for North Texas.](#)** Despite weak natural gas prices, Chesapeake Energy plans to drill 350 to 380 new Barnett Shale gas wells in North Texas in 2011 and keep about 20 drilling rigs active throughout the year, the company's top executive in its Fort Worth-based regional operation said Tuesday. [San Antonio Express-News](#), Texas. 31 December 2010.

**[Regulation and disclosure of fracking at the center of gas drilling debate.](#)** Of particular concern to regulators and public health advocates are the specific chemicals that go into the hydrofracturing chemical mixture. The industry has fought disclosure for years and had largely been able to keep well-to-well specifics secret, but that began to change this year. [ProPublica](#). 30 December 2010.

**[Activists, pols say Paterson watered down fracking ban.](#)** In the last executive action of his administration, Governor David Paterson vetoed a six-month moratorium on hydrofracture gas drilling, known as fracking, in New York State. [New York Villager](#), New York. 30 December 2010.

**[Plain trustees seek opinions on drilling method.](#)** Township trustees are considering an ordinance that would ban oil and natural gas drilling. The ordinance was introduced Tuesday night, then tabled. Trustees don't plan to take any action until after community information meetings planned for late January. [Canton Repository](#), Ohio. 30 December 2010.

**[CSG and coalmines release polluted water.](#)** Coal seam gas and coalmines in Central Queensland may be releasing polluted water into the local river system due to flooding. The Environment and Resource Management Department has reported that nine coalmines and two coal seam gas operations have released water "outside of their Environmental Authority conditions" recently. [Gladstone Observer](#), Australia. 29 December 2010.

**[Interior right to end "no more wilderness" policy.](#)** The reversal strikes a Bush-era decision that left huge amounts of public land vulnerable to damaging oil and gas exploration. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Editorial, 29 December 2010.

**[Fracking threatens historic resort.](#)** Citing a potential threat from Marcellus Shale drilling, a historic preservation group placed Eagles Mere resort in Sullivan County on its annual list of endangered places. The primary concern is that drilling for natural gas will ruin the spring-fed Eagles Mere Lake at the heart of the mountain resort. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 28 December 2010.

**[NY stalls on hydrofracking.](#)** At public hearing in Binghamton, NY recently, officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency got an earful about hydrofracking. [Vermont Public Radio](#), Vermont. 27 December 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale gas development fueling Bradford County boom.](#)** It used to be a sleepy little place on the Susquehanna River. Now, it's a boom town. According to the Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection, 355 of the 1,368 Marcellus wells drilled in Pennsylvania this year were drilled in this rural county. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 27 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Ohio county drilling starts for Marcellus Shale gas.](#)** With a Chesapeake Energy natural gas rig drilling into the ground just off Dement Road, the Marcellus Shale rush has taken another step forward in Ohio County. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 27 December 2010.

**[Two approaches to drilling.](#)** While New York has had an effective moratorium on Marcellus Shale drilling for the past two years as it studied the industry and developed new permitting procedures, Pennsylvania allowed fracking and tried updating regulations as it went, experiencing many environmental problems along the way. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 26 December 2010.

**[Will 'fracking' crack under pressure?](#)** Across the nation, the term "hydraulic fracture stimulation" is creeping more and more into the public eye amid controversy in some geographic regions. [Minot Daily News](#), North Dakota. 26 December 2010.

**[Gas drilling booms in valley.](#)** For many Ohio Valley residents, the words "Marcellus Shale" had little meaning at the start of 2010. Much has changed since then, though, as the Marcellus Shale natural gas boom has dominated the headlines and brought hundreds of millions of dollars of new money to the local economy. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 26 December 2010.

**[Fracking: Northern Tier offers glimpse of what's to come.](#)** When New York's Department of Environmental Conservation placed a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling in late 2009, all eyes turned in 2010 toward Pennsylvania's Northern Tier, where fracking was happening at a fever pitch. [Gannett News Service](#). 26 December 2010.

**Questions asked, answered in fracking debate – but still no fracking in N.Y.** Despite an intensifying battle at the local and state levels, 2010 was much like previous years when it came to substantive drilling in New York's portion of the Marcellus Shale: There wasn't any. But that's not to say there weren't any developments. [Gannett News Service](#). 26 December 2010.

**End of the line?** Dallas is being eyed by companies that want to tap into its rich underground deposits of Barnett Shale, and mineral owners in McKinney, Plano, Garland and Mesquite would like to be next in line for lucrative lease. But current technology suggests underground geological formations in North Texas will block fracking's eastward expansion. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 26 December 2010.

**Colorado groups disagree on importing N.Y. fracking moratorium.** Colorado groups are divided on the feasibility of bringing a New York State-style moratorium on hydraulic fracturing to Colorado. Industry and some state regulators are opposed to the idea, while environmental groups and some residents find the notion more favorable. [Trinidad Times Independent](#), Colorado. 25 December 2010.

**Other shale formations in region have natural gas potential.** The Marcellus Shale may be Pennsylvania's biggest economic development story in decades, but it is not the state's only potentially lucrative shale play. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 25 December 2010.

**Americans favor clean water over energy production.** Most Americans favor clean water over energy production, according to a national study released Tuesday, but a natural gas industry spokesman insists the two are unrelated. [Oklahoma City Oklahoman](#), Oklahoma. 24 December 2010.

**Lewisburg ponders natural gas fracking pollution.** Concerned about the city's water quality, the city council asked Mayor John Manchester to research the natural gas extraction technique known as "fracking." "It caused me great concern, especially given that Lewisburg operates a regional water system," Council member Andrew Evans said. [Beckley Register-Herald](#), West Virginia. 23 December 2010.

**Don't ban fracking.** Fracking has been used successfully and safely for decades, but that does not stop the environmental Left from trying to stop the process. It also does not stop various politicians from listening to such activists, and creating roadblocks to increased domestic energy production. [Daily Caller](#). Opinion, 23 December 2010.

**Residents divided about Pennsylvania's agreement with gas drilling company over water contamination.** Residents of Dimock, Pa., said they were surprised and upset by the settlement that state environmental regulators reached last week with Cabot Oil & Gas which officials say contaminated 18 water wells with methane from its gas drilling operations. [ProPublica](#). 22 December 2010.

**Poll shows fracking for natural gas is no longer obscure.** Nearly 3 in 5 Americans -- 57 percent -- have at least some awareness of the once obscure drilling practice of hydraulic fracturing, according to a poll released today by the Civil Society Institute. [Greenwire](#). 22 December 2010.

**Tompkins bans fracking on county-owned land.** Land owned by Tompkins County will not be leased for natural gas drilling if hydraulic fracturing is used, the county legislature decided Tuesday. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 22 December 2010.

**[Poll on gas-drilling takes heat.](#)** Fifty percent of New Yorkers and 44 percent of Americans are aware of the debate surrounding hydraulic fracturing, a poll released Tuesday showed. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 22 December 2010.

**[Public education planned on Marcellus Shale issues.](#)** The Colcom Foundation on Monday said it was setting up a new \$1 million Marcellus Environmental Fund for grants to study or educate the public about the environmental impact of the expanding natural gas industry here. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 22 December 2010.

**[State residents support shale gas tax, poll says.](#)** New polls released Tuesday show that Pennsylvanians still support imposing a natural gas severance tax, are concerned about the Marcellus Shale drilling process known as fracking and are more aware of the issues surrounding natural gas than their neighbors in New York. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 22 December 2010.

**[Survey shows majority of Pennsylvanians concerned about 'fracking.'](#)** Three out of five Pennsylvanians are already very or somewhat aware of the controversy about hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") drilling used to tap cheap natural gas supplies in the state, according to a new survey. [Needs Publisher](#). 22 December 2010.

**[Survey shows PA residents concerned about fracking.](#)** Pennsylvanians are more aware and more concerned about the natural gas extraction process of hydraulic fracturing than the national average. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 22 December 2010.

**[Bayer pitches W.Va. for ethane cracker processing.](#)** Bayer is reportedly pitching its Institute and New Martinsville plant sites to potential investors as ideal locations for processing ethane from the region's Marcellus Shale natural gas deposits. [Charleston Daily Mail](#), West Virginia. 22 December 2010.

**[Wyoming natural gas fracking rules point the way for public disclosure of chemicals used.](#)** State regulators have decided that the best response to fears about water contamination and the prospect of federal regulation was to order the country's most detailed disclosures of the ingredients used in hydraulic fracturing. [Greenwire](#). 21 December 2010.

**[Shale gas: energy saviour?](#)** It's helped U.S. gas prices fall by a third; offered gas security to the US and Canada for maybe 100 years; and presented a chance to generate electricity at half the CO2 emissions of coal. It's also been accused of poisoning water, killing livestock, destabilising the landscape, and sucking investment from renewable technologies. [BBC](#). 21 December 2010.

**[Quebec study of potential shale gas pollution needs broader mandate: Cirque founder.](#)** Quebec's environment ministry should have been given a larger mandate to study the effects of extracting shale gas, Guy Laliberté, a philanthropist and creator of the Cirque du Soleil, said Monday. [Postmedia News](#). 21 December 2010.

**[Blowout well fracking no worry to Wyoming regulators.](#)** The state's top oil and gas regulator doubts there is any chance that hydraulic fracturing inside a northern Wyoming gas well that blew out four years ago could have worsened a plume of groundwater pollution. Some residents aren't reassured. [Associated Press](#). 21 December 2010.

**[An energy revolution for Britain.](#)** Europeans currently enduring another severe cold snap have every interest in a truly level playing field that would bring cheaper, cleaner and more reliable energy sources to market as soon as possible. But the most promising sources of the energy of the future aren't even on the British government's wish list. [Wall Street Journal](#). Editorial, 21 December 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Oil field services providers go greener on fracturing.](#)** Oil and gas companies are coming under increasing pressure from the public and regulators to reduce the environmental impact of hydraulic fracturing as it becomes more widespread. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 20 December 2010.

**[With other energy forms on the outs, Virginia eyes natural gas.](#)** Offshore drilling is postponed. Nuclear power is expensive. Coal is contentious. With Virginia's energy options diminishing, investors are turning to a proven – and expanding – source of power: natural gas. [Newport News Daily Press](#), Virginia. 20 December 2010.

**[New gas mining regulations give power to people.](#)** The State Government yesterday announced new rules giving residents more say in coal seam gas exploration, in a bid to quell community fears over environmental impacts. [Illawarra Mercury](#), Australia. 20 December 2010.

**[Paterson's decisions on gas drilling during tenure get mixed reviews.](#)** Paterson's decision making when it comes to the vast natural gas reserve a mile below the surface of the Southern Tier and Catskills Region has received mixed reviews, even among usually like-minded stakeholders. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 20 December 2010.

**[Critics say disclosure rule on 'fracking' not strong enough.](#)** A rule approved earlier this month by the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission to require disclosure of the chemicals used in the natural gas drilling process known as “fracking” does not go far enough, some landowners and environmentalists say. [Arkansas News Bureau](#), Arkansas. 20 December 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale drilling benefits outweigh risks.](#)** West Virginians want a cleaner environment. They listen to environmentalists' concerns. But when state policymakers let groups that are interested only in the environment make economic policy, states pay a heavy price. [Charleston Daily Mail](#), West Virginia. Editorial, 20 December 2010.

**[Maryland should pass a moratorium on natural gas drilling from Marcellus Shale.](#)** Permits for hydrofracking must not be issued until the state develops comprehensive safety regulations, procedures and the enforcement capacity to minimize risks. [Baltimore Sun](#), Maryland. Opinion, 20 December 2010.

**[What's in the water? Fracking chemicals under microscope.](#)** If 1.5 percent of a fracking mixture is something other than water and sand, then 75,000 gallons of chemicals found in products such as antifreeze, laundry detergent and deodorant are being pumped deep into the ground. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 19 December 2010.

**[Toxic chemicals used to tap coal seam gas faces ban.](#)** The use of toxic chemicals in the exploration and extraction of coal seam gas is likely to be banned after pressure from environment groups and a similar decision by Queensland. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 19 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Communities given voice in gas drilling.](#)** The NSW government will try to ease fears over coal seam gas drilling before the election, with new rules giving communities a greater say before projects are approved. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 19 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Gas exploration laws too late for some.](#)** New rules governing coal seam gas exploration in NSW have come too late for residents of inner-Sydney St Peters, where drilling has already been approved. [Australian Associated Press](#). 19 December 2010.

**[Water Authority lacks permit to supply water for Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** With Marcellus Shale a hot topic across the state and region, the Altoona Water Authority had hoped to capitalize on the lucrative drilling efforts. [Altoona Mirror](#), Pennsylvania. 19 December 2010.

**[In hills outside Paris, tapping vast oil reserve presents risk but promises profit.](#)** A large supply of oil found underground in France's agricultural region could bring the country closer to energy independence but the 'fracking' process to obtain it could have environmental costs. [Christian Science Monitor](#). 18 December 2010.

**[Executive order suspending fracking brings little change.](#)** When New York Gov. David Paterson recently vetoed a bill that would have placed a temporary moratorium on new permits for hydraulic fracturing, he issued an executive order that instead suspended the approval of certain types of these permits until after July 1, 2011. [ProPublica](#). 18 December 2010.

**[Industry cedes 28,000 acres of Wyoming range for conservation.](#)** The developer of a natural gas field in southwest Wyoming's Bridger-Teton National Forest has agreed to significantly scale back its project to protect critical big-game habitat, a move welcomed by sporting groups and offering a possible blueprint for future drilling projects in sensitive areas across the West. [Greenwire](#). 18 December 2010.

**[Industry group, BLM spar over decline of oil and gas leases.](#)** An industry report last week showing a 79 percent decrease in oil and gas leases issued on public lands has ignited a debate over whether the Obama administration's leasing policies are stifling job creation and energy production. [Greenwire](#). 18 December 2010.

**[Brooklyn reacts to gas-drilling moratorium.](#)** Outgoing Gov. David Paterson's recent executive order involving controversial techniques for drilling for underground natural gas on upstate land near the city's watershed made for mixed reactions. [Brooklyn Daily Eagle](#), New York. 18 December 2010.

**[Mainline municipalities mull Marcellus restrictions.](#)** Citing concerns about the safety of water sources, three Mainline communities are looking at the possibility of banning drilling for natural gas or finding ways to significantly limit that activity. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 18 December 2010.

**[Practical deal in Dimock.](#)** Settlement of the Dimock water-contamination case, in the tradition of such compromises, will upset many people without fully satisfying anyone. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 18 December 2010.

**Battle over gas-tainted well water.** The question of how natural gas seeped into well water in Parker County has ignited a dispute between federal and state regulators over whether the contamination is related to nearby natural-gas drilling - and what should be done about it. [Wall Street Journal](#). 17 December 2010. [Subscription Required]

**Cuomo's jobs vs. environment conundrum.** It's an explosive sleeper issue bubbling just below the surface for Gov.-elect Andrew Cuomo that pits upstate jobs against the environment: "hydrofracking" to extract natural gas. [New York Post](#), New York. 17 December 2010.

**Settlement between Cabot and DEP draws criticism, praise.** A settlement reached on Wednesday has raised questions among critics about how strongly the state will defend its enforcement actions against an increasingly influential industry even as supporters applauded the agreement as a victory for common sense. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 17 December 2010.

**Flower Mound panel rejects drilling site as too close to Lake Grapevine.** A town panel has denied a request to drill for natural gas near Lake Grapevine's north shore because of concerns about potential contamination to a source of drinking water for area cities. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 17 December 2010.

**For Rick Perry, EPA is useful villain.** Every politician needs a villain. George W. Bush had Saddam Hussein; Barack Obama had George W. Bush. Gov. Rick Perry has the Environmental Protection Agency, which has had the audacity to order Texas to do more to keep its air clean. [Austin Texas Tribune](#), Texas. Opinion, 17 December 2010.

**Cabot to pay \$4.1 mln in Pennsylvania gas contamination.** Cabot Oil & Gas agreed to pay residents of the town of Dimock \$4.1 million in compensation for contamination of their water wells with natural gas under a deal it made with state regulators. [Reuters](#). 16 December 2010.

**Council supports gas mining ban.** Lismore City Council has added its voice to a growing list of organisations and people concerned about coal seam gas mining and the controversial process of hydraulic fracturing. [Northern Rivers Echo](#), Australia. 16 December 2010.

**Texas natural gas driller to pay \$4.1M over tainted drinking water in Dimrock, Pa.** The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has abandoned its plan to force a Houston-based drilling company to pay nearly \$12 million to extend a public water line to residents whose wells have been contaminated with methane gas, citing a lack of political support. [Associated Press](#). 16 December 2010.

**Resident proposes Boro Shale Task Force.** A resident proposed that a Shale Advisory Task Force be created to develop ordinances for gas drilling in and around the borough. The Task Force would address issues such as zoning, road use, and the possibility of a bypass road, and also air pollution, said resident Jane Prettyman. [Wayne Independent](#), Pennsylvania. 16 December 2010.

**[Dura-Bond says new facility will bring jobs.](#)** For one Mon Valley municipality, drilling for natural gas into the Marcellus Shale will create dozens of new jobs. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 16 December 2010.

**[Company seeks local oil, gas.](#)** A Michigan oil and gas company searches for petroleum and natural gas deposits here, raising concerns among some area residents about whether a controversial drilling technique might eventually be used. [Yellow Springs News](#), Ohio. 16 December 2010.

**[Two lawsuits contend groundwater in Barnett Shale contaminated by drilling.](#)** Two federal lawsuits filed Wednesday contend that Barnett Shale natural gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing contaminated property owners' private water wells, leaving them without water fit for drinking or other uses. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 16 December 2010.

**[Hydrofracking must be scrutinized.](#)** Gov. David Paterson was right to declare a six-month moratorium on hydraulic fracturing. If the state Department of Environmental Conservation is unable to certify that the process is safe, officials must be prepared to suspend hydrofracking operations until an acceptable solution is found. [Utica Observer-Dispatch](#), New York. Editorial, 16 December 2010.

**[The madness of New York.](#)** Imagine California, 1848, closing its border to gold miners. The U.S. is in the early stages of what can only be described as a Shale Gas Rush. Instead, New York has imposed a de facto drilling moratorium because of dubious environmental fears. [Wall Street Journal](#). Opinion, 16 December 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Obama admin wants study but backs Northeast shale drilling.](#)** The Obama administration supports a full study of the effects of gas drilling in the watershed that provides drinking water for Philadelphia and New York City, but it doesn't want to wait until it's finished for drilling to begin. [Greenwire](#). 15 December 2010.

**[Edible ingredients used to drill for gas.](#)** Oil and gas drilling companies are touting what they call new, environmentally friendly formulas—including ingredients used in processed foods and toothpaste—to quell fears that they are contaminating water supplies when they tap deep rock formations. [Wall Street Journal](#). 15 December 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Regulations still trying to play catch-up with oil industry.](#)** A few years back, when drillers from Texas started moving their rigs toward Pennsylvania, the state Department of Environmental Resources was working with a struggling gas industry. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 15 December 2010.

**[Taxing debate: Should drillers be charged a fee?](#)** Pennsylvania is one of nearly 20 states with natural gas reserves, yet it is the only state without some type of severance or usage tax on drilling companies. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 15 December 2010.

**['We are watching.'](#)** Northern Cambria County resident Ralph Lieb is a businessman who knows the importance of turning a profit. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 15 December 2010.

**[Gas drilling taxes the system.](#)** Unless the drilling companies lease township-owned lands for the natural gas wells, Washington's taxpayers would not see any townshipwide financial benefit from drilling operations. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 15 December 2010.

**Cresson considering natural gas drilling ban.** A grassroots effort outlining Marcellus Shale dangers and a Pittsburgh drilling ban have caught the attention of two Mainline communities. [Altoona Mirror](#), Pennsylvania. 15 December 2010.

**State lawmakers look at underground slurry ban, drilling regulations.** State lawmakers are considering sweeping new regulations for Marcellus Shale drilling, and a permanent ban on pumping coal slurry underground. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 15 December 2010.

**EPA, North Texas driller headed for face-off.** The EPA gave Range Resources until midnight Tuesday to come up with a plan to test all water wells within 3,000 feet of wellbore tracks from the drilling site. [Fort Worth WFAA TV](#), Texas. 15 December 2010.

**Battlement Mesa worries over water contamination.** Citizen activists on Colorado's Western Slope are pointing to a Texas case of well-water contamination caused by oil and gas drilling activity as a prime example of what they want to avoid in this state and what regulators should be guarding against in heavily drilled Garfield County. [Aspen RealAspen](#), Colorado. 15 December 2010.

**Watching the watchdog.** The feds simply aren't nimble enough to keep up with fast-moving petrochemical companies, or issues in new technologies such as fracking, or to understand weather patterns that affect air quality. Texas needs its own environmental agency. But we need one that's far more effective and efficient than the one we have now. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Editorial, 15 December 2010.

**Gas drilling tactic fuels a boom and health concerns.** Today, many residents and local officials still praise the bounty reaped from the Haynesville Shale, one of the world's largest natural gas deposits. Others question whether the money landowners get for leasing their property is worth the risk they say the drilling poses. [USA Today](#). 14 December 2010.

**Coloradans look to Texas, New York cases in gas fracking debate.** Citizen activists on Colorado's Western Slope are pointing to a Texas case of well-water contamination caused by oil and gas drilling activity as a prime example of what they want to avoid in this state and what regulators should be guarding against in heavily drilled Garfield County. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 14 December 2010.

**Gas rush reshapes town.** Drill rigs sprouting up on dairy farms are transforming once-quiet communities and dividing residents who welcome the economic boost from those who worry about the effects of development. [Wall Street Journal](#). 14 December 2010. [Subscription Required]

**Green groups critical of gas hub report.** More conservation groups have hit out at the State Government's environmental report on the proposed gas hub on the Kimberley coast. [Australia ABC News](#), Australia. 14 December 2010.

**Cougar Energy hopes to reopen pilot plant.** The Queensland government suspended Cougar Energy's project near Kingaroy in mid-July after underground water at the site and a neighbouring property was found to be contaminated with benzene and toluene. [Australian Associated Press](#). 14 December 2010.

**[Paterson seeks further comment on controversial gas drilling.](#)** Gov. David A. Paterson ordered state environmental officials on Monday to complete revisions to their proposed standards for a controversial type of natural-gas drilling by June and submit them to a new round of public comment. [New York Times](#). 14 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**[New York governor pauses 'fracking.'](#)** New York Gov. David Paterson has signed an executive order halting the controversial natural gas drilling process called hydraulic fracturing until July 1. [CNN](#). 14 December 2010.

**[NY governor orders re-opening of public comment on fracking document.](#)** The document that will guide the state's permitting of a much-debated natural gas extraction process will be re-opened for public comment, Gov. David Paterson ordered Monday. Environmental groups had been calling for a second comment period for months. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 14 December 2010.

**[Gas drilling boom brings calls to protect resources.](#)** Natural gas drilling could be a huge economic opportunity for Pennsylvania in the coming years, but there is a long laundry list of potential environmental problems associated with the practice. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 14 December 2010.

**[Fracking: New drilling method prompts concerns.](#)** Pennsylvania may have as many as 100,000 natural gas wells in the years to come. But a majority of the public has concerns about the risks of the drilling process, including the need for large volumes of water and the potential release of chemicals into nearby waterways. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 14 December 2010.

**[Cuomo gets time on hydrofracking.](#)** As part of an orderly transfer of power, Gov. David Paterson has properly put a temporary ban on the most controversial natural-gas drilling process in New York, giving adequate time for Gov.-elect Andrew Cuomo to take over and assess the situation. Paterson's choice struck the right balance. [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), New York. Editorial, 14 December 2010.

**[A smart move on gas drilling.](#)** Governor Paterson took a sensible course in placing a temporary moratorium on permits for horizontal drilling only. It falls now on Gov.-elect Andrew Cuomo to ensure that the moratorium goes on as long as it takes for all the questions to be answered, by both the state and the EPA. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. Editorial, 14 December 2010.

**[On natural gas drilling, Paterson pleases everyone, for now.](#)** On the surface, it looked as if Gov. David A. Paterson threaded the needle over the weekend when he addressed one of the most far-reaching environmental and economic issues facing New York: the future of natural gas drilling upstate. [New York Times](#). 13 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Hydrofracking foes, supporters both praising NY Gov. David Paterson after veto.](#)** Gov. David Paterson managed an unlikely feat this weekend, receiving praise from both environmentalists and energy companies on the bitterly divisive issue of natural gas drilling. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 13 December 2010.

**Industry, enviros praise NY gas-drilling time-out.** Environmental groups and energy companies both claimed victory after Gov. David Paterson ordered a seven-month moratorium on some natural gas drilling in the state, although environmentalists would have preferred the broader ban that the Legislature had approved. [Associated Press](#). 13 December 2010.

**Delayed boom: Local shale drilling activity lags for now.** Marcellus Shale natural gas is being pulled from the ground at breakneck speed in northeastern Pennsylvania and as close as Westmoreland, Greene and Fayette counties. Yet the Cambria-Somerset region has seen relatively little activity. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 13 December 2010.

**Marcellus work surprises Adams Township supervisors.** Site preparation work for new Marcellus Shale gas wells off of Dunlo Dip Road set off alarms for Adams Township supervisors. Drilling rigs were setting up less than a mile from the Lloydell Reservoir and several water wells that provide public drinking water. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 13 December 2010.

**Houston-based fire crew will try to cap natural gas well fire.** A fire burning on a natural gas field near Byers today prompted a Houston-based response team to make the trip north. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 13 December 2010.

**Next DEP secretary must be committed to environment.** Corbett is correct that the state does not want to stifle this industry (although we disagree with him that enacting a severance tax would do that), but at the same time, the Corbett administration has to prioritize the protection of Pennsylvanians. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 13 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**New York governor vetoes fracking bill.** Governor David A. Paterson of New York on Saturday vetoed legislation intended to curtail natural gas development using the technique called hydraulic fracturing until a closer review of its effects can be undertaken. [New York Times](#). 12 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**Marcellus rush.** Will gas deposits bring an economic "godsend" or environmental crisis? [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 12 December 2010.

**The supposedly protected Wyoming Range faces new energy development.** Last year, Wyoming's Democratic governor and Republican senators, wilderness advocates and hunters united to celebrate passage of the Wyoming Range Legacy Act, which stopped gas leasing on 1.2 million acres in these mountains. But the victory was incomplete. [High Country News](#). 12 December 2010.

**New York governor halts gas fracking until July.** New York Governor David Paterson on Saturday halted a controversial form of natural gas drilling in the state until July, and ruled no such drilling take place until environmental regulators deem it safe. [Reuters](#). 12 December 2010.

**Paterson vetoes gas drilling moratorium, but orders temporary ban.** Governor David Paterson on Saturday vetoed a bill to temporarily ban natural-gas drilling in New York, but issued an executive order to prohibit the hydraulic fracturing process until at least July 1. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 12 December 2010.

**[Water contamination worries surface over shale drilling.](#)** As oil and gas drillers prepare to tap into eastern Ohio's lucrative shale formations, the industry has increasingly come under fire from landowners and environmentalists who claim drilling techniques are contaminating water supplies. [Youngstown Vindicator](#), Ohio. 12 December 2010.

**[Penetrating Marcellus Shale.](#)** There will be no greater issue in Pennsylvania – and here in our region – in 2011 than the expansion of Marcellus Shale gas drilling. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 12 December 2010.

**[Canadian, U.S. mayors want more say in development of shale gas.](#)** The shale gas industry should not be allowed to develop along the banks of the St. Lawrence River without the input of municipalities, a group of U.S. and Canadian mayors said Friday. [Canadian Press](#). 11 December 2010.

**[Suit claims gas drilling contaminated drinking water.](#)** A lawsuit filed by a Jackson County family alleges that methods used by four energy companies when drilling for natural gas near their property led to contamination of their drinking water and health problems. [West Virginia Record](#), West Virginia. 11 December 2010.

**[Northeast regulator eases proposed natural gas drilling curbs.](#)** Regulators charged with protecting the watershed for New York City and the Philadelphia region today backed off from their toughest restrictions on Marcellus Shale drilling, but still proposed measures stricter than existing rules in nearby areas. [Greenwire](#). 10 December 2010.

**[Oil companies dispose of drilling mud in soil farms.](#)** To some, it's the oil and natural gas industry's dirty little secret. Operators dump barrels of water-based drilling mud onto pasture lands, creating soil farms that may be hazardous for the environment. [Oklahoma City Oklahoman](#), Oklahoma. 10 December 2010.

**[Some appointees to O&G Commission are industry execs.](#)** Joseph Pettey is the 2003 Virginia Oil and Gas Festival Man of the Year. Thomas E. Stewart is a driller who lobbies the government on behalf of energy companies. Both sit on the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, which is increasingly positioning itself as an authority on drilling-related issues. [ProPublica](#). 10 December 2010.

**[New northeast US natgas drilling rules proposed.](#)** Natural gas drillers would be subject to new regulations designed to protect water quality in an area that provides water to 15 million people in the U.S. northeast under proposals published on Thursday. [Reuters](#). 10 December 2010.

**[N.Y. objects to release of multistate fracking rules.](#)** A regional regulatory agency that oversees the Delaware River watershed proposed regulations on Thursday for natural gas drilling that are intended to bring uniformity to rules governing the controversial type of gas extraction that combines horizontal drilling with hydraulic fracturing. [New York Times](#). 10 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Debate expected over gas drilling rules.](#)** The Delaware River Basin Commission released its natural gas drilling draft regulations Thursday and launched what is certain to be a heated debate pitting energy companies and property owners with lucrative leases against environmentalists, sporting groups and residents worried about drinking water. [Doylestown Intelligencer](#), Pennsylvania. 10 December 2010.

**[Anti-fracking group protests outside National Fuel office.](#)** About 20 protesters gathered outside a National Fuel Gas Co. office in downtown Buffalo on Thursday to draw attention to the Amherst energy company's use of controversial hydraulic fracturing techniques in its extensive natural gas drilling operations in northwestern Pennsylvania. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 10 December 2010.

**[Delaware commission posts proposed Marcellus Shale rules.](#)** The Delaware River Basin Commission on Thursday proposed natural gas drilling rules in its four-state watershed that are tougher than those in the rest of Pennsylvania but that promise to do little to stem the intense wrangling over how to regulate the industry. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 10 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Shale poses industry test.](#)** The potential impact that shale drilling can have -- on the economy, on communities, on the environment -- just underscores the importance for the industry to get it right, especially with the entire world watching. That was the message of Kathryn Klaber, president of the Marcellus Shale Coalition. [Blairsville Dispatch](#), Pennsylvania. 10 December 2010.

**[Texas environmental agency staff seems to be fed up with being toothless.](#)** For years, natural gas companies have told the people of Fort Worth they need not worry about air quality around the Barnett Shale wells and production facilities multiplying near their homes. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. Opinion, 10 December 2010.

**[EPA action on Texas natural gas driller escalates fight over state regulation.](#)** An EPA official's decision to step over state regulators and take action against a Texas gas driller is likely to turn up the heat on a long-simmering debate about whether states protect their residents against the dangers of drilling. [Greenwire](#). 9 December 2010.

**[Reclaiming oil wells' wastewater.](#)** The nation's oil and gas wells produce 15-20 billion barrels of water a year. It's usually left to evaporate or injected into deep hydrologic "waste" zones. But one Wyoming company is cleaning water so it can be reused for drilling. And a small portion will go towards nourishing native plants. [Lander WyoNews](#), Wyoming. 9 December 2010.

**[Quebec shale gas play defies industry M&A trend.](#)** While leading energy firms scramble to buy a slice of the Marcellus shale in the U.S., a potentially much richer shale gas deposit in Canada is drawing few buyers, and even fewer sellers. The Utica shale gas deposit, which lies beneath Quebec, has huge production potential, high-quality gas and proximity to a ready market. [Reuters](#). 9 December 2010.

**["Black day for the Delaware."](#)** The interstate agency overseeing the Delaware River corridor announced the thrust of its proposed regulations on gas drilling Monday. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 9 December 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale talk in Mt. Lebanon draws 100.](#)** No topic is hotter in the region than Marcellus Shale gas drilling. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 9 December 2010.

**[Delaware to unveil proposed rules for gas drilling.](#)** Long-awaited proposed regulations that would open the Delaware River watershed to unconventional natural gas drilling will be unveiled Thursday. The Delaware River Basin Commission will release the proposed rules despite calls from the governors of New York and New Jersey to slow down the process. [Allentown Morning Call](#), Pennsylvania. 9 December 2010.

**[Corbett likely to overturn Rendell's moratorium on drilling.](#)** Signs are pointing in the gas industry's favor that drilling will be on again on state lands once Gov.-elect Tom Corbett (R) takes office in January. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 9 December 2010.

**[EPA action against driller a first in Texas.](#)** The federal crackdown this week on an energy company whose gas drilling operations were blamed for contaminating water wells in Parker County was the first of its kind for Texas. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 9 December 2010.

**[EPA: Texas gas drilling activities contributed to well contamination.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says it has found evidence that gas drilling activities in Texas either caused or contributed to contamination of domestic water wells. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 9 December 2010.

**[Parker County water contamination case stokes debate over natural gas drilling.](#)** After federal regulators accused natural gas producer Range Resources Corp. of contaminating drinking water in Parker County, the anti-drilling crowd rallied. Industry officials once again said it couldn't be true. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 9 December 2010.

**[Delaware River Basin Commission to release fracking rules this week.](#)** The Delaware River watershed should be off-limits unless or until high-volume hydraulic fracturing is proven safe for water, air, climate, food, farms, fish, wildlife, and public health. [Philadelphia Weekly Press](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 9 December 2010.

**[Marcellus shale: The real price of compulsory integration in New York.](#)** New York state's compulsory integration statute cancels a landowner's right to refuse to deal with a gas well driller including those drilling in controversial Marcellus shale. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 8 December 2010.

**[EPA steps in to stop flaming water.](#)** The Texas commissioner responsible for regulating gas drilling calls it, "Washington politics of the worst kind," but after federal inspectors witnessed a homeowner set her hosewater on fire, the EPA is forcing a drilling company to protect residents from methane contamination. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 8 December 2010.

**[Gas drilling offers new boon for local wastewater treatment plants.](#)** As the Village of Owego board of trustees considers a lucrative offer to sell treated wastewater to Denver-based Inflection Energy, other local officials said Tuesday they would welcome similar offers from the natural gas industry. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 8 December 2010.

**[U.S. govt, Halliburton reach deal on fracking info.](#)** Halliburton has reached an agreement with the U.S. government to comply with an order to turn over details about the chemicals the company uses in a controversial technique to drill for natural gas. [Reuters](#). 8 December 2010.

**[EPA: 2 Parker County homes at risk of explosion.](#)** Natural gas from drilling that used the controversial practice of hydraulic fracturing has contaminated a drinking-water aquifer in Parker County, putting two homes at risk of explosion and triggering a federal emergency order, the EPA said Tuesday. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 8 December 2010.

**[Driller denies that it contaminated Texas aquifer.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued an emergency order against a Texas gas driller Tuesday, accusing the company of contaminating an aquifer and giving it 48 hours to provide clean drinking water to affected residents and begin taking steps to resolve the problem. [Associated Press](#). 8 December 2010.

**[EPA says range resources contaminated Texas wells.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said Tuesday that oil and natural-gas producer Range Resources Corp. has contaminated a pair of drinking wells in North Texas's Barnett Shale, one of the richest natural-gas reservoirs in the U.S. [Wall Street Journal](#). 8 December 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[EPA acts after water contaminated by drilling.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency has issued an emergency order after it determined that a natural gas company's operations caused or contributed to the contamination of drinking water in Parker County. [Fort Worth WFAA TV](#), Texas. 8 December 2010.

**[Range must repair Texas gas-well leak, EPA says.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ordered Range Resources Inc. to fix a gas well leak that it said is contaminating water in Texas. [Bloomberg News](#). 8 December 2010.

**[Planned gas wells by lake protested.](#)** Grapevine and two Dallas-area water suppliers that get drinking water from Grapevine Lake are urging Flower Mound officials to reject a proposed natural gas well near the lake's north shore because of the threat of contamination. [Grapevine Courier](#), Texas. 8 December 2010.

**[Beyond fracking: Experts challenge safety of exploratory wells, vertical drilling.](#)** Expert testimony submitted for a government hearing next month challenges long-held assumptions about the safety of deep vertical drilling for natural gas and exploratory wells, which operate in many states with limited regulatory oversight. [ProPublica](#). 7 December 2010.

**[Ridge hopes Pa. will capitalize on Marcellus, calling it 'a gift from Mother Nature.'](#)** Former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge hopes the state's incoming administration will capitalize on the Marcellus Shale development he called a "gift from Mother Nature." [Gannett News Service](#). 7 December 2010.

**[Watersheds Compact concerned about air quality, gas drilling inspectors.](#)** Watershed organizations are concerned about the number of Department of Environmental Protection inspectors for gas drilling sites and how the activity affects air quality. [West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), West Virginia. 7 December 2010.

**[Tapping natural gas underground raises concerns.](#)** Stark County residents are concerned about water safety because of a drilling process called hydraulic fracturing and its use with horizontal drilling. They also worry that drilling for natural gas is moving closer to subdivisions and homes. [Canton Repository](#), Ohio. 7 December 2010.

**['No' to fracking on East Coast.](#)** If Pittsburgh, a highly polluted American industrial capital, thinks drilling is a bad idea, Gisborne shouldn't even consider it. [Gisborne Herald](#), New Zealand. Opinion, 7 December 2010.

**[Owego eyes lucrative deal to sell wastewater to gas drilling firm.](#)** Most people look at the water coming out of the back end of a sewage plant and see ... water. Mayor Ed Arrington thinks about what could be coming out of the back end of the Village of Owego Wastewater Treatment plant and sees ... dollar signs. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 6 December 2010.

**[Oil and water.](#)** The estimated amount of shale oil in Utah, Colorado and Wyoming is roughly equal to the whole world's known reserves of petroleum. Temptation to go after it is strong. But it would be folly itself to pursue even a promising new energy supply if it had a high likelihood of consuming or polluting our all-too-limited water supply. [Salt Lake Tribune](#), Utah. Editorial, 6 December 2010.

**[Big frack attack.](#)** New York lawmakers seem to work overtime . . . to kill jobs. Last week, the Assembly voted to ban a particular natural-gas drilling process for six months -- at a cost of aborting perhaps 5,000 new jobs in economically ailing Upstate. Since the Senate had already passed the ban, only Gov. Paterson's veto pen can make things right. [New York Post](#), New York. Editorial, 6 December 2010.

**[In Biblical valley, 'David vs. Goliath' battle rages over oil shale.](#)** Lord Jacob Rothschild is teaming up with media mogul Rupert Murdoch in an attempt to break Israel's foreign oil dependency by mining vast amounts of oil shale in Elah Valley. But their business plan has received unexpected opposition from Rothschild's second cousin – a celebrated eco-campaigner. [AOL News](#). 5 December 2010.

**[Wayne County on verge of gas boom, but not just yet.](#)** Wayne County appears to be ground zero of a battle among environmentalists and local landowners who are eagerly awaiting draft natural gas regulations expected to be released this month by the Delaware River Basin Commission. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 5 December 2010.

**[Business owner develops device to clean frac water.](#)** A local chemical company has a device that natural gas drilling companies may want to get their hands on. [Somerset County Daily American](#), Pennsylvania. 5 December 2010.

**[Don't just clean up fracking fluids after the fact.](#)** The public should know what is being injected into their ground. But regulators should focus more on how drillers are extracting gas, rather than what's in the fracking fluid. We are risking our environment and putting our clean water in jeopardy for a few decades of natural gas. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 5 December 2010.

**[Get your fracking facts right.](#)** Frack is not a pleasant word. Nor a popular one. It has obvious negative connotations. Even the spelling is contested. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. Opinion, 5 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**[UTA to receive grant to monitor air quality in Barnett Shale.](#)** The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality plans to give the University of Texas at Arlington \$1.2 million next year to purchase and operate four air-quality monitors near natural-gas drilling sites in the Barnett Shale, officials announced Friday. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 4 December 2010.

**[The fracking fracas.](#)** While the Clean Water Act may not have been designed to look at fracking, as critics contend, the air and water acts have been amended many times over the past 40 years. Passing the FRAC Act would be a good start toward regulating a component critical to a booming business, and a meaningful move in defending our right to clean water. [High Country News](#). Opinion, 4 December 2010.

**[Drill the parks.](#)** Colorado State Parks will likely receive no state funding next year, relying instead on fee increases, grant money, cost-cutting and creative ways to raise revenue for the park system. One of the state's suggestions for keeping the system afloat: Drill the parks. [High Country News](#). Opinion, 4 December 2010.

**[Hydraulic fracturing is a business New York needs.](#)** According to the Independent Oil & Gas Association of New York, the state legislature's six-month ban on new hydraulic fracturing permits jeopardizes more than 5,000 jobs and \$1 million in annual state revenue -- at a time when 900,000 New Yorkers are already on the unemployment rolls. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. Opinion, 4 December 2010.

**[New York could be first state to ban controversial drilling practice.](#)** New York could be the first state in the country to impose a limited ban on a controversial method of drilling for natural gas. [CNN](#). 3 December 2010.

**[Assembly passes moratorium on 'hydrofracking.'](#)** The New York Assembly on Monday passed a six-month moratorium on hydraulic fracturing, a controversial natural gas drilling method currently in use in the state's Southern Tier. [White Plains Patch](#), New York. 3 December 2010.

**[New York assembly approves fracking moratorium.](#)** While Pennsylvania argues how or whether to tax fracking gas drilling withdrawals, the New York State Assembly voted 93 to 43 Monday night on a temporary moratorium on the process. [Pike County Courier](#), Pennsylvania. 3 December 2010.

**[New York Assembly delays fracking until May 2011.](#)** Grass roots organizations in New York State got an early Christmas present from the State Assembly which passed a temporary ban on hydraulic fracturing in the state through May 15, 2011. Governor. David Paterson is expected to sign it. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 3 December 2010.

**[U.S. weighs disclosure rules for natural gas drillers.](#)** The Obama administration, while weighing new chemical disclosure requirements for the natural gas industry when it operates on public lands, signaled support for the drilling boom that technological advance has spurred in the United States. [National Geographic News](#). 2 December 2010.

**[Feds want list of fracking chemicals.](#)** The Obama administration may require companies drilling for natural gas on public lands to disclose the chemicals being used in a technique called hydraulic fracturing. Officials are weighing the policy, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said, calling hydraulic fracturing "a hot and very difficult issue" on public and private lands. [Associated Press](#). 2 December 2010.

**[NY lawmakers pass temporary 'hydrofracking' ban.](#)** The New York Legislature has approved a temporary ban on a drilling process that would be used to tap into large natural gas reserves upstate -- a largely symbolic act since other forces have effectively halted it for now. The ban on hydraulic fracturing, also known as "hydrofracking," extends until May 15. [Associated Press](#). 2 December 2010.

**[Gas pipeline firm's plans in Pa. hit snag.](#)** State public utility regulators have been advised to reject an effort by a natural gas pipeline firm that could subject its unregulated pipelines to safety standards, but also help it secure the power of eminent domain on private property. [Associated Press](#). 2 December 2010.

**Disclosing frack fluids.** The Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission will vote next Wednesday on a proposed rule that would require natural gas companies working in the Fayetteville Shale to disclose the chemicals used in the drilling process known as hydraulic fracturing. There are currently no such requirements in the state. [Arkansas Times](#), Arkansas. 2 December 2010.

**Officials discuss drilling studies.** Government officials still don't know whether natural gas drilling poses a long-term threat to North Texans' health and water supplies, but studies are under way to better understand the impacts. A federal study on hydraulic fracturing and increased air emissions monitoring by the state should help end the uncertainty, officials said. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 2 December 2010.

**Up to you on drilling, Governor.** Gov. Paterson should sign a moratorium on new drilling for natural gas. It's still much too early for the state to approve a controversial method of drilling known as horizontal hydraulic fracturing in the Marcellus Shale and elsewhere in New York. Nothing is lost by further study of the risks and benefits. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. Editorial, 2 December 2010.

**Hydraulic fracturing in the spotlight.** Scrutiny by the Interior Department comes as the Environmental Protection Agency undertakes its own investigation of fracking, increasing the likelihood that the natural gas industry — unless it can convince officials and the public that it isn't necessary — could soon face tighter regulations. [New York Times](#). Opinion, 2 December 2010. [Registration Required]

**Controversial gas 'fracking' extraction headed to Europe.** Despite evidence of negative environmental impacts of natural gas drilling by hydraulic fracturing, European energy companies are trying to secure licenses to roll out extraction projects. [London Guardian](#), United Kingdom. 1 December 2010.

**Natural gas drillers feel pressure on fracking fluids.** The Obama administration is considering forcing energy companies to reveal more details about the chemicals they use to help extract natural gas from public lands, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said Tuesday. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 1 December 2010.

**US natural gas drilling boom linked to pollution and social strife.** The gas stored in the Marcellus Shale formation is the subject of desperate drilling to secure US domestic energy supplies. But the process involved - hydraulic fracturing - is the focus of a bitter dispute over environmental damage and community rights. [Ecologist](#). 1 December 2010.

**Administration scopes future of hydraulic fracturing.** The White House is coordinating an administration-wide review of the controversial underground extraction technique for natural gas known as hydraulic fracturing and may force the industry to disclose the chemicals it uses. [Politico](#). 1 December 2010.

**US Interior considering fracking disclosure rule.** The U.S. Interior Department said it is considering requiring companies to reveal the chemicals used in a controversial natural gas drilling technique, as it becomes the latest federal agency to hone in on public concerns about water contamination from the practice. [Reuters](#). 1 December 2010.

**[Interior Department mulls disclosure of chemicals in drilling.](#)** Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said he's considering a requirement that natural gas drillers using hydraulic fracturing must identify the chemicals they inject into the ground when they drill on federal lands. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 1 December 2010.

**[NY assembly gives fracking 'time out'.](#)** The future of gas drilling in New York is on the line. That's the one thing pro and anti-gas drilling proponents agree on after the state Assembly's overwhelming vote for a moratorium on the horizontal drilling method of "fracking." [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 1 December 2010.

**[N.Y. assembly approves fracking moratorium.](#)** The New York State Assembly voted 93 to 43 Monday night to place a temporary moratorium on a controversial type of natural gas exploration that combines hydraulic fracturing with horizontal drilling. [New York Times](#). 1 December 2010.  
[Registration Required]

**[Experts agree fracking moratorium is 'symbolic.'](#)** The state Assembly's vote in favor of a six-month moratorium on hydraulic fracturing, a controversial drilling technique essential to tapping the natural gas reserves of the Marcellus Shale, is drawing mixed reactions from legislators and advocates on both sides of the drilling debate. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 1 December 2010.

**[Moratorium on gas drilling passes New York legislature.](#)** The New York State Assembly on Monday gave final approval to a six-month moratorium on a controversial method of natural gas extraction while state and federal agencies review its possible health impacts. [Reuters](#). 1 December 2010.

**[Hydrofracking moratorium passes Assembly.](#)** A bill placing a six-month moratorium on issuing permits for hydraulic fracturing in natural gas drilling is now awaiting the signature of Gov. David Paterson after passing the state Assembly late Monday night. [Corning Leader](#), New York. 1 December 2010.

**[Study shows wind and gas drilling trends.](#)** Pennsylvania could become the site of an additional 60,000 Marcellus natural gas wells and 2,900 wind turbines by 2030 — developments that may cause significant environmental impacts — according to The Nature Conservancy. [Somerset County Daily American](#), Pennsylvania. 1 December 2010.

**[Legislature got one thing right.](#)** It isn't often that we can refer to the New York state Legislature without using the word "dysfunctional," so it is with a great deal of pleasure that we acknowledge that it has done something right with the moratorium on fracking. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. Editorial, 1 December 2010.

**[Assembly approves gas drilling moratorium.](#)** The New York State Assembly approved a temporary moratorium on natural gas drilling Monday night, with the goal of placing a hold on hydraulic fracturing until May. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 30 November 2010.

**[Moratorium on natural gas drilling sought.](#)** Lawmakers and environmental advocates are hopeful a temporary moratorium on natural gas drilling will be approved as the state Assembly convenes a lame-duck session in Albany today. [Gannett News Service](#). 30 November 2010.

**[New York state's economic crisis thwarts hydrofracking plans.](#)** Gov. David Paterson said last week the state will “not risk public safety or water quality” by allowing the underground drilling technique known as high-volume hydrofracking. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 30 November 2010.

**[Paterson wants fracking put on hold.](#)** With or without legislative approval of a moratorium, don't expect any last-minute go-aheads for gas drilling from outgoing New York Gov. David Paterson. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 30 November 2010.

**[Judge denies gas driller's motion to dismiss lawsuit.](#)** A federal judge has denied a motion by a natural gas drilling company to dismiss a case brought by Pennsylvania residents who claim their health and property has been harmed by the company's drilling activities. [Times Shamrock](#). 30 November 2010.

**[Barnett Shale dominates talks about area compliance with ozone standards.](#)** As the North Texas Clean Air Steering Committee has tried to find ways to bring the Metroplex into compliance with federal ozone standards, the Barnett Shale has been the issue that has dominated those discussions. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 29 November 2010.

**[Company says new rules hurt gas project potential.](#)** New Brunswick could miss out on potentially lucrative gas projects if new environmental regulations discourage companies from exploring, warns the head of a Halifax resource company. [Saint John Telegraph-Journal](#), New Brunswick. 29 November 2010.

**[Oglebay gas drilling on hold.](#)** It does not appear there will be any natural gas drilling in Oglebay Park anytime soon because state environmental regulators are sending the permits back to Chesapeake Energy. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 29 November 2010.

**[Drilling applications alarm Battlement Mesa neighborhood.](#)** Plans to drill three new well pads just outside the boundary lines of this community have alarmed some residents. But industry officials say there is no evidence that people near wells experience negative effects to air or water quality, or to human health. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 29 November 2010.

**[Water pipeline pits neighbor against neighbor in Dimock.](#)** Months of contentious debate. Ruined water wells. National attention. And a lawsuit against Cabot Oil & Gas. Just when it looked like the natural gas-drilling divide among residents in Dimock Township couldn't get any worse, it did. [Gannett News Service](#). 28 November 2010.

**[Natural gas drillers try to ease fears.](#)** The Marcellus Shale industry indeed has its fans in the Towanda area. Some businesses are booming, and unemployment has steadily decreased this year, due in part to the gas industry. But it faces a climb as steep as a well is deep if it's going to get along here. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 28 November 2010.

**[Gantzer drill pad complete.](#)** After months of anticipation and preparation, Chesapeake Energy has a drilling pad in place for Marcellus Shale natural gas extraction from the Gantzer well near The Highlands. This, however, is far from the only area where Chesapeake is currently working to drill in Ohio County. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 28 November 2010.

**Drilling fears.** While the Marcellus Shale's location has been credited with helping economic development such as urging V&M Star to build a \$650 million expansion in Youngstown and Ultra Premium Oilfield Services to open a new factory in Brookfield, others worry about unknown dangers it might pose to drinking water. [Warren Tribune Chronicle](#), Ohio. 28 November 2010.

**Both sides of oil- and gas-drilling debate hope Hickenlooper will hear their concerns.** After months of campaign criticism of a sweeping set of 2- year-old restrictions on oil and gas drilling, talk of repealing the regulations or reopening the rulemaking process appears to have fizzled. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 28 November 2010.

**Earthquakes rattle Arkansas town; residents blame gas drilling rigs.** For the past two months, Guy, a town of 550 or so in north central Arkansas roughly 150 miles west of Memphis, has been near the epicenter of thousands of quakes, sometimes coming at a rate of three or four per minute. [Memphis Commercial Appeal](#), Tennessee. 27 November 2010.

**Gas driller signs Gram, cuts grandkids from lease.** One day, 94-year-old Bernice Price had a stranger propose a deal. Would she care to lease her family's land to one of the nation's biggest energy companies? She accepted and signed a 10-year lease, giving Chesapeake Energy Corp. the right to sink gas wells on the former dairy farm in northern Pennsylvania. [Associated Press](#). 26 November 2010.

**Gas exploration prompts agency to extend watch over Susquehanna.** Concern that natural gas production could eventually pollute the Susquehanna River has led officials to begin monitoring tributaries along the waterway. The Susquehanna River Basin Commission will install two real-time water quality stations in Tioga County, with data available online. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 25 November 2010.

**XTO well site blamed for pollution in Pennsylvania.** A stream and spring in Pennsylvania have been polluted by a large spill of thousands of gallons of dirty water from a natural gas well site operated by Fort Worth-based XTO Energy, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 25 November 2010.

**The Nor'easter: Fracking vindicated? Not quite.** In theory, if the EPA gives the okay, which it likely will, fracking will begin in New York state, probably with new safety precautions in place. The issue, from a top-down perspective, is that our country needs affordable sources of energy besides oil. Natural gas presents a viable alternative. [Epoch Times](#). Opinion, 25 November 2010.

**Pennsylvania gas drillers dumping radioactive waste in New York.** How can a landfill's private operators get clearance from regulators to become a regional dump for radioactive drilling wastes? The short answer: Provide the revenue-hungry county a rich payout, exploit a legal loophole, and presto, it's a done deal. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 24 November 2010.

**Rural residents say natural gas drilling has tainted their drinking water.** When the horses stopped drinking, residents here became convinced of their worst suspicions. The water had gone bad. [Scripps Howard News Service](#). 24 November 2010.

**CSG miners banned from toxic chemicals.** Queensland's parliament has banned mining companies from using four toxic chemicals in the extraction of coal seam gas. [Australian Associated Press](#). 24 November 2010.

**Minister faces shale-gas issue.** A citizens group is calling for a moratorium on shale-gas exploration until tougher regulations that safeguard the environment, communities and the public interest are brought in. [Fredericton Daily Gleaner](#), New Brunswick. 24 November 2010.

**'Fracking' would taint well water, Wales is told.** Facing a packed board room, the Wales Town Board heard from resident and activist Sarah Buckley that hydraulic gas fracturing is the last thing a town dependent on water wells needs. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 24 November 2010.

**Pa. investigating spill at natural gas well site.** State officials were investigating a leak of drilling wastewater at a natural gas well site in north-central Pennsylvania that polluted a stream and a spring, a Department of Environmental Protection spokesman said Tuesday. [Associated Press](#). 24 November 2010.

**Marcellus Shale topic at area town hall meeting.** State Rep. Garth Everett, R-Muncy, discussed issues pertaining to Marcellus Shale to about 70 people during a town hall meeting at the Plunketts Creek Volunteer Fire Co. Tuesday night. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 24 November 2010.

**Arlington looks at other ways to clear the air besides testing at wells.** The City Council appeared Tuesday to back away from conducting emissions testing at individual natural gas wells in favor of a program to reduce air pollution by regulating idling diesel trucks and on-site equipment. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 24 November 2010.

**Leaky pipeline near Silt under investigation.** State and local officials are looking into a leaky pipeline owned by the Bill Barrett Corp. in the area south of Silt, where at least two landowners reportedly have “produced water” draining across their land. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 24 November 2010.

**DEP investigating frack fluid spill.** A natural gas company contractor is cleaning sediment remaining from a large hydraulic fracturing water spill a state Department of Environmental Protection inspector found polluting a Penn Township waterway. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 23 November 2010.

**Marcellus impact fee getting close look.** Senate Republican leaders are giving consideration to letting local governments charge impact fees to offset the impact of natural gas drilling operations. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 23 November 2010.

**EPA cites Chesapeake for illegally filling streams.** The Environmental Protection Agency says a subsidiary of Chesapeake Energy has promised to restore four northern West Virginia streams it filled illegally while building roads and laying pipeline for Marcellus shale gas drilling projects. [Associated Press](#). 23 November 2010.

**Proposed gas well near Grapevine Lake brings contamination concerns.** Dallas Water Utilities officials are concerned about contamination over a request to drill for natural gas beside Grapevine Lake – a major drinking water source for customers. [Dallas KXAS TV](#), Texas. 23 November 2010.

**[Gas workers get to know the drill.](#)** Natural gas drilling might have come to an abrupt end in Luzerne County with Encana Oil & Gas announcing on Thursday that two exploratory wells wouldn't produce enough gas to make drilling here feasible. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 22 November 2010.

**[Officials not linking Braxton Co. quakes to gas drilling.](#)** Officials say there's no clear explanation for what may have prompted several earthquakes near Frametown earlier this year. Some have speculated that the cluster of small earthquakes was linked to local gas drilling. [West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), West Virginia. 22 November 2010.

**[Why is N.Y. so eager to sign up for gas drilling?](#)** More than 50 percent of Broome County residents approve of natural gas drilling: are all those people completely oblivious? [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 22 November 2010.

**[Jobs at stake as state mulls gas drilling.](#)** Julie Roy lives within eyeshot of a half-dozen natural gas wells in northwestern Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale region. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 21 November 2010.

**[Amount of Shale activity may shock hunters.](#)** Hunters on public land in Pennsylvania may find new roads and encounter large volumes of truck traffic in areas where active drilling is occurring. To accommodate hunters, the state has vowed to reduce the truck traffic on seven days this year. Hunters may also encounter large well pads. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 21 November 2010.

**[Drill end impacts economy.](#)** The environmental impact of natural gas drilling is subject to debate, but nobody disputed that driller Encana Oil & Gas USA Inc.'s continued presence in Luzerne County would have created jobs and work opportunities. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 21 November 2010.

**[New driller on the block: Caiman invests millions.](#)** With \$150 million already spent and \$200 million more on the way over the next 18 months, Dallas, Texas-based Caiman Energy is making major investments in Marshall and Wetzel counties. The Marcellus Shale formation is the company's target. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 21 November 2010.

**[Portage group warns of drilling dangers.](#)** Just over the Portage County line in North Jackson is a large drilling operation that some residents believe is an environmental disaster in the making. [Ravenna Record Courier](#), Ohio. 21 November 2010.

**[Refine proposals on gas drilling.](#)** West Virginia needs better regulations - and an enhanced enforcement mechanism - to ensure the current natural gas drilling boom benefits our state and its residents. But making it prohibitively expensive to drill here is not the answer. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. Editorial, 21 November 2010.

**[Drilling is gone, questions remain.](#)** That giant sucking sound heard around Luzerne County last week was Encana Oil & Gas USA Inc., pulling up stakes and exiting the state. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 21 November 2010.

**[Gas drilling? Sign me up - I'm convinced.](#)** I get so excited when I read and hear about all the great things that are coming our way once they start drilling and fracking that I sometimes have to run and take a cold shower. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 21 November 2010.

**[Gas drilling impacts residents' rights.](#)** The development of Pennsylvania's Marcellus shale gas field will have global effects. Legislation, regulation and, yes, cooperation among the various participants will be required in order to further the safe and profitable development of clean domestic energy sources such as shale gas. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 21 November 2010.

**[Out of gas: Boom goes bust.](#)** Encana Natural Gas, the only company to drill a Marcellus Shale gas well in Luzerne County, announced Thursday that it is ceasing operations in the county and Pennsylvania. The departure of Encana from the Back Mountain may signal the end of natural gas drilling in Luzerne County in the foreseeable future. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 20 November 2010.

**[Activist's Audubon Facebook posting about XTO Energy gets removed.](#)** Apart from the city of Dallas, there's no bigger sponsor of the new Trinity River Audubon Center than energy giant ExxonMobil. But Raymond Crawford, a local activist against gas drilling, only found that out when he posted on the center's Facebook page about a permit hearing for XTO Energy. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 20 November 2010.

**[Profs: Natural gas wells pose threat.](#)** With the potential to release uranium and other hazardous materials, the process of Marcellus Shale drilling and hydraulic fracturing must be tightly regulated, university professors said Friday during a conference at the University of Pittsburgh. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 20 November 2010.

**[Drill, maybe, drill.](#)** No one, except the oil and gas companies, wants to see drilling in state parks. Yet, it may become a necessity. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Editorial, 20 November 2010.

**[Fracking wells blamed for polluted water; inspectors overwhelmed.](#)** A widespread method of extracting natural gas by shooting chemical-laced water underground is a growing threat to water supplies in 28 states, say scientists, landowners and environmentalists. [Scripps Howard News Service](#). 19 November 2010.

**[Pa. rules panel OKs new gas-drilling safeguards.](#)** Crews rushing to drill deep, high-pressure wells into the vast Marcellus Shale reservoir beneath Pennsylvania will soon have tougher safety standards to obey as regulators work to modernize the state's environmental protection laws. [Associated Press](#). 19 November 2010.

**[Toxins found at third site as fracking fears build.](#)** Traces of toxic chemicals have been found at a "fracking" operation to extract coal seam gas - the third time this year that gas producers have detected contamination at a drill site. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 19 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Hanger challenges Corbett on natural gas drilling.](#)** Gov.-elect Tom Corbett will face public scrutiny over whether he enforces new state regulations governing the natural gas industry and maintains the Department of Environmental Protection as an independent watchdog agency, outgoing state environmental official John Hanger said Thursday. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 19 November 2010.

**[Gas well regulation clears final hurdle.](#)** A new state regulation to require natural gas drillers to use stronger cement in wells and publicly disclose more information about chemicals used in fracking fluids cleared a final major hurdle Thursday. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 19 November 2010.

**[Energy companies oppose tougher regs on gas drilling.](#)** The oil industry's leading trade group, trying to fend off mounting concerns about hydraulic fracturing used to extract natural gas, warned that tougher government regulations threaten jobs, the economy and the abundance of low-cost fuel. [Hearst News Service](#). 19 November 2010.

**[Dallas City Council member offers potential solution for XTO's drilling lease quandary.](#)** Dallas leaders have found themselves in a quandary over whether to grant gas-drilling permits to XTO Energy, City Council member Dave Neumann offered a path forward Thursday, suggesting that the city extend the lease while forming a panel to study the risks. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 19 November 2010.

**[Grand Prairie City Council approves moratorium on gas-drilling permits.](#)** The Grand Prairie City Council unanimously approved a 180-day moratorium on new natural gas well permit drilling applications Thursday in order to avoid an avalanche of applications under current rules while it finalizes a tougher drilling ordinance. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 19 November 2010.

**[Fretting over fracking.](#)** The clamor appears to be growing for greater regulation of "fracking," the mineral extraction process that has helped to fuel North Dakota's oil boom. [Grand Forks Herald](#), North Dakota. 18 November 2010.

**[Toxins found at third site as fracking fears build.](#)** Traces of toxic chemicals have been found at a "fracking" operation to extract coal seam gas - the third time this year that gas producers have detected contamination at a drill site. [Melbourne Age](#), Australia. 18 November 2010.

**[Pa. activist unsure why she's surveilled by state.](#)** Until recently, Virginia Cody's community activism extended to being president of the arts council in Wyoming County. That was before she found her rural north-central Pennsylvania home surrounded by land leased to natural gas drilling companies. That was when she began asking questions and trying to get information. [Associated Press](#). 18 November 2010.

**[Extent of future gas drilling in Poconos unknown.](#)** It's not clear how much natural gas extraction will take place in the Poconos, a Penn State Cooperative Extension agent said during a public forum Wednesday at Pleasant Valley High School. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 18 November 2010.

**[Many towns draft 'proactive' drilling ordinances.](#)** Councils in Bethel Park, McKeesport and Upper St. Clair have approved oil and gas drilling ordinances within the past two months, and at least seven more South Hills communities are working on similar legislation. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 18 November 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale drilling banned in some areas of South Fayette.](#)** After hearing for months about health and environmental concerns surrounding Marcellus Shale drilling, South Fayette commissioners were unanimous in deciding how to address the issue. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 18 November 2010.

**[Gas industry groups say lawmakers' plans would discourage or kill Marcellus shale drilling.](#)** Two groups that represent natural gas drillers say permit fees a legislative subcommittee is proposing for Marcellus shale wells are astronomically high and "an absolute deal-stopper" that could discourage or even cripple the fast-growing industry. [Associated Press](#). 18 November 2010.

**[Economic study on gas drilling is full of holes.](#)** The county executive, Barbara Fiala, bases her conclusion on an economic study that is severely flawed. It neglects a number of crucial factors that must be taken into account if Broome County is to make sound decisions based on an accurate assessment of the facts. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 18 November 2010.

**[Halliburton's stonewalling works in Pa., but sparks subpoena at EPA.](#)** Halliburton has worked hard to keep the contents of its fracking fluids secret. But in Pennsylvania, which is undergoing a natural gas drilling boom in the Marcellus Shale, regulators appear willing to accept Halliburton's argument that it should be allowed to keep details about its chemicals secret. [ProPublica](#). 17 November 2010.

**[Pittsburgh first Pa. city to ban gas drilling.](#)** Pittsburgh became the first city in gas-rich Pennsylvania to ban natural gas drilling after city council members, citing health and environmental concerns, unanimously approved the measure Tuesday. The council received a standing ovation after voting 9-0 to approve the ban within city limits. [Associated Press](#). 17 November 2010.

**[Opposition to shale gas drilling unexpectedly strong.](#)** Until this summer, shale gas exploration companies were having no problems raising money from investors to finance test drilling. Now, with high-profile public hearings under way over the environmental risks posed by hydraulic fracking, there's a lot more uncertainty in the air. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 17 November 2010.

**[PA farmer: Natural gas drilling 'a nightmare'.](#)** Ron Gulla, a farmer from Hickory, Pa., says he had no idea what he was getting into when he leased his land for gas drilling. [Corning Leader](#), New York. 17 November 2010.

**[Harveys Lake officials review drilling ban ordinance.](#)** Harveys Lake council heard a pitch Tuesday for an ordinance that would essentially prohibit natural gas drilling in - or beneath - the borough. The council didn't decline residents' request to start the ordinance process - but they didn't do anything else, either. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 17 November 2010.

**[Pittsburgh bans natural gas drilling.](#)** Citing health and environmental concerns, the Pittsburgh, Pa., city council voted unanimously Tuesday to ban natural gas drilling within the city limits. It is the first such ban in a Pennsylvania city. [ProPublica](#). 17 November 2010.

**[City OKs ban on gas drilling.](#)** After Pittsburgh City Council gave final approval Tuesday to a ban on natural-gas production in the city, industry opponents vowed to press for similar prohibitions at the Allegheny County and state levels. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 17 November 2010.

**[Council bans gas drilling in city.](#)** Pittsburgh City Council voted unanimously Tuesday to ban natural gas production in the city, becoming the second municipality to impose a ban in as many days. South Fayette commissioners voted Monday to ban drilling in neighborhoods, parks and farms. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 17 November 2010.

**[Pittsburgh council bans natural gas drilling.](#)** The Pittsburgh City Council voted unanimously on Tuesday to ban natural gas drilling in the city amid concern about threats to water quality. [Pittsburgh Post-Chronicle](#), Pennsylvania. 17 November 2010.

**[Halliburton announces ecofriendly fracking fluid, more disclosure.](#)** Halliburton Co., which is fighting U.S. EPA about disclosure of its hydraulic fracturing fluid, today announced that it will publicly disclose detailed information on its website about the chemicals used in its fracturing fluids. [Greenwire](#). 16 November 2010.

**[The pros and cons of shale gas drilling.](#)** A controversial gas extraction technique that has galvanized protest by environmental and community groups has also created a happy band of supporters: farmers who've become rich by leasing their land. But industry wide, accidents keep happening due to machine malfunctions or workers cutting corners. [60 Minutes CBS News](#). 16 November 2010.

**[Apollo Gas and gas drilling in Sydney.](#)** The mining company planning to drill for coal seam gas in St Peters holds a gas exploration licence that covers nearly all of suburban Sydney and may expand its operations to other parts of the city. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 16 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Bligh government dismisses gas watchdog call.](#)** The Queensland government has dismissed opposition calls to establish an independent watchdog to oversee the state's burgeoning coal seam gas industry. [Australian Associated Press](#). 16 November 2010.

**[More gas drilling chemicals in Pa. disclosed.](#)** Petroleum services giant Halliburton Co. said Monday it has begun publicly disclosing the identity of chemicals in solutions it makes to be pumped into the ground by Pennsylvania's booming natural gas industry. [Associated Press](#). 16 November 2010.

**[Study: Gas drillers to damage state's 'iconic forests.'](#)** Between 35,000 and 95,000 acres of forest in Pennsylvania could be cleared by new energy development over the next 20 years, according to a new study of gas well and wind turbine development in the state. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 16 November 2010.

**[Halliburton to ID chemicals in fracking fluids.](#)** The company announced it will make the contents of its hydraulic fracturing solutions public on its website. But that's not good enough for the EPA, which subpoenaed Halliburton last week. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 16 November 2010.

**[Pa. energy development could alter large forest blocks.](#)** Within two decades, more than 3,000 wind turbines could dot Pennsylvania's ridgetops and more than 60,000 Marcellus Shale natural-gas wells might be drilled. This energy development could alter 40 percent of the state's most ecologically valuable large forest blocks. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 16 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Halliburton discloses fracking substances.](#)** According to Halliburton, 98 percent of the material used for fracking consists of water and sand. Other chemicals used by the company include: formaldehyde, ammonium chloride, acetic anhydride, methanol, hydrochloric acid and propargyl alcohol. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 16 November 2010.

**[Oil shale dreams alive on Roan Plateau.](#)** Observers in western Colorado, including Garfield County, have been closely watching the increasing corporate and governmental activity aimed at reviving the search for ways to develop oil shale reserves in the region. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 16 November 2010.

**[Stop debating, start regulating.](#)** We are famous for failures, shortfalls and – most disheartening – environmental disasters caused by unchecked desire for economic growth, for letting industries run roughshod over the notion of regulation if the price is right. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 16 November 2010.

**[Shale gas exploration in Quebec.](#)** Deep below central Quebec lies natural gas that could meet the province's energy needs for 200 years, bring in new revenue and wean trucking companies and factories off high-polluting oil. But getting shale gas out of the ground could contaminate drinking water and boost greenhouse-gas emissions. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 15 November 2010.

**[Miners to drill under Sydney for gas.](#)** Miners will drill under central Sydney hoping to strike what is believed to be a vast natural gas reserve the government on Sunday said could reduce the Australian city's carbon footprint. [South African Press Association](#), South Africa. 15 November 2010.

**[TV report focuses on gas drilling.](#)** A primetime network news show's look at the pros and cons of the natural gas drilling phenomenon in the United States that aired on Sunday left people on both sides of the issue satisfied with fair coverage but concerned that comments from those who were interviewed were misleading or inaccurate. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 15 November 2010.

**[Marcellus gas industry could take business away from Pittsburgh.](#)** If Pittsburgh City Council doesn't want Marcellus shale gas companies drilling in the city, industry officials said they could take their non-drilling business elsewhere. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 15 November 2010.

**[Officials seek stronger drilling rules.](#)** As West Virginia's number of Marcellus Shale natural gas wells skyrockets, many concerned residents are calling on the state Department of Environmental Protection to increase its oversight of the industry. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 14 November 2010.

**[Pipeline companies may seek eminent domain.](#)** Jim Rosenberg may look out on his 49.5 acres one day soon and see a natural gas company digging a 50-foot-wide Marcellus Shale pipeline through his property -- regardless of whether he approved of it. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 14 November 2010.

**[How many water supplies have been impacted by gas drilling? PA doesn't keep count.](#)** An increasingly urgent question in the era of Marcellus Shale exploration: how many water supplies have been impacted by drilling activities? Right now, no one is keeping a complete count. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 14 November 2010.

**[Gas-leasing boom leads residents to fend for themselves.](#)** The natural-gas boom sweeping the Appalachian Basin has hit Columbiana County in full force, with gas producers moving to snap up mineral-rights leases in the area's lucrative shale formations. [Youngstown Vindicator](#), Ohio. 14 November 2010.

**[Activists warn pollution fears hold water here.](#)** The director of an award-winning documentary exposing the alarming environmental record of the US gas drilling industry fears Australia may suffer the same fate. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 14 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Brown demands more details on CSG mining.](#)** Australian Greens leader Bob Brown has called for a moratorium on coal seam gas mining before drilling starts in Sydney, to allow for more environmental impact studies. [Australian Associated Press](#). 14 November 2010.

**[Minister guarantees Sydney gas mined 'safely.'](#)** The New South Wales Government says controversial methods to extract underground gas will not be used at a proposed exploration mine site in Sydney's inner west. [Australia ABC News](#), Australia. 14 November 2010.

**[Sydney's secret power grab.](#)** Sydney's central business district will be powered by gas mined from below the city under an audacious plan being considered by the City of Sydney and lord mayor Clover Moore. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 14 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Gas drilling good for Sydney, says NSW Government.](#)** Emergency Services Minister Steve Whan has defended exploratory drilling planned for the inner west suburb of St Peters, and said that drilling for natural gas in Sydney could help reduce the area's carbon footprint. [Australian Associated Press](#). 14 November 2010.

**[Coal seam gas drilling goes ahead without environmental checks.](#)** The state government does not conduct any environmental assessment of exploration drilling for gas into coal seams despite increasing concern about its impact on aquifers and water supplies. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 14 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Water key focus of W.Va. DEP proposed gas law.](#)** The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection wants natural gas companies to submit comprehensive water management plans, including lists of chemicals to be used, and how much water they will withdraw, when applying for future permits to drill horizontal wells in the Marcellus shale field. [Associated Press](#). 14 November 2010.

**[Gas drilling is up for vote.](#)** Another local government is close to signing a natural gas drilling deal. Moundsville residents won't be seeing any drilling rigs in the city, however, as the contract between the city and AB Resources stipulates that the Ohio-based company must initiate its wells from outside the city limits. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 14 November 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale: A boom at what cost?](#)** While we applaud every effort to create jobs in the commonwealth, especially during a time of recession, we have seen here in our region the tragedy of uncontrolled industry. We need look no further than the orange streams and rivers that roll through the Cambria-Somerset region. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 14 November 2010.

**[Marcellus drillers' image suffering.](#)** It appears to be taking quite a while for some operators of Marcellus Shale fracking-water trucks to realize that their vehicles are supposed to be in safe working order. [Washington Observer-Reporter](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 14 November 2010.

**[Interview: Former NY Environmental Commissioner Pete Grannis on gas drilling.](#)** Alexander B. "Pete" Grannis, New York's top environmental official for two and a half years, was fired after a memo he wrote criticizing the governor's proposed budget cuts for the DEC was leaked to the press. In the memo he said the agency wouldn't be able to perform its duties if the cuts went into effect. [ProPublica](#). Opinion, 14 November 2010.

**[Environment survives if drilling is done right.](#)** One must forgive Pennsylvania's natural gas drillers if they're in a festive mood. Tom Corbett is governor-elect and anti-tax Republicans will control both houses of the General Assembly. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 14 November 2010.

**[New oil patches sprout across nation.](#)** A surge in oil drilling is transforming Karnes City, Texas- and with it, American energy production. A similar wave is beginning to visit parts of North Dakota, Colorado and west Texas. [Wall Street Journal](#). 13 November 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Gas drillers are pumped up.](#)** Natural gas is emerging as a winner among energy sources in the recent election. From Congress to key gubernatorial races, the political landscape favors expanded use of natural gas. Gas is cleaner than coal or oil and emits far fewer greenhouse gases. But a drilling boom raises concerns about water quality. [Living On Earth](#). 13 November 2010.

**[New DEC chief must juggle reduced resources with growing natural gas demands.](#)** With significant budget cuts in recent years and a round of layoffs to come, the state Department of Environmental Conservation will need additional resources to handle the looming natural gas rush, the department's new commissioner said this week. [Gannett News Service](#). 13 November 2010.

**[GOP victory could boost natural gas drilling.](#)** The Republicans' big election victories in Pennsylvania and on Capitol Hill could be Christmas-come-early for the drilling companies that are rushing to exploit the Marcellus Shale, the biggest known deposit of natural gas in the nation. [Associated Press](#). 12 November 2010.

**[Fracking hell: Busting the natural gas myth.](#)** When Josh Fox received a letter offering him \$100,000 in exchange for allowing some natural gas wells to be sunk on his farm in a pristine river valley in Pennsylvania, he decided to ask around. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 12 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**['Fracking' for energy: boon or doom?](#)** To supporters, it's a 21st century economic boom that will benefit millions across the Northeast. To critics, it could be this century's biggest national eco-disaster, tainting water supplies for tens of millions. [MSNBC](#). 12 November 2010.

**[HCA board pushes for water quality testing.](#)** Hazleton City Authority directors don't want to wait for natural gas drilling or an environmental catastrophe to begin collecting water quality samples from major supply points. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 12 November 2010.

**[Companies must come clean on fracking.](#)** Before the newly invigorated Republicans take Congress, New Yorkers should hope the Environmental Protection Agency succeeds in determining what exactly is in the witch's brew of chemicals that the energy companies have been pumping into the Earth in search of natural gas and big profits. [Lower Hudson Valley Journal News](#), New York. Editorial, 12 November 2010.

**[The Nor'easter: The understated water crisis.](#)** The problem with the extreme hype surrounding carbon emissions and climate change is that it eclipses with political might, donor dollars, and innovative momentum of what is potentially a more dangerous environmental crisis: the pollution of our water. [Epoch Times](#). Opinion, 12 November 2010.

**[Gov. Ridge: Let's make sure Marcellus Shale is developed correctly.](#)** As the Marcellus Shale is developed, every issue needs to be addressed, and continuous improvement in every aspect is a daily goal. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 12 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Crackdown nabs more than 1,000 gas drilling trucks.](#)** About three out of every four trucks were cited for violations last month during an enforcement effort for vehicles hauling gas-drilling wastewater, the Pennsylvania State Police said Tuesday. The most common citations were for unsecured loads and lights or lamps that were not working. [Associated Press](#). 11 November 2010.

**[Fracking rule is in effect.](#)** Hydraulic fracturing, the Niobrara and an overall state oil and gas outlook were at the top of Wyoming State Oil and Gas Supervisor Tom Doll's list as he spoke to the Gillette chapter of the Society of Petroleum Engineers on Tuesday. [Gillette News-Record](#), Wyoming. 11 November 2010.

**[The Marcellus Shale play: Enviros and drillers agree – state environmental regulators can't protect N.Y.](#)** Both sides of the battle over natural gas drilling in N.Y. State agree that the state agency charged with protecting the environment and issuing drilling permits has been gutted so severely that it's no longer capable of doing its job. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 10 November 2010.

**[EPA subpoenas Halliburton on gas drilling.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency subpoenaed energy giant Halliburton Tuesday, seeking a description of the chemical components used in a drilling technique called hydraulic fracturing. Halliburton was the only one of nine major energy companies that refused the EPA's request to voluntarily disclose the chemicals. [Associated Press](#). 10 November 2010.

**[Pa. agency votes to aid owners of contaminated wells.](#)** A state agency approved \$12 million in financing Tuesday to extend municipal water service to 18 rural Susquehanna County residents whose wells, regulators say, were contaminated by Marcellus Shale natural-gas drilling. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 10 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Farmers rebel against mining companies.](#)** Queensland farmers are locking their gates and refusing mining companies access to their land in an escalating campaign driven by environmental and health concerns. [Australian Associated Press](#). 10 November 2010.

**[Petition seeks fracking ban in Nova Scotia.](#)** A petition calling for a ban in Nova Scotia on a controversial method of oil and gas extraction has been tabled in the legislature. [Canadian Press](#). 10 November 2010.

**[EPA subpoenas Halliburton over natural gas extraction method.](#)** The EPA issued a subpoena to compel Halliburton Co. to provide complete information on hydraulic fracturing, a controversial method the company pioneered to extract natural gas by injecting fluids into tight rock formations deep underground. [Los Angeles Times](#), California. 10 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[EPA subpoenas Halliburton on "fracking".](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency escalated a clash with Halliburton Co. on Tuesday, subpoenaing the oil-field-services giant for information about chemicals used in a controversial technique for extracting natural gas from underground rock formations. [Wall Street Journal](#). 10 November 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Activists gather at Cobbs Hill to protest hydraulic fracturing.](#)** A Rochester activist group used open-flame street theater Tuesday to make a point about natural-gas drilling, in the process managing to draw the attention of bemused fire and police officials. [Rochester Democrat and Chronicle](#), New York. 10 November 2010.

**[Tioga County to monitor Susquehanna waters for natural gas production pollution.](#)** Concern that natural gas production could eventually pollute the Susquehanna River has led officials to begin monitoring tributaries along the waterway. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 10 November 2010.

**[Pittsburgh moves ahead with controversial gas drilling ban.](#)** Pittsburgh City Council gave preliminary approval to a natural gas drilling ban saying they'll defend it in a possible legal fight with Marcellus Shale producers. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 10 November 2010.

**[Fort Worth backs extra spending for air quality tests.](#)** Fort Worth's City Council joined Mayor Mike Moncrief in backing a plan to spend up to \$250,000 more to complete a study on the effects of gas drilling on air quality as originally outlined. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 10 November 2010.

**[Garfield County intervenes with state on well spacing.](#)** Garfield County commissioners will ask the state to consider the cumulative impacts to residents of a proposal to allow one natural gas well for every 10 acres north of Silt. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 10 November 2010.

**[Science says methane in PA. water is from drilling, not natural causes.](#)** Whether it was fracking or some other part of the drilling process — the construction of the wells, for example — there is little debate among regulators and scientists that the contamination in Dimock is related to the drilling. [ProPublica](#). Opinion, 10 November 2010.

**[Filmmaker warns govt against gas industry.](#)** A grim documentary featuring flammable tap water, sick and dying people and dead animals in America's "gaslands" is a crystal ball into Australia's future if gas extraction is allowed to prosper, the film's director says. [Australian Associated Press](#). 9 November 2010.

**[Apache starts fracing its southern New Brunswick shale gas wells.](#)** Apache Canada Ltd. has begun the process of fracture stimulating two wells it recently finished drilling a few kilometres north of Elgin in New Brunswick. [New Brunswick Business Journal](#), New Brunswick. 9 November 2010.

**[Proposed Allegheny Township drilling rules panned.](#)** Allegheny Township officials believe a proposed ordinance regulating natural gas drilling is a solid first step, but some residents wish it would go further. [Pittsburgh Valley News Dispatch](#), Pennsylvania. 9 November 2010.

**[Poll shows majority of Broome County residents support gas drilling.](#)** Four Hundred and One Broome County residents were asked if they support the development of natural gas in New York. 52% say yes, while 32% say no. [Binghamton WICZ TV](#), New York. 9 November 2010.

**[Vote bans gas drilling in Rider Park.](#)** Thomas Rider's legacy - Rider Park - remains intact and out of the reach of natural gas drillers - for now. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 9 November 2010.

**[Dallas-Fort Worth residents voice frustration with gas regulation.](#)** Area residents had an opportunity Monday night to vent frustration with the way both agencies regulate -- or don't regulate -- the environment and the oil and gas industry. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 9 November 2010.

**[Drilling fans need to offer guarantees.](#)** Even those convinced about the safety of hydrofracking and who welcome the scrutiny of state and federal regulations need to consider this question. What are the guarantees that any damage from drilling, pollution and repairs to roads and fields will be fixed and paid for? [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. Editorial, 9 November 2010.

**[Energy busts create cleanup mess.](#)** Scattered throughout New York State are the remnants of thousands of gas and oil wells -- rusting, rotting rigs, lines, tanks and holes left behind by busts dating back more than a century. Many of the owners are long gone, sticking state taxpayers with tens of millions of dollars in cleanup costs. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. 8 November 2010.

**[Poll: More than half of Broome residents support development of gas drilling in state.](#)** In a Zogby International poll taken Sept. 30 to Oct. 1, 52 percent of 401 Broome residents interviewed said they supported the development of natural gas in New York. On the flip side, 34 percent said they were opposed. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 8 November 2010.

**[Attorney General-elect Schneiderman staunchly opposes hydraulic fracturing.](#)** When it comes to natural gas, Nov. 2's election brought a mixed bag of incumbents and newcomers with various takes on how New York should proceed with its moratorium on drilling in the Marcellus Shale. The state's Attorney General-elect, however, took one of the strongest stances against hydraulic fracturing of any candidate statewide. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 8 November 2010.

**[Pennvest meeting on Tuesday will determine fate of Dimock waterline.](#)** Families whose water the state found was damaged by nearby natural gas drilling need the new, permanent source of potable water. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 8 November 2010.

**[City council rethinks drilling in Dallas.](#)** With the drilling leases only a few months from expiring and XTO seeking to exercise its lease at Hensley Field in Dallas, the public is getting its say about drilling on local public land. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 8 November 2010.

**[Activists' air tests uncover compounds.](#)** Screening done by nonscientists at the end of September revealed elevated levels of cancer-causing volatile organic compounds near natural-gas operations in Cow Canyon near Bondad and at two locations near Bloomfield, N.M. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 8 November 2010.

**[Oil shale leases hinge on balance between energy, environment.](#)** Last week, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union president Kent Pepler issued a call to "proceed with caution" on oil shale development in the West, to protect agriculture and watersheds from losses in water quantity and quality. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 8 November 2010.

**[When a rig moves in next door.](#)** In states like Louisiana, accustomed to its risks, drilling for natural gas is seen as an economic lifeline. But 1,400 miles to the north, in Susquehanna County in Pennsylvania, shale gas development has divided neighbors, spurred lawsuits and sown deep mistrust. [New York Times](#). 7 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Jobs, revenue and risks: Sides picked in gas drilling battle.](#)** Powered by expanding operations from Chesapeake Energy - and oil giant Shell Oil Co.'s entry to the market - Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling could generate 22,928 new West Virginia jobs next year. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 7 November 2010.

**[Dirty jobs.](#)** In the last year, natural gas industry advocates and politicians trumpeted the Marcellus Shale's potential to create tens of thousands of jobs in the next two years. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 7 November 2010.

**[Gas rules offer more - but not complete - disclosure of fracking chemicals.](#)** Proposed revisions to Pennsylvania's oil and gas law will force drillers to disclose for the first time the names and amounts of chemicals they inject underground to coax oil and gas from rock. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 7 November 2010.

**[Nature reserve vs. gas reserve.](#)** For about two years, like just about every large landowner in Western Pennsylvania, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History has been contemplating whether it should allow drilling of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale deposit a mile below Powdermill's surface. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 6 November 2010.

**[Gas well may be fracked soon.](#)** A natural gas well may be hydraulically fractured for the first time in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania as early as next week. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 6 November 2010.

**[Obama's enthusiasm for gas drilling raises eyebrows.](#)** President Obama's newfound interest in expanded natural gas drilling yesterday surprised many on all sides of the drilling debate, from environmentalists to drillers and even the coal industry. [Greenwire](#). 5 November 2010.

**[Valley facility cleans 357,000 gallons of fracking water.](#)** A Snyder County facility processed about 357,000 barrels of fracking water and related drilling fluids, delivered by about 700 trucks using Routes 11-15 between July 2009 and June 2010, according to information on a newly launched state website. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 5 November 2010.

**[Drilling opponents fight for Monongahela River.](#)** A day after hundreds of protesters marched Downtown, about 50 people opposed to drilling for gas in the Marcellus shale formation took up signs Thursday in Clairton and marched again, this time to a wastewater treatment plant. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 5 November 2010.

**[Drilling debate continues in Pittsburgh.](#)** One day after hundreds of anti-drilling activists marched down Pittsburgh streets in protest of the Developing Unconventional Gas East Conference and Exhibition, the convention continued with a panel discussion regarding the potential pitfalls drillers face as they move forward to develop the Marcellus and Utica shales. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 5 November 2010.

**Results on county drilling sites drawing near.** Luzerne County landowners who have signed a natural gas lease with drilling company Encana Oil & Gas will know by Christmas whether their leases hold the potential for millions in royalty payments or just a lump of coal. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 5 November 2010.

**Fort Worth 'running out of places' for wells, councilman says.** Barnett Shale drilling has been a double-edged sword in Fort Worth, with residents enjoying bonuses and royalties from leasing mineral rights, but they have increasing concerns about potential effects on their quality of life. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 5 November 2010.

**Court gives OK to Chief Logan gas drilling.** The state Supreme Court has upheld a Logan County judge's decision to allow oil and natural gas drilling in Chief Logan State Park, saying that a ban on mineral extraction in West Virginia's parks does not apply. The decision paves the way for Cabot Oil and Gas to drill for the natural gas reserves. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 4 November 2010.

**Pennsylvania's vote for gas overshadows renewables.** By Wednesday morning, skies had turned dark over Washington, D.C., for renewable-energy companies. But perhaps the most threatening clouds had gathered 120 miles away in Harrisburg, Pa. Republicans on Tuesday wrested back Pennsylvania's governorship and the Statehouse. [Wall Street Journal](#). 4 November 2010. [Subscription Required]

**Natural gas industry spent heavily on Pennsylvania Republican candidates.** The gas firms, their employees, or others who stand to gain as Marcellus Shale drilling expands put more than \$500,000 into Pennsylvania candidates' coffers since September, state reports show. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 4 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**Rove says its up to Obama to set the tone in Washington.** Republican strategist Karl Rove told oil and gas industry officials Wednesday that President Barack Obama's promises of change may have propelled him to the White House but it was his actions that led voters this week to send a clear message that they aren't happy with what he's done. [Associated Press](#). 4 November 2010.

**Rove to drillers: 'Expect sensible regulation.'** Karl Rove, the Republican operative and former senior adviser to President George W. Bush, Wednesday told an appreciative Marcellus Shale natural gas conference that the sweeping Republican victory on Tuesday would put an end to most of the industry's legislative threats. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 4 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**Group protests drilling at Public Square rally.** With new leadership coming in Harrisburg and Washington, Gas Drilling Awareness Coalition members plan to redouble efforts to ensure their voices are heard. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 4 November 2010.

**Thousands join shale drilling conference.** Interest in the Marcellus Shale continues to grow, if attendance at an annual conference on natural gas development is any proof. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 4 November 2010.

**DEP secretary meets with affected families in Dimock.** Department of Environmental Protection Secretary John Hanger was in Dimock on Wednesday night to meet with families to share results from "weeks and months" of testing of the families' water supplies. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 4 November 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale showdown in Pittsburgh.](#)** Karl Rove believes the new Republican-led House of Representatives will make sure the hydraulic fracturing process used in Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling remains exempt from federal oversight. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 4 November 2010.

**[Collier residents call for tighter well restrictions near kids.](#)** After two and a half years, Collier, Pennsylvania's proposed oil and gas well drilling ordinance amendment remains a work in progress. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 4 November 2010.

**[Gas industry execs eager to work with Corbett.](#)** Gas industry executives gathered in Pittsburgh on Wednesday said they are eager to work with the Republican governor-elect and the next General Assembly, as protesters outside demanded greater environmental protection against drilling. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 4 November 2010.

**[Drilling industry leaders gather in Pittsburgh.](#)** The natural-gas drilling industry needs to keep improving its techniques and should work harder to protect the environment, the head of EQT Corp. told fellow leaders at a Pittsburgh, Penn. conference Wednesday. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 4 November 2010.

**[Court upholds permits to drill in state park.](#)** The West Virginia Supreme Court on Wednesday cleared the way for natural gas drilling in Chief Logan State Park, saying a 50-year-old agreement superseded a state law prohibiting the extraction of natural resources on state parks. [Associated Press](#). 4 November 2010.

**[Two companies seek trade secret status for fracking fluids in Wyoming.](#)** Two chemical manufacturers are seeking an exemption from new rules in Wyoming that require public disclosure of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, a controversial natural gas drilling process suspected of polluting groundwater. [ProPublica](#). 3 November 2010.

**[Gas boom creates need for inspectors.](#)** More inspectors are needed to oversee the state's oil and natural gas industries because of the boom in exploration and production of natural gas from the Marcellus shale reserves, the state's environmental agency chief said Tuesday in Pittsburgh. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 3 November 2010.

**[Shale gas extraction: Investors aim to profit from US experience.](#)** In the past few years, US small gas producers have invited foreigners to join their drilling programmes on shale fields across the country. That does not mean that there are not challenges to exporting the US shale boom. [London Financial Times](#), United Kingdom. 2 November 2010.

**[Expanded gas well info available online from DEP.](#)** The state Department of Environmental Protection unveiled Monday a new tool to make gas well information accessible in a few mouse clicks. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 2 November 2010.

**[New database shows compliance for oil, gas.](#)** The state Department of Environmental Protection has launched a searchable database of oil and gas industry production compliance information in the state on its website. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 2 November 2010.

**Dallas Gasland screening and Q-and-A stirs up local anti-drilling sentiment.** Dallas City Councilmember Angela Hunt, who advocates that the city do some additional studies before permitting any drilling on their side of the county line, called Gasland "a cautionary tale" and stated that "the City of Dallas needs to investigate." [Cedar Hill Today](#), Texas. 2 November 2010.

**BG launches £9bn project to liquify gas from coal.** BG Group will spend \$15bn on the world's first project to liquify and ship gas produced from coal deposits, it was announced today. The project has attracted opposition from some environmentalists and farmers in Australia over concerns that it will pollute the water table in a country already facing severe water shortages. [London Guardian](#), United Kingdom. 1 November 2010.

**Green group fears LNG project risks.** An environmental lobby group says Queensland faces great environmental risks from the world's first coal seam gas to LNG project. [Australian Associated Press](#). 1 November 2010.

**County's steps to protect drinking water are touted.** Though threats to Luzerne County's drinking water from natural gas drilling have drawn the concern and ire of some residents, a county commissioner said the county has already taken steps to protect the drinking water of more than 70,000 county residents. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 1 November 2010.

**Gas drilling playing minor role in Texas elections.** Candidates in New York and Pennsylvania are finding that voters want to hear their views on drilling near residential communities and whether state government should do more to regulate it. In Texas, meanwhile, the issue has been something of a nonstarter in the general election. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 1 November 2010.

**Drilling ban is too late.** Gov. Rendell's order banning natural-gas drilling in 1.5 million acres of state forest sounded impressive until you drill below the surface. The governor's order can be reversed in a heartbeat. If Tom Corbett wins the governor's race, the needed ban will be only a blip in the state's drilling boom. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 1 November 2010. [Registration Required]

**Undisclosed conflicts of interest is key issue in race for George Winner's New York Senate seat.** A New York State Assemblyman, who has ties to the natural gas industry, denies he played any role in securing valuable tax breaks for the Millennium Pipeline Company gas transmission line which has contributed to making the local property tax rates among the highest in the nation. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 31 October 2010.

**Think before you lease.** Think before you lease, warned a representative for an organization concerned about possible water and land contamination resulting from Marcellus shale drilling. Natural gas drilling leases in the county have skyrocketed in the past six months, with more landowners negotiating with landmen representing drilling companies. [East Liverpool Review](#), Ohio. 31 October 2010.

**[Arkansas board set to create rule on fracking.](#)** Arkansas soon could become the second state to require companies to reveal what chemicals they use in drilling natural gas wells. The state Oil and Gas Commission is in the final stages of developing a rule concerning a process known as hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking." [Associated Press](#). 31 October 2010.

**[Adversaries try to heal fracture over fracking.](#)** A handful of gas producers and environmental advocates are striving to change that dynamic by collaborating on a plan to step up the safety and regulation of hydraulic fracturing. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 31 October 2010.

**[Pipeline report calls for safety regulations.](#)** Recommendations from a new pipeline safety report apply to many parts of the Barnett Shale region, even though they came out of a study of Fort Worth neighborhoods, experts say. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 31 October 2010.

**[Fracking pumps up pressure in upstate N.Y. congressional race.](#)** A tightening congressional race in upstate New York could become the first public referendum on shale-gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing. [Greenwire](#). 30 October 2010.

**[Governor's aide steps in for ousted environment chief.](#)** Gov. David A. Paterson is replacing a Pete with a Peter. On Thursday he announced that his deputy secretary for the environment, Peter M. Iwanowicz, was taking over as acting commissioner of the state Department of Environmental Conservation after the dismissal of Alexander B. Grannis. [New York Times](#). 30 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[GOP leaders split on drilling tax.](#)** State Attorney General Tom Corbett, the Republican candidate for governor, repeated his pledge Friday not to impose a severance tax on natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale, defying the advice of prominent members of his own political party. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 30 October 2010.

**[Drilling waste dumped in Ohio brings strong reaction.](#)** The Ohio Environmental Council Friday warned that a toxic by-product from natural gas drilling sites in Pennsylvania could cause harm after being disposed of in deep injection wells across Ohio. In Ohio, there are more than 170 deep injection wells designed to store "hydraulic fracturing fluid." [Cleveland News Channel 5](#), Ohio. 30 October 2010.

**[Pros and cons of oil and gas development in the community.](#)** If the Niobrara oil shale play turns out the way industry officials hope, it will bring jobs and money to southeast Wyoming. But development also prompts concerns for public health and housing and increased truck traffic, said some who talked Friday about its potential impacts. [Cheyenne Tribune-Eagle](#), Wyoming. 30 October 2010.

**[Pennsylvania orders partial shutdown of gas drilling.](#)** Pennsylvania environmental officials ordered a partial shutdown starting Friday of natural gas drilling operations by two companies in the state's northcentral region, saying they lacked permits for collecting water from nearby streams to be used in the drilling. [Associated Press](#). 29 October 2010.

**[DEP guidelines to challenge natural gas extractors.](#)** Natural gas exploration and production companies will have a difficult time meeting new standards for limiting pollutants in wastewater dumped in the state's waterways, experts said yesterday. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 29 October 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale drilling debate heating up.](#)** O’Ryan McGowan and Chris St. Pierre wear anti-Marcellus Shale drilling T-shirts designed by McGowan. Behind them is a state Declaration of Rights banner they produced and which they have displayed at anti-drilling demonstrations. [Pittsburgh Business Times](#), Pennsylvania. 29 October 2010.

**[Sugar Run woman sues Chesapeake over gas drilling.](#)** A Sugar Run woman has filed a civil action against Chesapeake Energy and one of its subsidiaries, seeking damages due to health problems she claims she has experienced because of natural gas drilling operations in the area. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 29 October 2010.

**[Pa. woman sues gas driller, claims water tainted.](#)** A woman is suing natural gas driller Chesapeake Energy Corp. and two of its subsidiaries, claiming that drilling near her rural home has fouled the water with methane and other pollutants and created a rash of health problems since 2009. [Associated Press](#). 29 October 2010.

**[India eyes US tech to exploit shale gas.](#)** India plans to rope in the United States for technical knowhow to tap shale gas reserves when President Barack Obama visits the country next month. Petroleum secretary S. Sundareshan said India was looking at cooperation with the U.S. in ascertaining its shale gas resources. [India Today](#), India. 28 October 2010.

**[Research shows radioactive dangers to Marcellus Shale fracking.](#)** Hydro fracking not only releases natural gas but is likely to release uranium as drilling companies pour millions of gallons of water and fracking fluids into rock to force the gas to the surface. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 28 October 2010.

**[Students rally against hydrofracking.](#)** Student and community environmental groups held a rally at Finger Lakes Community College Wednesday night against hydro-fracturing or "hydrofracking" — a drilling technique that blasts water into rock in order to extract natural gas deep beneath the ground. [Rochester WHAM TV](#), New York. 28 October 2010.

**[Forcing gas out of rock with water.](#)** A new phase of life has arrived in a rural community of 7,200 people—one of the hottest spots in Pennsylvania’s Marcellus shale boom, with more than 40 natural gas wells drilled here in the past two years. [National Geographic News](#). 28 October 2010.

**[Natural gas stirs hope and fear in Pennsylvania.](#)** Along the narrow two-lane roads that wind through Washington County in southwestern Pennsylvania, there is little sign that the surrounding pastures and hay bales, barns, homes, and children's swing sets all are sitting on one of the largest reservoirs of natural gas in the world. [National Geographic News](#). 28 October 2010.

**[Ridge expects a Marcellus shale tax.](#)** Former Gov. Tom Ridge said Wednesday that Republican gubernatorial nominee Tom Corbett could sign a new tax on natural gas drillers without breaking his much publicized pledge not to raise taxes if elected. [Allentown Morning Call](#), Pennsylvania. 28 October 2010.

**[Answers sought on drill leases.](#)** About 350 local residents, including farmers and other landowners who attended a seminar on oil and gas leasing, were advised to move slowly and to consult an attorney early in the process — before signing on any dotted lines. [Warren Tribune Chronicle](#), Ohio. 28 October 2010.

**[Rendell's drilling moratorium: Playing games.](#)** Rendell doesn't give a damn about the environment. And he will use anyone, any group and any situation to cover the economy-wrecking tracks of his administration's profligacy. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 28 October 2010.

**[Why Rendell's "moratorium" on forest drilling means very, very little.](#)** Governor Rendell's moratorium on leasing more state forest land for natural gas drilling marks a largely-symbolic act, delivered too late and only after he authorized several leases of state forest for drilling, over repeated warnings from his own forestry officials. [Philadelphia City Paper](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 28 October 2010.

**[Environmental funds important to county's future.](#)** With natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale possible, it would be irresponsible to eliminate environmental positions. Incredibly, while considering these cuts, the county also is proposing to establish itself as the lead agency for any gas leases it negotiates on county property. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 28 October 2010.

**[Leaked memo depicts bare-bones regulatory environment for NY gas drilling.](#)** The leaked memo that led to the dismissal of New York's top environmental official last week depicts a severely understaffed agency that has struggled to adequately perform its duties over the past two years and is ill-equipped to supervise natural gas drilling. [ProPublica](#). 27 October 2010.

**[Rendell bans new gas leases in state forests.](#)** Gov. Rendell signed an executive order Tuesday that bans further leasing of state forests for Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling, a move lauded by environmentalists but shrugged off by Republicans as the symbolic effort of a lame-duck leader. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 27 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Pennsylvania governor bans fracking in state forests.](#)** Gov. Edward G. Rendell of Pennsylvania signed an executive order on Tuesday effectively banning further natural gas development on state forest lands. [New York Times](#). 27 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Rendell halts natural gas drilling.](#)** Gov. Ed Rendell has carried out an executive order placing 1.5 million acres of state forest land off-limits for natural gas drilling, getting praise from environmental groups but sharp criticism from Senate Republican leader Joe Scarnati. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 27 October 2010.

**[Jefferson Hills residents say drilling process 'ugly, dirty'.](#)** Homeowners who live near sites where Marcellus shale drilling is taking place warned Jefferson Hills residents to be aware of the harm it can do to land and water. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 27 October 2010.

**[State could see surge in oil, gas drilling.](#)** Is Michigan — including parts of West Michigan — about to be hit with a new wave of oil and natural-gas drilling? [Muskegon Chronicle](#), Michigan. 27 October 2010.

**[Fort Worth considers scaling back number of wells involved in air quality study.](#)** A report to the City Council on Tuesday recommends reducing the number of wells included in a study on the effects of natural gas drilling on air quality in Fort Worth because the company conducting the tests underestimated the magnitude of the effort. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 27 October 2010.

**Halting gas drilling frenzy.** Gov. Rendell deserves credit for halting the frenzied drilling for gas in the Marcellus Shale deposit on state land, especially since the Senate has failed, as promised, to impose an extraction tax on gas drilling. But that moratorium is like closing the barn door after the horses have escaped. [Philadelphia Daily News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 27 October 2010.

**Group tackles testing barrier.** A new nonprofit group is planning to help low-income residents living near natural gas drilling and production sites test their air, soil and water for contaminants. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 26 October 2010.

**Fracking shown to mobilize uranium in Marcellus Shale.** Fracking - pumping millions of gallons of water and chemicals deep underground to fracture shale rock, releasing the natural gas it contains - is controversial because it may pollute groundwater used for drinking with proprietary chemical cocktails that drilling companies keep to themselves. [Environment News Service](#). 26 October 2010.

**Gas donations to gubernatorial candidates ramp up.** With Gov. Ed Rendell pointing to campaign contributions as a reason for inaction on a state severance tax, a citizens watchdog group reported Monday that contributions by the natural gas industry to the two gubernatorial candidates ramped up during the past month. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 26 October 2010.

**Pa. Gov. to halt new gas drilling leases in forests.** Gov. Ed Rendell sought to restart talks over a natural gas extraction tax Monday, a day before he was poised to issue an executive order banning any further leasing of state forest land for Marcellus Shale drilling. [Associated Press](#). 26 October 2010.

**Parents voice health concerns.** After a fracking well was placed near Argyle High School, complaints began to be voiced about student health problems, including dizziness, disorientation and nausea. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 24 October 2010.

**Ethane could bring back Chemical Valley.** Some experts believe development of the Marcellus Shale could result in the rebirth of West Virginia's chemical industry. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 24 October 2010.

**Digging into the details of Marcellus shale gas drilling.** Just how dangerous is a controversial natural gas drilling method called hydrofracking? [Canandaigua Daily Messenger](#), New York. 24 October 2010.

**Does Gulf oil spill hold lessons about hydrofracking?** The April 20 explosion of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig, which gushed an estimated 5 million barrels of oil daily into the Gulf of Mexico, holds lessons for the debate over hydrofracking, Joe Heath, general counsel for the Onondaga Nation said Saturday. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 24 October 2010.

**Debate over proposed Dimock waterline divides community.** A wealth of gas beneath this small Susquehanna County community has brought it a new industry, a national reputation for bad luck and a host of polarizing issues. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 24 October 2010.

**Shale gas industry survived tax debate, but image suffered.** Gov. Rendell called it quits last week on his yearlong effort to enact a Marcellus Shale natural gas tax. But Rendell was not the only loser in the tax debate. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 24 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Gas drilling is the top issue for Onorato and Corbett in governor's race.](#)** The Marcellus Shale industry and how it will impact Northeastern Pennsylvania and the entire state is an issue on the minds of voters and the two gubernatorial candidates, who each have received donations from the drilling companies. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 24 October 2010.

**[A dream dashed by the rush on gas.](#)** Chris and Stephanie Hallowich tried to choose carefully when they were seeking out their dream home in southwestern Pennsylvania. But their bucolic view has been replaced by four natural gas wells, a gas processing plant, a compressor station, pipelines, a holding pond, and a gravel road with heavy truck traffic. [National Geographic News](#). 23 October 2010.

**[Mule deer declines in Wyoming gas field warrant 'serious' mitigation response.](#)** Mule deer populations on Wyoming's Pinedale Anticline have dropped to their lowest levels in nearly a decade, fueling concerns that intensified energy development in the natural-gas rich region has reduced the herd's crucial winter habitat. [Greenwire](#). 23 October 2010.

**[Proposed cuts at environmental agency are called troubling.](#)** Environmentalists and the gas-and-oil industry do not agree on much, but in New York they see eye-to-eye on one thing: both believe that cuts to the state environmental agency's staff will undermine plans for natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. [New York Times](#). 23 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Protected areas may not be safe from natural gas development.](#)** The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania did not purchase the subsurface mineral rights for the vast majority of land in its 117 parks when they were established decades ago. State officials fear there is little they will be able to do to stop gas development in the Pennsylvania park system. [National Geographic News](#). 23 October 2010.

**[Gas-drilling 'terrorists' in Pulteney to show documentary.](#)** In January, Pulteney residents learned that Chesapeake Energy had submitted paperwork seeking to convert a defunct traditional natural gas well into a disposal facility for wastewater from natural gas drilling using horizontal hydro-fracturing in Pennsylvania. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 23 October 2010.

**[Environmental groups want fired DEC chief reinstated.](#)** Local environmental advocates expressed shock at the firing of the state's top environmental watchdog. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 23 October 2010.

**[Supervisors wary of gas fracking impacts.](#)** Clarke County's Supervisors raised a cautionary discussion about mineral rights and natural gas drilling on Tuesday. The exchange was prompted by the increasing interest in natural gas mineral rights west of Clarke County and the potential for environmental impacts caused by a new extraction method referred to as "fracking". [Clarke Daily News](#), Virginia. 23 October 2010.

**[Oil, gas lease sales to resume in Dakotas, Montana.](#)** Federal oil and gas lease sales in the Dakotas and Montana will resume in December, more than six months after the Bureau of Land Management halted bids because of pressure from environmental groups. [Associated Press](#). 23 October 2010.

**Wastewater from natural gas drilling is made clean.** Here, in a rural area dotted with Barnett Shale natural gas operations, a little company with deep Canadian roots is taking murky, salty water from hydraulic fracturing of gas wells and recycling it into clear, pure distilled water used to "frack" more wells. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 23 October 2010.

**Niobrara Shale hopefuls eager for Wyoming drilling results.** Oil companies, investors and thousands of Wyomingites are keeping watch over a group of "bears" near the town of Chugwater. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. 23 October 2010.

**Ozone raises its ugly head in rural Utah.** People who visited eastern Utah's vast open spaces last winter might have thought they were breathing healthy fresh country air. But they would have been better off going to L.A. The stunning findings have created new tension between an industry vital to the local economy and the need to ensure healthy air. [Salt Lake Tribune](#), Utah. 22 October 2010.

**State-ordered DEC job cuts raise gas-drilling concerns.** Cuts to the state Department of Environmental Conservation's work force could slow natural gas development in New York, according to an internal document written to the governor's budget office. [Gannett News Service](#). 22 October 2010.

**Rendell says effort to enact natural-gas tax is dead.** Gov. Rendell on Thursday said the effort to strike a deal this year on a natural-gas tax was "dead," finally uttering the one word that no one had dared even whisper about the issue. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 22 October 2010.  
[Registration Required]

**Rendell declares Marcellus Shale tax dead.** A proposed tax on natural gas extraction in Pennsylvania "clearly is dead" for the year, Gov. Ed Rendell said, adding that the failure to enact the tax will harm the environment, make it harder for local governments to deal with the impact of drilling and cause the state government financial problems. [Associated Press](#). 22 October 2010.

**Dallas panel says no for now to gas drilling by XTO Energy.** An energy company's proposal to drill for natural gas came up short Thursday at Dallas City Hall. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 22 October 2010.

**Roan plateau drilling: talks over nature area fruitless.** A year-long negotiation between the Bill Barrett Corp. and environmental groups over oil and gas drilling on the Roan Plateau has collapsed - sending the issue to a federal judge. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 22 October 2010.

**Origin stops coal seam gas drilling after chemicals found in water.** Farmers near a coal seam gas "fracking" site in Queensland will have their water supplies tested for toxic benzene and other chemicals today after Origin Energy found contaminated water near drilling sites. [Brisbane Times](#), Australia. 21 October 2010.

**Driller cancels permit.** Arbor Resources has withdrawn its state permit to drill in Nockamixon, seemingly ending its battle to begin exploratory drilling for natural gas in the Upper Bucks community. [Doylestown Intelligencer](#), Pennsylvania. 21 October 2010.

**[DEP, Cabot argue over Dimock water contamination.](#)** The state Department of Environmental Protection and Cabot Oil and Gas Corp. traded barbs Tuesday about the scope, cause and solution for methane contamination in 18 residential water wells in Dimock Township. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 21 October 2010.

**[State lawmaker proposes drilling limits.](#)** Pennsylvania House Majority Whip Frank Dermody is rewriting the state oil and gas act, which allows drilling in residential areas if it is more than 200 feet from an existing structure. Dermody wants to extend the buffer to 1,000 feet and limit noise and hours of operations to preserve quality of life. [Pittsburgh KDKA TV](#), Pennsylvania. 21 October 2010.

**[Gas tax talks still mired after letters to Rendell.](#)** An effort by Gov. Ed Rendell to jump-start negotiations on a tax on natural gas extraction from the Marcellus Shale formation produced no movement Wednesday after legislative leaders responded to his call for counterproposals. [Associated Press](#). 21 October 2010.

**[Caucuses stand firm in Pa. gas-tax dispute.](#)** The debate over imposing a natural-gas tax is swiftly spiraling into a standoff that threatens to doom the effort this year. Gov. Rendell this week asked each of the legislative caucuses to send him its best offer for setting a tax rate for the extraction of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 21 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[South Fayette commissioners plan to limit oil, gas drilling around homes.](#)** Cheers erupted from an audience Monday night after South Fayette, Pennsylvania, commissioners voted 5-0 to revise their proposed gas and oil rules to prohibit drilling in residential areas. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 21 October 2010.

**[Health Department to offer voluntary water testing.](#)** With a growing number of area residents asking about testing of their water wells due to land activity, such as oil and gas wells, the Columbiana County Health Board approved a new voluntary program for private systems. [Salem News](#), Ohio. 21 October 2010.

**[How HBO's 'Gasland' documentary hit the natural gas biz where it hurts.](#)** The HBO documentary "Gasland" about the environmental and health hazards involved in the current U.S. obsession with drilling for natural gas briefly hit energy firms where it hurts - their stock price. [Los Angeles Times](#), California. Opinion, 21 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Government orders tests after coal gas contamination scare.](#)** The State Government has ordered immediate testing on a Coal Seam Gas project in southern Queensland after another contamination scare. [Australia ABC News](#), Australia. 20 October 2010.

**[Marcellus air impact uncertain.](#)** Allegheny County health officials said Tuesday they have not decided whether air quality monitoring is needed to oversee Marcellus shale gas wells because of possible air pollution from the drilling process. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 20 October 2010.

**[Gas drilling forum offers hope, dispels myths.](#)** Representatives from Newfield Exploration and the state Department of Environmental Protection addressed area residents about Marcellus Shale drilling Tuesday night at Honesdale High School during a forum on the industry. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 20 October 2010.

**[Rendell asks for counterproposal on gas tax plan.](#)** With the legislative session winding down and the opportunities to pass a Marcellus Shale natural-gas tax dwindling, Gov. Rendell called on House and Senate leaders to send him an offer he can't refuse. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 20 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Murrysville residents pack Marcellus Shale meeting.](#)** Murrysville residents made their voices heard regarding pending deep-well natural gas drilling into the Marcellus Shale during the planning commission's public hearing. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 20 October 2010.

**[Energy companies make big donations to scarnati.](#)** State Sen. Joe Scarnati won't be running for re-election until 2012, but that hasn't stopped him from racking up the second highest total of campaign contributions from the oil and gas industry. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 20 October 2010.

**[Natural gas industry buys ads to tell its story.](#)** The media in some parts of the state won't tell any good stories about natural gas so the industry is buying advertisements to tell its side, said Corky DeMarco, executive director of the West Virginia Oil and Natural Gas Association. [Charleston Daily Mail](#), West Virginia. 20 October 2010.

**[Well fees: Drill, baby, drill.](#)** As America attempts to reduce dependence on foreign oil, U.S. drilling for natural gas is likely to blossom, and West Virginia's economy will benefit. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. Editorial, 20 October 2010.

**[Hundreds fight wells by homes, schools in South Fayette.](#)** Hundreds of people opposed to drilling for natural gas in South Fayette's residential areas packed an auditorium Monday night to tell the township's five commissioners not to permit gas wells near the sprawling school campus. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 19 October 2010.

**[New York state gubernatorial candidates divided on fracking.](#)** If Monday's gubernatorial debate is any indication, natural gas development and hydraulic fracturing in New York should be one of the major issues confronting the state's next top executive. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 19 October 2010.

**[Proposed drilling ban could require secession.](#)** An attorney on Monday said a proposed ordinance that would essentially ban natural gas drilling in Lehman Township contains provisions that would require the township to secede from the state and the country if either government challenges it. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 19 October 2010.

**[Lehman Township supervisors take no action on drilling ordinance.](#)** Township officials decided Monday an ordinance proposed by residents aimed at keeping natural gas drilling out of the municipality wouldn't hold water. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 19 October 2010.

**[Council hears opinions on shale drilling dangers, limits.](#)** Engineering and law experts told Pittsburgh City Council today that Marcellus Shale gas drilling could have dramatic impact on quality of life in the region – but all did not agree on whether the booming industry can be banned in the city limits. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 19 October 2010.

**[Council hears sharp warnings against Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** A Pittsburgh City Council that's wrestling with the prospect of Marcellus Shale gas drilling heard warnings Monday about its potential impact but reached no consensus on how to restrict it. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 19 October 2010.

**[Wetzel ruling goes to appeal.](#)** Concerned about air pollution from natural gas drilling activity, Wetzel County landowners are appealing a decision to allow Chesapeake Energy to operate 18 large compressors within a 3-mile area. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 19 October 2010.

**[Minority groups puffing over menthol cigarette ban.](#)** A possible ban on menthol cigarettes has touched off a firestorm of debate within the African American community, and among public health groups divided about how to wean black consumers from their heavy dependence on cigarettes spiked with the minty flavoring. [Los Angeles Times](#), California. 19 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[The Marcellus Shale play: A reporter's peaceful retreat becomes a natural gas industry target.](#)** Seneca Lake, the largest of New York's Finger Lakes, has become a prime target for the "rush to drill" natural gas industry. It has become the vanguard of industrial exploitation. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. Opinion, 19 October 2010.

**[List reveals toxic chemicals used in coal seam mining.](#)** Australian mining companies are using highly toxic chemicals to extract coal seam gas during the controversial process known as "fracking", documents obtained by the Herald show. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 18 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[In Collins, effects of gas drilling are debated.](#)** Natalie Brant has complained to anyone who will listen that U.S. Energy isn't living up to its promises and isn't drilling safely. But state environmental regulators say methane gas is found naturally in well water in her area, and there's no proof the drilling is causing her family's health problems. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 18 October 2010.

**[Limiting fracking contamination.](#)** To hydrofracture - or "frack" - a gas well, millions of gallons of pressurized water mixed with sand and chemicals are pumped deep into the ground to pulverize the shale and release the gas trapped within it. There is deep disagreement about the effects of the extraction process on ground water. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 18 October 2010.

**[Taking upbeat look at gas drilling.](#)** Lehman Township resident Gary Ide said too much negativity has surrounded the prospect of natural gas drilling in Luzerne County. It prompted him to start a new grassroots organization seeking to put a positive spin on the activity. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 18 October 2010.

**[Activist wants gas drilling moratorium -- and your write-in vote.](#)** Virginia Cody, who last week, at the urging of other anti-drilling activists across Pennsylvania, decided to run for governor. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 18 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Addicted to water.](#)** With 86,000 streams and 4,000 lakes within its boundaries, Pennsylvania appears to have no shortage of water. But fracking creates new challenges, because an average of about 3 million gallons is need to develop a single well. Thousands will be drilled over the coming decades. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 17 October 2010.

**[Eyes of natural gas industry on Pa., Marcellus.](#)** From controversy over methane-tainted water in the small northeastern Pennsylvania town of Dimock, to the legislative tussle over an extraction tax, how the state proceeds on many fronts related to the Marcellus Shale formation has the potential to affect the industry's future elsewhere. [Associated Press](#). 17 October 2010.

**Leaders seek ideal financial formula.** Ask an energy company executive if he would rather have Ed Rendell or Sarah Palin as governor, and he might think about it longer than you'd expect. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 17 October 2010.

**Marcellus Shale gas: A blessing or curse?** Farmer Karl Kroeck is well aware of the potential impact nearby natural gas drills could have on the area's depressed economy. [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#), Pennsylvania. 17 October 2010.

**Onorato, Corbett debate gas, taxes.** The state's gubernatorial candidates met in their second debate Saturday night, with Democrat Dan Onorato accusing Republican Tom Corbett of being a pawn of the gas industry, and Corbett saying Onorato would raise taxes. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 17 October 2010.

**Gas drilling dominates concerns in 10th District.** With the enormous economic opportunities of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale region come the inevitable environmental concerns - poisoned water in Susquehanna County, exploding well rigs, and others. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 17 October 2010.

**Study: Dense drilling impacting watersheds.** A preliminary study of Susquehanna County watersheds has found that high-density Marcellus Shale gas drilling might degrade streams regardless of how carefully that drilling is done. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 17 October 2010.

**Residents on drilling: Not in my backyard.** Proposed oil and natural gas drilling projects near residential areas have caused an uproar among residents who argue drilling will disrupt life in suburban areas of Galveston County's most populated city. [Galveston County Daily News](#), Texas. 17 October 2010.

**Shale-gas environmental rules still being crafted, even as drills dig.** Federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice says environmental regulations are a work in progress for Canada's booming shale-gas industry — even though drills have already been piercing the ground in several parts of the country for years. [Canadian Press](#). 16 October 2010.

**B.C. on the cusp of new natural gas boom, driven by shale deposits: Officials.** Premier Gordon Campbell believes B.C. is on the cusp of a new energy boom driven by the recent discoveries of major shale gas deposits in the province's northeast. That is, if B.C. is quick to tap it. [Vancouver Sun](#), British Columbia. 16 October 2010.

**Exploration will continue, minister asserts.** Despite a poll showing that more than three-quarters of Quebecers want the province to stop shale gas exploration until environmental impact studies are completed, exploration will continue, provincial Environment Minister Pierre Arcand says. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 16 October 2010.

**Feds monitor Quebec shale-gas rules but won't interfere: Prentice.** Ottawa is keeping a close eye on Quebec as the province is developing rules for its embryonic shale-gas sector, but has no intention to intervene, says the federal environment minister. Alberta and B.C. already have rules in place that allow for the development of shale-gas resources. [Calgary Sun](#), Alberta. 16 October 2010.

**Quebec will continue shale-gas explorations despite poll.** Despite a poll showing more than three-quarters of Quebecers believe the government should call a moratorium on shale gas exploration until environmental questions are answered, Quebec Environment Minister Pierre Arcand says exploration will continue. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 16 October 2010.

**Control gas plans, South Fayette urged.** Few people complained about the prospect of drilling for natural gas beneath South Fayette's rolling hills until word spread that Chesapeake Energy might plunge into land near the township's 2,000-student K-12 campus. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 16 October 2010.

**A fracking disaster in the making.** The earth-shattering exploitation of deep deposits of shale rock for natural gas production has broken global records in northeast British Columbia and now threatens critical water supplies across the country, warns a new Munk School of Global Affairs report by award-winning B.C. journalist Ben Parfitt. [Vancouver Tyee](#), British Columbia. 15 October 2010.

**Protecting water key to battle over shale gas extraction in Canada.** Protecting the quality of Canada's bountiful supply of fresh drinking water is a preoccupation that unites advocates and critics of controversial plans to extract natural gas from shale rock. [Canadian Press](#). 15 October 2010.

**Canada not ready for shale gas boom.** Canada's shale gas industry faces a growing clamour for tighter regulations and greater protection of local water sources amid fears that aggressive drilling carries a heavy environmental cost. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. 15 October 2010.

**Rush to develop shale gas could threaten Canada's water supplies, report finds.** A new report released by the University of Toronto on Thursday suggests the rush to develop shale gas could threaten Canada's water supplies. [Calgary Herald](#), Alberta. 15 October 2010.

**Tompkins anti-fracking group fights leasing tactics.** Marcellus Shale gas drilling isn't inevitable in New York state. That's the message of an organization started last spring to connect neighbors and landowners in Tompkins County who don't want to lease their land to gas drilling companies, fearing over-industrialization and pollution of the county. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 15 October 2010.

**Lycoming County seeks funds to prepare industrial sites for gas industry.** The Lycoming County commissioners are seeking federal funding that could be used to prepare brownfields - or underused industrial sites - in the City of Williamsport and Borough of Montoursville for use by the natural gas industry. [Williamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 15 October 2010.

**Lawmakers must take action now on fracking.** Pennsylvania's legacy: raped by timber, oil and coal industries. The Boomtown Syndrome should make us cautious about empty job and wealth promises. Industry and political leaders encourage another boom-bust cycle with the rush to drill for natural gas. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 15 October 2010.

**Pennsylvania Republican promises tax break for natural gas industry.** Tom Corbett, a Republican who is well ahead in the race for governor, says he will undo a Democratic initiative to impose a drilling tax on natural gas industry. [London Guardian](#), United Kingdom. 14 October 2010.

**[Man files suit over flaming water.](#)** Stephen Brock, the man who discovered he could ignite the water coming out of his kitchen faucet in July, has filed suit against Jack Grace Production Co. for possible contamination of the groundwater that serves the well at his home on the western edge of Bowie. [Wichita Falls Times Record News](#), Texas. 14 October 2010.

**[Natural gas elbows its way to center stage.](#)** By unlocking decades' worth of natural-gas deposits deep underground across the United States, drillers have ensured that natural gas will be cheap and plentiful for the foreseeable future. But it has upended the ambitious growth plans of companies that produce power from wind, nuclear energy and coal. [Associated Press](#). 14 October 2010.

**[Outlook for shale gas in Europe is uncertain.](#)** The chief executive of one of the largest oil and natural gas services companies in the world said Wednesday that shale gas could be much harder to recover in Europe, compared with the United States, because of concerns about environmental damage and other issues. [New York Times](#). 14 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[No shale tax on horizon, Gordner says.](#)** Senate Republicans still hold all the cards in the debate over whether to impose a natural gas Marcellus shale severance tax in Pennsylvania. "So with the differences we have, the shale tax passed in the state House has no chance in the Senate, in its current form," GOP Sen. John Gordner said. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 14 October 2010.

**[Tough regulations needed for gas drilling.](#)** All the drilling for natural gas through Marcellus Shale formations in Pennsylvania could have severe impacts on the ecosystem if it's not more closely monitored and regulated, environmentalists told a state House of Representatives committee Wednesday. [Bucks County Courier Times](#), Pennsylvania. 14 October 2010.

**[Forced pooling won't become law just yet.](#)** A controversial provision natural gas companies are looking for is unlikely to become state law just yet, because the legislative year is coming to an end - but discussion on the provision to allow gas companies to drill beneath the properties of holdout landowners is far from over. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 14 October 2010.

**[Pa. gov sees progress in gas drilling tax talks.](#)** Negotiations over taxing the extraction of natural gas from Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania gave Gov. Ed Rendell new hope that an agreement was possible Wednesday. But the state's top-ranking senator took a hard line, insisting on concessions from Democrats. [Associated Press](#). 14 October 2010.

**[Oilman Pickens says he's open to Va. investment.](#)** Texas oilman T. Boone Pickens said Wednesday he'd consider investing in Virginia and helping its governor's vision of making the state an energy player. Pickens played down growing fears about hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, that uses a cocktail of water, sand, and chemicals to extract natural gas from shale. [Associated Press](#). 14 October 2010.

**[BLM moves on Round 2 of Colo, Utah oil shale deals.](#)** Nominations for three more leases of federal land in Colorado and Utah for oil shale research are advancing for more review, the Bureau of Land Management said Wednesday. The announcement raised an outcry from an environmental group that says an initial six leases have yet to produce meaningful research. [Associated Press](#). 14 October 2010.

**[Utah oil shale project advances.](#)** An oil shale demonstration project 60 miles outside of Vernal is among three in the country to clear a hurdle on Wednesday, making the project move closer to reality. Colorado and Utah offices of the Bureau of Land Management will now complete a federally mandated environmental review. [Salt Lake Deseret Morning News](#), Utah. 14 October 2010.

**[Let regulation rule in water, shale decisions.](#)** Marcellus Shale creates is an invaluable natural resource with positive potential economic impact, but that's not enough to let companies police themselves. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 14 October 2010.

**[Pa. Board OKs new safety rules for gas drilling.](#)** A set of proposed regulations to modernize safety in Pennsylvania's booming natural gas industry and force drillers to disclose the chemicals they use cleared a first procedural hurdle Tuesday. [Associated Press](#). 13 October 2010.

**[Stalemate nears in Pa. Senate over 'shale tax.'](#)** No one in the Capitol is uttering the word dead yet, but prospects are dimming - and time is running out - to strike a deal on proposals to tax the extraction of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 13 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Shale tax efforts running out of gas.](#)** The prospects for legislative approval this year on a new tax on natural gas drilling grew dimmer Tuesday. [Allentown Morning Call](#), Pennsylvania. 13 October 2010.

**[Gas-tax foes prefer cash.](#)** A preliminary study by Academy of Natural Sciences researchers indicates pollution of streams could be a routine result of drilling for natural gas in Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale formation. That's aside from the contamination caused by accidental spills. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 13 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Unpack your bags: Marcellus Shale tax is too important for legislators to leave town without a deal.](#)** It is crunch time in the state Capitol and now more than ever the main focus must be on finalizing a natural gas extraction tax. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 13 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Reconsider long-term drilling costs.](#)** If we thought like a civilization, we would realize that the long-term costs of global climate change far exceed the minimal economic costs of preventing it. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 13 October 2010.

**[Gas drilling has blighted my life.](#)** Encana needs to get the gas out, but the company has an obligation to do it right. Yes, we need energy to live good lives. But we can't survive a day without clean water. Can you? [High Country News](#). Opinion, 13 October 2010.

**[Philly academy study finds gas drilling threatens streams.](#)** A preliminary study by Academy of Natural Sciences researchers suggests that even without spills or other accidents, drilling for natural gas in Pennsylvania's rich Marcellus Shale formation could degrade nearby streams. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 12 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**['Fracking' for oil possible on the Coast.](#)** The possible use of "fracking" to extract oil on the East Coast is concerning some residents. [Gisborne Herald](#), New Zealand. 12 October 2010.

**[Gas severance tax talks continue.](#)** Representatives of four Marcellus Shale firms offered ideas for structuring a state severance tax on natural gas production during a meeting Monday with Gov. Ed Rendell, but a legislative compromise on the issue remained elusive with one of the key sets of players absent. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 12 October 2010.

**[Penn State conference looks at future of Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** While many natural gas operators have been stepping up to meet high environmental and safety standards, Pennsylvania has also seen the deaths of workers, gas leaks and gas migration, according to the director of the state's Bureau of Oil and Gas Management. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 12 October 2010.

**[Rendell pushes for deal on drilling tax.](#)** The governor got his meeting, but not his deal. The governor of PA met with a group of legislators and representatives from the natural-gas industry in hopes of resuscitating talks on taxing the extraction of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale. In the end, no consensus emerged. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 12 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Guidelines to protect groundwater set for vote today.](#)** Gas drillers would have to provide more information about chemicals they use and improve casings to protect groundwater from contamination under rules state environmental regulators plan to vote on today. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 12 October 2010.

**[Impact of gas drilling on wildlife a concern.](#)** Pennsylvania has the largest concentration of scarlet tanager nesting sites in the world, and if the forest is broken up with access roads, natural gas drilling pads and gas pipeline right-of-ways, we might be seeing a lot less of them. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 12 October 2010.

**[On Pa. natural gas tax, different polls yield different results.](#)** Pennsylvania legislators struggling to gauge public sentiment about a tax on Marcellus Shale natural gas can always turn to opinion polls. As luck would have it, there is a poll to support every position. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 12 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Chinese oil giant takes big step into Texas shale.](#)** State-owned Chinese energy giant CNOOC is buying a multibillion-dollar stake in 600,000 acres of South Texas oil and gas fields, potentially testing the political waters for further expansion into U.S. energy reserves and picking up some American know-how about tapping shale rock formations, analysts said. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 12 October 2010.

**[A tax on gas drilling should be an easy call.](#)** The fate of a tax on natural-gas drilling in Pennsylvania is now in the hands of the state Senate. It should be an easy vote - they ought to pass it this week. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 12 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[U.S., Chinese firms enter shale deal.](#)** The China National Offshore Oil Corp. will pay Chesapeake Energy \$2.2 billion for a one-third interest in a South Texas oil and natural gas shale project and will pay billions of dollars more for its share of development costs over the next several years. [Washington Post](#). 11 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Drilling in Valley not likely soon, experts say.](#)** From Dimock and Lenox Township in the North, Fairmont Township to the West, and now closer to home in Lake and Ross townships, natural gas drillers have steadily crept closer to the Wyoming Valley, but how close will they come? [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 11 October 2010.

**[Clearville residents blame reduced property values on natural gas project.](#)** Residents say they and their families and animals have been poisoned with water and air pollution as well as bombarded with noise, traffic and a loss of power over their properties. [Altoona Mirror](#), Pennsylvania. 10 October 2010.

**[Democrat says GOP candidate is wrong on gas tax.](#)** Democratic Chester County Commissioner Kathi Cozzone criticized Republican gubernatorial candidate Tom Corbett for opposing a severance tax on Marcellus Shale. [Chester Daily Local](#), Pennsylvania. 10 October 2010.

**[Carney's pragmatism developed from past.](#)** Carney said he supports an approach to natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale region that balances environmental concerns with economic opportunity. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 10 October 2010.

**[Regulating new 'boom' properly.](#)** West Virginia simply wasn't ready for the Marcellus Shale natural gas boom. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. Editorial, 10 October 2010.

**[Pa. needs the severance fee.](#)** The Pennsylvania Senate will have three days beginning on Tuesday to enact a Natural Gas Severance Fee. Call or e-mail your state senator and demand that they follow their House colleagues and enact a Severance Fee. There is absolutely no excuse or reason for them not to do so. [Somerset County Daily American](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 10 October 2010.

**[West Virginia DEP chief says he'll hear concerns about gas industry, but won't change advisory panel.](#)** The state's top environmental regulator said Friday there's no need to reconfigure an industry-heavy task force advising him on gas drilling operations in West Virginia, despite complaints from a coalition of watershed and conservation groups. [Associated Press](#). 9 October 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale drilling: Environmental impact.](#)** Environmental activist Robert Kennedy, Jr., shocked natural gas drilling critics at a clean water conference in Pittsburgh last week by saying it could be done with proper regulation. [Pittsburgh KDKA TV](#), Pennsylvania. 9 October 2010.

**[Scientists share gas industry concerns.](#)** If the Marcellus gas industry did everything it should to make sure natural gas development is "done right," that still would not be good enough for Dr. Anthony Ingraffia. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 9 October 2010.

**[Rendell calls for meeting on the Monday holiday to speed natural-gas tax negotiations.](#)** Gov. Rendell is haranguing legislative leaders to return to work on Columbus Day and discover a route, at long last, to a tax on natural gas extracted from the Marcellus Shale. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 9 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[We should follow Wyoming on 'fracking' regulations.](#)** Wyoming is not known for its activist government or its embrace of green policies. But that changed last month when Wyoming officials enacted first-in-the-nation regulations forcing energy companies to disclose the compounds they use in a drilling technique called "fracking." [Colorado Springs Gazette](#), Colorado. Opinion, 9 October 2010.

**[The growing fallout of the shale revolution.](#)** A sign that shale gas has great potential is that greens are trying to shut it down. [Financial Post](#). Opinion, 9 October 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Explosions, fires, fouled water: Welcome to hydrofracking hell.](#)** Where once there were barns and silos and green fields, drilling rigs now soar into the sky. Where once there was quiet, now there is a cacophony of clanking, hissing and roaring. Where once there was cool, clean air, now there are diesel fumes and particulates. [New York Villager](#), New York. 8 October 2010.

**Marcellus Shale drilling: Gas migration.** One local homeowner in Pennsylvania says she can actually set her tap water on fire. It's called gas migration – methane gas moving underground into people's well water. [Pittsburgh KDKA TV](#), Pennsylvania. 8 October 2010.

**George: it's taxpayers vs. gas industry money.** State Rep. Camille “Bud” George, majority chair of the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, said Pennsylvania taxpayers will not be fooled by obscene Marcellus Shale gas drillers’ campaign contributions to lawmakers. [Gant Daily](#), Pennsylvania. 8 October 2010.

**Drilling needs more inspectors.** Potential groundwater contamination and dry streams - not to mention explosions and gas leaks - are among the issues those attending the West Virginia Water Conference Thursday in Morgantown want the state Department of Environmental Protection to address. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. Opinion, 8 October 2010.

**Hungarian sludge disaster: Could it happen here?** A toxic catastrophe in the United States may not come in the form of red sludge, but it could have the same devastating impacts on our lives, homes and environment. The bigger threat is the toxic wastes from coal plants, mining, chemical production and shale drilling. [Bergen County Record](#), New Jersey. Opinion, 8 October 2010.

**Follow Wyoming on fracking regs.** To put it mildly, Wyoming is not known for its activist government or its embrace of green policies. But that changed last month when Wyoming officials enacted first-in-the-nation regulations forcing energy companies to disclose the compounds they use in a drilling technique called “fracking.” [Tahoe Daily Tribune](#), California. Opinion, 8 October 2010.

**Frack forward.** On Sept. 15, Wyoming activated new rules requiring energy companies to identify the chemicals they use to break up rocks in order to free trapped oil and gas. Critics suspect that the process can contaminate groundwater. But evidence has been elusive because drilling companies have been allowed to keep their chemical recipes largely secret. [High Country News](#). 7 October 2010.

**Candidate seeks overhaul.** Democrat Jeff Weems criticized the Texas Railroad Commission for not doing its job to regulate the state's oil and gas industry. Weems says the commission has failed to look into recycling the water that comes out of the ground during hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, a method of drilling for natural gas. [San Angelo Standard Times](#), Texas. 7 October 2010.

**Awareness coalition raises concerns about gas drilling.** Hanover Township and other parts of the Wyoming Valley have not been affected by the gas drilling centered in the Back Mountain region. Yet, some might be affected in the future if the Sanitary Authority expands its Hanover Township plant to serve the needs of drilling companies. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 7 October 2010.

**Court case could define county officials' right to set gas-lease submission rules.** A civil lawsuit now before a Wayne County judge could have implications for the way gas leases are filed and recorded across the commonwealth. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 7 October 2010.

**Drilling trucks fail more tests, state police say.** More than 40 percent of roadside inspections conducted this year on trucks involved in the Marcellus shale gas-drilling industry revealed significant safety violations, far surpassing the trucking industry's rate as a whole, state police said Wednesday. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 7 October 2010.

**[Websites show gas drilling is accelerating.](#)** There has been a significant acceleration in gas drilling activity in 2010, both in drilling permits issued and actual wells being drilled, according to websites maintained by the Penn State Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research and state Department of Environmental Protection. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 7 October 2010.

**[Use states' average for natural gas tax, Onorato proposes.](#)** Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dan Onorato today said House Democrats and Senate Republicans are wrong to propose extreme rates for a natural gas extraction tax, and that Pennsylvania should use a tax rate that averages those from 20 states. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 7 October 2010.

**[Vote on gas tax delayed.](#)** Questions surrounding a procedure the state House of Representatives used to advance a tax on Pennsylvania's booming natural gas drilling industry may derail the high-profile bill as the Legislature's election-shortened fall calendar winds down. [Associated Press](#). 7 October 2010.

**[Pa. cracks down on gas drilling wastewater trucks.](#)** A Pennsylvania State Police crackdown last week on commercial vehicles hauling wastewater from Marcellus Shale gas drilling sites resulted in hundreds of citations and 208 trucks taken off the road. Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling requires massive amounts of water. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 7 October 2010.

**[Air quality also a concern in Marcellus gas boom.](#)** Environmental concerns about the proliferation of Marcellus shale gas drilling in West Virginia have largely focused on water, but a lobbyist said Wednesday air quality issues must also be addressed and most likely by the federal government. [Associated Press](#). 7 October 2010.

**[W.Va. water conference discusses policy solutions to Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** This year's West Virginia Water Conference includes science, technology and for the first time, policy. This year, scientists are using scientific data about the state's water quality to tackle the tough topic of regulating the growing natural gas industry. [Charleston State Journal](#), West Virginia. 7 October 2010.

**[Arlington City Council supports testing emissions at future gas wells.](#)** During a special work session Wednesday, the City Council supported recommendations to require the testing of air emissions at future gas wells and the installation of vapor recovery systems at problem sites. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 7 October 2010.

**[Lewisville strengthens gas, oil drilling rules.](#)** As gas drilling makes its entrance into Lewisville, the city is responding by strengthening its oil and gas regulations. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 7 October 2010.

**[Texas acts on flaming faucets in Montague County.](#)** Stephen Brock's kitchen faucet burped so much flammable gas back in July, he feared his Montague County home might blow up. [Fort Worth WFAA TV](#), Texas. 7 October 2010.

**[Hold drillers accountable.](#)** The state is taking an appropriately tough stance against one of the biggest methane gas drillers in Pennsylvania. The shale-gas boom in Pennsylvania is in full swing, and Harrisburg is right to flex its regulatory muscle on behalf of the public and the environment. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 7 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Philadelphia passes resolution supporting three-year moratorium on new gas drilling.](#)** The City Council resolution is symbolic – by itself it won't protect even a salamander, let alone an aquifer; won't keep any toxins out of our water or air, won't delay drilling in our watershed long enough to do a cumulative impacts study. [Philadelphia Weekly Press](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 7 October 2010.

**[Shale gas fallout can be chilling.](#)** People involved in the debate over shale gas often cite what's happening in Pennsylvania, where companies drilling for shale gas broke state environmental regulations more than 1,600 times since 2008. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 6 October 2010.

**[Enviros protest engineer's nomination to EPA fracking panel.](#)** An environmental group is objecting to a petroleum engineer's nomination to a panel that will review a U.S. EPA study of a controversial oil industry production technique. [Greenwire](#). 6 October 2010.

**[Activists increase scrutiny of industry.](#)** Unconventional resource development such as oilsands and shale gas is increasingly drawing the attention of shareholder activists and influencing corporate decision-making, the head of one of Canada's largest integrated oil companies said in Calgary Tuesday. [Calgary Herald](#), Alberta. 6 October 2010.

**[Drillers split on Pa. severance tax .](#)** Segments of the natural gas industry are taking different positions on acceptance of a severance tax for Pennsylvania. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 6 October 2010.

**[U.S. Forest Service addresses hydrofracking.](#)** It has been a controversial topic in the northern part of the Valley, and now concern over hydrofracking has made its way to Augusta County. [Harrisonburg WHSV](#), Virginia. 6 October 2010.

**[Plan to allow drilling for natural gas questioned.](#)** "Hydrofracking" was a buzz word at the U.S. Forest Service's public meeting to discuss land management plan revisions at the Augusta County Government Center in Verona Tuesday. [Staunton News Leader](#), Virginia. 6 October 2010.

**[Residents voice concern over potential hydrofracking in National Forest.](#)** Officials with the George Washington National Forest met Tuesday night with the public to consider plans that could allow natural gas drilling in the forest. [Harrisonburg WHSV](#), Virginia. 6 October 2010.

**[Proposals for national forest draw questions.](#)** The U.S. Forest Service on Tuesday outlined the six proposals for management of George Washington National Forest that have divided conservationists, industry, localities and the public. Attendees overwhelmingly wanted to talk about hydrofracking, or hydraulic fracturing. [Charlottesville Daily Progress](#), Virginia. 6 October 2010.

**[County stops Antero pipeline project.](#)** A Garfield County building inspector has slapped a “stop-work order” on a pipeline project under way for the Antero Resources gas drilling company, after the owner of the affected property complained that the installation was sloppy and hazardous. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 6 October 2010.

**[Americans \(sort of\) fracking.](#)** The sound and fury of the fracking debate is really just the noise of the fracking phenomenon being domesticated. [Wall Street Journal](#). Opinion, 6 October 2010. [Subscription Required]

**The question is, are we suckers?** When it comes to parking leases and shale gas, the special interests are working us over. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 6 October 2010.

**Passions flare at shale-gas hearing.** At a meeting organized to give people more information about the shale gas industry in Quebec, it was obvious that the audience was frustrated with the information coming out of previous meetings about shale gas across the province. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 5 October 2010.

**Quebec tightens shale gas drilling regulations.** Energy companies will be required to receive an authorization certificate before they can drill for shale gas, Quebec's environment minister confirmed Monday. [CTV Montreal](#), Quebec. 5 October 2010.

**Gas driller polluted Susquehanna water wells, suit claims.** Some Susquehanna County families claim fracking fluids from a Texas company's Marcellus shale drilling operation contaminated their wells with hazardous chemicals. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 5 October 2010.

**Foes in 1st District differ on Marcellus regulation.** The 1st District candidates for the House of Representatives have different views on how to best regulate what is fast becoming a key part of the region's economy, Marcellus shale natural gas drilling. [Associated Press](#). 5 October 2010.

**DEP issues Wetzel permits in West Virginia.** Despite residents' concerns, Chesapeake Energy can begin installing 18 large compressors within a 3-mile area in Wetzel County as part of its natural gas drilling operations. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 5 October 2010.

**GarCo health study points to oil and gas, environmental concerns.** A recently released survey shows that concerns about the oil and gas industry are high on the list of environmental worries among local residents. [Grand Junction Free Press](#), Colorado. 5 October 2010.

**Region's water resources must be protected.** We have no more precious a resource than clean water. It causes one to wonder if we are making a huge mistake in allowing a mammoth natural gas-drilling industrial behemoth to sweep across our region and across our commonwealth. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 5 October 2010.

**Formaldehyde from gas compressor stations being monitored.** Questions over how natural gas drilling affects air quality have raged across North Texas this year, with much of the focus on toxins including benzene and toluene. But more questions are coming up about a chemical more associated with paint and construction materials than drilling: formaldehyde. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 4 October 2010.

**Gas drilling technique sparks fears in Michigan.** Michigan could be on the verge of a new and, possibly, risky era in underground exploration as companies jockey to cash in on the state's natural gas resources. [Detroit News](#), Michigan. 4 October 2010.

**Quebeckers voice displeasure about natural gas drilling.** The natural gas trapped in rock thousands of metres beneath the tranquil rich farmland of the St. Lawrence Valley can be tough to crack for natural gas prospectors, but tapping support from the skeptical citizens above is proving even trickier. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. 4 October 2010.

**[Pennsylvania regulator says shale gas drilling method safe.](#)** Pennsylvania's chief environmental regulator said on Friday he saw no evidence that the chemicals used in the shale gas drilling process known as hydraulic fracturing contaminates underground water supplies. [Reuters](#). 4 October 2010.

**[Arlington mayor: Gas drilling needs testing.](#)** Mayor Robert Cluck wants to test the air near every new gas well in Arlington and a neighboring city has started its own air quality study. [Fort Worth WFAA TV](#), Texas. 4 October 2010.

**[Both sides in the fracking debate await federal rules.](#)** Fishing guide Tony Ritter and Sullivan County economic development chief Tim McCausland may stand on opposite sides of the gas-drilling debate, but they sure have one thing in common: Their passion for the Delaware River. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 3 October 2010.

**[Pols punt pooling proposal.](#)** Pooling isn't popular. If you haven't heard of it, it's an obscure provision that was at the top of the list of changes to Pennsylvania law being sought this year by companies unearthing natural gas from the rich Marcellus Shale formation that sits below much of the state. [Associated Press](#). 3 October 2010.

**[Bill proposes State funding for Marcellus infrastructure.](#)** As lawmakers debate requiring natural gas drillers to compensate communities for damages to local roads, bridges and water supplies through a tax on their production, they are also proposing that state tax dollars be used to develop infrastructure projects to support the industry. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 3 October 2010.

**[Township loses battle against gas firms over drilling.](#)** When Washington County's Blaine Township -- population 597 -- decided to take on the fossil fuel industry four years ago, its leaders called on a group that wants to nix corporate rights and shift power from Washington and Harrisburg to township boards and city councils. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 3 October 2010.

**[Water gets cloudier: Pitt professor says fracking safe, decades-old process.](#)** If you ask Radisav Vidic, he will tell you there is no evidence that hydraulic fracturing of Marcellus Shale natural gas wells causes water pollution. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 3 October 2010.

**[Gas tax's fate tied to cash.](#)** Now that the House has approved a tax on methane drillers in Pennsylvania, the public will learn the extent of the industry's sway in the Republican-led Senate. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 3 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Air quality concerns may dictate Uintah Basin's natural gas drilling future.](#)** An energy company's plan to drill more than 1,400 natural gas wells in northeast Utah's Uintah Basin could be tripped up by an emerging air pollution problem that has affected other densely developed oil and gas fields across the Rocky Mountain West. [Greenwire](#). 2 October 2010.

**[New study finds frac'ing chemicals hazardous.](#)** A total of 944 chemicals used to extract natural gas, some of which are said to cause serious health problems for humans, have been identified in a recent study. The industry maintains that there is no scientific evidence, but critics assert that's because industry has squelched research. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 2 October 2010.

**[N.Y. Democrat fires back at Obama administration in fight over shale drilling.](#)** A leading congressional critic of shale drilling is scolding the Obama administration for failing to try to slow drilling in the Northeast's Marcellus Shale. [Greenwire](#). 2 October 2010.

**[Pennsylvania town in gas-drilling debate gets new water main.](#)** A Pennsylvania town that has become symbolic in the debate over the safety of the natural gas drilling process known as fracking will get a new public water supply to replace wells contaminated by methane. [Reuters](#). 2 October 2010.

**[DEP secretary: No end in sight for methane leaking into Dimock water from gas wells.](#)** There is "no guarantee" that methane from faulty natural gas wells will stop seeping into the aquifer, an environmental regulator said. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 2 October 2010.

**[Pennsylvania regulator says shale gas drilling method safe.](#)** Pennsylvania's chief environmental regulator said on Friday he saw no evidence that the shale gas drilling process known as hydraulic fracturing contaminates underground water supplies with chemicals. [Reuters](#). 2 October 2010.

**[Pa. Environmental Agency butts heads with gas drilling company over town's water woes.](#)** Residents of Dimock, Pa., will get a safe and permanent water supply to replace their methane-contaminated wells, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection announced Thursday. [ProPublica](#). 2 October 2010.

**[Pennsylvania gas coalition spells out drillers' 'principles.'](#)** A coalition of natural gas exploration companies on Friday released a list of industry principles that they said will make the Marcellus Shale drilling boom a positive force, and they criticized a proposed gas-extraction tax passed by the state House as "onerous." [Associated Press](#). 2 October 2010.

**[Plant hopes to expand capacity.](#)** City officials are asking the Ohio EPA to increase the amount of wastewater generated from natural gas wells it would be able to process from a maximum of 100,000 gallons a day to 300,000 gallons per day. [Warren Tribune Chronicle](#), Ohio. 2 October 2010.

**[Black Mountain again accepting drilling fluids.](#)** Two years after Mesa County shut down the Black Mountain solid-waste disposal facility because its owners failed to clean up a spill and accepted too much waste, the facility reopened this week with vows from the new owner to work cooperatively with neighbors, the county and the state. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 2 October 2010.

**[Corbett should put citizens first.](#)** Is Tom Corbett interested in carrying the water of the gas-drilling industry or protecting Pennsylvania's waterways? The Republican gubernatorial candidate's steadfast opposition to enacting a natural gas-extraction tax is not in the citizens' best interest. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 2 October 2010.

**[Natural gas drillers protest nomination of fracking critics for EPA review panel.](#)** An oil and gas group is protesting the nomination of critics of hydraulic fracturing to serve on a panel that will peer review a U.S. EPA study of the drilling practice. [Greenwire](#). 1 October 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale fight takes new turn with pipeline mandate.](#)** In a sharp rebuke of one of the state's biggest Marcellus Shale gas drillers, Pennsylvania regulators on Thursday ordered an \$11.8 million pipeline built to deliver water to Dimock Township residences whose household wells are contaminated by natural gas. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 1 October 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Companies seek drilling contracts with landowners: Part 5.](#)** Hundreds of brokers for oil and gas companies are offering landowners in northern lower Michigan contracts to drill for natural gas. Energy companies are betting the access to deep shale gas reserves will pay off big. But landowners don't always know about the risks. [Michigan Public Radio](#), Michigan. 1 October 2010.

**[GE launching mobile device to recycle fracking water.](#)** General Electric is launching a mobile device aimed at helping natural gas drillers recycle water used in a controversial gas drilling process known as hydraulic fracturing. The device would cut down on both the amount of fresh water used and wastewater currently trucked long distances for disposal. [Associated Press](#). 1 October 2010.

**[Tackling fracking.](#)** With New York home to large natural gas reserves, some project that tapping into the gas stored in the Marcellus Shale formations in the Southern Tier and around the New York City watershed could generate \$1.5 billion in revenue for the state by 2015. [Gotham Gazette](#), New York. 1 October 2010.

**[Rally for tax on Marcellus Shale gas drilling companies.](#)** At a rally at Montgomery County Court House, labor groups called on the state Senate to approve a bill by Friday that would tax Marcellus Shale gas drilling companies in an effort to prevent \$70 million in cuts to the state budget. [Norriston Times Herald](#), Pennsylvania. 1 October 2010.

**[Pa. DEP targets Texas driller for tainted water.](#)** Pennsylvania's top environmental regulator says the state will sue a Houston-based drilling company unless it agrees to pay nearly \$12 million to extend a public water line to at least 18 residents whose water wells have been contaminated with methane gas. [Associated Press](#). 1 October 2010.

**[Keeping an eye on natural gas drilling rigs: Part 4.](#)** A regulatory agency in Michigan says it can handle a new type of drilling for natural gas. That's what regulators in other states said before complaints about water contamination and leaking gas started coming in. [Michigan Public Radio](#), Michigan. 30 September 2010.

**[Pa. House approves tax on gas drilling in Marcellus Shale.](#)** By a slim margin, the Pennsylvania House rammed through a bill establishing a tax on natural gas extraction in the Marcellus Shale, but with Senate Republican leaders balking at what they say is an unacceptably high rate, the bill's fate is far from sealed. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 30 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Senate GOP sees red flags in shale tax bill.](#)** On Wednesday, the state Senate recessed until October 12 as the House of Representatives was attempting to pass an amended tax bill that would direct more revenue toward environmental programs and local governments. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 30 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Harper amendment helps pass Marcellus Shale tax bill.](#)** A local lawmaker was successful Tuesday in breaking the logjam in the House over passage of a bill to tax natural gas extraction in Pennsylvania, leading to passage of the bill by the House today, Wednesday. [Springfield Sun](#), Pennsylvania. 30 September 2010.

**[Cops target trucks hauling gas drill water.](#)** State police targeted tanker trucks hauling water to and from natural gas drilling sites in a three-day enforcement blitz Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 30 September 2010.

[Natural-gas tax debate heats up as deadline nears.](#) The competing Marcellus Shale gas-tax proposals being sold to Pennsylvania legislators this week vary dramatically in the details. In those details, lobbyists can find ample ammunition to spin, dissemble, and trash their rival's proposals. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 30 September 2010. [Registration Required]

[Pa. House approves natural gas shale drilling tax.](#) The Pennsylvania House on Wednesday approved a bill that would impose the state's first-ever tax on natural gas extraction, advancing a plan to split the proceeds among the state's general fund, environmental programs and local governments. [Associated Press](#). 30 September 2010.

[Protecting water vital in shale gas projects.](#) Concerns about water and air quality that could be compromised by hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, dominated Wednesday's forum of the Marcellus Shale Task Force in Fayette County. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 30 September 2010.

[House OKs tax on gas removal.](#) The state House on Wednesday approved a tax on natural gas extraction that appears doomed in the Republican-controlled Senate, where GOP senators are concerned about the high tax rate and constitutionality of the measure. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 30 September 2010.

[Pennsylvania House passes new natural gas production tax.](#) The Pennsylvania House of Representatives Wednesday passed a bill to tax natural gas extraction in the state for the first time, setting up a showdown in the Republican-controlled Senate. [Dow Jones Newswires](#). 30 September 2010.

[Pennsylvania GOP rejects natural gas tax plan.](#) A top Pennsylvania Republican rejected a Democratic-sponsored plan for taxing natural gas production on Wednesday, vowing to stop a bill that he said would drive energy companies out of the state. [Reuters](#). 30 September 2010.

[Mixed feelings about drilling for natural gas.](#) Northern Michigan is poised for a boom in natural gas production. Developers have paid a record amount of bonuses for drilling rights on state and private land. At first, property owners focused on what is fair payment, but they're now questioning how drilling will affect their land and water. [Environment Report](#). 30 September 2010.

[Warren to treat drilling water?](#) The city's wastewater treatment plant could be the first in Ohio to accept and process wastewater generated from hydraulic fracturing of Marcellus shale deposits if its application gains EPA approval. [Warren Tribune Chronicle](#), Ohio. 30 September 2010.

[Garfield County health study points to oil and gas environmental concerns.](#) A recently released survey shows that concerns about the oil and gas industry are high on the list of environmental worries among local residents. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 30 September 2010.

[Don't trust gas companies to keep us safe.](#) As we learned with the gulf oil spill, we can't just trust private companies to do the right thing. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. Editorial, 30 September 2010.

[A high-risk fossil fuel boom sweeps across North America.](#) Energy companies are rushing to develop unconventional sources of oil and gas trapped in carbon-rich shales and sands throughout the western United States and Canada. So far, government officials have shown little concern for the environmental consequences of this new fossil fuel development boom. [Yale Environment 360](#). Opinion, 30 September 2010.

**[Environmental worries shadow natural gas expansion.](#)** State regulators in the Marcellus Shale region say they are adequately overseeing the gas rush, and stress that they aren't afraid to punish energy companies that aren't working safely. But many question whether they have the resources or the will to oversee the industry on the scale that is necessary. [Stateline.org](#), United States. 29 September 2010.

**[Gas drilling draws heavily on water resources.](#)** There is a difference between the water used for horizontal fracking and growing corn. The water used by corn doesn't go away. It's re-used by the system. Because of chemicals added to the water used for the drilling in horizontal fracking, that water can never be used for anything else. [Michigan Public Radio](#), Michigan. 29 September 2010.

**[Opponents of Dryden gas drilling proposal protest to DEC.](#)** For Deborah Cipolla-Dennis, the words "not known" are simply not acceptable. When those words decorated the environmental form of a natural gas drilling application submitted to the state Department of Environmental Conservation, Cipolla-Dennis had to take action. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 29 September 2010.

**[Pa. reps amend gas-drilling tax bill.](#)** The Pennsylvania House of Representatives on Tuesday made a last-minute change on a Democratic bill to impose a tax on natural-gas drilling, adding money for local municipalities and environmental needs that drew dozens of Republican votes. [Associated Press](#). 29 September 2010.

**[2002 court case proved windfall for shale drillers.](#)** Marcellus Shale natural gas drillers, producers and wholesalers can thank Pittsburgh attorney Richard DiSalle for a 2002 case in which he represented Pennsylvania's Independent Oil and Gas Association and persuaded the state Supreme Court to ban counties from taxing oil and gas production. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 29 September 2010.

**[Litigation likely in battle between Cabot Oil and Pa. DEP.](#)** The battle between the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation seems destined for court, DEP Secretary John Hanger said Tuesday. [Gannett News Service](#). 29 September 2010.

**[Lawmakers battle over gas severance.](#)** As the clock winds down on passing a gas severance tax, area lawmakers are showing no signs that they are switching sides in the debate. The tax is expected to raise \$300 million in a full year. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 29 September 2010.

**[Natural gas extraction tax debated in House.](#)** House Democrats and Republicans wrangled for five hours Tuesday in a bitter partisan debate over whether to enact a hefty new tax on extracting natural gas from Marcellus Shale, but the issue still has a long way to go. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 29 September 2010.

**[PGW executive says banning Marcellus gas might be illegal.](#)** Philadelphia Gas Works is not currently buying natural gas that comes from Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale, but a PGW executive suggested Tuesday that a proposal to ban future purchases might put the utility at odds with regulators. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 29 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Pennsylvania House breaks off debate on taxing Marcellus Shale gas.](#)** House Democrats - with a late assist from a Southeastern Pennsylvania Republican - appeared poised to push through a tax on gas extraction but had to delay the vote for 24 hours because of House rules. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 29 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[The future is now.](#)** In Dimock, PA the Gassers deny there is any possibility of methane or fracking fluid occurring. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 29 September 2010.

**[Gas firm seeks to drill wells.](#)** Titan Operating is asking Colleyville officials to approve a permit for 14 gas wells at a new site off north Pleasant Run Road after an opposition lawsuit blocked two previous locations. The company now wants to drill on land owned by the Trinity Christian Center of Santa Ana in California. [Grapevine Courier](#), Texas. 29 September 2010.

**[The Shale Game: County vs. County.](#)** The rush on natural gas in the rich Marcellus Shale of Pennsylvania has exploded over the last year in certain pockets of the state. But in some cases, push back from residents and regulatory groups has stalled drilling. First part in a series. [Philadelphia WHYY News](#), Pennsylvania. 28 September 2010.

**[The Shale Game: Water.](#)** Gas companies sunk nine hundred wells into the Pennsylvania Marcellus this year - and residents have a lot of questions. The most frequently asked: What will be the impact on their water. Second part in a series. [Philadelphia WHYY News](#), Pennsylvania. 28 September 2010.

**[Activists' suit seeks ban on monitoring of 'peaceable' groups.](#)** An environmental activism group filed a federal lawsuit against Pennsylvania's embattled homeland security chief on Monday, claiming its constitutional rights were trampled by unjustified state-prompted surveillance of Marcellus Shale drilling opponents. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 28 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Pennsylvania House panel suggests 'highest shale tax in U.S.'](#)** A key House committee approved a Marcellus Shale extraction gas tax with a significant tax rate Monday, causing a Wexford-based industry group to say it is "stunned" that legislators want to give Pennsylvania the highest tax rate for shale gas in the nation. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 28 September 2010.

**[Security bulletins called 'unsubstantiated gossip.'](#)** Panelists and lawmakers met Monday for a three-hour hearing of the state Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee to delve into a controversial anti-terrorism contract that put environmental activists and other groups under surveillance. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 28 September 2010.

**[Water Dept. taking measured approach to fracking.](#)** The Philadelphia Water Department is defending its measured approach to protecting the city's drinking water from Marcellus Shale gas drilling. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 28 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Bill to tax natural-gas extraction advances.](#)** The state House moved one step closer on Monday to imposing a tax on the extraction of natural gas from the lucrative Marcellus Shale reserve. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 28 September 2010. [Registration Required]

[\*\*A gold rush for natural gas.\*\*](#) Michigan is getting ready for a potential new boom in drilling for natural gas, and some people say: What's not to love? It's home grown fuel. It can mean new jobs. It's much cleaner burning and emits less carbon dioxide than coal or oil. [Environment Report](#). 28 September 2010.

[\*\*New gas drilling raises pollution concerns.\*\*](#) Environmentalists are concerned drilling for new sources of natural gas in Michigan could contaminate water, based on reports from other states that blame horizontal hydraulic fracturing for contaminating their water. [Michigan Public Radio](#), Michigan. 28 September 2010.

[\*\*Marcellus-minded group objects to state's surveillance.\*\*](#) The Gas Drilling Awareness Coalition feels the recent contracted "spying" by Pennsylvania's Office of Homeland Security on the coalition and sharing this information with gas companies confirm the power of the gas industry to unduly influence our state government. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 28 September 2010.

[\*\*Companies buy up drilling rights in Michigan.\*\*](#) Michigan could be seeing the beginning of a new boom in drilling for natural gas. Leases for drilling rights are going for unheard of prices in northern-lower Michigan. Gas reserves have been discovered in a deeper layer of shale. [Michigan Public Radio](#), Michigan. 27 September 2010.

[\*\*Pa. homeland security chief to testify on 'error in judgment'.\*\*](#) The state's homeland security director says "an error in judgment" led him to hire a Philadelphia-based terrorism intelligence firm to monitor activists, including antiwar protesters, environmentalists, and other groups with no history of violence. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 27 September 2010. [Registration Required]

[\*\*Pennsylvania's tax level for shale drilling sparks debate.\*\*](#) The battle over what type of severance tax Pennsylvania should impose -- supposedly by Friday -- on the modern day Gold Rush that is the Marcellus Shale natural gas reserve, has become a duel of two ideals. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 27 September 2010.

[\*\*DEC mulls leasing state forestland for natural gas extraction.\*\*](#) While the New York state Department of Environmental Conservation's review of its permitting guidelines still appears to be months away from completion, a draft of a separate agency document would allow the lease of state forestland for the purpose of natural gas extraction. [Gannett News Service](#). 27 September 2010.

[\*\*Harveys Lake moves only first step, activists say.\*\*](#) Those opposed to the way natural gas drilling is currently being done scored a symbolic victory last week when Harveys Lake Borough Council voted to affirm its support of a statewide moratorium on natural gas drilling until state regulations catch up with the drilling process. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 27 September 2010.

[\*\*Pa.'s controversial windfall.\*\*](#) The state legislature hasn't even passed the controversial Marcellus Shale severance tax, and there's already disagreement over how to spend it. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 27 September 2010. [Registration Required]

[\*\*Plans to drill for coal seam gas may affect agriculture.\*\*](#) Farmers are warning that plans to drill for coal seam gas beneath the nation's prime food bowl will end agriculture as we know it. The drilling is part of the chase to find a "clean" alternative energy source to "dirty" coal. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 26 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Gas plans divide Central Pennsylvania community.](#)** The tension between drillers in Pennsylvania's gas-rich Marcellus shale and communities trying to protect natural resources has reached a fevered pitch in Clinton County, where a zoning hearing board resigned rather than allow a water withdrawal station at the scenic Susquehanna River. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 26 September 2010.

**[Gas accidents leave nerves rattled.](#)** There have been three significant drilling accidents in Marshall County over the past four months. With Marcellus Shale gas producers having moved into West Virginia's Northern Panhandle on such a large scale, concern is mounting about what long-term impact the area may face if these accidents aren't stopped. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 26 September 2010.

**[Natural gasbags.](#)** When Pennsylvania legislators approved a state budget in July, they also agreed to enact a new tax on the booming methane-gas industry by Oct. 1. But it looks as if legislators will fail to approve a tax on drillers at all, let alone by Friday. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 26 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Marcellus Shale severance tax needed.](#)** We clearly have examples of streams and water supplies degraded by drilling in Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale. To protect our aquatic resources, it is critical that the state Legislature enact a Marcellus Shale severance tax and dedicate a portion of it to conservation. [Allentown Morning Call](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 26 September 2010.

**[Residents speak out on drilling.](#)** Madison County officials took to the roads Friday on a four-stop "listening tour" to gather concerns from residents about the natural gas industry. The newly-formed Natural Gas Development Task Force will collect input to formulate policies and regulations in hopes of governing drilling in the county. [Oneida Daily Dispatch](#), New York. 25 September 2010.

**[Link between man's cancer, frac'ing fluids questioned.](#)** A local man has died of cancer, after what his family believes was exposure to toxic chemicals related to the gas drilling business. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 25 September 2010.

**[Drilling opponents struggle with backing a candidate for New York governor.](#)** With a month-and-a-half to go before the general election, some activists opposed to drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale are not satisfied with the positions the major party gubernatorial candidates have taken, leaving them without a candidate to fully support. [Gannett News Service](#). 25 September 2010.

**[Gas-drilling tax pushed in Pennsylvania House.](#)** Pennsylvania's House majority leader said Friday that he plans to hold a vote next week on legislation to impose a tax on Marcellus Shale natural gas extraction. [Associated Press](#). 25 September 2010.

**[Airport plans natural gas drilling on property.](#)** Many landowners are getting rich by leasing their land for drilling in the Marcellus Shale, and now taxpayers could get in on the action with plans to drill on publicly-owned land. [Pittsburgh KDKA TV](#), Pennsylvania. 25 September 2010.

**[Farmers take up camera against fracking practice.](#)** They've been labeled "farmers turned filmmakers," but it's what Jeff and Jodi Andrysick felt they had to do with their \$10,000. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 25 September 2010.

**Facts cast doubt on gas drilling safety.** Any honest, thoughtful person would have to agree that horizontal hydrofracking does pose a real threat to our water resources and should not be allowed to proceed until the industry can come up with real solutions. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. Opinion, 25 September 2010.

**Hydraulic fracturing under assault by activists.** While the offshore oil and gas industry is fighting for its survival under an outright shut down of all operations in the Gulf of Mexico, there is growing concern over another major issue that could result in the destruction of the entire domestic oil and gas industry in this country. [Lafayette Advertiser](#), Louisiana. Opinion, 25 September 2010.

**Controversial "fracking" technique threatens Sydney's water.** The company about to start coal seam gas drilling around southern Sydney and the Illawarra plans to use the controversial "fracking" technique to mine directly beside Warragamba Dam, which holds much of the city's drinking water. [Sydney Morning Herald](#), Australia. 24 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**In Quebec, it's drill, bébé, drill.** The ongoing controversy over the exploitation of shale gas deposits in Quebec came to a head last week. Prominent environmental and political leaders called for a drilling moratorium, and residents living near shale gas exploration sites demanded the projects be shut down until environmental studies are completed. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. 24 September 2010.

**Low-emission shale gas to discourage nuclear, carbon capture, Chatham says.** Cheap, low-emission shale gas, with double the global reserves of conventional sources, will discourage investment in nuclear reactors and carbon storage that would fight climate change, a British study shows. [Bloomberg News](#). 24 September 2010.

**Shale gas trend to 'raise prices' warns think tank.** Misplaced hope in shale gas may lead to higher prices, a think tank has warned. Shale gas deposits are abundant, and have been successfully exploited in the US, leading to hopes it will become a major energy source in the future. [BBC](#). 24 September 2010.

**Plans to mine gas near NSW dam.** Gas company Apex Energy has refused to rule out plans to mine gas in Sydney using a controversial "fracking" technique, despite potential dangers to the environment. [Australian Associated Press](#). 24 September 2010.

**Energy policy in Quebec: High-speed gas.** Most people would be delighted to discover that they were sitting on top of natural gas reserves that could potentially supply their needs for the next century or so. Yet in the Canadian province of Quebec, news of abundant gas in the shale beneath the St Lawrence river basin has not been met with unalloyed joy. [Economist](#). 24 September 2010.

**Critic says Army Corps ruling emboldens drilling industry.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' decision not to institute a moratorium on water withdrawals for natural gas drilling in the Delaware River Basin has increased the resolve of the industry to accelerate development of the Marcellus Shale formation, an opponent said. [Kingston Daily Freeman](#), New York. 24 September 2010.

**Bubbling river drawing attention.** Since at least Sept. 2, methane gas has been bubbling to the surface of the Susquehanna near Sugar Run in Bradford County. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 24 September 2010.

**[DEP shuts down Chesapeake Energy site.](#)** Despite Chesapeake Energy's stance that the ongoing well fire on Pleasants Ridge poses no danger to residents or the water supply, West Virginia environmental protection officials cited Chesapeake for "failing to prevent the release of natural gas and the potential pollution of waters of the state." [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 24 September 2010.

**[DEP names panel to help guide W.Va. gas drilling.](#)** Six gas company representatives were named Thursday to a new nine-member task force that will help the state Department of Environmental Protection determine how to better regulate West Virginia's booming industry. [Associated Press](#). 24 September 2010.

**[Wyoming fracking rules take effect with few problems.](#)** Energy companies seem eager to comply with new state rules requiring them to disclose the chemicals they use in a controversial drilling technique known as fracking, the head of Wyoming's oil and gas regulatory agency said. [Associated Press](#). 24 September 2010.

**[A wild area gets a reprieve.](#)** Lovers of wild open spaces in northwest Colorado recently received some long-awaited great news. The Bureau of Land Management's Little Snake Field Office announced that it would close 77,000 acres of the magnificent Vermillion Basin to oil and gas development. [High Country News](#). Opinion, 24 September 2010.

**[Obama admin. rejects timeout for natural gas drilling in NY, Pa.](#)** The Obama administration has decided against pressing for a temporary halt to Marcellus Shale drilling in Pennsylvania and New York, a key federal official said. New York and Philadelphia have rallied against drilling, out of concern it could contaminate their water supply. [Greenwire](#). 23 September 2010.

**[A guide to Quebec's shale gas controversy.](#)** Quebecers have been hearing a lot about shale gas recently. In an effort to bring some clarity to a complex issue, The Gazette has compiled the following "shale gas primer." [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 23 September 2010.

**[W.Va., Pa. watersheds seek help from lawmakers.](#)** Watershed groups from West Virginia and Pennsylvania met in Morgantown Wednesday to speak with one voice on water quality issues in the Monongahela River basin. Watershed groups' and agencies' primary concerns stem from mining and Marcellus Shale drilling. [Charleston State Journal](#), West Virginia. 23 September 2010.

**[Town of Erwin to sell water to Marcellus drilling firm.](#)** The Town of Erwin recently signed an agreement to sell municipal water to a Pennsylvania firm drilling in the Marcellus Shale. The town will sell up to 400,000 gallons a day to East Resources, a Pittsburgh-area independent exploration and development company. [Gannett News Service](#). 23 September 2010.

**[GOP: Shale plan good job creator.](#)** The House Republican Caucus has announced a package of Marcellus Shale-related legislation that GOP officials say will create thousands of new jobs by creating incentives for the use of the clean natural gas. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 23 September 2010.

**[Texas-based company 'paused' fracking work in Ark.](#)** A Texas-based company that provides equipment and expertise for natural gas drillers working the Fayetteville Shale formation has temporarily halted fracking work in north-central Arkansas but no layoffs have occurred, company officials said. [Associated Press](#). 23 September 2010.

**[District drafts new groundwater rules.](#)** State environmental officials were already concerned about groundwater declines in the Trinity and Woodbine Aquifers in 2005, before the horizontal drilling boom began in the Barnett Shale. In some places, the aquifer levels have decreased 1,000 feet or more, officials said. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 23 September 2010.

**[Drilling in Va. may be risky.](#)** Groundwater contamination. Illnesses from toxins. Gas well explosions. Coming to a community near you? Virginia is next in the sights of natural gas drillers who wish to exploit the western region's resources, locked in a multistate geologic formation called the Marcellus Shale. Sound risky? We agree. [Charlottesville Daily Progress](#), Virginia. Editorial, 23 September 2010.

**['Frack' water scrutinized in drought conditions.](#)** As municipal water suppliers request customers to reduce their water consumption because of a state drought warning, some are asking, shouldn't natural gas drillers do the same? The hydraulic fracturing process used to extract gas from shale uses large quantities of water. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 22 September 2010.

**[Groups rally for Marcellus drilling restrictions.](#)** Susquehanna County resident Victoria Switzer came to an anti-Marcellus Shale gas drilling rally in Harrisburg Tuesday, and she was angry. She said the water that came from her well turned "bubbly, smelly and foamy" and was undrinkable after underground drilling for natural gas began in her area. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 22 September 2010.

**[In Pennsylvania, natural gas industry flexes its muscle.](#)** Pennsylvania's gas rush is opening up a gusher of another kind, too. As the industry races to tap the Marcellus Shale, it is pouring hundreds of thousands of dollars into the campaign accounts of state lawmakers and candidates running for governor. [Stateline.org](#), United States. 22 September 2010.

**['Fracking' forum in Brighton draws crowd.](#)** About 120 people attended a forum on hydraulic fracturing at Brighton Town Hall, hearing from a physicist and a geologist on the harm this form of gas drilling could pose to groundwater, air quality, and the impact on the long-term economic future of New York. [Brighton-Pittsford Post](#), New York. 22 September 2010.

**[Pa. drilling opponents rally as tax talks drag on.](#)** Opponents of drilling into the Marcellus Shale natural gas reserve brought their message to the Capitol on Tuesday as lawmakers worked behind closed doors on a compromise bill to tax the methane drawn from the lucrative rock formation beneath Pennsylvania. [Associated Press](#). 22 September 2010.

**[Republicans propose 'Marcellus Works' initiative.](#)** The clock is ticking for Pennsylvania lawmakers to levy a severance tax on natural gas extraction for Marcellus Shale. On Tuesday, House Republicans unveiled a plan to change the state fleet of vehicles to use natural gas instead of gasoline. [Harrisburg WHP TV](#), Pennsylvania. 22 September 2010.

**[NEPA anti-drilling activists bring passion to Capitol.](#)** Residents and activists spoke at a rally Tuesday urging state lawmakers to enact a moratorium on Marcellus natural gas drilling until environmental protections are strengthened. [Pottsville Republican Herald](#), Pennsylvania. 22 September 2010.

**[The \(gas\) meter is running.](#)** In the morning, the politicians looked for ways to tap the booming natural gas industry for tax money. And in the afternoon, activists — including the filmmaker behind "Gasland" — demonstrated to stop it. [Allentown Morning Call](#), Pennsylvania. 22 September 2010.

**[Chesapeake wells may have leaked methane.](#)** Chesapeake Energy's natural gas wells may have leaked stray methane into the Susquehanna River and six private drinking water wells, officials with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection believe. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 22 September 2010.

**[Drilling decision could affect generations to come, residents say.](#)** Protecting the health, welfare and safety of residents is the limitation supervisors have while amending a zoning ordinance to regulate natural gas drilling in northern Wayne County. [Wayne Independent](#), Pennsylvania. 22 September 2010.

**[Oil site being cleaned up.](#)** A Texas company is removing soil from an oil well site near Killdeer where a high-pressure fracture treatment blew out earlier this month, spilling 2,500 gallons of chemicals mixed with water and some oil onto the surface. [Bismarck Tribune](#), North Dakota. 22 September 2010.

**[Controversial candidates on 'short list' for EPA fracking panel.](#)** U.S. EPA is considering two former Halliburton Co. executives along with one of the most outspoken critics of hydraulic fracturing to provide independent expert advice on its study of the polarizing drilling practice. [Greenwire](#). 21 September 2010.

**[Furor builds over 'anti-terror' bulletins.](#)** The controversial bulletins circulated by the state Office of Homeland Security continued to spawn a furor from civil liberties lawyers and senators. The bulletins included information about which groups were planning peaceful demonstrations, including protests about natural gas drilling. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 21 September 2010.

**[Natural gas fuels economy in Pennsylvania.](#)** Pennsylvania's natural gas industry is rapidly expanding, and the state may be on the verge of a decades-long drilling rush. The financial benefits may be coming at an environmental cost, though. [Morning Edition](#), NPR. 21 September 2010.

**[Chesapeake ordered to inspect 171 Marcellus wells.](#)** Chesapeake Energy Corp must inspect 171 natural gas wells in Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale after reports gas leaked into a river and nearby water wells, a state regulator said on Friday. [Reuters](#). 21 September 2010.

**[Battlement Mesa health impact assessed.](#)** Garfield County leaders want to know what health risks natural gas drilling might pose. Monday, they released results of a study that points out some threats and offers some solutions. [Grand Junction KJCT TV](#), Colorado. 21 September 2010.

**[Questions about fracturing.](#)** A new government investigation into the health and environmental effects of extracting natural gas through hydraulic fracturing must be thorough and transparent. [New York Times](#). Editorial, 21 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Windfall in New York.](#)** There is a David and Goliath aspect to these battles between heavily funded corporate interests and citizen activists against wind power who come out and stand in the rain with home-made signs. The question is, who will prevail? [New York Times](#). Opinion, 21 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Landowners concerned over gas companies.](#)** Landowners concerned about the possibility of losing control of local zoning and personal property rights to natural gas companies gathered at the state capitol building last Tuesday for a press conference followed by a visit to legislative leaders. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 20 September 2010.

**[Residents react after learning of gas rig fire in Marshall County.](#)** Emergency crews are at the scene of a gas rig fire at one of Chesapeake Energy's sites near Cameron. Responders are working on a plan to distinguish the fire. Meantime, local residents said they heard a loud boom early Sunday morning. [Wheeling WTRF TV](#), West Virginia. 20 September 2010.

**[Anti-fracking group gathers at the river.](#)** A skinny road lined with anti-gas drilling signs twists its way to Joe Levine's weekend getaway overlooking the Delaware River and western Sullivan County in New York. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 19 September 2010.

**[Film takes anti-drilling position.](#)** The rush to cash in on the growing gas boom has brought big drillers, service contractors, international energy conglomerates, environmentalists, politicians, journalists and a host of others to Pennsylvania. It also has put independent filmmaker – now anti-drilling icon – Josh Fox in the limelight. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 19 September 2010.

**[Showdown looms in Harrisburg.](#)** With three weeks left for legislators to reach a deal on taxing the gas, a furious scrap has ensued over how big the nuggets will be - and who will receive them. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 19 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Will gas tax mean more money for Pennsylvania? Researchers say no.](#)** A new study by researchers at Penn State shows the proposed Marcellus Shale gas tax will have a positive, but small, impact on Pennsylvania's economy. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 19 September 2010.

**[Talisman: severance tax would make drilling 'uneconomical.'](#)** The enactment of a natural gas severance tax at this time in Pennsylvania would put further Marcellus Shale drilling by Talisman Energy USA in the Northern Tier at risk, the director of government and media relations for the company said. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 19 September 2010.

**[The unnatural side of natural gas.](#)** The push for natural gas comes with an extremely unnatural price tag: it's contaminating United States water supplies, destroying the landscape and making Americans sick. [Milford Daily News](#), Massachusetts. Opinion, 19 September 2010.

**[Agency voices support for tax on shale drilling.](#)** As an agency charged with managing and protecting Pennsylvania's waterways and everything that swims in them, the state Fish and Boat Commission has a lot at risk when it comes to drilling for the Marcellus Shale. It also has a lot to gain. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 19 September 2010.

**[Report: Chemicals found in northeast Pennsylvania water wells.](#)** Water testing by a private environmental engineering firm has discovered toxic chemicals in wells in a township in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. [CNN](#). 18 September 2010.

**[Drilling can dig into land value.](#)** One year to the day after a company set up its drilling rigs on their land in eastern Wise County, Tim and Christine Ruggiero confirmed the depth of their loss. Not only has their land lost two-thirds of its value, their daughter has breathing problems. It started when the fracking company moved in without proper agreements. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 18 September 2010.

**[State DEC report on fracking may still be months away.](#)** High-volume hydraulic fracturing in the Marcellus Shale remains non-existent in New York as the DEC reviews its supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement, a blanket document that when finalized will guide the permitting process for horizontal natural gas drilling. [Gannett News Service](#). 18 September 2010.

**[Researchers concerned about chemical in Mon River.](#)** Researchers at Carnegie Mellon University are raising concerns about the level of bromide in the Monongahela River, the source of drinking water for 13 different water companies. [Pittsburgh KDKA TV](#), Pennsylvania. 18 September 2010.

**[Sierra Club urges protection on drilling.](#)** The Sierra Club has launched a statewide campaign to prod the General Assembly to act on legislation to regulate shale gas drilling. The state legislature has been sitting on numerous pending bills to impose a moratorium on permits, levy a severance tax, and protect state forests. [Wayne Independent](#), Pennsylvania. 18 September 2010.

**[Rendell's office releases content of all bulletins on planned protests.](#)** 137 state-issued intelligence bulletins, containing warnings about domestic political groups — ranging from antinuclear protesters to tea-party activists — were released Friday amid continuing criticism of the program that produced the bulletins. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 18 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Tyler county joins shale rush.](#)** With construction of the area's largest natural gas pipeline under way, the burgeoning Marcellus Shale rush now is entrenched firmly in Tyler County. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 18 September 2010.

**[Gas drilling gets needed scrutiny.](#)** Anyone wondering about the public's level of interest in natural gas drilling found out this week when more than 1,000 people converged on Binghamton to attend sessions on a federal EPA study. A lot is at stake. [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), New York. Editorial, 18 September 2010.

**[Northeast regulator lightens shale drillers' load.](#)** A little-known but important regulator is scaling back some of its aggressive restrictions on natural gas drilling as the four governors who oversee the agency weigh in how to balance gas drilling and water quality in the Marcellus Shale. [ClimateWire](#). 17 September 2010.

**[Shale-drilling technologies are key.](#)** The exploitation of shale gas in emerging countries will help offset energy poverty, the chairman of the Quebec Oil and Gas Association told the World Energy Congress yesterday. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 17 September 2010.

**[State's homeland security chief goes in hiding.](#)** The former Special Forces colonel who has headed the state Office of Homeland Security for four years and who now finds himself at the center of a firestorm over an anti-terrorism contract is missing in action. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 17 September 2010.

**[Investigators find fracking chemicals in NE Pennsylvania water wells.](#)** A private consulting firm says it found toxic chemicals in the drinking water of a Pennsylvania community already dealing with methane contamination from natural gas drilling. [Associated Press](#). 17 September 2010.

**[Settlement would give pipeline companies conditional condemnation powers.](#)** A settlement filed earlier this month among pipeline company Laser Northeast Gathering LLC and others in its bid to be dubbed a utility would grant conditional power to condemn private land. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 17 September 2010.

**[Southwestern Energy denies claims drill fluid fouled water wells.](#)** Southwestern Energy Co. Thursday rejected allegations in a lawsuit against it that the company's natural gas drilling contaminated well water in northeastern Pennsylvania. [Dow Jones Newswires](#). 17 September 2010.

**[Battle lines drawn over Delaware watershed drilling.](#)** The battle lines among pro- and anti-natural gas drilling groups are being drawn in the Delaware River watershed amid the development of new regulations by an obscure federal-interstate agency that has jurisdiction over the industry and has put the clamps on it. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 17 September 2010.

**[Pa. lawmakers press for probe on contract for private terror tracking firm.](#)** Pennsylvania lawmakers want to know why the state paid a contractor to monitor possible security threats in the state. They've also asked Gov. Rendell to release intelligence bulletins the company produced and an accounting of who received them. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 17 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Zoning rule to focus on gas industry.](#)** A zoning ordinance that governs the gas industry in Lycoming County could be in effect by November, but its scope will be limited to activities not regulated at the state and federal levels. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 17 September 2010.

**[Shale adviser Ridge calls anti-terror pact 'bizarre.'](#)** Former Gov. Tom Ridge, now an adviser to the Marcellus Shale Coalition, said Gov. Ed Rendell did the right thing in shutting down a controversial intelligence-gathering program aimed at gas-drilling opponents and other groups. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 17 September 2010.

**[Spy-guy gaffe is goofy.](#)** Gov. Rendell owes the public far more than just the impassioned, shamefaced apologies he served up this week for his administration's boneheaded tracking of legitimate citizen protest groups as if they posed an actual terrorist threat. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 17 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Pa. Governor apologizes for tracking enviro extremists.](#)** Gov. Ed Rendell said he was “deeply embarrassed” by his Office of Homeland Security’s use of a bulletin that labeled opponents to gas drilling as “environmental extremists.” [ProPublica](#). 16 September 2010.

**[Lawsuit claims hydrofracking fluid ruined Pennsylvania water wells.](#)** Thirteen families in the heart of the gas-rich Marcellus Shale say their water wells have been contaminated by poisonous fluids blasted deep underground by a drilling company using a technique at the center of a fierce nationwide debate. [Associated Press](#). 16 September 2010.

**[Private lab finds toxic chemicals in Dimock water.](#)** Water testing by a private environmental engineering firm has found widespread contamination of drinking water with toxic chemicals in an area of Dimock Township already affected by methane contamination from natural gas drilling. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010.

**[EPA wraps up two days of smooth meetings on fracking issue.](#)** Several weeks of tense negotiations, venue changes, a postponement and a pair of pricey contracts led to a two-day U.S. Environmental Protection Agency meeting at The Forum that concluded Wednesday without a hitch. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 16 September 2010.

**[Madison County Natural Gas Development Task Group seeks input.](#)** The 11-member Natural Gas Task Group will be tasked with determining the most crucial concerns of the county's residents regarding controversial gas drilling practices like hydraulic fracturing. [Oneida Daily Dispatch](#), New York. 16 September 2010.

**[Ex-police devised 'terror list' in Pennsylvania.](#)** An obscure York nonprofit with ties to Philadelphia University and Jerusalem is behind the state Homeland Security agency's monitoring of protesters, environmentalists and gays, documents show. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010.

**[Rendell staff knew of tracking.](#)** Some of Rendell's top staff knew in July that the contractor was tracking lawful public protests. The information was sent to law enforcement and private companies around the state. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Activists call for probe into intelligence bulletins.](#)** Although they accept Gov. Ed Rendell's apology, local natural gas drilling activists want an investigation into why the state Office of Homeland Security was spying on them. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010.

**[Pennsylvania families sue Southwestern Energy, say drilling taints water.](#)** Thirteen families in northeastern Pennsylvania filed a lawsuit against Southwestern Energy Co. alleging that the company's drilling for natural gas has contaminated drinking water. [Bloomberg News](#). 16 September 2010.

**[Possible well sites prompt concern in McCandless.](#)** More than 50 people filled McCandless' council chambers Monday as officials and residents continued a discussion about where gas and oil drilling can take place in the town. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010.

**[Energy firm disputes contamination claim.](#)** A Houston company drilling for gas in Susquehanna County disputes that it contaminated drinking water for 13 families in Lenox Twp. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010.

**[Protesters displeased by tactics.](#)** News of a \$125,000 state contract that had the Institute of Terrorism and Response monitoring peaceful protests broke exactly one week after Gov. Ed Rendell visited Washington to discuss his push for a severance tax on oil and gas extraction from the Marcellus Shale formation. [Washington Observer-Reporter](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010.

**[13 Susquehanna County families sue over gas drilling.](#)** Lawyers representing 13 Susquehanna County families filed a class-action lawsuit Tuesday against a natural gas drilling company, saying that hydraulic fracturing at a Lenox Township well pad has contaminated drinking water and damaged the health and quality of life of area residents. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010.

**[Anti-drilling activists worry about government watch list.](#)** Anti-natural gas drilling activists gathering at Wednesday's EPA meeting have a new worry - that they could end up on a Homeland Security watch list. [Binghamton WICZ TV](#), New York. 16 September 2010.

[Allentown DRBC regulations delayed.](#) Proposed Delaware River Basin Commission regulations that could open northeastern Pennsylvania to controversial natural gas well-drilling, expected imminently, will be delayed. [Allentown Morning Call](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2010.

[New lawsuit in fracking country.](#) Over a dozen families in Susquehanna County, Pa., filed a lawsuit Tuesday against the Southwestern Energy Production Company, asserting that a succession of “releases, spills and discharges of combustible gases, hazardous chemicals and industrial wastes” had contaminated their drinking water and made them sick. [New York Times](#). 16 September 2010. [Registration Required]

[Keeping tabs?](#) Department of Homeland Security head James Powers said that natural gas companies needed to be on alert for potential threats from those who “foment dissent” against drilling. The good news is that Gov. Ed Rendell acted quickly and decisively. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 16 September 2010. [Registration Required]

[I'm no government threat? Just watch me.](#) It will be embarrassing if it turns out I've never been considered a "credible threat to critical infrastructure" in PA. I mean the bar has been set pretty low. So low, in fact, that Gov. Ed Rendell revealed this week that he's terminated a state contract with, Paranoia Unlimited. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 16 September 2010.

[Terrorism advisory group aided Marcellus industry.](#) In a recent memo that was leaked to the news media, PA Homeland Security Director James Powers Jr. made it sound as if tracking Marcellus Shale protestors aimed at helping gas companies learn about the actions of environmental activists who oppose deep underground drilling for gas. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 16 September 2010.

[Energy tax would thwart Pennsylvania gold rush.](#) Over the next three weeks, the front lines of the energy policy debate are likely to shift from Capitol Hill to Harrisburg, Pa. For Gov. Ed Rendell has launched an assault on domestic energy production unrivaled by any other lawmaker or chief executive in the country, President Barack Obama included. [Politico](#). 16 September 2010.

[Documents show Homeland Security tracks anti-drill groups in PA.](#) According to recently leaked documents, the Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security has been tracking anti-gas drilling groups and their meetings — including a public screening of the film “Gasland,” a documentary about the environmental hazards of natural gas drilling. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 15 September 2010.

[Wyoming fracking rules would disclose drilling chemicals.](#) New rules going into effect Wednesday will place Wyoming at the forefront of the national push to disclose chemicals used in fracking, the drilling technique that's been suspected of polluting groundwater in parts of the country with vast reservoirs of untapped natural gas. [ProPublica](#). 15 September 2010.

[Shale gas moratorium urged in Quebec.](#) Quebec environment group Équiterre is calling for a moratorium on shale gas exploration in the province until the controversial process is reviewed for environmental risks. Équiterre says there are too many unanswered questions about the impact of extracting natural gas using a new technology called hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking”. [CBC Canada](#). 15 September 2010.

**[Becancour residents pack shale gas hearing.](#)** More than 200 people packed an inn in Becancour Tuesday night to air their concerns at the first of three public meetings into shale gas explorations in the province. [CTV Montreal](#), Quebec. 15 September 2010.

**[EPA meeting served its point, officials say.](#)** About 200 people spoke Monday during the first day of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's final public meeting on its hydraulic fracturing study, but did the agency get the feedback it desired? An EPA official said Tuesday it did. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 15 September 2010.

**[Lenox families sue Southwestern Energy over alleged gas drilling contamination.](#)** Thirteen families in Lenox Twp. filed suit against gas driller Southwestern Energy Production Co. on Tuesday, alleging the company contaminated their water, made them ill and damaged their property while drilling in the Marcellus Shale nearby. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 15 September 2010.

**[Think tank focusing on gas drilling's impact on people.](#)** With so much attention focused on natural gas exploration's impact on the economy and the environment, a local think tank hopes to track how Marcellus Shale affects people and communities. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 15 September 2010.

**[Fort Worth Dems say proposed drilling rules don't go far enough.](#)** Proposed state rules to curb pollution caused by oil and gas drilling mark a step in the right direction but don't go far enough in protecting residents in the Barnett Shale region, two Fort Worth lawmakers stated Tuesday to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 15 September 2010.

**[No hydrofracking for now.](#)** Common sense dictates New Yorkers deliberate thoughtfully before permitting fracking. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. Opinion, 15 September 2010.

**[Obscure regulator hits brakes on northeast shale drilling rush.](#)** The Delaware River Basin Commission, an obscure-but-potent federal agency, has stopped the gas rush in its tracks in northeastern Pennsylvania's Wayne and Pike counties. [Greenwire](#). 14 September 2010.

**[EPA told gas drilling does, does not taint water.](#)** Rep. Maurice Hinchey told a federal hearing Monday that the Environmental Protection Agency must regulate hydraulic fracturing, the natural gas extraction process that he said has contaminated water near drilling sites around the country. [Associated Press](#). 14 September 2010.

**[Shell CEO says natural gas risks worthwhile.](#)** The promising natural-gas industry carries environmental risks as companies work harder than ever to unlock it, a top international oil executive conceded Monday at the World Energy Congress in Montreal. [Canadian Press](#). 14 September 2010.

**[Fossil fuels not going away soon, says Saudi oil CEO.](#)** Fossil fuels will continue to rule the global energy mix for the next 30 to 40 years, the president and CEO of Saudi Aramco told the World Energy Congress during Monday's keynote address. [Postmedia News](#). 14 September 2010.

**[EPA hears various opinions on hydrofracking.](#)** Hundreds of people turned out Monday afternoon for the first of four public hearing sessions on hydrofracking. The Broome County Forum Theater, in Binghamton, is one of only four spots in the country where the EPA is looking for comments on the design of its upcoming study of the controversial drilling method. [Syracuse WSYR TV](#), New York. 14 September 2010.

**[EPA to widen drilling study.](#)** Environmental Protection Agency officials said Monday that they plan to widen their investigation into a natural-gas drilling technique that the energy industry says is critical to tapping huge new supplies of natural gas. [Wall Street Journal](#). 14 September 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Fracking for natural gas: EPA hearings bring protests.](#)** Public hearings over hydraulic fracturing or "fracking" brought hundreds of protesters to Binghamton, N.Y. Monday, carrying signs and shouting slogans either opposing or favoring expansion of the controversial process for extracting natural gas from shale. [Christian Science Monitor](#). 14 September 2010.

**[Hydrofracking hearings begin in Binghamton.](#)** "Kids can't drink gas" and "Pass responsible gas drilling" were the messages of protesters barricaded at opposite ends of the street in front of Broome County Forum Theater before the Environmental Protection Agency's hearing on hydraulic fracturing Monday. [Oneida Daily Dispatch](#), New York. 14 September 2010.

**[New Yorkers spar over U.S EPA study of natural-gas fracturing.](#)** A U.S. study of hydraulic fracturing, a process using blasts of water and chemicals to free natural gas from shale rock, triggered clashes between New York state supporters and opponents of the technique. [Bloomberg News](#). 14 September 2010.

**[New York gas-drilling conflicts aired over U.S. EPA study of fracturing.](#)** New York state supporters and opponents of hydraulic fracturing clashed over the scope for a study by U.S. regulators of the technique, used to free natural gas from shale rock with blasts of water and chemicals. [Bloomberg News](#). 14 September 2010.

**[Strong positions on either side of "fracking" at EPA hearing.](#)** Anti-drilling activists hope the EPA's hydro-fracking study will prove it should be federally regulated, if not banned. Supporters of gas said the EPA study could inspire restrictions that might impair one of the few economic bright spots in the region. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 14 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Fracking hearings stray from science.](#)** The battle lines were drawn even before the first of some 100 speakers spoke at the initial session of the two-day federal hearing that will help determine the future of gas drilling, both in New York and the country. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 14 September 2010.

**[Shale-drilling fight comes to head at EPA forum in NY.](#)** Hundreds of people gathered as here Monday to debate the safety of a gas drilling method called hydraulic fracturing, with critics campaigning against the industry and urging federal regulators to halt the practice. [Wall Street Journal](#). 14 September 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Gas drilling industry, environmentalists set for EPA's upstate NY hearings.](#)** Hundreds of people on both sides gathered Monday for what are expected to be contentious public hearings on a federal environmental study of a natural gas drilling technique aimed at tapping a rich formation beneath much of the Northeast. [Associated Press](#). 14 September 2010.

**[Gulf oil spill energizes foes of NY shale drilling.](#)** Critics of natural gas drilling in New York on Monday urged U.S. regulators to enact tougher regulations, saying the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico proves the industry cannot be trusted. [Reuters](#). 14 September 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale gas tax still faces significant hurdles.](#)** When the 2010-11 state budget was enacted in early July, Gov. Ed Rendell and the Legislature said they would have the new Marcellus Shale gas tax in place by Oct. 1. But there are only nine session days left before that deadline arrives, and major hurdles remain. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 14 September 2010.

**[Balance conservation, gas drilling in Marcellus Shale.](#)** The natural gas drilling industry has come to Pennsylvania in full force. We have examples of water supplies degraded by drilling. To protect our aquatic resources, it is critical that the state dedicate a portion of a Marcellus Shale severance tax to conservation. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 14 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[EPA to hold NY hearing, last of 4, on gas drilling.](#)** The oil and gas industry is urging the Environmental Protection Agency to keep a narrow focus in its study of how a drilling technique that involves blasting chemical-laced water into the ground may affect drinking water--while environmental groups want a comprehensive study. [Associated Press](#). 13 September 2010.

**[Thousands expected at meeting on hydrofracking today.](#)** After two months of uncertainty, 400 stakeholders will get their chance to chime in on the Environmental Protection Agency's hydraulic fracturing study at a two-day public meeting, beginning today in downtown Binghamton. [Rochester Democrat and Chronicle](#), New York. 13 September 2010.

**[Toughen shale rules, Sierra Club urges.](#)** The drive down Route 61 through the coal region is depressing. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 13 September 2010.

**[Lawmakers debate how to get piece of natural gas cash.](#)** State lawmakers are wrangling over how to get a share of the multibillion-dollar Marcellus shale gas industry. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 13 September 2010.

**[Forestry group tours several gas industry sites.](#)** Members of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association got up close and personal with local Marcellus Shale drilling sites this weekend at the group's annual meeting, which featured a bus tour showing the pros and cons of drilling on forest land. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 13 September 2010.

**[Lessons of Gulf oil spill apply to Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** BP's oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the recent explosion of the Mariner Energy rig offers Pennsylvanians several important lessons that are directly applicable to the natural gas drilling boom in the state. [Erie Times-News](#), Pennsylvania. 13 September 2010.

**[The next big play?](#)** Oil and gas drilling companies have been scrambling for acreage in southeastern Wyoming, spending record amounts at state oil and gas leasing auctions in 2010 for a chance at striking oil in the mostly unproven area. [Gillette News-Record](#), Wyoming. 12 September 2010.

**[Drilling revenue hard to pass up for Western Pennsylvania nonprofits.](#)** In Bradford County where Penn State University professors study forests, and in summer camps where Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts frolic, cash-strapped nonprofit groups are going underground to help solve their money woes. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 12 September 2010.

**['Fracking' plans will need further review.](#)** Attention shifts Monday to the EPA's public hearings in Binghamton on the controversial natural gas drilling technique called hydraulic fracturing, which has touched off an energy-seeking "gold rush" of sorts in the Marcellus Shale region of the northeastern United States. [Lower Hudson Valley Journal News](#), New York. Editorial, 12 September 2010.

**[Penn environmental chief defends regulation of Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** DEP Secretary John Hanger discusses what his agency is doing to regulate Marcellus Shale drilling, why natural gas is better than other fossil fuels and whether or not Pennsylvania's water is in danger. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 12 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Gas drilling's threat to our water.](#)** If our water, farms, forests and quality of life are to be saved, it will be because of the efforts of Pennsylvanians who love this beautiful state. It will not be at the hands of the foreign gas industry or government in collusion with that industry. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 12 September 2010.

**[Shale gas showdown set for New York.](#)** Hundreds of people are expected to pack an upstate New York auditorium Monday as the federal government enters the fray over a controversial technique for natural gas production. [CNN Money](#). 11 September 2010.

**[Gas drilling becomes election issue.](#)** Candidates are lining up behind the issue of gas drilling as the controversial method called hydrofracking takes center stage this election season in the Finger Lakes region. [Canandaigua Daily Messenger](#), New York. 11 September 2010.

**[EPA's letters to fracking companies request information, with a legal threat.](#)** The EPA seems to be taking names with Thursday's request for information on hydraulic fracturing and how it affects drinking water and public health. They are requiring the nine companies to specify the source of each piece of information by name, position and title. [ProPublica](#). 11 September 2010.

**[EPA wants companies to reveal chemicals used in controversial gas extraction method.](#)** The federal EPA has asked nine companies to voluntarily reveal the chemicals they use in hydraulic fracturing, a method used to extract natural gas by injecting fluids into rock formations deep underground. [Los Angeles Times](#), California. 11 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Substance from ASP drilling site still not identified.](#)** Along part of the border, the Allegany National Forest abuts the 65,000-acre state park. State park officials and environmental groups have expressed concerns over the intensive oil and gas exploration on the Pennsylvania side of the border. [Olean Times Herald](#), New York. 11 September 2010.

**[New York attorney general candidates back natural gas drilling moratorium.](#)** All of the candidates running to be the next New York state attorney general support some form of moratorium on natural gas drilling and put the burden on industry to prove such drilling can be done without endangering drinking water. [Reuters](#). 11 September 2010.

**[EPA fracking hearing to feature 400 speakers, two different sides.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's two-day hearing on its study of the hydraulic fracturing process is finally coming to the Binghamton, New York area this week. [Gannett News Service](#). 11 September 2010.

**[Onorato slams Corbett over shale position.](#)** Accusing his opponent of catering to the drilling industry on one of “the biggest issues of the campaign,” Democratic gubernatorial nominee Dan Onorato spoke Friday morning at City Hall about the impact Marcellus Shale drilling could have on the commonwealth – but only if it’s done correctly, he said. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 11 September 2010.

**[Forced pooling protest planned in Harrisburg.](#)** Concerned citizens will converge on Harrisburg Tuesday to speak out against forced pooling and zoning exemptions for the oil and gas industry. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 11 September 2010.

**[State website gives peek at shale gas production.](#)** State environmental officials have developed an online method for people to check how much natural gas is being produced by each Marcellus Shale well around the state. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 11 September 2010.

**[EPA to natural gas companies: Give details on 'fracking' chemicals.](#)** The natural-gas production industry has resisted providing information about fracking or hydraulic fracturing chemicals, which some say have fouled drinking-water wells. [Christian Science Monitor](#). 10 September 2010.

**[EPA. to study chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency sent letters to nine drilling companies on Thursday requesting detailed information about the chemicals contained in fluids used to crack open underground rock formations in the hunt for oil and natural gas. [New York Times](#). 10 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**[EPA wants chemical info from 9 service providers.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced Thursday it has requested information about chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process from nine leading service providers involved in operations in the Marcellus Shale natural gas region. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 10 September 2010.

**[EPA seeks information from natural gas drillers on chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency asked nine natural gas companies Thursday to voluntarily disclose the chemical components used in a drilling technique called hydraulic fracturing. [Associated Press](#). 10 September 2010.

**[Onorato says natural gas tax needed to protect environment.](#)** Pennsylvania needs a "competitive" tax on the booming natural gas industry to guard against well blowouts and air and water contamination, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dan Onorato said Thursday in Easton. [Allentown Morning Call](#), Pennsylvania. 10 September 2010.

**[Gas drilling in W.Va. forests on hold for now.](#)** A decision on whether to let natural gas companies tap the Marcellus shale field under West Virginia's state forests may not be made until long after the November elections. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 10 September 2010.

**[EnCana says drilling did not taint Wyoming water.](#)** Contamination detected by U.S. regulators in some Wyoming water wells near natural gas sites was unrelated to oil and gas operations, or showed hydrocarbon levels below official action standards, an official for EnCana Corp., the company conducting the drilling, said on Thursday. [Reuters](#). 10 September 2010.

**Do 'environmental extremists' pose criminal threat to gas drilling?** As debate over natural gas drilling in the Marcellus shale reaches a fever pitch, state and federal authorities are warning Pennsylvania law enforcement that "environmental extremists" pose an increasing threat to security and to the energy sector. [ProPublica](#). 9 September 2010.

**Rural Pennsylvania town fights big gas.** In the rush to develop America's biggest new source of domestic energy in the Marcellus Shale, one community is fighting to protect its rural way of life from the environmental strains that accompany shale gas drilling. [Reuters](#). 9 September 2010.

**Natural gas from shale rock promises energy revolution.** A new source of energy, shale gas promises to add significantly to the world's energy reserves but there are concerns about the environmental impact of extraction. [BBC](#). 9 September 2010.

**Methane found in 6 Bradford County water wells.** Pennsylvania environmental regulators are investigating the source of stray methane gas found last week in six private water wells in Bradford County and the North Branch of the Susquehanna River. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 9 September 2010.

**Rendell says agreement unlikely on Marcellus Shale tax.** Gov. Rendell said Wednesday that he doubted he and state lawmakers would meet their Oct. 1 deadline to pass a tax on natural-gas drillers. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 9 September 2010. [Registration Required]

**Energy companies aim to better air along anticline.** Wyoming's Pinedale Anticline, one of the top-five natural gas fields in the U.S., has been a place of much debate on environmental issues. Gas companies in the area have been making strides to improve air quality, the rate of water consumption and wildlife conservation on the mesa. [Associated Press](#). 9 September 2010.

**Do the math when thinking about gas wells.** Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. filed a Notice of Intent with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 9 September 2010.

**Hydro-fracking: Are we ready?** The recent controversy surrounding oil and gas exploration in the Sackville area has, rather suddenly and unexpectedly, catapulted the issue of hydraulic fracturing of natural gas to the forefront of New Brunswick politics. [CBC Canada](#). Opinion, 9 September 2010.

**Chill, baby, chill.** Quebec is rushing to permit shale-gas operations when it should be taking a much more cautious approach. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. Opinion, 9 September 2010.

**Gas-drilling moratorium won't happen here, governor says.** Gov. Ed Rendell told a group of protestors worried about Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling that a moratorium on drilling like New York state has enacted will never happen in Pennsylvania. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 8 September 2010.

**Arcuri urges EPA role in gas drilling.** Significant steps are needed to ensure drilling procedures are safe. [Gannett News Service](#). 8 September 2010.

**[Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell wants gas industry to help shale towns.](#)** Gov. Ed Rendell met with officials in western Pennsylvania on Tuesday to garner support for a tax on Marcellus Shale drillers, while a Pittsburgh councilman introduced a bill to ban the drilling altogether in the city. [Associated Press](#). 8 September 2010.

**[Rendell: No drilling moratorium.](#)** There won't be a Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling moratorium in Pennsylvania while Ed Rendell is governor -- even if that means only four more months. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 8 September 2010.

**[Environmentalists seek funding from Marcellus Shale taxes.](#)** With Growing Greener funds dwindling, a coalition of environmental groups is lobbying for a renewal of the program using a portion of the Marcellus Shale severance tax revenue if the new tax is approved. [Chester Daily Local](#), Pennsylvania. 8 September 2010.

**[Drilling suspected in Bradford County river bubbles.](#)** The state Department of Environmental Protection suspects that bubbles of methane gas that appeared in the Susquehanna River in Bradford County last week resulted from natural gas drilling. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 8 September 2010.

**[Chemical, wastewater worries brought to Fell Twp.](#)** Fell Twp. residents with questions about wastewater and chemicals from natural gas drilling being transported through the municipality brought their concerns to Tuesday's supervisors meeting. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 8 September 2010.

**[Region holds potential for shale gas development.](#)** When a slowdown in drilling hit western Colorado last year, one reason was competition from emerging shale gas development in other parts of the country. Much of Colorado also is underlain by shale formations. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 8 September 2010.

**[Tax shale gas and greedy CEOs.](#)** Marcellus Shale gas is the casinos of 2010. Extracting it, like the casinos, involves serious problems, starting with where it takes place, under us like the coal mines, and because it requires large amounts of water, which the process fouls. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 8 September 2010.

**[Gas shale and hydraulic fracturing work for NY.](#)** With the spectacle of the enormous BP release in the Gulf of Mexico lingering, an unfortunate push exists in New York to ban all fracking, purportedly until the technology can be "proven" safe, and to require federal oversight of fracking. [Hornell Evening Tribune](#), New York. Opinion, 8 September 2010.

**[Challenge heightened on EPA air quality rules.](#)** Satellite measurements of nitrogen oxides in the air show as much as 20 percent more nitrogen oxides than the EPA's model predicted for the same time period. That's important because nitrogen oxides are a precursor to ozone. Some say the increase is from oil and gas drilling in the Barnett Shale. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 7 September 2010.

**[Drilling companies set sights on Wyoming County, PA.](#)** Four natural gas companies have leased mineral rights to substantial portions of land throughout Wyoming County, and all four have exploratory gas wells under way. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 7 September 2010.

**[For drilling, how much oversight is enough?](#)** Texas Railroad Commission inspectors personally witnessed 15.4 percent of the 10,140 surface casings installed by oil and gas operators in Texas, according to agency records. The casings are critical for preventing groundwater contamination. Is that enough? [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 6 September 2010.

**[Old or abandoned wells are key sources of water contamination.](#)** New oil and gas drilling is probably the most visible activity people associate with threats to groundwater in Texas. But it's not usually the source of known contamination, according to state records. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 6 September 2010.

**[Gas drilling group, county eye road use accord.](#)** A natural gas drilling outfit could be drawing more water from the Town of Erwin, if a road use agreement with Steuben County is approved. The road use agreement would allow East Resources, a division of Shell Oil, to haul more water to its Marcellus Shale drilling operations in Pennsylvania. [Steuben County Courier](#), New York. 6 September 2010.

**[National Fuel Gas firmly focused on future.](#)** David F. Smith has seen the future of National Fuel Gas Co.—and it lies beneath the hills of northwestern Pennsylvania. That's where, trapped more than a mile underground in a vast rock formation known as the Marcellus Shale, lie vast amounts of natural gas. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 6 September 2010.

**[A burning debate over natural gas drilling.](#)** Chemicals that energy companies secretly use in a process dubbed "fracking" are fueling concerns about our water supplies. [CBS News](#). 5 September 2010.

**[Open door impact great in drilling areas.](#)** A drilling rig sits 750 feet from the back door of dairy farmer John Ishler's house in Bradford County, but he had no problem with the gas company until his well water turned pinkish brown. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 5 September 2010.

**[New toxins report released.](#)** State environmental inspectors returned to Dish in mid-June after Mayor Calvin Tillman disclosed to the public that both his young sons recently woke in the night with heavy nosebleeds. Air sampling revealed multiple contaminants associated with fracking. And the mayor is now selling his home. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 5 September 2010.

**[Member of Obama's commission on America's nuclear future praises discovery of hydraulic fracturing.](#)** Former Senator Pete Domenici took a moment during last week's Blue Ribbon Commission hearing to praise the discovery of the controversial practice of hydraulic fracturing. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 5 September 2010.

**[DEP looks at drilling as river bubbles up.](#)** Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection teams are investigating whether bubbles of methane gas that were discovered in the West Branch of the Susquehanna River last week are the product of natural gas drilling. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 5 September 2010.

**[Well deal sealed: Rig going up near the Highlands early next year.](#)** After months of leasing land for natural gas exploration, it appears Chesapeake Energy is preparing to construct Ohio County's first horizontal Marcellus Shale well site early next year near The Highlands. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 5 September 2010.

**[The Barnett Shale search for facts on fracking.](#)** Tarrant County Commissioner J.D. Johnson recalls precisely when the 260-foot-deep water well at his rural home became polluted in August 2005. "It occurred when they fractured the wells," he said, referring to two Barnett Shale natural gas wells drilled on his 15 acres in northwest Tarrant County. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 4 September 2010.

**[Lawyers, landowners in fracking mineral rights 'force majeure' battle.](#)** When Charles and Helen Lampman signed away the mineral rights to their 60.9 acres of land in 1999, they had no idea it would end in a court battle. [Gannett News Service](#). 4 September 2010.

**[India to adopt green rules for shale gas exploration.](#)** The government will put in place a set of new environment protection guidelines as part of its proposed shale gas policy, which companies venturing into exploration of this new fuel source in India will have to compulsorily follow. [Bombay Financial Express](#), India. 4 September 2010.

**[Westmoreland authority vows safety of water source.](#)** The Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County allowed Consol Energy Inc. to blaze a gravel road through the property and clear 20 acres of hardwood forest for the first of two drilling pads that could hold more than a dozen Marcellus shale natural gas wells. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 4 September 2010.

**[Pennsylvania Senate GOP shapes gas-drilling tax bill.](#)** State Senate Republicans have begun drafting legislation for a sweeping overhaul of Pennsylvania's oil and gas law that includes proposals for a new tax on the extraction of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale formation and limitations on municipal zoning that affects drilling. [Associated Press](#). 4 September 2010.

**[No severance tax for Marcellus Shale.](#)** Republican candidate for Pennsylvania lieutenant governor James Cawley re-emphasized his running mate Tom Corbett's stand against imposing a severance tax on gas drilling industries who have been tapping into the Marcellus Shale. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 4 September 2010.

**[Friend of Delaware advocates for more natural gas drilling.](#)** David Jones is one of few — and sometimes the only — gas drilling advocate who comes to public forums on the issue. [Stroudsberg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 4 September 2010.

**[WVa may need 2nd framework to handle gas well rush.](#)** The state's top environmental official says West Virginia will likely need a two-tiered regulatory system and more rigorous oversight of horizontal drilling operations to properly permit and monitor the proliferation of Marcellus shale and other horizontally drilled gas wells. [Associated Press](#). 4 September 2010.

**[Company cancels drilling request.](#)** Williams Production Co. has withdrawn a request to drill up to 15 natural gas wells in Double Oak, company and town officials said. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 4 September 2010.

**[Conservation calculus.](#)** Are trade-offs in Wyoming's Jonah natural gas field a boon for wildlife? [High Country News](#). 4 September 2010.

**Land trade angers locals.** A land swap between the feds and the most generous campaign contributor to Colorado congressman, John Salazar, is stirring up controversy on the state's Western Slope. Many residents do not trust the intentions of this campaign contributor and businessman - who just so happens to own a very large gas drilling company. [High Country News](#). Opinion, 4 September 2010.

**PQ calls for Quebec shale gas moratorium.** The opposition Parti Québécois is demanding an immediate moratorium on drilling and exploration for shale gas in the province. PQ leader Pauline Marois made the request as she wrapped up a party caucus meeting in Salaberry-de-Valleyfield on Thursday. [CBC Canada](#). 3 September 2010.

**Chief to disclose drilling chemicals.** A major stakeholder in the region's Marcellus Shale play has volunteered to disclose all chemicals used in its natural gas extraction process. [Somerset County Daily American](#), Pennsylvania. 3 September 2010.

**'We're over-regulated now' says gas drilling supporter in Pike.** David Jones is a landowner whose lease was suspended recently when the Delaware River Basin Commission stopped exploratory gas drilling because of the environmental concerns prompted by incidents of chemical spills and contaminated drinking water. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 3 September 2010.

**Killdeer oil spill being cleaned up, officials investigate.** State officials are investigating an oil company to see if it followed fracturing regulations in the first blow-out and leak since pressure testing regulations went on the books two years ago. [Bismarck Tribune](#), North Dakota. 3 September 2010.

**Feds caution Wyoming residents about water contaminants.** Investigations into concerns about water pollution in the Pavillion area have been closely watched by Garfield County residents, because the two regions share one significant characteristic — they are home to very active natural gas exploration industries. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 3 September 2010.

**Feds warn residents near Wyoming gas drilling sites not to drink their water.** The federal government is warning residents in a small Wyoming town with extensive natural gas development not to drink their water, and to use fans and ventilation when showering or washing clothes in order to avoid the risk of an explosion. [ProPublica](#). 2 September 2010.

**Is fracking even worse than drilling?** Hydraulic fracturing operations have been linked to environmental risks that could have significant financial implications for the companies involved and are leading to increased regulatory scrutiny. Congress has directed the EPA to study the potential impact of fracking on drinking water, human health and the environment. [Inter Press Service](#). 2 September 2010.

**'Fracking' yields fuel, fear in Northeast.** Dimock, Pennsylvania residents are at the forefront of one of the biggest energy developments this century. Their township sits above the Marcellus Shale, one of the largest natural gas deposits in the nation. [CNN](#). 2 September 2010.

**Onorato slams Corbett's opposition to drilling tax.** Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Dan Onorato charged Wednesday that his Republican rival's opposition to a severance tax on natural gas drilling is evidence that he's more interested in helping the industry than forcing it to pay for environmental problems. [Associated Press](#). 2 September 2010.

**Houston City Council OKs gas exploration beneath city parks.** Despite concerns from some environmental advocates, the city moved ahead Wednesday with plans to allow exploration for natural gas reserves beneath three municipal parks. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 2 September 2010.

**Pavillion, Wyoming-area residents told not to drink water.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has recommended that several Pavillion-area residents with private water wells find alternate sources of water for drinking and cooking. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. 2 September 2010.

**Feds warn don't drink contaminated water in Wyo. town.** People shouldn't drink water from 40 wells in and around the central Wyoming farming and ranching community of Pavillion, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services warned Tuesday. [Associated Press](#). 2 September 2010.

**US test shows water problem near natgas drill site.** U.S. government officials urged residents of a Wyoming farming community near natural gas drilling sites not to use private well water for drinking or cooking because of chemical contamination. [Reuters](#). 2 September 2010.

**Regulate, baby, regulate.** What does drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus shale formation of Pennsylvania have in common with the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster in the Gulf of Mexico? Answer: lack of adequate oversight and regulations on drilling. [Environmental Science & Technology](#). Opinion, 2 September 2010.

**W.Va. studying link between quakes, disposal wells.** Eight small earthquakes in central West Virginia since April have Chesapeake Energy and the state Department of Environmental Protection discussing the possibility of seismic monitoring near a disposal well for gas-drilling fluids. [Associated Press](#). 1 September 2010.

**EPA fracking forum coming to Binghamton.** Broome County and City of Binghamton officials announced Tuesday an agreement to bring the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's final public meeting on its multi-million-dollar hydraulic fracturing study to The Forum on Sept. 13 and 15. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 1 September 2010.

**Firm targets Broome for plants.** A western New York company is hoping to build three plants in the Southern Tier that would turn water used in the hydraulic fracturing process into usable products, a company consultant said Tuesday. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 1 September 2010.

**Uncertainty remains as landowners band together.** Officials at MDS Energy Inc. in Kittanning are spearheading a group with about a dozen drilling companies and maybe hundreds of land owners, trying to leverage a package of 500,000 acres into big payouts from a multibillion-dollar auction. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 1 September 2010.

**Gas tax plan suggested in PA.** The Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center on Tuesday released a new report recommending how the state Legislature should structure a fair severance tax on natural gas extraction. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 1 September 2010.

**Drillers draw stronger warnings.** Natural gas drilling companies should identify the chemicals they put into the ground, embrace a tax on production and find ways to avoid simple mistakes. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 1 September 2010.

**[Companies starting to comply with new 'fracking' rules.](#)** The final version of the new rule requiring oil and gas drilling companies to disclose chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing in Wyoming has been signed by Gov. Dave Freudenthal and will be posted on the Oil and Gas Commission website in a few days. [Gillette News-Record](#), Wyoming. 1 September 2010.

**[EPA releases results of Wyoming water well testing.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency investigating drinking water contamination in Pavillion, Wyoming, found benzene and methane in wells and in groundwater, agency officials said. [CNN](#). 1 September 2010.

**[Feds: Don't drink contaminated water in Pavillion.](#)** People shouldn't drink water from 40 wells in and around this central Wyoming farming and ranching community, federal officials said Tuesday. [Denver CBS4 TV](#), Colorado. 1 September 2010.

**[Natural gas plan nothing new.](#)** Plans by Xcel Energy to replace coal-fired plants in the metro Denver area have coal miners in northwest Colorado upset, but the energy mix it's proposing isn't all that new, company officials said. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 1 September 2010.

**[Caution, baby, caution on natural gas.](#)** The Quebec cabinet has invited the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement to get involved in the fast-growing debate about shale gas. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. Editorial, 1 September 2010.

**[Firms to push forward on Quebec shale plans.](#)** Calgary companies exploring for shale gas in Quebec say they will move ahead with development plans even as the province reviews environmental issues with hydraulic fracturing that have been blamed for polluting groundwater in the United States. [Calgary Herald](#), Alberta. 31 August 2010.

**[Industry on mission to promote Quebec shale gas drilling.](#)** The companies involved in shale gas exploration in Quebec's St. Lawrence Valley are launching a publicity campaign to convince Quebecers it is safe to drill. [Postmedia News](#). 31 August 2010.

**[DEP chief advocates for permanent fresh water supply for Dimock families.](#)** The head of the state's environmental protection agency made several promises to study and repair negative impacts from natural gas drilling in Susquehanna County community. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 31 August 2010.

**[Battlement begins a 'Bucket Brigade.'](#)** Residents here have decided to take matters into their own hands, literally, when it comes to checking out the chemical components of the air they are breathing. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 31 August 2010.

**[Shale gas debate flares up in Quebec.](#)** The future of shale gas exploration and its impact on the environment and human health have ignited a debate in Quebec, where the government says it's moving cautiously forward in allowing oil-and-gas companies to explore the region. [Canadian Press](#). 30 August 2010.

**[Exploration for natural gas causes consternation in Quebec.](#)** In most places west of Manitoba, the arrival of yet another oil or gas drilling rig is cause for little notice or concern. In Quebec, a half dozen gas wells and the potential of hundreds more may be about to set off a new kind of identity crisis. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. 30 August 2010.

**Mixed reaction to hearings on shale gas industry.** Quebec's policies - or lack of them - when it comes to regulating its nascent shale gas industry will be the subject of public hearings beginning this autumn, provincial environment minister Pierre Arcand and natural resources minister Nathalie Normandeau have announced. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 30 August 2010.

**Drilling company taking steps to ensure safety.** From using non-toxic oil for drilling to installing three levels of blowout prevention, Encana Oil & Gas USA Inc. is trying to ensure nothing happens at its first exploratory gas well site that isn't supposed to. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 30 August 2010.

**Drilling offers spike.** Natural gas lease payments have hit \$4,000 per acre in Ohio County, as NPAR LLC is offering that amount for land in the Stone Church Road area, the Sunday News-Register has learned. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 30 August 2010.

**Visit to Pa. brings gas debate into better focus.** I have just returned from a visit to Susquehanna County, Pa., where the natural gas is being drilled using hydraulic fracturing. I am seeking to know the truth after seeing the video "Rural Impact" and another titled "All Fracked Up." [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. Opinion, 30 August 2010.

**Protecting that peaceful, easy feeling.** The rush to drill for natural gas has pitted old Texas against new - oil companies that have long combed the rural countryside against a handful of holdouts like Walker, a new breed of landowners who see a different value in the land. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Opinion, 30 August 2010.

**Drilling timeline depends on DEC regs.** Moratorium or no moratorium, don't look for gas drilling to start in Sullivan County for at least a year from now — probably a lot longer. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 29 August 2010.

**Interest grows in state coalition.** Last weekend's environmental awareness concert and rally, Gas Stock, has fueled a movement to take the message further, with interest in forming a statewide group to take action on issues related to natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 29 August 2010.

**Tapping shale, seeking sustainability. A rare oilman.** Some might be surprised to find that George P. Mitchell, known as the father of shale gas, regards his fossil-fuel discoveries as secondary to his work promoting a sustainable world. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 29 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**Do gas wells pose health risk?** Mushrooming Marcellus Shale gas well development in Pennsylvania is releasing hazardous chemicals into the air and water, but more study is needed to assess the human health risks they pose. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 28 August 2010.

**Gas drillers lack proper regulation.** The energy industry thinks it has an answer to public demands for a moratorium on hydraulic-fracture gas drilling. "If an airplane crashes," they tell us, "we don't ground every airplane, do we?" The problem with this analogy is that the industry's got it wrong. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. Opinion, 28 August 2010.

**No deal set on EPA meeting.** Broome County officials continued to negotiate with organizers behind closed doors Thursday, but a deal to host the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's final public meeting on its hydraulic fracturing study remained elusive. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 27 August 2010.

**It's our land, defiant owner tells fracking forum.** The City Council's Tuesday forum on proposed hydrofracture natural gas drilling in the state, which potentially threatens most of the city's drinking water, attracted about 200 people. [New York Villager](#), New York. 27 August 2010.

**Gas activists urge caution.** Mere miles from the site where Encana Oil & Gas will soon begin drilling a natural gas well in Lake Township, residents of neighboring Harveys Lake met Thursday with the Gas Drilling Awareness Coalition to hear the environmental activist group's position. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 27 August 2010.

**Marcellus shale has potential for good, environmental harm.** Marcellus Shale has great potential to be a billion-dollar windfall for Pennsylvania and its residents, but it also could bring economic disaster if not handled properly, experts said Thursday. [Beaver County Times](#), Pennsylvania. 27 August 2010.

**Shale gas tax is needed.** Legislators in Harrisburg should resist the efforts of natural-gas companies to obtain a sweetheart deal of tax loopholes and lax drilling regulations. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 27 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**Oozing profits: 'GasLand' exposes nation's energy industry.** Josh Fox isn't shocked that America's energy companies, in their pursuit of tapping the nation's supplies of natural gas, are jeopardizing the health of the environment, especially water supplies. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 26 August 2010.

**World's eyes focus on local shale process.** While people from all over the world converge on Williamsport for the Little League World Series, another group of international visitors arrived Wednesday with other interests - the development of shale gas. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 26 August 2010.

**DEP sets drilling rules for water protection.** Pennsylvania has implemented new regulations on the natural gas drilling industry ahead of schedule to protect drinking water supplies and aquatic life from wastewater leaving drilling sites. [Washington Observer-Reporter](#), Pennsylvania. 26 August 2010.

**Drillers meet with chamber.** Representatives of two natural gas companies operating in the region made presentations and answered questions from area business owners at a "CEO to CEO Networking Breakfast" on Wednesday at the Westmoreland Club. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 26 August 2010.

**Oil boom under way in North Dakota.** In the past year, the number of oil drilling rigs has tripled in North Dakota and now stands at about 130. New technology has made previously unprofitable oil reserves there profitable. [All Things Considered](#), NPR. 26 August 2010.

**US mounts global push for shale gas.** The United States on Tuesday offered to help major economies such as China and India develop shale gas, a rapidly growing sector in North America which US officials bill as a cleaner alternative to coal, a key culprit in carbon emissions blamed by scientists for a dangerous warming of the planet. [Agence France-Presse](#). 25 August 2010.

[State Dept. official says U.S. shale-gas boom has 'transformed global energy markets.'](#) A senior State Department official said Tuesday that the U.S. boom in producing natural gas from shale rock formations could pave the way for other countries to expand development that allows displacement of carbon-heavy coal. [Washington Hill](#), District of Columbia. 25 August 2010.

[Statoil may seek own shale gas project, expansion in China.](#) Statoil ASA may take the lead on shale gas projects and is considering investments in China to tap demand in the world's fastest growing major economy, Chief Executive Officer Helge Lund said. [Bloomberg News](#). 25 August 2010.

[Gas exploration company quits N.B. town.](#) A company searching for oil and natural gas in southeastern New Brunswick is abandoning plans to test for deposits within Sackville's town limits. Town councillors voted in July to ban seismic testing by PetroWorth Resources Inc. of Toronto because they believed testing and future drilling could affect the town's water supply. [CBC Canada](#). 25 August 2010.

[Yes, Quebec shale gas search is regulated, Talisman says.](#) It's "a myth" that controversial shale gas exploration in Quebec is unregulated, a senior executive with Talisman Energy said yesterday. The Calgary-based firm drilled 10 wells this year in the promising Utica shale formation. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. 25 August 2010.

[Pennsylvania, West Virginia shale drilling ban lets New York wait, learn.](#) New York's moratorium on Marcellus shale drilling allowed regulators there to learn from experiences in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, a top official said Tuesday. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 25 August 2010.

[Testing the pre-drilling waters.](#) A licensed geologist from Tunkhannock says people living near natural gas drilling operations should have their well water tested prior to drilling activities, but he warns that not everyone who offers testing services is qualified to take water samples. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 25 August 2010.

[New state rules on wastewater now in effect.](#) New standards for wastewater, particularly from natural gas wells, are now in effect and enforceable, state Environmental Protection Secretary John Hanger announced Tuesday. The standards are designed to protect drinking water supplies and aquatic life. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 25 August 2010.

[Settlement sought over gas firm's utility status.](#) Opposing parties in a high-profile bid by a gas-pipeline company to gain public utility status are attempting to reach a settlement. Laser Northeast plans to build a 30-mile natural gas pipeline from Marcellus Shale exploration areas into southern New York, where it will connect to a larger interstate pipeline. [Times Shamrock](#). 25 August 2010.

[Trustees consider gas wells in Powdermill Nature Reserve.](#) The lure of millions of dollars in natural gas royalties has prompted officials at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History to study whether to permit drilling on the Marcellus shale range at its Powdermill Nature Reserve in Westmoreland County. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 25 August 2010.

[Earthquakes may be tied to gas drilling activity.](#) A DEP spokesperson says the agency is now in discussion with Chesapeake Energy to try to determine whether an injection well used in the company's gas drilling operations was responsible for a series of small earthquakes. [West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), West Virginia. 25 August 2010.

**[Arlington considers tighter rules for gas drillers.](#)** Higher road damage fees, time limits on drilling and expanding the number of neighbors notified during the permitting process are among some changes to the city's natural gas drilling ordinance being considered by the City Council. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 25 August 2010.

**['Fracking' fractures N.Y. county.](#)** A controversial method of natural gas drilling has begun to tap the energy-rich Marcellus Shale, a huge geological formation that underlies much of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. In New York, fracking has been stalled by opposition from environmental groups, legislators and residents. [USA Today](#). 24 August 2010.

**[Hydraulic fracturing ban would shut down industry, CEO says.](#)** The statement by PetroWorth Resources Inc. president Neal Mednick was in response to a New Brunswick Green Party press release issued Monday indicating that, if elected, the party would put a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing. [New Brunswick Business Journal](#), New Brunswick. 24 August 2010.

**[Greens to halt fracking if elected.](#)** If elected, the Green Party of New Brunswick has promised to put a stop to natural gas exploration until safeguards and regulations are strengthened. [Moncton Times & Transcript](#), New Brunswick. 24 August 2010.

**[Silty, salty Monongahela River at risk from pollutants.](#)** The Monongahela River is at a crossroads. Since 2008, the river has filled each summer with levels of contaminants higher than in the last 10 years. What role the region's gas boom might play in the pollution is unknown. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 24 August 2010.

**[In Boback's bill, local oversight would return to drilling process.](#)** State Rep. Karen Boback announced Monday she would introduce a bill in September that would return authority over erosion and sediment control in Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling sites to county conservation districts. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 24 August 2010.

**[Homeowners vote against drilling.](#)** A Portage County homeowners' group voted Sunday against signing a lease with a natural gas driller for its 193 acres. [Akron Beacon Journal](#), Ohio. 24 August 2010.

**[Barnett Shale: Eight more air quality monitors for North Texas.](#)** State environmental regulators, under heavy prodding from the Legislature, said Monday that they're installing new equipment to check for possible air pollution from gas drilling in the Barnett Shale. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 24 August 2010.

**[Lawmakers say more air monitors in north Texas will increase data from gas drilling area.](#)** Eight new air monitors are planned for one of the nation's largest natural gas fields, where drilling has raised questions about emissions effects, state lawmakers said Monday. [Associated Press](#). 24 August 2010.

**[Little said about health effects of drilling.](#)** Although opponents of the "hydrofracking" method of drilling for natural gas have raised many concerns about potential for contamination of water and air, little has been written about what this would mean for human health. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. Opinion, 24 August 2010.

**Big bets on US oil bonanza after shale gas boom.** As the U.S. shale gas revolution enters its third year, companies are making big bets to try to recreate that success with the billions of barrels of oil locked in the sedimentary rock even though geologists doubt the actual production potential. [Reuters](#). 23 August 2010.

**Drilling bill has opposition in Assembly.** Natural gas drilling advocates have had their New York Marcellus Shale aspirations on hold since July 2008, and a bill awaiting Assembly approval would extend their wait until mid-May at the earliest. [Gannett News Service](#). 23 August 2010.

**Court ruling affirms communities' ability to limit natural gas drilling.** Traditionally, local officials have limited say when it comes to natural gas drilling. But they are gaining more and more authority in where wells can be drilled. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 23 August 2010.

**Gas companies face new pollution probes.** Two energy companies hit this year with record penalties for contaminating springs in Garfield County have been cited by the state in connection with new allegations of water pollution. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 23 August 2010.

**Gas and money don't mix.** This year a tax on natural gas extraction will be imposed, the amount to be determined by Oct. 1. Cynics might conclude that the level of campaign contributions from natural gas drillers will have some relation to the ultimate tax rate. [Philadelphia Daily News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 23 August 2010.

**Cautionary tales on gas.** If there is a single phrase that has emerged from the substantial debate over the gas industry, it is "do it, but do it right." It's time for lawmakers to convert the cautionary tales into effective public policy. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 23 August 2010.

**State should move carefully before drilling in public forests.** Legislators should keep in mind that the forest land already represents an extremely valuable asset as it is. It is essential that they be cautious in developing gas drilling and strike a balance with preserving the state's publicly owned forests. [Huntington Herald-Dispatch](#), West Virginia. Editorial, 23 August 2010.

**The Pennsylvania General Assembly's gas-filled rooms.** One of the big questions this fall on the state's legislative agenda is how much of a tax will be imposed on companies extracting gas from the Marcellus Shale formation. [Philadelphia Daily News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 23 August 2010.

**Marcellus boom leads to wealth and worry.** Extracting gas from the Marcellus shale, which runs a mile under most of Appalachia, from New York to Tennessee, is changing Pennsylvania. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 22 August 2010.

**How fast will natural gas drilling come to Dallas?** The expected drilling of Dallas' first natural gas well could help bring cleaner energy to the nation – and desperately needed income to the city, which owns the site. Or it could mean more air and water pollution, noise, traffic and safety risks. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 22 August 2010.

**Most local Assembly members oppose bill to block fracking.** Natural gas drilling advocates have had their New York Marcellus Shale aspirations on hold since July 2008, and a bill awaiting Assembly approval would extend their wait until mid-May at the earliest. [Gannett News Service](#). 22 August 2010.

**Sullivan County groups fight gas Goliaths.** Catskill Mountainkeeper and Catskill Citizens for Safe Energy are not only leading the fight against fracking in the state, they are winning battles against the gas industry Goliaths. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 22 August 2010.

**Let's not drill our way to a disaster.** Extracting the gas means jobs; it means an abundant, inexpensive fuel supply, and it means revenue for the states. [Reading Eagle](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 22 August 2010.

**'Gas Stock' rockers sing for shale safety.** As strains of reggae wafted up hill from the amphitheater Saturday, potential bonds of an interstate resistance front to natural drilling were sealed at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 22 August 2010.

**Positives of gas drilling discussed.** Despite being bombarded by negative feedback over the last few months from anti-fracking groups concerning the influx of Marcellus shale drilling, the supervisors of Lehman Township expressed their support of the industry at Monday night's meeting. [Dallas Post](#), Pennsylvania. 22 August 2010.

**Marcellus Shale developments: Casey checks out Dimock methane incident.** U.S. Sen. Bob Casey has met for the first time with a group of families whose drinking water was impacted by natural gas drilling during a Friday afternoon tour of the positive and negative aspects of Marcellus Shale drilling in this small Susquehanna County town. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 22 August 2010.

**Singing the blues about shale at Gas Stock concert.** The Northeast Pennsylvania Citizens in Action Group got a little help from their friends Saturday at their first ever Gas Stock concert and rally. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 22 August 2010.

**Natural gas could mean big paydays in Lee County.** Lee County may be sitting on a mother lode of natural gas. [Fayetteville Observer](#), North Carolina. 22 August 2010.

**North Texas cities revisiting gas drilling ordinances.** Cities throughout North Texas are considering changing their drilling ordinances as residents continue to express concerns that drilling-related activity may affect public health and the environment. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 22 August 2010.

**Legislators inept on Marcellus Shale gas boom, too.** Pennsylvania's lawmakers have been pitifully slow to recognize the scope of this issue, much less craft a plan. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 22 August 2010.

**Water among victims of gas drilling process.** Fracking. It's a word you probably hadn't heard a year or two ago. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 22 August 2010.

**To drill or not?** Sandy Lake Inc., a 45-member homeowners group in Portage County, will decide Sunday whether to get into the natural gas business. William Sledzik, the group's president, said most members favor leasing their 193 acres for drilling — if they feel confident the environment will be protected and if they can get a good price. [Akron Beacon Journal](#), Ohio. 21 August 2010.

**A new drill for energy.** Recent discoveries of vast shale deposits in the U.S., and the mother lode of natural gas they hold, have the potential to strikingly transform domestic energy markets. [Barron's](#). 21 August 2010.

**[Shale sites studied for emission storage.](#)** New York's gas-rich underground rock formations have sparked a contentious fight over drilling safety, but they're also being studied as potential tombs for the greenhouse gas emissions that fuel global warming. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. 21 August 2010.

**[Gas drilling seen as danger to city's drinking water.](#)** Brooklyn state Senators Kevin Parker and Daniel Squadron are among leaders warning of the dangers of proposed natural gas drilling to the city's drinking water supply. Many fear that plans to drill in New York City's upstate watershed could endanger nine million people in and around the city. [Brooklyn Daily Eagle](#), New York. 21 August 2010.

**[Shale drilling in Monroe, Pike on the horizon.](#)** Drilling for natural gas in Marcellus Shale in Monroe and Pike counties? It's not a question of if, but when. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 21 August 2010.

**[Senator proposes fracking regulations.](#)** Sen. Bob Casey said Thursday that Pennsylvania's emerging natural gas industry has the potential to create jobs and wealth, but also carries environmental risks that must be addressed. [Associated Press](#). 20 August 2010.

**[Lopez opposes moratorium on hydrofracking.](#)** Republican state Assemblyman Peter Lopez says he opposes a legislative moratorium on permits for drilling for natural gas and that any delay of permitting for an EPA study of the extraction technology would be disingenuous. [Kingston Daily Freeman](#), New York. 20 August 2010.

**[Cuomo, gas drilling activists meet in Ithaca.](#)** Andrew Cuomo made the campaign rounds through the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier on Thursday, promoting his call for reform in Albany. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 20 August 2010.

**[Pennsylvania parks seen as vulnerable to Marcellus developers.](#)** Ohiopyle State Park is attracting attention from drillers, who want to test whether Marcellus shale gas rests a mile below the surface. And there's nothing the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources can do about it. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 20 August 2010.

**[Gas drilling leases could yield millions for Pittsburgh.](#)** Leasing the drilling rights to natural gas in a portion of the Marcellus shale formation under Pittsburgh's 2,000 acres of parks could net the city \$6-\$16 million in one-time fees and millions more in royalties if officials make deals similar to others in Western PA and TX. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 20 August 2010.

**[Officials explain Marcellus challenges, opportunities.](#)** U.S. Sen. Robert Casey returned to his hometown Thursday to extol the economic benefits of a present-day "gas rush" and, called for more safeguards and federal oversight of natural gas drilling to prevent a "repeat of the mistakes of the past." [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 20 August 2010.

**[Casey tours the site of Clearfield blowout in Marcellus Shale region.](#)** Sen. Bob Casey toured a remote site in Clearfield County on Thursday where a Marcellus Shale gas well blew out in June, leaking natural gas and polluted drilling water unabated for 16 hours. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 20 August 2010.

**Departed may not be resting in peace.** Doesn't seem like the ideal locale to put a gas rig. That thought is inescapable as you enter Calvary Cemetery in Hazelwood, an unlikely battleground in an increasingly contentious dispute over whether natural gas drilling should occur in Pittsburgh. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 20 August 2010.

**Fort Worth leaders rule that gas company employees can serve on drilling committee.** The City Council decided Thursday that it is not a conflict of interest for gas company employees to serve on committees that oversee their industry, overturning a ruling this year by the city's Ethics Review Committee. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 20 August 2010.

**Single-issue voters question Hanna on hydrofracking.** The Republican candidate for congress in the 24th Congressional District, Richard Hanna, faced a tough crowd Wednesday night in Oneonta. Voters grilled Hanna on everything from his stance on a type of natural gas drilling, hydrofracking, to a potential conflict of interest. [Utica WKTV](#), New York. 19 August 2010.

**Cancelled federal hearing stalls fracking moratorium.** Despite a New York State Senate vote earlier this month for a 10-month moratorium on hydrofracture natural gas drilling, drilling opponents fear the recent cancellation of a federal hearing was a setback in efforts to protect New York City's supply of drinking water. [New York Downtown Express](#), New York. 19 August 2010.

**Group says survey shows health issues in central Wyoming zone where companies 'frack' for gas.** Four out of five people who have returned health surveys report respiratory problems in a central Wyoming community where some residents say gas drilling has polluted their water wells, an environmental group said Wednesday. [Associated Press](#). 19 August 2010.

**Unwell.** For the past several years, corporations like ExxonMobil, Chevron, and Canada-based EnCana have sunk thousands of wells in the tiny western Colorado town of Silt, one of the most gas-rich regions of the country—90 percent of them on private land. Ranchers and landowners describe a landscape that not only looks different, but has become downright frightening. [Mother Jones](#). Opinion, 19 August 2010.

**Hungry for oil: Feeding America's expensive habit.** Every day the United States goes through another 20 million barrels of oil. Finding enough crude to supply the country's oil habit is difficult because much of the oil that's easy to get to is gone. [Morning Edition](#), NPR. 18 August 2010.

**Low flow limits gas industry withdrawals, says river basin head.** As the flow of the Susquehanna River and its tributaries continued to drop with soaring temperatures and rainfall well below normal levels, concerns about gas drilling operations siphoning off precious water supplies and ultimately harming regional aquatic life began to grow. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 18 August 2010.

**Fire marshal says oil vapors caused Pa. well blast.** An explosion that killed two welders and caught a natural gas well on fire last month was triggered by flammable fumes from a relatively small amount of oil remaining in an aboveground storage tank, the Allegheny County fire marshal said. [Associated Press](#). 18 August 2010.

**Pittsburgh councilman proposes gas drilling ban.** City Councilman Doug Shields will introduce a bill next month that would ban corporations from drilling for natural gas in the city. Shields' proposal comes as the number of leases signed by property owners to allow drilling for has boomed in recent years. [Pittsburgh WTAE TV](#), Pennsylvania. 18 August 2010.

**Ridge pushes for environmentally safe gas drilling.** Former Gov. Tom Ridge this afternoon called Marcellus Shale gas production a "transformative opportunity" for Pennsylvania during an appearance Downtown in his new role as a strategic adviser to an industry group. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 18 August 2010.

**Catholic Cemeteries to permit gas drilling among the headstones.** A Monroeville drilling company could tap natural gas beneath 15 cemeteries in Allegheny and Washington counties under a lease signed by the Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, the association's director said Tuesday. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 18 August 2010.

**Energy plan to be developed.** Now that the development of natural gas resources in the Marcellus Shale is on the radar of county commissioners, they want to incorporate shale development, as well as other types of renewable and non-renewable energy and energy conservation, into an addendum to the county Comprehensive Plan. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 18 August 2010.

**Wilkes creates database for water quality.** Due to natural gas companies' increasing interest in the Marcellus Shale, Wilkes University is establishing Northeast Pennsylvania's first water-quality database to determine the condition of groundwater and surface water before drilling activity commences. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 18 August 2010.

**Safety of gas drilling at issue.** Emergency first responders and county officials called a meeting with natural gas companies a positive step toward building better relationships with the firms involved in the Marcellus Shale drilling processes in Marshall County. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 18 August 2010.

**Another natural gas controversy.** While New Yorkers hotly debate the safety of hydraulic fracturing, a controversial method for extracting natural gas from upstate rock formations, a second natural gas issue has quietly started to simmer. Just this summer, natural gas leaks led to explosions and deaths in Michigan, Texas and South LA. [Gotham Gazette](#), New York. 17 August 2010.

**Planners play catch-up in Marcellus shale leasing rush.** Interest in drilling the Marcellus shale rock formation has oil and gas companies quickly buying up leases across Allegheny County -- and communities scrambling to keep up, officials said yesterday. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 17 August 2010.

**Councilman to propose gas drilling ban in city; Ravenstahl opposes idea.** Pittsburgh City Councilman Doug Shields today plans to unveil legislation to ban natural gas drilling in the city, saying he's wants to test a municipality's right to self-government, even if that means inviting a legal challenge from the drilling industry. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 17 August 2010.

**[Good news on oil, gas drilling.](#)** Oil and gas drilling is on the rise again in Colorado, in a bit of surprising good news that suggests the state's new oil and gas rules criticized unfairly and often this political season — are working as intended. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Editorial, 17 August 2010.

**[Cabot trying to repair tarnished image in Pennsylvania.](#)** With its open-to-the-public picnic drawing 2,300 people to Montrose Area Junior/Senior High School Saturday, will Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation's new attempts at community outreach help its tarnished image in Pennsylvania? That remains to be seen. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 16 August 2010.

**[Hess could be first to successfully tap Marcellus Shale in Wayne County.](#)** Although a natural gas drilling ban is in effect for much of Wayne County, one company is lining up permits for what may become the county's first producing wells - in a small area just a hop across the Delaware River watershed boundary. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 16 August 2010.

**[Natural gas accidents posing challenges for emergency responders.](#)** Since June, there have been two natural gas well accidents in Marshall County. The accidents are bringing to light several issues that emergency responders are facing when first arriving on the scene. [West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), West Virginia. 16 August 2010.

**[W.Va. lawmakers consider state forest drilling.](#)** Some state lawmakers want to start tapping portions of the publicly owned mineral wealth beneath West Virginia's state forests. Legislators have asked the Division of Natural Resources to examine the possibility of leasing natural gas drilling rights at those properties. [Associated Press](#). 16 August 2010.

**[Fracking questions: White's ties to well company highlighted.](#)** As Democrat Bill White runs for governor, he has touted his environmental record. But lately, in the face of attacks from Republican opponent Gov. Rick Perry, he has found himself defending ties to BJ Services, a natural gas company. [Austin American-Statesman](#), Texas. 16 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Let us beware of shortcuts.](#)** Sure, there is an inevitability about natural gas drilling in the Marcellus shale. But the all-important terms, those are still in our hands and unresolved. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. Opinion, 16 August 2010.

**[EPA considers expanding fracturing study to air quality.](#)** Recently retired EPA environmental engineer Weston Wilson is best known for criticizing his employer's finding that hydraulic fracturing poses little or no risk to groundwater. Now, he's encouraged by the agency's interest in studying the procedure's potential impacts on air quality. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 15 August 2010.

**[Doubts raised about future of gas drilling in many PA parks.](#)** The breathtaking drop from the heights above Loyalsock Creek that gave Worlds End State Park its name might also be one of the few things that can save the popular camping, hiking and fishing destination in Sullivan County from being the site of Marcellus Shale natural gas wells. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 15 August 2010.

**[Centre County residents asked to allow mapping for Marcellus Shale industry.](#)** In a sign that the natural gas industry is taking hold in northern Centre County, property owners have found representatives knocking on their doors and asking permission to map what's underground. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 15 August 2010.

**'Pooling' is a boost for gas profits.** Amid concerns about the environmental damage threatened, or already inflicted, by massive new gas drilling in Pennsylvania there is now a proposal to force you to give up your property, in the form of mineral rights, to benefit the gas industry. [Allentown Morning Call](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 15 August 2010.

**Aubertine voted against hydrofracking moratorium over worries about lease holders.** Darrel Aubertine was one of only nine state senators to vote last week against a bill to block New York from permitting a controversial natural gas drilling technique until mid-May. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 14 August 2010.

**Cabot cooking for 1,000 in attempt to sell its gas story.** Scarred by hefty fines and ruined water wells, Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation has some work ahead as it continues its attempt to get back in the public's good graces. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 14 August 2010.

**Gas industry petitions for lower initial tax rate.** The natural gas industry is lobbying lawmakers to tax production at a lower rate during a well's early years of production. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 14 August 2010.

**New state rule targets pollution from drilling.** A new state rule to limit pollution in wastewater from new natural gas drilling operations will take effect before month's end. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 14 August 2010.

**UGI Marcellus bid could result in lower rates.** UGI Corp. will enter the Marcellus Shale gas rush, a move that could result in Pennsylvania utility customers using and benefiting from Pennsylvania-produced gas. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 14 August 2010.

**'Fracking' can wait a bit longer.** Lawmakers backing the moratorium say a delay in granting permits will give state leaders — and the new governor — time to learn more about hydraulic fracturing and include restrictions designed to maximize safety. That's a reasonable approach. The state should take it. [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), New York. Editorial, 14 August 2010.

**Conservation department says no state forest lands are left for gas leasing.** There are no unleased acres left in PA's state forests where Marcellus Shale gas drilling sites, pipelines and access roads could be built without damaging environmentally sensitive areas, according to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 13 August 2010.

**Mundy urges tight drilling rules.** State Rep. Phyllis Mundy is seeking support from House members for more stringent regulations on oil and natural gas drilling as well as a moratorium on the discharge of treated drilling wastewater into state waterways. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 13 August 2010.

**New residents' group urges strict rules for gas drilling in Dallas.** A movement to demand tight regulation of natural-gas drilling in Dallas began this week in an Oak Cliff church. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 13 August 2010.

**Council OKs northside Abilene drilling request.** Property owners are split about whether drilling for oil in a neighborhood is a good idea, but after being given the go-head by the Abilene City Council, officials with Sojourner Drilling Company say they are ready to move forward. [Abilene Reporter-News](#), Texas. 13 August 2010.

**[Record fine for Williams in benzene leak case.](#)** State regulators Thursday unanimously signed off on a record \$423,300 fine against energy giant Williams for benzene contamination of a spring that led to a man becoming ill in 2008. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 13 August 2010.

**[Caution urged before rushing to mine natural gas.](#)** Visions of cheap energy can be dazzling. But Quebec needs to move very cautiously. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. Editorial, 13 August 2010.

**[Keeping your drinking water clean.](#)** Contaminating the water supply is a big concern when it comes to natural gas drilling. In Pennsylvania, some landowners receive water quality reports from drilling companies, before and after they drill. Understanding those reports is no easy task. [Johnson City WBNG](#), New York. 12 August 2010.

**[Rendell willing to negotiate a gas 'pooling' law.](#)** Gov. Ed Rendell is insisting on certain environmental protections and landowner compensation requirements before he signing any bill that forces Pennsylvania landowners to sell their below-ground natural gas rights to a drilling company. [Associated Press](#). 12 August 2010.

**[Methane found in well water in Monroe Twp.](#)** Chesapeake Energy Corp. initiated remedial action Tuesday at its Dan Ellis natural gas well site in Monroe Township after methane was found six days earlier in three private water wells less than a mile away, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 12 August 2010.

**[Panel OKs gas drilling rules changes.](#)** A city board voted 5-0 on Wednesday to endorse changes to Denton's new natural gas drilling ordinance, ignoring industry officials who warned that some of the city's proposed and recently adopted codes violated state law. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 12 August 2010.

**[EPA should have foreseen problems with hearing.](#)** When it comes to natural gas drilling, it seems nothing can happen without controversy. The latest example is the furor over the Environmental Protection Agency's indefinite postponement of a hearing on hydraulic fracturing that was supposed to happen today in upstate New York. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. Editorial, 12 August 2010.

**[8,000 people? EPA defers hearing on fracking.](#)** The EPA announced that it was canceling an all-day hearing that had been scheduled for Thursday in Syracuse after Onondaga County officials expressed concern that they had not been given enough time to prepare security in anticipation of rallies and protests at the event. [New York Times](#). 11 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Tax us, police us, Talisman urges N.Y.](#)** In its eagerness to tap New York state's massive Marcellus shale gas deposit, Calgary-based Talisman TLM-T is urging the state government to slap higher fees on industry to finance a more effective regulatory system. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. 11 August 2010.

**[EPA delays meeting on gas drilling.](#)** Less than 24 hours after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced it was moving its marathon public meeting on hydrofracking, the agency Tuesday postponed the event because of security concerns expressed by Onondaga County officials. [Rochester Democrat and Chronicle](#), New York. 11 August 2010.

**Marcellus, Otisco take different tacks on hydrofracking laws.** Marcellus and Otisco town boards reacted differently on Monday night to proposals to impose moratoriums on hydrofracking, a controversial method of drilling for natural gas. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 11 August 2010.

**Water-quality rules to take effect.** A new state rule to limit pollution in wastewater from new natural gas drilling operations will take effect before month's end. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 11 August 2010.

**Chesapeake withdraws waiver request for drilling site.** Chesapeake Energy withdrew its application Tuesday for a waiver to put a gas-drilling site near the Como and Ridglea neighborhoods in west Fort Worth. People in Como, a historically black neighborhood, complained that Chesapeake had used high-pressure tactics to obtain support for waivers. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 11 August 2010.

**No level field in 'three tiers.'** Whether the burgeoning natural gas industry in Pennsylvania will be an overall success depends upon striking a balance between economic benefit and environmental risk. Relative to the economic benefit, the industry's proposal for a three-tiered tax on extraction is woefully out of balance. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 11 August 2010.

**Pennsylvania broke law on natgas water use: Group.** Pennsylvania regulators are illegally allowing natural gas companies to withdraw water from rivers and streams for use in the Marcellus Shale drilling boom, an environmental group claims. [Reuters](#). 10 August 2010.

**Fears over Karoo gas hunt.** So where will the water come from? That's the million-dollar question after the news that local and overseas petroleum heavyweights have been granted permits to look for gas in the Karoo. [Johannesburg Times](#), South Africa. 10 August 2010.

**EPA moves NY drilling hearing, expecting crowds.** The hearing is the fourth and last by the EPA around the country to get public comment on its study of hydraulic fracturing of natural gas wells. [Associated Press](#). 10 August 2010.

**Hydrofracking foes press for moratorium.** Frack Action is one of a handful of grassroots groups formed to fight horizontal hydraulic drilling for natural gas by using the energy industry's own lobbying power and timetable as an argument in pointing to the need for state lawmakers to institute a moratorium. [Kingston Daily Freeman](#), New York. 10 August 2010.

**Fort Worth City Council to consider waiver for gas wells.** A high-stakes dispute over a natural gas drilling site in west Fort Worth is headed to the City Council today. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 10 August 2010.

**Drilling watchdogs: DEP and DCNR are more crucial than ever.** As former Gov. Tom Ridge becomes the spokesman for the Marcellus Shale Coalition, it seems an apt time to review one of Ridge's key environmental policy initiatives: Exactly 15 years ago, Ridge split up the Department of Environmental Resources into two entities. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 10 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Anti-fracking activists distort facts.](#)** You ran four anti-fracking letters on Aug. 6. All of them directly or indirectly asserted that the oil and gas industry is exempt from one or more major federal environmental statutes. Though very commonly heard these days, these claims sit somewhere between being just plain wrong and completely misleading. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. Opinion, 10 August 2010.

**[Rep wants Pa. to follow N.Y.'s lead on gas drilling moratorium.](#)** A local legislator says Pennsylvania should follow New York's lead to pass a temporary moratorium on natural gas drilling - but public pressure is the only way to make it happen. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 9 August 2010.

**[Local officials retain some power over drilling.](#)** When it comes to regulating natural gas drilling, the state Oil and Gas Act trumps local ordinances - mostly. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 9 August 2010.

**[Marcellus drilling's economic impact is growing.](#)** Marcellus Shale drilling is still in its infancy in West Virginia, but the industry is already contributing millions of dollars to the state's economy. It may be a while before the gas industry's economic impact rivals that of coal in West Virginia. [West Virginia Public Broadcasting](#), West Virginia. 9 August 2010.

**[Mineral rights leases surge in county.](#)** The number of mineral rights leases being obtained has exploded over the past three months, a sure sign the Marcellus Shale boom has come to Columbiana County. [East Liverpool Review](#), Ohio. 9 August 2010.

**[Drilling delay is a wise move.](#)** The state Senate got something right last week: It put aside its usual partisan bickering and voted overwhelmingly, 49-9, to ban new drilling permits until May in the natural-gas-rich Marcellus Shale, to give officials extra time to study potential environmental impacts of the drilling. [Lower Hudson Valley Journal News](#), New York. Editorial, 9 August 2010.

**[Pa. must rise to meet the challenge.](#)** Natural gas drillers in Pennsylvania opened their operations under laws that had not been updated since at least 1984, and under a DEP that was not adequately prepared to deal with the burgeoning industry. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 9 August 2010.

**[Well safety jobs, expertise on the rise with gas industry.](#)** Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Secretary John Hanger said DEP has made arrangements with a Houston-based well control company that is opening an emergency response and natural gas support services facility in Bradford County. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 8 August 2010.

**[HCA officials investigating mineral rights.](#)** Although Marcellus Shale gas drilling hasn't made its way into Greater Hazleton, the Hazleton City Authority will investigate whether it has mineral rights for the roughly 7,000 acres it owns and steps needed for preserving the watershed. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 8 August 2010.

**[Johnson hopes to build gas drilling workforce.](#)** As development of natural gas from the state's Marcellus Shale continues, demand has increased for skilled welders. Johnson College hopes to meet that demand by offering industry-driven curriculum related to clean, green, and sustainable energy concepts. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 8 August 2010.

**Getting at the gas below.** The Marcellus Shale is a formation of dense rock about a mile beneath the earth's surface, stretching from West Virginia to New York, with a portion lying beneath about two-thirds of Luzerne County. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 8 August 2010.

**Marcellus Shale plan would OK extraction without leases.** Don't want natural gas companies drilling under your property? Tough. They might be able to do it anyway. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 8 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**Drillers cited 64 times.** From failing to follow reclamation plans to polluting the waters of West Virginia, Marcellus Shale natural gas drillers have been cited for 64 violations throughout the state since Jan. 1, 2008. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 8 August 2010.

**County ranks third in Barnett Shale inventory.** Denton County, Texas has more sources for pollution from natural gas production equipment than all but two of the 24 counties in the Barnett Shale area, according to a new state inventory. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 8 August 2010.

**Fracking puts state at risk for another disaster.** The sheen of oil spreading down the Kalamazoo River hits close to home. It is one more sign that we have entered an age of proliferating harm to and demand for water by private special interests. [Detroit Free Press](#), Michigan. Opinion, 8 August 2010.

**Carrizo Oil partnership to boost operations in Pennsylvania.** Carrizo Oil & Gas Inc. entered into a joint venture with India-based Reliance Industries Limited on Thursday that will provide the boost in capital Carrizo needs to accelerate its drilling operations in Pennsylvania. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 7 August 2010.

**National Fuel doubles estimates of Shale gas.** National Fuel Gas Co. executives keep seeing more and more potential in drilling for natural gas on its vast land holdings in northwestern Pennsylvania. [Buffalo News](#), New York. 7 August 2010.

**EOG selling nearly a quarter of its Marcellus acres.** EOG Resources Inc., the natural gas company that state environmental officials rebuked last month over a runaway well in Clearfield County, is unloading nearly a quarter of its Marcellus Shale acreage in Pennsylvania. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 7 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**In Utah, the more things change, the more they stay the same.** Bullheadedness is what defines both environmentalists and those locals who'd rather see coal mining or oil and gas drilling as the basis of an economy. [High Country News](#). Opinion, 7 August 2010.

**'Marcellus multiplier' could spark economic revival in Pennsylvania .** Ultimately, the extent to which opportunities will be realized will depend on whether we can put in place a tax, legislative and regulatory framework that keeps Pennsylvania ahead of the curve in attracting the investment needed to economically develop the Marcellus. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 7 August 2010.

**Drilling industry and gubernatorial candidates move to weaken some state regulations.** As the federal government focuses on strengthening regulations for deepwater drilling, the gas and oil industry is quietly trying to weaken state regulations for drilling on land. [ProPublica](#). 6 August 2010.

[Marcellus Shale impact dominates town hall meeting here.](#) Concerns about the impact from the Marcellus Shale, particularly the environment, dominated discussion Thursday night at a town hall meeting hosted by state Rep. Rick Mirabito, D-Williamsport. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 6 August 2010.

[Fort Worth residents raise concerns about drilling dangers.](#) New York State legislators worry about the impact of chemicals used in the "fracking" process on drinking water, and at a meeting Thursday night in Fort Worth, local citizens wondered if they should be worried as well. [Fort Worth WFAA TV](#), Texas. 6 August 2010.

[Outfitter sues oil firms for contamination.](#) An outfitter who drank contaminated water from a faucet in his cabin north of Parachute more than two years ago has filed suit against two oil and gas companies for allegedly poisoning springs on his property. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 6 August 2010.

[New York Senate passes gas drilling moratorium.](#) The New York State Senate has approved at least a nine-month delay in issuing permits for a method of natural gas drilling, saying more study is needed to ensure it does not contaminate the state's water supply. [Reuters](#). 5 August 2010.

[Former governor Tom Ridge signs lucrative Marcellus contract.](#) Former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge, along with two of his former gubernatorial campaign managers, signed a \$900,000 contract on July 30 to go to bat for the heavily polluting Marcellus Shale gas drilling industry. [Philadelphia Weekly Press](#), Pennsylvania. 5 August 2010.

[New York Senate passes temporary ban on hydraulic fracturing.](#) In a pre-dawn vote Wednesday, New York State's Senate passed a bill that reaches beyond the debate over the environmental safety of drilling for gas in the Marcellus Shale and would effectively ban almost all gas and oil drilling in the state until next spring. [ProPublica](#). 5 August 2010.

[New York Senate approves drilling halt on natural gas from Marcellus Shale.](#) New York moved a step closer to a temporary state ban on drilling for natural gas from shale that would delay companies led by Chesapeake Energy Corp. [Bloomberg News](#). 5 August 2010.

[Cuomo wants 'the facts' before moving forward on natural gas drilling.](#) About 50 people gathered outside the State Office Building Wednesday, demanding answers from Attorney General and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Andrew Cuomo on where he stands on drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale formation. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 5 August 2010.

[Senate OKs freeze on drilling.](#) The region's two state senators voted for a gasdrilling moratorium, citing a need for more time to review environmental impacts of the process, debate issues and answer concerns. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. 5 August 2010.

[Gas drilling moratorium passes NY Senate.](#) While environmental groups celebrated passage of a gas-drilling moratorium in the state Senate, an industry group said Wednesday it needlessly delays work already held up for two years during an environmental review. [Associated Press](#). 5 August 2010.

[N.Y. Senate approves fracking moratorium.](#) The New York State Senate voted 48 to 9 Tuesday night to issue a temporary moratorium on a type of natural gas exploration that combines hydraulic fracturing with horizontal drilling and the injection of millions of gallons of chemically treated water underground. [New York Times](#). 5 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**[North Fayette supervisors OK natural gas lease.](#)** Dozens of property owners in North Fayette have signed leases with drilling companies that plan to extract natural gas from the Marcellus Shale bed. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 5 August 2010.

**[Agency to tackle drilling pollution.](#)** The federal Environmental Protection Agency plans to rewrite its rules for air pollution from gas and oil drilling in response to a lawsuit from the San Juan Citizens Alliance. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 4 August 2010.

**[Tougher pollution rules on oil and gas industry weighed.](#)** Officials with the Environmental Protection Agency have gotten an earful from the public at a meeting in Denver as part of a court-ordered view of air quality regulations for oil and gas drilling. [Greeley KUNC Radio](#), Colorado. 4 August 2010.

**[Sestak calls for study on fracking impact.](#)** U.S. Rep. Joe Sestak, D-7, of Edgmont, cited the need for safe development of Marcellus Shale natural gas deposits in a letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding a proposed study on the impact of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water. [Delaware County Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 4 August 2010.

**[New York considers state drilling ban on natural gas from Marcellus Shale.](#)** Companies led by Chesapeake Energy Corp. would be banned temporarily from drilling for natural gas in shale in New York under state legislation proposed because of disputes over environmental risks. [Bloomberg News](#). 4 August 2010.

**[Chesapeake Appalachia files civil complaint over natural gas drilling lease requirements.](#)** A natural gas drilling company with extensive landholdings throughout the region has filed a civil complaint in Wayne County Court against the county recorder of deeds office claiming it has encumbered land leasing there. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 4 August 2010.

**[Amount of water for oil shale production is less than estimated.](#)** An oil shale industry producing the equivalent of 1.5 million barrels of oil per day might require significantly less water than had been previously believed, a study suggests. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 4 August 2010.

**[Drilling report tallies 1,400 violations in Pa.](#)** Companies rushing to drill for natural gas in the rich Marcellus Shale reserve a mile below Pennsylvania have tallied more than 1,400 violations of state laws since January 2008, according to an environmental advocacy group's analysis of state data. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 4 August 2010.

**[Cabot won't drill in Wayne County.](#)** The Delaware River has become the focus of the national battle over natural gas drilling. Now Cabot Oil and Gas said it is pulling out of Wayne and Pike counties and other parts of the Delaware River watershed. This comes during a controversial ban on gas drilling in that area. [Scranton WNEP TV](#), Pennsylvania. 4 August 2010.

**[County commissioners prepare for natural gas.](#)** Natural gas drilling is becoming more prominent in Wayne County. The Wayne County Economic Development Corp. signed on with two other counties in New York state to form a coalition to study Marcellus Shale and try to provide the public with information on natural gas drilling. [Wayne Independent](#), Pennsylvania. 4 August 2010.

**[Report on Pennsylvania natural gas drilling tallies 1,400 violations.](#)** Companies rushing to drill for natural gas in the rich Marcellus Shale reserve a mile below Pennsylvania have tallied more than 1,400 violations of state laws since January 2008, according to an environmental advocacy group's analysis of state data. [Associated Press](#), 4 August 2010.

**[County approves new wells.](#)** The Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board on Tuesday night approved new natural gas wells and a facility for processing the gas, but added safety conditions. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 4 August 2010.

**[Fort Worth clears way for air pollution testing at drilling sites to begin this month.](#)** A highly anticipated series of tests for air pollution around natural gas drilling sites in Fort Worth will start this month. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 4 August 2010.

**[More Marcellus vs. Murphy.](#)** Both deep water oil drilling off the Gulf Coast and natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale involve extreme and rather risky circumstances. [Chester Daily Local](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 4 August 2010.

**[At EPA's public meeting over gas drilling regulations, grievances aired.](#)** The four white-collar grunts from the Environmental Protection Agency were greeted in Arlington Monday by townsfolk who drove in from around the Barnett Shale to woo them for their cause with passionate pleas about rampant asthma, benzene and carbon disulfide flares. [Dallas Observer](#), Texas. Opinion, 4 August 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale gas drillers committed 1,435 violations in 2.5 years, report says.](#)** Marcellus Shale gas drillers in Pennsylvania commit an average of 1.5 regulatory violations per day, according to a report from the Pennsylvania Land Trust, based on Right To Know requests to the Department of Environmental Protection. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 3 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**[The Marcellus shale reserve drilling dilemma.](#)** There's a controversial provision tucked inside the energy bill working its way through the Senate and it's pitting some natural gas drillers against environmentalists. [PBS Nightly Business Report](#). 3 August 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale drillers record 1,500 violations since start of 2008.](#)** Marcellus Shale natural gas drillers have been cited nearly 1,500 times in the past 2½ years for violating the state's oil and gas laws, according to a report released Monday by the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 3 August 2010.

**[Gas link alleged in school closure.](#)** Was natural gas behind the closure of the Laurel Valley Middle-High School? Joel Sansone, the attorney for the citizens group Save Our Rams Education, said he believes there are individuals and groups who will benefit from the Marcellus Shale gas in that area. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 3 August 2010.

**[Firms commit 1,500 infractions in Pa. in 30 months.](#)** Marcellus Shale gas drilling companies have racked up nearly 1,500 environmental violations in Pennsylvania in the last two and a half years, according to a report released on Monday. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 3 August 2010.

**[Aqua Pennsylvania, United Water Co. monitor supply before drilling begins.](#)** Water companies that rely on underground sources of water are also testing their supplies as natural gas drilling activity increases in the Back Mountain. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 3 August 2010.

**Cabot pulling out of Wayne County over natural gas drilling moratorium.** A major player in the Marcellus Shale drilling boom is pulling out of Wayne County, placing an estimated 9,200 acres secured for development on the block, with final bids due today. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 3 August 2010.

**Ridge brings team to boost shale drilling.** Pushing for more Marcellus Shale drilling comes at a hefty price. Former Gov. Tom Ridge and a team of officials at his two consulting firms will be paid \$900,000 for a one-year contract as strategic advisers to the Marcellus Shale Coalition, coalition spokesman Travis Windle said Monday. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 3 August 2010.

**Ligonier Valley School Board member admits gas ties.** The lawyer for a citizens' group seeking to halt the consolidation of schools in Ligonier Valley School District told a Westmoreland County judge Monday that money potentially earned from the sale of natural gas rights trumped the best interest of students. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 3 August 2010.

**US gas firms broke environment rules.** Energy companies drilling for natural gas in Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale have violated environmental laws 1,435 times since the drilling boom began in early 2008, according to a survey published on Monday by an environmental group. [Reuters](#). 3 August 2010.

**Speakers at EPA hearing in Arlington spar over effect of gas drilling on air quality.** Dozens of speakers sparred over how best to balance public health with jobs during an EPA hearing Monday about regulating air pollution from natural gas drilling. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 3 August 2010.

**North Texas residents want to protect economy as well as the air.** Dozens of people called on the federal government Monday to help clean up air pollution tied to natural gas drilling in Texas, while others cautioned that the government should be careful not to overreach its authority or hurt the state's economy. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 3 August 2010.

**EPA hears from industry, environmental groups and residents at session on Barnett Shale drilling.** When money from Barnett Shale natural-gas drilling started pouring into rural Johnson County a few years ago, there was no doubt good times had come. But eventually there were drawbacks, such as the haze of air pollution that started obscuring the horizon. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 3 August 2010.

**Why gas leaks matter in the hydraulic fracturing debate.** Methane migration is a critical part of the discussions of underground contamination risks from drilling and hydraulic fracturing because it demonstrates that a pathway exists for contaminants to move through the substrata to the surface or into water supplies. [ProPublica](#). Opinion, 3 August 2010.

**Republicans: The Scorched Earth Party.** The EPA is finally studying the environmental impacts of the process known as hydraulic fracturing or fracking. [Aspen Daily News](#), Colorado. Opinion, 3 August 2010.

**Avoiding America's next drilling disaster.** As gas drilling expands, we have a responsibility to make sure it's not harming the public. As we have seen over the past three months of unfolding devastation in the Gulf, the price of energy exploration without reasonable regulation is far too high. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 3 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**Wastewater disposal remains a point of debate in gas drilling.** Four years after Fort Worth banned disposal of wastewater from natural gas drilling in the city limits, the rhetoric has cooled, but there's no end in sight to the debate over safety and cost. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 2 August 2010.

**Groups plan to urge EPA to toughen air-quality rules for oil, gas industry.** Citizen and environmental groups say they plan to call for tougher air-pollution regulation of the oil and gas industry when the Environmental Protection Agency holds two public meetings on the issue this week. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 1 August 2010.

**Don't rush fracking rules, legislators urge.** The debate over extracting natural gas through horizontal hydraulic fracturing — also known as hydrofracking, or just fracking — has some elected officials urging the state Department of Environmental Conservation to take their time in developing rules that will aim to avoid energy industry disasters. [Kingston Daily Freeman](#), New York. 1 August 2010.

**North Texas cities weigh benefits, risks of Barnett Shale gas drilling.** As the debate continues over the health and environmental effects of natural gas drilling, the drilling boom is bringing an influx of income to municipalities in the Barnett Shale. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 1 August 2010.

**Marcellus shale gas boom may harm state without regulation.** It's not an exaggeration to suggest that the lure of the Marcellus Shale has set off a Pennsylvania gas rush analogous to the California Gold Rush, the Texas oil boom and the discovery of oil on Alaska's North Slope. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 1 August 2010. [Registration Required]

**Gas industry mouthpiece blows hot air.** If the natural gas industry operated with the efficiency of its public relations machine the United States would be energy independent in a matter of weeks. Or at least that's what the press release would say. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 1 August 2010.

**Marcellus Shale Coalition hires Ridge as adviser.** Stung by a gas well blowout in Clearfield County and the likelihood of legislators slapping a new tax on underground natural gas, Marcellus Shale drillers have added a heavy hitter to their lineup -- former Gov. Tom Ridge. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 31 July 2010.

**As water worries mount, researcher says Marcellus Shale poses risk to air.** Protecting watersheds in the Marcellus Shale region and forcing driller disclosure of fracking chemicals are the foremost demands of those concerned about potential environmental harm from natural gas activity. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 31 July 2010.

**Concerns raised at gas drilling hearing.** About 160 people concerned about natural gas drilling packed the Dingmans Ferry municipal building for a public forum Tuesday night. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 31 July 2010.

**Weigh the pros and cons of shale gas development.** If we're hoping to avoid any climate-change tipping points over the next 20 years, then relying too heavily on shale gas at this point in the game would seem unwise - if not straight out stupid. [Saint John Telegraph-Journal](#), New Brunswick. Opinion, 31 July 2010.

**Texas proposes new rules for shale gas drilling.** Texas environmental regulators have formally proposed beefing up regulations on oil and gas drilling, in an attempt to reduce air pollution caused when companies use new technology to extract natural gas trapped in deep shales. [Associated Press](#). 30 July 2010.

**Drilling accountability bill would regulate fracturing too.** Tucked inside the Senate bill aimed at cracking down on oil drillers after the Gulf spill is a long-sought measure to protect groundwater from natural gas drilling. [ProPublica](#). 30 July 2010.

**Fed, county officials taking a hard look at hydrofracking.** With little regulation on the controversial practice of hydrofracking, used to drill for natural gas in areas of southern Madison County, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is collecting public input for a study that could potentially create the need for legislation reform. [Oneida Daily Dispatch](#), New York. 30 July 2010.

**Federal, state bills target fracking safety.** As federal legislation to force the disclosure of chemicals used in a natural gas drilling process moves forward, state legislation to strengthen reporting requirements on the disposal of water laced with those chemicals is being promised. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 30 July 2010.

**Shale's shill.** Former governors can choose many career paths. Some of them become college presidents. Some go on the lecture circuit. And then there's Tom Ridge, who is set to become a paid shill for the natural-gas drillers swarming his native state. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 30 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**Hydro-fracking fight hijacks spill bill.** The fight over the Senate offshore drilling "spill bill" shifted Wednesday from the Gulf of Mexico to the mountains of western Pennsylvania, as Republicans slammed the last-minute inclusion of language to regulate a controversial technique to extract onshore natural gas. [Politico](#). 29 July 2010.

**Wells of wealth -- or woe? Questions waft from Marcellus Shale drilling sites.** As Pittsburgh begins addressing concerns that it could be the next stop on the Marcellus Shale wagon train, many people are wondering: What is this 21st century gold rush - and how will it affect me? [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 29 July 2010.

**US Senate bill to force fracking fluid disclosure.** The U.S. Senate energy bill is supposed to promote vehicles fueled by natural gas, but industry is crying foul over provisions they say undercut a drilling technique essential to boosting domestic gas output. [Reuters](#). 29 July 2010.

**Natural gas plays in the Marcellus Shale: Challenges and potential opportunities.** At the annual production rate, there is enough natural gas across the country to supply the U.S. for the next 90 years with some estimates extending the supply to 116 years. The Marcellus Shale is the most expansive shale gas in play in the U.S. [Environmental Science & Technology](#). 29 July 2010.

**Risks to U.S. shale gas production.** The development of shale "plays" may be slowed by concern about environmental damage from chemicals used to extract the gas, and by the resulting laws and regulations designed to protect water and air. [Reuters](#). 29 July 2010.

**[Wastewater tracking bill introduced.](#)** State Rep. Phyllis Mundy, D-Kingston, said Wednesday she is introducing legislation that would create a system for tracking and reporting the disposal of the polluted water that is a byproduct of natural gas drilling. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 29 July 2010.

**[State proposes new rules for drillers.](#)** The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality proposed new rules Wednesday for oil and gas drilling permits to beef up regulations and better protect air quality in the Barnett Shale region in North Texas. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 29 July 2010.

**[Gas drilling companies claim to use safer chemicals.](#)** In Texas and across the country, controversy is escalating over the practice of "fracking," which involves shooting water, sand and chemicals far underground to retrieve natural gas. [Austin Texas Tribune](#), Texas. 28 July 2010.

**[Environmental groups urge N.J., Pa. to consider impact studies before adopting natural gas drilling rules.](#)** Environmental groups urged New Jersey and Pennsylvania today to await the outcome of two impact studies before adopting regulations on a controversial natural gas drilling proposal for the Delaware River Basin. [Newark Star-Ledger](#), New Jersey. 28 July 2010.

**[Gas drilling company sues Damascus Township over cease and desist order.](#)** A natural gas drilling company has filed a federal lawsuit against Damascus Township in Wayne County, just days after township officials issued a "cease and desist" work order on one of the company's exploratory wells because they didn't obtain a zoning permit. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 28 July 2010.

**[Sen. Casey introduces another bill on gas drilling safety.](#)** In light of recent incidents involving natural gas wells, U.S. Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., is planning to introduce legislation aimed at increasing safety at drilling sites. Mr. Casey introduced his proposed legislation Monday at a Senate committee hearing in Pittsburgh. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 27 July 2010.

**[Proceed with caution on shale gas.](#)** This emerging love affair with natural gas is worrying. If we're hoping to avoid any climate change tipping points over the next 20 years, then relying too heavily on shale gas at this point in the game would seem unwise – if not straight out stupid. [Toronto Star](#), Ontario. Opinion, 26 July 2010.

**[Quebec between a rock and a hard place on gas from shale.](#)** It could mean thousands of jobs and billions of dollars for the province, potentially redrawing the energy map in Canada. But the environmental risks of getting this gas has both skeptics and hopefuls frustrated and worried. [Toronto Star](#), Ontario. 25 July 2010.

**[Natural-gas companies turn to Ridge to fuel drilling efforts.](#)** Having already hired three former aides to Gov. Rendell, companies wanting to tap Pennsylvania's vast natural-gas reserves have set their sights on one of the state's best-known political figures: Tom Ridge. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 25 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Federal study to tackle fracking impact.](#)** Those who say gas drilling will poison the region's drinking water and threaten public health might finally get their wish for a \$1 million federal study of its potential impact on the Delaware River Watershed. [Doylestown Intelligencer](#), Pennsylvania. 25 July 2010.

**[Draft methane permits require water to be treated.](#)** The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has issued new draft permits requiring the state's largest coalbed methane producer to treat salty water from its gas wells before discharge into the Tongue River. [Billings Gazette](#), Montana. 25 July 2010.

**[Natural gas, unnatural risk: Hydrofracking endangers our water.](#)** Saving New York from environmental horrors that have already shown much of America the false promise of fracking must be a top priority for elected officials. [New York Daily News](#), New York. Opinion, 25 July 2010.

**[E.P.A. weighs risks of hydraulic fracturing for natural gas.](#)** Pennsylvania residents point to fouled wells, deformed livestock and poisoned fish near natural gas wells that blast underground rock with water and chemicals. [New York Times](#). 24 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Drilling down on fracking.](#)** Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is a process used to extract natural gas from shale deposits deep within the earth. Natural gas could help the U.S. meet its CO2 emissions-reductions goals, but many environmental problems, including water pollution have been associated with extracting this resource. [Living On Earth](#). 24 July 2010.

**[Drinking water an issue in Marcellus Shale debate.](#)** Drinking water is one of the biggest concerns for people in the debate over Marcellus Shale drilling. More than 1,200 people crammed into a federal EPA hearing. Many are accusing the drilling company Atlas Energy Company of contaminating ground water and the waterways. [Pittsburgh KDKA TV](#), Pennsylvania. 24 July 2010.

**[Passions on display at E.P.A. meeting.](#)** The aim of the meeting, which drew well over 1,000 attendees, was to solicit advice from stakeholders on how E.P.A. should focus and design a study of the impact of hydraulic fracturing on groundwater. [New York Times](#). 24 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Water study targets gas drilling.](#)** What would be the impact of withdrawing billions of gallons of water from various sources in the Delaware River Basin for natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale? [Gannett News Service](#). 24 July 2010.

**[Energy giant agrees to pay record fine.](#)** Williams has agreed to pay a record \$423,300 fine to resolve a state investigation into a spring-contamination case in which a De Beque man drank benzene-tainted water. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 24 July 2010.

**[Will the real data please stand up?](#)** When the purpose is to better understand the potential health impacts of fracking and fracking advocates insist a study isn't even needed, the question arises, why fear the truth? The EPA hearings are not designed to determine fracking's health effects by comparing the relative loudness of its opponents and proponents. [High Country News](#). Opinion, 24 July 2010.

**[Critics claim Colorado gas drillers playing both sides of "fracking" debate.](#)** Some of the biggest natural gas producers in Colorado are part of a coalition of operators in the eastern U.S. that is backing "full disclosure" of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing. But critics say those same companies have a different standard when it comes to hydraulic fracturing in Colorado. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 23 July 2010.

**[1,200 hear Marcellus Shale debate.](#)** Concerns about the risk of water contamination and public health problems from Marcellus Shale drilling dominated a sometimes loud U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hearing in Canonsburg attended by 1,200 people Thursday night. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 23 July 2010.

**[EPA hears from gas drillers, angry Pa. residents.](#)** Federal researchers studying a natural gas drilling technique that involves blasting chemical-laced water into the ground got an earful from residents who say it's poisoning them and killing their animals and from industry experts who say it's being unfairly demonized. [Associated Press](#). 23 July 2010.

**[Huge turnout for EPA fracking hearing.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency got an earful at a public meeting in southwestern Pennsylvania, part of its recently opened re-examination of hydraulic fracturing. [New York Times](#). 23 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Natural gas: Economic boom or environmental bust?](#)** As natural gas companies move to northcentral Pennsylvania and pour millions of dollars into the local economies, environmentalists and state regulators question whether their methods of extracting the resource are safe. [Susquehanna Valley WGAL TV](#), Pennsylvania. 23 July 2010.

**[Protesters blame gas drilling for water-well woes.](#)** People who make a living from a natural gas drilling technique that involves pumping chemical-laced water into the earth and others who believe it has poisoned them or their well water packed into a hotel ballroom on Thursday night to make an impression on federal researchers. [Associated Press](#). 23 July 2010.

**[DEP clears gas well operator to continue in W.Va.](#)** An Ohio gas company involved in a drilling rig explosion that injured seven workers has been cleared to resume operations in West Virginia after the company complied with the conditions of the cease-operations order and corrected all underlying violations, a DEP spokeswoman said Thursday. [Associated Press](#). 23 July 2010.

**[Robson residents split over gas rule.](#)** Mayor Mark Burroughs summoned Robson Ranch representative Steve Soriano to the podium first during this week's contentious public hearing over new rules for natural gas drilling and production. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 23 July 2010.

**[Gasland shows the dangers lurking in wells.](#)** While oil is still synonymous with unmitigated catastrophe, the documentary Gasland warns of the dangers lurking in natural-gas wells. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. Opinion, 23 July 2010.

**[The Marcellus shale: The politics of gas.](#)** "The Marcellus Shale: The Politics of Gas" reveals the controversy surrounding natural gas production in New York. While skeptics of production fear hydraulic fracturing, a widely used technique to extract gas, will ruin the state's pristine waterways, proponents tout potential economic benefits. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 22 July 2010.

**[Could shale deposits bring mid-Atlantic states \\$2 trillion?](#)** A new oil industry study says there is as much as \$2 trillion in natural gas locked in shale deposits beneath New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. But drilling for it can be fraught with problems, critics say. [Christian Science Monitor](#). 22 July 2010.

**[W.Va. falls behind Pa. in Marcellus natural gas drilling, study finds.](#)** Natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale formation in West Virginia has increased in recent years, but isn't keeping pace with production in Pennsylvania, according to an industry report released Wednesday. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 22 July 2010.

**[Pa. lifts some sanctions on Cabot, citing repairs.](#)** Pennsylvania relaxed some sanctions against a natural gas company blamed for contaminating well water at 14 homes in Dimock — only hours before a new spill at a gas well being drilled by the same company. [Associated Press](#). 22 July 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale drilling raises many legal issues in Murrysville.](#)** A lot of leasing and legal information about Marcellus Shale was presented to Murrysville residents during another information-gathering session last week. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 22 July 2010.

**[Agency to reconsider natural gas drilling stoppage.](#)** The Delaware River Basin Commission agreed July 14 to hold hearings in northeast Pennsylvania on whether to strengthen or weaken its moratorium on natural gas drilling deep below the river basin. [Sparta Independent](#), New York. 22 July 2010.

**[Pa. allows Cabot 60 days to fix gas-impacted water.](#)** The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection on Wednesday said Cabot Oil & Gas Corp had 60 days to "permanently fix water supplies" that were affected by the company's natural gas drilling operations in Susquehanna County. [Reuters](#). 22 July 2010.

**[City gas well rules change.](#)** In its first pass at addressing concerns that have emerged over natural gas drilling and production, the Denton City Council adopted a number of changes to its ordinance early Wednesday. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 22 July 2010.

**[State cites gas firm after complaints.](#)** Residents who fear the coming of natural gas development to this residential community say smells associated with it already have arrived, making them sick. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 22 July 2010.

**[EPA takes new look at gas drilling, water issues.](#)** As gas drillers swarm to lucrative Marcellus Shale reserves around the country, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is taking a new look at the controversial fracking technique, currently exempt from federal regulation. [Associated Press](#). 21 July 2010.

**[Government not regulating gas project enough: Residents.](#)** A meeting of angry landholders in Kingaroy in Queensland's South Burnett region are accusing Mines Minister Stephen Robertson of not properly regulating a new gas industry amid fears the local water supply has been contaminated. [Australia ABC News](#), Australia. 21 July 2010.

**[Information from gas-drilling companies isn't coming easily, congressmen say.](#)** Gas and oil companies have deflected congressional inquiries about whether they are drilling near underground drinking water sources and how they are disposing of the chemical-laden wastewater their operations produce. [ProPublica](#). 21 July 2010.

**[Fiala withdraws proposed natural gas drilling deal.](#)** In a surprise move late Tuesday afternoon, Broome County Executive Barbara J. Fiala pulled a gas drilling rights deal off the table, essentially killing the controversial proposal, which had been highly criticized by environmentalists and landowners. [Gannett News Service](#). 21 July 2010.

**[Drill rig set to go at first gas well.](#)** A natural gas drilling rig has been erected at the site of the first natural gas well to be drilled into the Marcellus Shale in Luzerne County. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 21 July 2010.

**[Boback calls for moratorium near lake.](#)** If the state Department of Environmental Protection can make borough officials do something about sewage pollution in the lake, why can't it step in to prevent potential contamination from natural gas drilling? That was the argument made by state Rep. Karen Boback, R-Harveys Lake. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 21 July 2010.

**[State denies drill permit for gas well at Stow site.](#)** The state has denied a permit for a proposed gas well on a Stow church's property, thrilling the plan's opponents. [Akron Beacon Journal](#), Ohio. 21 July 2010.

**[Gas driller faces eviction from Utah reservation.](#)** The Ute Indian tribe is threatening to kick a gas producer off an eastern Utah reservation in an escalating dispute that has the company questioning the tribe's sovereignty. [Associated Press](#). 21 July 2010.

**[Paterson and Gillibrand should not oppose shale gas drilling.](#)** U. S. Senator Kristin Gillibrand has declared that she supports a moratorium against shale gas drilling in New York State. [Wellsville Daily Reporter](#), New York. Opinion, 21 July 2010.

**[Landowners and environmentalists agree: Broome County should not sign gas deal.](#)** In the highly polarizing debate about the natural gas rush in the Southern Tier, environmentalists and landowners don't agree on much. On Monday, they were nearly unanimous in their opposition to a proposed lease deal between Broome County and a Denver energy company. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 20 July 2010.

**[Residents on mission to protect Harveys Lake.](#)** Some Harveys Lake residents are taking action to try to protect Pennsylvania's largest natural lake from potential contamination by natural gas drilling. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 20 July 2010.

**[Environmentalists urge tougher water standards.](#)** Don Garvin, lead lobbyist for the West Virginia Environmental Council, said the standard for total dissolved solids (TDS) pollution in state rivers and streams isn't as stringent as what is recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 20 July 2010.

**[Noxen residents ready to embrace gas drilling - on their own terms.](#)** Noxen is a community that came together and protested the closing of its post office on a bitter December morning. So, when gas company land agents approached residents in rural Noxen Township, they demonstrated perhaps their greatest skill: their ability to unite. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 19 July 2010.

**[Gas company has plans to drill 284 wells south of Silt.](#)** A natural gas drilling company is poised to drill 284 wells in an area about six miles south of the town of Silt known as North Castle Springs. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 19 July 2010.

**[Bush-era oil shale decisions defended.](#)** A year and a half after President Obama took office, his administration is defending decisions made during the Bush administration related to potential oil shale development. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 18 July 2010.

**[Drillers press Delaware River Basin Commission to reconsider moratorium.](#)** The Delaware River Basin Commission hasn't heard the last word on natural gas drilling in northeast Pennsylvania. It agreed last week to hold further hearings there on its drilling moratorium. [Associated Press](#). 18 July 2010.

**[Drilling debate on deck.](#)** Southern Tier and Finger Lakes region residents who care about the future of natural gas drilling in their home counties should pay close attention to the New York governor's race. The candidate who gets elected may well have a significant, if not final, say on whether drilling goes forward in New York. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. Editorial, 18 July 2010.

**[Must police drilling.](#)** In the fall, the legislature will finally decide how to impose a production tax on drillers. Legislators should use that opportunity to also focus efforts on protecting the state's environment. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 18 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Sen. Inhofe jabs EPA's Region 6 office over Texas fight, oil and gas regs.](#)** Unhappy with U.S. EPA's Dallas-based Region 6 office and concerned about a potential crackdown on air pollution from shale gas drilling, the top Republican on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee has asked EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson for answers. [Greenwire](#). 17 July 2010.

**[State rule targets chloride levels.](#)** A proposed rule to limit the concentration in waterways of a salt compound produced by Marcellus Shale drilling is being challenged. The proposal by the state would align the standard for allowable chloride levels with national criteria used to protect freshwater plants and animals. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 17 July 2010.

**[BLM not budging on Vermillion drilling.](#)** The Bureau of Land Management won't waver from its plans to close the Vermillion Basin to oil and gas exploration, the head of the agency said Friday. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 17 July 2010.

**[Natural gas company's disclosure decision could change fracking debate.](#)** A Texas natural gas producer's decision to voluntarily disclose the chemicals it injects into the ground could prompt other drillers to do the same, and pave the way for regulators to require such disclosure. [Greenwire](#). 16 July 2010.

**[Drilling company says it will list hazardous chemicals used in fracking.](#)** One of the largest gas drillers in the Marcellus Shale has announced that it will disclose the chemicals it uses in its Pennsylvania wells. [ProPublica](#). 16 July 2010.

**[Drilling in the Valley.](#)** Millions of gallons of water are used to literally fracture the earth to get at the natural gas below. Natural gas is potentially a steady source of bridge fuel as we move away from oil and toward renewable energies. If we don't do it right, we could turn our own backyard into a wasteland. [Augusta Free Press](#), Virginia. 16 July 2010.

**[A drilling boom: Saving farms, or contaminating?](#)** Northern Michigan is poised for a boom in natural gas production. Developers have paid a record amount of bonuses for drilling rights on state and private land. At first, property owners focused on what is fair payment. But they're now questioning how drilling will affect their land and water. [Interlochen Public Radio](#), Michigan. 16 July 2010.

**[Battlement Mesa residents complain about fumes.](#)** Residents of this unincorporated subdivision in western Garfield County are complaining about noxious fumes and odors from a nearby gas-well drilling pad. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 16 July 2010.

**[Say no to drilling, Charest urged.](#)** A group of 480 concerned Quebecers sent an open letter to Jean Charest, asking the premier to say no to oil and gas drilling in Quebec. The Quebec government should be advised: this is an issue that won't go away easily. [Montreal Gazette](#), Quebec. Opinion, 16 July 2010.

**[Hundreds say ban gas drilling.](#)** About 650 people stormed the Delaware River Basin Commission meeting, most of them calling for an end to natural gas drilling before drillers get a chance to begin in this region. [Bucks County Courier Times](#), Pennsylvania. 15 July 2010.

**[Marcellus driller volunteers to disclose fracking chemicals.](#)** The company that pioneered Marcellus Shale exploration announced Wednesday that it was voluntarily disclosing the chemicals used to hydraulically fracture its natural gas wells, in an effort to defuse criticism about the process. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 15 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Gas-drilling proposal passes first Broome hurdle.](#)** Broome County's Public Health and Environmental Protection Committee approved the first hurdles to a deal that would drill natural gas on county-owned land, despite opposition from protestors over health and environmental concerns. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 15 July 2010.

**[Agency to reconsider natural gas drilling stoppage.](#)** The Delaware River Basin Commission agreed Wednesday to hold hearings in northeast Pennsylvania on whether to strengthen or weaken its moratorium on natural gas drilling deep below the river basin. [Associated Press](#). 15 July 2010.

**[A meeting on Marcellus Shale drilling turns raucous.](#)** Busloads of activists - both for and against drilling for natural gas in Pennsylvania - converged on the Delaware River Basin Commission Wednesday to plead their cases. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 15 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[For gas-drilling data, there's a new place to dig.](#)** Starving for data about natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale? A new website hopes to feed your need. The site is hosted by the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds, an environmental group that funds local projects aimed at protecting the state's waterways. [ProPublica](#). 15 July 2010.

**[Company wants to withdraw 905,000 gallons of water from Lackawanna River for natural gas drilling-based business.](#)** A company developing a railroad facility to serve the natural gas drilling industry is seeking to withdraw 905,000 gallons of water a day from the Lackawanna River in Fell Twp. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 15 July 2010.

**[Latest Barnett Shale air tests show no harmful levels of compounds.](#)** An air quality study conducted by the Barnett Shale Energy Education Council found no harmful levels of benzene and other compounds being released from natural gas sites in the area. [Fort Worth Business Press](#), Texas. 15 July 2010.

**[White River drilling forecast: big increase.](#)** A planning document projects potentially more than 10 times the current number of oil and gas wells on the White River National Forest over the next 15 to 20 years. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 15 July 2010.

**[Natural-gas driller to disclose chemical use.](#)** Range Resources Corp. says it plans to disclose the chemicals used to hydraulically fracture natural-gas wells in Pennsylvania, confronting rising pressure from environmental groups worried that drilling could contaminate drinking water. [Wall Street Journal](#). 14 July 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[\\$400,000 fine for Marcellus Shale blowout.](#)** In the heftiest fine levied thus far against a Marcellus Shale natural-gas driller, state environmental officials socked a Texas company Tuesday with a \$400,000 penalty for failures that caused last month's well blowout in central Pennsylvania. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 14 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Province reviewing controversial drilling recommendations.](#)** The New Brunswick Department of Environment is reviewing a Conservation Council of New Brunswick primer on a controversial natural gas exploration technique called hydro fracking that calls for tougher regulations. [Fredericton Daily Gleaner](#), New Brunswick. 14 July 2010.

**[Drilling woes may creep onshore.](#)** Restrictions on new oil and gas drilling could soon spread from the Gulf of Mexico to onshore operations. [CNN Money](#). 14 July 2010.

**[EPA seeks comment in Denver on fracking study.](#)** Natural gas industry groups on Tuesday urged the Environmental Protection Agency to limit the scope of an upcoming study on the effects of a natural gas extraction process known as fracking. [Associated Press](#). 14 July 2010.

**[Pennsylvania blowout report cites mistakes, training.](#)** A natural gas drilling company failed to use a proper backup pressure-control system last month when hooking up a well to a pipeline, leading to a major blowout in Pennsylvania that spewed gas and wastewater for 16 hours, a state investigation has found. [Associated Press](#). 14 July 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale drillers put on notice.](#)** Marcellus Shale drillers are under state orders to use more pressure-control devices and have trained operators on hand in order to prevent dangerous gas well explosions. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 14 July 2010.

**[2 drillers fined for Pennsylvania gas well blowout.](#)** The state is imposing \$400,000 in fines against two companies that it blames for a natural gas well "blowout" in rural Clearfield County in June, an accident that spewed 35,000 gallons of chemical-laden "fracking fluid" into the atmosphere for 16 hours. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 14 July 2010.

**[Lewisville council rejects moratorium on gas drilling permits.](#)** Lying on the far eastern edge of the Barnett Shale, Lewisville is a newcomer to natural gas drilling. Following the lead of Flower Mound, Corinth and other cities, Lewisville considered suspending gas drilling permits this week to review current regulations. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 14 July 2010.

**[Devon Energy needs to provide industry leadership in Barnett Shale.](#)** By design, Devon avoided drilling in Pennsylvania, New York and Colorado, where opposition emerged with a vengeance. That was a savvy business move, but the controversy has come home now. So why not champion the solutions? [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. Opinion, 14 July 2010.

**Gubernatorial candidates weigh in on gas drilling.** Drilling in the Marcellus is a hot topic throughout the state, particularly in the Southern Tier. Gas companies have used the fracking technique with mixed results in other states, and environmentalists worry it could contaminate drinking water. [Gannett News Service](#). 13 July 2010.

**Opposition to natural gas wastewater.** Town officials in Veteran say they're against natural gas drilling wastewater being brought to their area, saying they want to protect the health of their residents and the quality of their drinking water. [Elmira WETM TV](#), New York. 13 July 2010.

**Rendell advisers getting jobs with shale gas firms.** Another member of Pennsylvania Gov. Rendell's inner circle has left to work for a Marcellus Shale natural gas producer, the third high-ranking administration official in the last year to move directly into the fast-growing industry. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 13 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**City Council holds session on Marcellus shale.** Drilling for natural gas in the so-called Marcellus Shale deposit is creating thousands of jobs, but many are concerned about environmental impact. [Pittsburgh KDKA TV](#), Pennsylvania. 13 July 2010.

**Hydraulic fracturing attracts both profit potential and green-group ire.** Sometime this month, Energen Corp. plans to hydraulically pressurize a natural gas well in west Alabama, a practice the company and shareholders hope will reap a wealth of profits, but one attracting growing streams of criticism from environmental groups nationwide. [Birmingham News](#), Alabama. 12 July 2010.

**Dash for gas raises environmental worries.** American politicians often extol natural gas as abundant, cleaner-burning than other fossil fuels, and domestically produced, unlike Middle Eastern oil. But the process of extracting it is raising concerns among people with wells in their backyards. [New York Times](#). 12 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**Natural gas drilling at center of debate.** Although it skirts the Lehigh Valley and northwestern New Jersey, natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale reserve could pose a threat to those downriver areas, according to the Delaware Riverkeeper Network. [Harrisburg Express-Times](#), Pennsylvania. 12 July 2010.

**Arlington councilman pushing for less intrusive gas drilling sites.** After staunch opposition from residents led the city to reject two natural gas drilling permits last month, Councilman Mel LeBlanc is leading efforts to make the city and gas companies work harder to keep wells away from homes. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 12 July 2010.

**Wastewater contaminating food we eat.** The problems connected with natural gas drilling seem to be more far-reaching than many had originally thought. It would seem obvious that we are holding poison in small ponds that can kill fish, enter our drinking water where it can be toxic to humans, and contaminate our food supply. [Lebanon Daily News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 12 July 2010.

**Let's protect N.Y.'s water.** One gas well using the hydrofracking process in the Marcellus Shale will use at least 100,000 gallons of water a day. Most estimates put the amount closer to a million gallons a day. Under current rules, none of that has to be reported. [Albany Times Union](#), New York. Opinion, 12 July 2010.

**[Texas energy industry under fire from administration.](#)** The current administration and environmental extremists have declared that they intend to end the "tyranny of oil," as President Obama has proclaimed. [Fort Worth Business Press](#), Texas. Opinion, 12 July 2010.

**[Drilling boom vigilance pressed across Pennsylvania.](#)** What scientists don't know is whether long-term issues might arise from hydraulic drilling far underground, at thousands of sites in the Marcellus shale formation. Drillers claim 60 years of hydraulic fracturing resulted in no measurable harm. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 11 July 2010.

**[Forced into drilling.](#)** Mary Alice Frederick became nervous in March when she discovered her neighbor, the Irem Temple Country Club and the Masonic Village development, had leased mineral rights to a natural gas company. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 11 July 2010.

**[Hundreds voice concerns to EPA about natural gas wells.](#)** The first of four meetings across the country organized by the Environmental Protection Agency was full of cheers and jeers as about 600 people met Thursday to voice their anger and fear – or their lack of concern – over the issue of hydraulic fracturing. [Dallas KXAS TV](#), Texas. 10 July 2010.

**[Flower Mound natural gas drilling plan pits property owners against residents.](#)** A 90-acre pasture along a busy roadway has become the latest battleground in the fight over natural gas drilling in Flower Mound. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 10 July 2010.

**[State to appeal ruling against drilling near Rulison nuke site.](#)** State regulators have decided to appeal after a lower court decided Garfield County landowners are entitled to a hearing over efforts to drill for natural gas near an underground nuclear blast site. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 10 July 2010.

**[Natural gas drilling contaminates water, air.](#)** If it occurred to you that the aquifers, rivers and creeks that provide drinking water for millions of people could be poisoned by fracking, that same thought occurred to people who noticed their drinking water smelled like turpentine, looked like mud and could be lit on fire. [Salt Lake Tribune](#), Utah. Opinion, 10 July 2010.

**[No Gasland here, I hope.](#)** Natural gas is hailed as green energy. I am all for the green revolution and finding ways to reduce our dependency on foreign oil. But, the green movement is about reducing our impact on the planet, and efficiency. Its about responsibility. Fracking doesn't sound like its any of these things. [Escanaba Daily Press](#), Michigan. Opinion, 10 July 2010.

**[Drilling dispute has hidden conflict: Who's going to run Texas?.](#)** Science and politics go together about as well as natural gas and drinking water. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. Opinion, 10 July 2010.

**[Big money drives up the betting on the Marcellus Shale.](#)** Far from the Gulf Coast and outside of the media spotlight, Halliburton and the oil and gas industry are spending billions of dollars in preparation for decades of drilling in the Marcellus Shale. [ClimateWire](#). 9 July 2010.

**[Concerns spread over environmental costs of producing shale gas.](#)** The extent to which U.S. utilities will burn natural gas to slash carbon dioxide emissions tied to global warming is a national issue. But on the ground across northern Appalachia, there's a fierce debate about how to balance the environmental and health impacts of drilling against the economic benefits of gas. [ClimateWire](#), 9 July 2010.

**[Hurdles for a natural gas transition.](#)** Natural gas might emerge as a "bridge" fuel in controlling carbon dioxide emissions, but switching over from coal would cost hundreds of billions of dollars – not even counting the cost of the gas, according to a study sponsored by the American Public Power Association. [New York Times](#), 9 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Meeting draws more than 600.](#)** More than 600 people filled a hotel ballroom in downtown Fort Worth in the first of four public meetings to be held nationwide on hydraulic fracturing. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas, 9 July 2010.

**[Drilling forum two years on.](#)** If gas drilling comes into the county in a large way, as many expect it will, some of those owners will likely have no choice about whether the gas under their land is extracted. [Narrowsburg River Reporter](#), New York, 9 July 2010.

**[EPA hears citizen concerns, industry assurances about gas drilling.](#)** Almost 600 crowded a Fort Worth hearing Thursday night to tell the EPA what they want from a study on hydraulic fracturing. [Dallas KERA](#), Texas, 9 July 2010.

**[Residents rally against horizontal drilling in Otsego County.](#)** More than 100 people attended Wednesday's Otsego County Board of Representatives meeting in protest of horizontal natural gas drilling, or "fracking." [Utica WKTV](#), New York, 8 July 2010.

**[Collier urged to control oil, gas drilling operations.](#)** After nearly a year of study, discussion and field visits, Collier's Planning Commission has recommended an ordinance that would permit oil and gas well drilling, but only as conditional uses in nonresidential areas. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania, 8 July 2010.

**[North Huntingdon weighs legal options on gas drilling restrictions.](#)** North Huntingdon officials are concerned about the proliferation of natural gas drilling in the township, specifically Marcellus Shale sites. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania, 8 July 2010.

**[Baker takes 'middle ground' on moratorium.](#)** State Sen. Lisa Baker, Luzerne County's senior Republican lawmaker, reacted to pressure for a moratorium on new natural-gas drilling Tuesday by issuing a statement seeking what she called the "middle ground" on the issue. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania, 8 July 2010.

**[Environmental groups call for federal regulation of hydraulic fracturing.](#)** Stronger federal regulation of hydraulic fracturing, a technique routinely employed in drilling Barnett Shale natural gas wells, is needed "to truly protect the public health and environment," the Sierra Club and two groups active in North Texas said in a teleconference Wednesday. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas, 8 July 2010.

**What's the big fracking deal?** The Environmental Protection Agency wants local input about how it should regulate the natural gas wells around DFW during a public meeting on Thursday. Fracking is a process used in the natural gas drilling, when workers break apart the earth with millions of gallons of water, sand and other chemicals mixed together. [Dallas KXAS TV](#), Texas. 8 July 2010.

**A shale gas boom brings change and stress to a quiet town.** On a farm north of this old timber town that stretches out along the banks of the Susquehanna River, Perry Landon's 82-year-old mother confronts the promises and trepidation of a new era of energy wealth. [ClimateWire](#). 7 July 2010.

**Gov. Rendell reaffirms shale tax commitment.** During a visit to the most active county for Marcellus Shale drilling this year, Gov. Ed Rendell on Tuesday outlined the state's commitment to enacting a severance tax on natural gas extraction, saying such a levy should give a fair share to communities where drilling is taking place. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 7 July 2010.

**Southlake hires firm to do air-quality tests near drilling sites.** If a natural gas well emits harmful pollutants in Southlake, the city will have the data to show it. On Tuesday, the City Council hired a company to do a base-line air quality test near potential drilling sites. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 7 July 2010.

**EPA finishing up Pavillion-area monitoring wells.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has almost finished drilling two monitoring wells to test for pollution in a central Wyoming community where residents suspect chemicals related to gas drilling have contaminated their well water. [Associated Press](#). 7 July 2010.

**Fracas erupts over "fracking" practices.** Despite the best intentions of energy icon T. Boone Pickens and regardless of the controversy over deepwater exploration in the Gulf of Mexico, onshore natural gas operations in the United States face a serious and distracting problem. [Houston Business Journal](#), Texas. 5 July 2010.

**Rolling back oil and gas regulations would be a mistake for Colorado.** This year, Colorado is on track to have the second busiest year for gas permitting in our state's history. And I am glad that in the midst of this robust activity, we are also ensuring that the best and safest possible practices are required of the companies operating in our state. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. Opinion, 5 July 2010.

**Beaches, oil and fracking?** Like most Americans, I enjoy the lifestyle that oil, gas, coal and nuclear energy provide. However, like most Americans, I hate the high cost of the environmental destruction, greed, war and medical ills from these energy sources. [San Diego North County Times](#), California. Opinion, 5 July 2010.

**Marcellus Shale dispute bubbling up in northeast Pennsylvania.** A mammoth clash over fracking is unfolding in Wayne County between neighbors with starkly contrasting visions about the land. It is a virtual range war, waged at public meetings and on the Internet, occasionally through small acts of vandalism. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 4 July 2010. [Registration Required]

**EPA study could slow natural gas exploration in area.** The EPA will review the drilling technique that has brought unconventional gas into a Renaissance era and, if current production rates hold up, could help supply the U.S. with natural gas power for the next century, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. [Victoria Advocate](#), Texas. 4 July 2010.

**[Penn State studies impact of Marcellus shale drilling.](#)** The Marcellus Shale formation is the largest unconventional natural gas reserve in the world, running under the Appalachian basin from upstate New York, through Virginia and west into Ohio, according to a study by Pennsylvania State University's College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. [DuBois Courier Express](#), Pennsylvania. 4 July 2010.

**[As Marcellus Shale development grows, tech schools step up to train workers.](#)** With the boom in Marcellus Shale natural gas development throughout northeastern Pennsylvania, educational institutions are growing to keep up with work force demands. [Associated Press](#). 4 July 2010.

**[Clean water underground? Halliburton says: 'fugetaboutit!'](#)** The technique of fracking (sometimes referred to as "hydro-fracing") has been around for decades, basically consisting of enhancing, amplifying and expediting boring logistics for oil, natural gas and coal exploration. [Salem News](#), Oregon. Opinion, 4 July 2010.

**[Oil companies' dash for gas: Vapour trails.](#)** Potentially dangerous and always more difficult to manage than pouring liquid into a barrel, natural gas used to give oil companies a headache. Now gas is dominating the thoughts of Western oil bosses and, increasingly, their firms' portfolios. [Economist](#). 3 July 2010.

**[U.S. not 'sovereign' over federal lands, Utah GOP Senate candidate says.](#)** An attorney seeking to replace Utah Sen. Robert Bennett (R) has pledged to push legislation to curb the Interior secretary's authority to cancel oil and gas leases and argued that the United States may only exercise sovereignty over federal lands with the consent of the state's Legislature. [Greenwire](#). 3 July 2010.

**[A fracking first in Pennsylvania: Cattle quarantine.](#)** Agriculture officials have quarantined 28 beef cattle on a Pennsylvania farm after wastewater from a nearby gas well leaked into a field and came in contact with the animals. The state Department of Agriculture said the action was its first livestock quarantine related to pollution from natural gas drilling. [ProPublica](#). 3 July 2010.

**[Hydraulic fracturing in Northern Michigan is a cause for concern.](#)** Northern Michigan and landowners are selling rights to gas and opening the way for hydraulic fracturing or "fracking," but it still is possible to ask that the exemption to the Safe Drinking Water Act be removed and that chemicals be reviewed for their impact on health. [Petoskey News-Review](#), Michigan. Opinion, 3 July 2010.

**[Challenges to shale-gas drilling mount in Pennsylvania.](#)** Against the backdrop of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, onshore natural-gas production in Pennsylvania is facing sharper scrutiny as concerns about the environmental impact of oil and gas drilling build. [Wall Street Journal](#). 2 July 2010.  
[Subscription Required]

**[Josh Fox, "Gasland" creator, on the hazards of fracking.](#)** Josh Fox is angry. A few years ago, he received a note in the mail saying he could lease his family's land in Pennsylvania for about \$100,000 to natural gas companies. [Austin Texas Tribune](#), Texas. 2 July 2010.

**[Tioga County cows quarantined after frack water leak.](#)** Twenty-eight cows have been quarantined after officials say the animals may have consumed wastewater that leaked from a holding pond for a natural gas well on the property. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 2 July 2010.

**US state quarantine cattle over gas drilling fluid.** Officials have quarantined 28 cows that may have drunk toxic waste water from natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania, adding to concerns about health risks arising from exploiting the state's vast shale deposits. [Reuters](#). 2 July 2010.

**What does drilling of Michigan's underground natural resources mean for the environment?** As interest in Michigan's underground natural resources increases, so do concerns over what drilling could mean for the environment. [Petoskey News-Review](#), Michigan. 2 July 2010.

**First gulf drilling, now Colorado.** Colorado's gubernatorial candidates have turned the race into a competition to see who is more enthusiastic about shredding the minimal energy regulations already on the state's books. Last week they both told energy executives that they would try to weaken state environmental regulations if elected. [San Francisco Chronicle](#), California. Opinion, 2 July 2010.

**DEP shale chemical lists at odds over inclusion of above ground substances.** The Department of Environmental Protection hoped to answer public concerns about the identity of chemicals used by drillers to coax natural gas from the Marcellus Shale by posting a comprehensive list of the compounds online on Wednesday. Instead, it caused a muddle. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 1 July 2010.

**Freeze on gas drilling appears dead.** The Legislature appears increasingly unlikely to enact a moratorium on natural gas drilling in the state's portion of the vast Marcellus Shale formation. [Gannett News Service](#). 1 July 2010.

**Natural gas industry will stay in Pa. awhile.** Even as state lawmakers debate a Marcellus Shale gas extraction tax, Brian Grove, a corporate spokesman for Chesapeake Energy, knows one thing is certain. The natural gas companies that have started moving into Pennsylvania are here to stay — probably for decades. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 1 July 2010.

**Wayne landowners hire lawyer to fight gas drilling moratorium.** A massive landowners' alliance in Wayne County is considering filing a lawsuit against an environmental regulatory agency that placed a blanket moratorium on gas drilling in the Delaware River watershed in part because of the potential loss of \$220 million in payments to leaseholders. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 1 July 2010.

**Massachusetts company selected for Fort Worth air tests.** A Massachusetts company emerged Wednesday night as the leading candidate to perform a much-anticipated study of potential air pollution around natural gas sites in the Fort Worth, Texas. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 1 July 2010.

**The coming era of energy disasters.** The Deep Horizon explosion was the inevitable result of a relentless effort to extract oil from ever deeper and more hazardous locations. As long as the industry continues its relentless, reckless pursuit of "extreme energy," more such calamities are destined to occur. [Nation](#). Opinion, 1 July 2010.

**EPA to seek public comment on hydraulic fracturing in Fort Worth.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is launching a study of fracturing that is expected to focus on its potential negative effects on groundwater supplies. To help determine the proper scope of its study, the agency is conducting four public meetings across the nation. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 30 June 2010.

**[Drilling chemicals may pose hazard.](#)** Marcellus Shale drilling involves compounds associated with neurological problems, cancer and other serious health effects, but officials say there is no evidence that the activity pollutes drinking water. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 30 June 2010.

**[Wetzel County drilling meeting set.](#)** Traffic accidents, noise pollution and air pollution are just some of the byproducts Wetzel County resident Ray Renaud says Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling can cause. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 30 June 2010.

**[New analysis highlights toxin findings.](#)** The latest health-effects analysis of Barnett Shale air by state environmental officials is the first to underscore similarities of toxic compounds inspectors continue to find at elevated levels around natural gas facilities. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 30 June 2010.

**[Industry, critics take different view of documentary on drilling.](#)** A new documentary showing on the HBO network has excited gas-industry critics, who view the movie, “Gasland,” as an important look at the effects of gas drilling and pumping on human health and the environment. [Aspen Times](#), Colorado. 30 June 2010.

**[Make fracking as safe as possible.](#)** Fracking is going to continue in Pennsylvania, even though there are concerns about harmful effects on people living near the sites. [Harrisburg Express-Times](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 30 June 2010.

**[Potentially harmful chemicals used in Pa. drilling.](#)** More than two years after the start of a natural gas drilling boom, Pennsylvania is making public a list of the chemicals used to extract the gas from deep underground amid rising public fears of potential water contamination. [Associated Press](#). 29 June 2010.

**[Southlake residents ponder gas drilling site effects.](#)** Residents near a proposed natural gas drilling site are debating the trade-off between profits and possible health effects. [Dallas KTVT TV](#), Texas. 29 June 2010.

**[Natural gas as panacea: Dubious path to a green future.](#)** Many energy experts contend natural gas is the ideal fuel as the world makes the transition to renewable energy. But since much of that gas will come at high environmental cost, it would be far better to skip the natural gas phase and move straight to massive deployment of solar and wind power. [Yale Environment 360](#). Opinion, 29 June 2010.

**[Sluzar issues sharp response to anti-drilling legislation.](#)** Broome County Attorney Joseph Sluzar is pushing back against a swelling tide of legislation in Albany that would restrict or delay use of horizontal hydraulic fracturing to drill for natural gas. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 28 June 2010.

**[Drilling process concerns officials.](#)** A June 7 explosion at an AB Resources Inc. Marcellus Shale drilling site in Marshall County is prompting both state and local officials to prepare for such situations. [Wheeling Intelligencer](#), West Virginia. 28 June 2010.

**[Sullivan couple fears destruction of paradise.](#)** Cecily Fortescue and Arnie Friedman thought their little slice of paradise would stay heaven forever. But now the family whose land surrounds theirs has leased 300 acres for fracking. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 27 June 2010.

**Filmmaker blasts energy alternative.** Two months after the BP oil spill, it may be easy to hear the words "water contamination" and "drilling" and immediately think "Gulf Coast." But one filmmaker says there's another water source at risk – and this one is in our own backyards. [ABC News](#). 26 June 2010.

**Pennsylvania allows gas well shale breaking to resume.** A natural gas drilling company whose work in Pennsylvania was shut down by regulators after a blowout at one of its wells three weeks ago learned Friday that it can resume hydraulic fracturing at its other wells in the state. [Associated Press](#). 26 June 2010.

**Flower Mound hoping to resolve drilling controversy.** After months of wrangling over gas drilling, Flower Mound appears to be moving toward resolving some contentious issues that have divided the town. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 26 June 2010.

**Groups seek to block drilling in Utah forests.** Conservation groups are asking a judge to block oil and gas drilling around trout streams and in roadless forests of northern Utah. [Associated Press](#). 26 June 2010.

**Study says natural gas use likely to double.** Natural gas will provide an increasing share of America's energy needs over the next several decades, with the growth coming largely at the expense of coal and driven in part by measures to restrict the carbon dioxide emissions linked to climate change, according to an MIT report. [New York Times](#). 25 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**B.C. shale gas gets jump-start with \$404-million land auction.** Energy companies made their biggest bet on the long-term future of Canadian natural gas exploration since the credit crisis began in 2008, putting down \$404-million to secure new land to hunt for shale gas in northeastern British Columbia. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. 25 June 2010.

**Mundy sees drilling moratorium unlikely.** State Rep. Phyllis Mundy said her proposal to establish a one-year moratorium on the issuance of new permits for drilling in the Marcellus Shale formation is well intentioned, but she does not believe it has the support of enough of her colleagues to be passed this year. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 25 June 2010.

**Not under my backyard, thank you.** Now that drillers have figured out how to extract gas trapped in shale rock, a new and perhaps more hazardous style of drilling is coming to parts of the country unfamiliar with the ways of the oil and gas industry. [Science](#). 25 June 2010. [Subscription Required]

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to consider Barnett Shale in emissions plan, official says.** State environmental regulators "absolutely" will consider Barnett Shale emissions as part of a new plan to bring North Texas into compliance with federal ozone standards, an official said Thursday night. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 25 June 2010.

**Gas representatives meet with Southlake citizens.** Natural gas wells in Southlake will be safe and not damage the environment, representatives from the natural gas industry said at a Town Hall meeting June 21. [McKinney Courier Gazette](#), Texas. 25 June 2010.

**[Pay heed on hydrofracking.](#)** The good news on energy is that there is valuable, comparatively clean natural gas in the eastern United States' Marcellus Shale Formation. The bad news is that the process for getting it is new, complex and hazardous. [Harrisonburg Daily News Record](#), Virginia. Opinion, 25 June 2010.

**[Dems, natural gas industry negotiating fracking disclosure plan.](#)** Rep. Diana DeGette and the natural gas industry are actively negotiating a plan to require public disclosure of the sometimes toxic chemicals that drillers use to flush gas out of the ground, according to sources on both sides of the talks. [Greenwire](#). 24 June 2010.

**[Legislators call for ban on Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** The Board of Legislators has made official its opposition to proposed natural gas drilling projects in the Catskill Delaware region of the Marcellus Shale rock formation. [Weschester County News and Information](#), New York. 24 June 2010.

**[Marcellus shale drilling coming to an area near you.](#)** Allegheny Township Manager Greg Primm said no wells have been permitted yet in Allegheny Township, but officials know drilling companies are interested in the region. [Pittsburgh Valley News Dispatch](#), Pennsylvania. 24 June 2010.

**[Group stages drilling protest.](#)** About 10 people gathered Dallas Township on Wednesday to protest the Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling that is expected to begin near the Back Mountain in August. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 24 June 2010.

**[Mundy moves moratorium effort forward.](#)** State Rep. Phyllis Mundy on Wednesday moved ahead with a plan to halt all new natural gas drilling permits in Pennsylvania and two other proposals aimed at protecting drinking water sources from contamination related to drilling. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 24 June 2010.

**['Gasland' documentary fuels debate over natural gas extraction.](#)** In a documentary about natural gas development that premiered this week on HBO, Pennsylvania's secretary of the environment receives a decidedly unflattering portrayal at the hands of Josh Fox, who made the movie Gasland. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 24 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Allegheny Township officials delve into Marcellus Shale issues.](#)** The Allegheny Township supervisors are the latest to plunge into the growing Marcellus Shale controversy. They asked their solicitor last week for recommendations on the regulation of deep well gas drilling. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 24 June 2010.

**[State police crack down on gas-drilling vehicles.](#)** During a three-day enforcement effort last week that focused on trucks hauling waste water from Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling operations across the state, the state police placed 250 commercial vehicles out of service. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 24 June 2010.

**[There will be gas.](#)** There Will Be Gas is the title of the documentary because hardly anyone in the affected areas of New York State opposes natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. Everyone seems to support "responsible" production – meaning extracting the gas without destroying the land and water. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. Opinion, 24 June 2010.

**EPA plans gas-drilling meetings.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will host four public meetings on its proposed study of the relationship between hydraulic fracturing and its potential effects on drinking water. [Gannett News Service](#). 23 June 2010.

**New HBO documentary exposes drilling hazards.** "Gasland" presents a frightening scenario in which tens of thousands of drilling rigs take over the landscape, gas companies exploit legal loopholes to inject toxins into the ground and residents living nearby contract severe, unexplained illnesses. [Associated Press](#). 23 June 2010.

**Western Pa. communities changed by natural gas drilling offer local lessons.** Most of the industrial accessories used to get Marcellus Shale natural gas to market have been built within 500 yards of the Hallowich family's new yellow house in the country. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 23 June 2010.

**Armstrong County residents told to read gas well leases carefully.** As companies begin approaching Armstrong County property owners looking to drill Marcellus Shale wells, residents were encouraged to ask questions and take precautions before signing on the dotted line. [Kittanning Leader Times](#), Pennsylvania. 23 June 2010.

**Pittsburgh bill would restrict natural gas drilling in city.** New legislation would limit companies to drilling in industrial areas on a minimum of 15 acres; mandate that drilling be conducted at least 1,000 feet from public buildings; and set a 60-day timeline to restore and repair damage to public property. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 23 June 2010.

**Salem council discusses Marcellus shale drilling near watershed.** Upper Dog Run Lake is a serene recreation area for fishers, boaters, and campers, and is part of the Lower Dog Run watershed, the source for Salem's water. And it's all sitting on top of a Marcellus Shale bed. [Charleston State Journal](#), West Virginia. 23 June 2010.

**The next petro boom.** For more than a year, the shale formation that starts in East Texas and sweeps southwest to the U.S.-Mexico border in Maverick County has been touted as the next big play on natural gas in the country. [San Antonio Current](#), Texas. 23 June 2010.

**Onshore drilling disasters waiting to happen.** Theater and film director Josh Fox's documentary Gasland explores the new generation of natural gas drilling, which for a decade has been blasting its way east across the country, tapping shale formations from the Rockies to Pennsylvania, and is now expanding in New York. [Nation](#). Opinion, 23 June 2010.

**Jobs for PA, clean air for everyone.** We have to ensure that safety and protection of the environment are priorities for the companies developing the Shale, but with many Pennsylvanians looking for work we shouldn't pass up this opportunity to create new jobs. [Pottstown Mercury](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 23 June 2010.

**A colossal fracking mess.** The Delaware River is now the most endangered in the country, says conservation group American Rivers. Large swaths of the watershed have been leased to energy companies seeking a "bridge to the future." Natural gas. Activists face an uphill battle given the money, politics, and dynamics of our national energy policy. [Vanity Fair](#). 22 June 2010.

**[Chemicals used in 'fracking' often a mystery at spill cleanup time.](#)** Three times in September 2009, chemicals used to coax natural gas from the Marcellus Shale spilled in Susquehanna County and leaked into a wetland and creek. Documents meant to detail product hazards did not specify the chemicals and provided virtually none of the information needed to evaluate the spills. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 22 June 2010.

**[In fracking debate, 'disclosure' is in the eye of the beholder.](#)** In the intense but inscrutable debate about the chemicals that drillers inject underground to flush out natural gas, this much can be said: Everyone is for disclosure. [Greenwire](#). 22 June 2010.

**[Wastewater: A risky business.](#)** Range Resources dug a pit the size of a football field in the meadow just beyond June Chappel's property line last year. When the company began to fill it with the salt- and metals-laden waste fluids that came back up from the the seven Marcellus Shale natural gas wells it drilled next door, Chappel found odors like that of gasoline forced her inside. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 22 June 2010.

**[Mundy proposes pause.](#)** State Rep. Phyllis Mundy on Monday told a cadre of natural gas drilling opponents that she would introduce two bills and one resolution later this week to help protect public water supplies and strengthen laws governing gas drilling during a proposed moratorium on the issuing of new drilling permits. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 22 June 2010.

**[Concerns aired about rail yard to serve gas industry.](#)** Holding up The Sunday Times' story on the practices and pitfalls of natural gas drilling in the region, Carbondale resident Russell Piccotti asked city council Monday if it's concerned about a rail terminal project near the city limits that will serve the industry beginning this summer. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 22 June 2010.

**[Muckraking road movie on natural gas drilling.](#)** As oil continues to flow in the Gulf of Mexico, a new documentary investigates a landlocked drilling controversy. Josh Fox began working on "Gasland" in 2009, after he received a lucrative offer for the drilling rights to his family property in northeastern Pennsylvania. [New York Times](#). Opinion, 22 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[State lacks consistent record keeping for natural gas drilling contamination, leak incidents.](#)** A Times-Tribune review of records detailing gas drilling spills, leaks and contamination incidents found outdated and inconsistent record keeping by the environmental agency charged with regulating Marcellus Shale gas drilling in Pennsylvania. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 21 June 2010.

**[Dish mayor's outcry on gas drilling brings big buzz to tiny Denton County town.](#)** As mayor of Dish, Calvin Tillman presides over a two-square-mile patch of Denton County flatland and about 180 residents. But this small-town mayor has become a central figure in the national debate over gas drilling. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 21 June 2010.

**[Vitali: Rules now in place to protect Marcellus region.](#)** Two sets of environmental regulations approved Thursday by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission will protect Pennsylvania waterways from Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling and development near stream banks, said state Rep. Greg Vitali, D-166, of Haverford. [Delaware County Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 21 June 2010.

**[A business opportunity fueled by water, not gas.](#)** Randy Wiernusz has found a way to profit through the natural gas drilling boom coming to the region. Wiernusz has invested tens of thousands of dollars on permits and equipment to draw up to 249,000 gallons a day from Bowmans Creek and truck it to natural gas drilling sites. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 21 June 2010.

**[Worries arise as code in works.](#)** Denton city leaders are expressing renewed concern that natural gas drillers may rush to file permit applications to avoid the higher fees and more stringent regulations planned as part of an ongoing code overhaul. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 21 June 2010.

**[Barnett Shale symposium: Urban drilling challenges remain.](#)** Though they came at it from different perspectives, speakers at the annual Shale Energy Symposium in Fort Worth last week echoed a common theme: The search for natural gas in a dense urban setting like that covering Barnett Shale inevitably results in the politics of competitive interests. [Fort Worth Business Press](#), Texas. 21 June 2010.

**['Gasland' documentary should be required viewing for Pa. legislators.](#)** The state must do all it can to ensure our water supplies are drinkable as the gas is extracted. Pennsylvania needs regulations on the millions of gallons of wastewater that are put back into our streams and on the many pipelines soon to be constructed. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 21 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Staying green.](#)** With natural-gas drilling posing one of the biggest challenges to Pennsylvania's environment since the days of coal strip mining, this is no time for Harrisburg officials to stand by and let funding dry up for the commonwealth's premier conservation effort. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 21 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[The costs of natural gas, including flaming water.](#)** If you are predisposed to distrust big business and the bureaucrats who regulate it, then "Gasland," a soberly muckracking film about the health and environmental dangers of the current nationwide rush to drill for natural gas, will light a flame in you. [New York Times](#). 21 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Cook a hamburger and blow up your polluted fracking town.](#)** When tap water burns, it's probably time to admit there's a problem. [Bloomberg News](#). Opinion, 21 June 2010.

**[Want a big natural gas pipeline in your backyard?](#)** We must learn from other big drilling states like Colorado and Oklahoma. The Legislature needs to get up to speed on pipelines. Let's give the Pennsylvania PUC the authority over all monitoring, including rural areas. It's time to flip the switch on basic oversight. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 21 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Troubled promise: Little oversight, looming problems for Pa. gas industry.](#)** A six-month investigation by The Times-Tribune shows the limits of the current regulatory environment to prevent contamination of the state's land and water during deep gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale, and reveals costly environmental and safety errors made by a growing industry. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 20 June 2010.

**[Impact of natural gas drilling environmental woes could linger.](#)** Much of the attention about the environmental risks of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale has focused on the potential for fracking to contaminate drinking water aquifers. But legislators and federal regulators are increasingly looking at it as part of an interconnected series of often hazardous steps. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 20 June 2010.

**[City weighing Marcellus Shale drilling concerns.](#)** The prospect of gas wells near Lawrenceville condos or Lincoln Place gardens has Pittsburgh Council weighing whether to bar the Marcellus Shale boom from the city, or just strictly limit it. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 20 June 2010.

**[Recreation fields leased to gas drilling company.](#)** Board members who oversee the Back Mountain Recreation Complex will certainly appreciate any revenue derived from a natural gas lease if local Marcellus Shale development is successful, but that's not why they approved the lease. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 20 June 2010.

**[Resident urges council to slow down gas drilling.](#)** Resident Michelle Boice on Tuesday night asked that borough council take an active role in slowing down natural gas drilling activity. [Dallas Post](#), Pennsylvania. 20 June 2010.

**[Health studies gas up.](#)** Colorado has launched one of the nation's first health assessments of gas-drilling impacts. It will be one of the first times that regulators will be asked to consider a detailed health assessment when permitting gas drilling. [High Country News](#). 19 June 2010.

**[Money rules in battle over gas drilling in New York's Southern Tier.](#)** As environmentalists and the natural-gas industry spar over the potential effects of controversial drilling techniques, they do have one thing in common: Both sides have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars lobbying in Albany. [Gannett News Service](#). 19 June 2010.

**[Key approval given to Penn. drilling wastewater rule.](#)** The Independent Regulatory Review Commission voted 4-1 over the objections of the gas industry to approve the Rendell administration's proposal to prevent pollutants in briny drilling wastewater from further tainting public waterways and household drinking water. [Associated Press](#). 18 June 2010.

**[Pasa permits firms to hunt for shale gas.](#)** Petroleum Agency SA (Pasa) has confirmed that it had granted shale gas permits to Royal Dutch Shell and US-based Falcon Oil to explore for oil and gas in the southern Karoo and the Eastern Cape. [Johannesburg Business Report](#), South Africa. 18 June 2010.

**[N.B. considers new drilling rules.](#)** Environment Minister Rick Miles is willing to look at setting new regulations on a contentious technique for natural gas drilling being proposed for the Penobscuis and Elgin areas. [CBC Canada](#). 18 June 2010.

**['Gasland' movie critical of drilling.](#)** After Josh Fox was offered nearly \$100,000 to lease his 20 acres in Wayne County to a gas company, he heard two different accounts – one, a story of easy money, the other a tale of horror. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 18 June 2010.

**[Gulf oil spill worsens - but what about the safety of gas fracking?](#)** Imagine a siege of hydrocarbons spewing from below ground, polluting water and air, sickening animals and threatening the health of Americans. And no one knows how long it will last. No, we're not talking about BP's gulf oil spill. We're talking about hydraulic fracturing of natural gas deposits. [Los Angeles Times](#), California. 18 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Film challenges safety of U.S. shale gas drilling.](#)** A new documentary purporting to expose the hazards of onshore natural gas drilling illustrates its point with startling images of people setting fire to water flowing from faucets in their homes. [Reuters](#). 18 June 2010.

**[Film challenges safety of U.S. shale gas drilling.](#)** A new documentary purporting to expose the hazards of onshore natural gas drilling illustrates its point with startling images of people setting fire to water flowing from faucets in their homes. [Reuters](#). 18 June 2010.

**[Marcellus drillers face stringent wastewater regulations.](#)** Natural gas producers in the state are facing tougher regulations on the disposal of wastewater from Marcellus Shale drilling operations, now that a state regulatory panel has voted to enact the new measures. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 18 June 2010.

**[Vote today could curb Marcellus pollution.](#)** New rules to protect statewide water resources from pollution caused by Marcellus shale-related natural-gas drilling will move closer to implementation today with an expected vote by the state's Independent Regulatory Review Commission. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 17 June 2010.

**[DEP seeks new drilling safety laws.](#)** At a Senate hearing examining the recent gas well blowout in Clearfield County, DEP Secretary John Hanger said the agency has uncovered some 530 environmental violations during 1,700 inspections of Marcellus Shale drilling sites since January. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 17 June 2010.

**[Pa. official warns of consequences to gas industry.](#)** Serious consequences await the state's rapidly growing natural gas industry if companies are caught cutting corners of safety measures to pump up profits, Pennsylvania's top environmental regulator warned Wednesday. [Associated Press](#). 17 June 2010.

**[Severance-tax issue a big hurdle for drill laws.](#)** Much legislation has been written recently to address concerns about natural gas drilling into Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale, but little has been signed into law. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 17 June 2010.

**[Drilling poses risk to Pennsylvania water supplies.](#)** Two years ago, Pennsylvania opened the door to a natural gas drilling technique that's caused controversy in some Western states. Environmentalists worried that high-volume hydrofracking could contaminate water supplies, but the state and industry insisted that it was safe. [All Things Considered](#), NPR. 17 June 2010.

**[Panel to hold forum on drilling preparedness.](#)** The state Senate panel that oversees emergency preparedness in the state will hear testimony later this month on how ready responders are to handle catastrophes related to natural-gas drilling. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 17 June 2010.

**[New standards urged for drilling wastewater.](#)** Some legislators, a top state official and environmental groups are calling upon a state regulatory agency to set new standards for wastewater resulting from natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 17 June 2010.

**[Wastewater rule awaits key vote.](#)** The fate of a proposed rule to limit pollution from well wastewater in the natural gas drilling process is up in the air prior to a key vote today by a state commission. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 17 June 2010.

**[Pennsylvania DEP warns gas well drillers.](#)** Pennsylvania's top environmental official threatened the natural gas industry with serious consequences Wednesday if it does not stop well blowouts and water pollution. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 17 June 2010.

**[Report to detail potential drilling impacts on western Colo. health.](#)** A public health assessment meant to study and offer advance recommendations on potential impacts to Battlement Mesa residents from future natural gas drilling is on track for a final report to be issued this fall. [Vail Daily](#), Colorado. 17 June 2010.

**[Drilling could harm water.](#)** The regulatory review commission should approve proposed regulations to protect the Pennsylvania's drinking water from the effects of expanded natural-gas drilling in order to take an important step toward protecting the state's waterways before the drilling begins in earnest. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 17 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Smart moves on drilling in New York.](#)** Instead of jumping into the Northeast's rising version of an energy boom which includes extracting gas from shale, New York state has actually done something right by writing fairly tough regulations and adding extra protections for the most sensitive areas. [New York Times](#). Opinion, 17 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Chesco firm to study Marcellus Shale wastewater treatment.](#)** A Chester County company received the nod from the National Science Foundation to develop technology that treats water used in drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale exploration region. [Delaware County Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 16 June 2010.

**[Fracking foes say disaster similar to Gulf oil spill could happen here.](#)** Opponents of natural gas drilling are calling for a moratorium on exploration of the gas-rich Marcellus shale, which sits beneath Sullivan and Ulster counties and Pennsylvania. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 16 June 2010.

**[Six Wayne County gas wells ellude Delaware River commission moratorium.](#)** At least six natural gas exploratory wells in Wayne County will not be impacted by a moratorium enacted by the Delaware River Basin Commission on Monday, allowing two natural gas companies operating there to take some steps forward with their joint development strategy. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 16 June 2010.

**[Lehman Twp. residents denounce drilling decision.](#)** Four Lehman Township residents are appealing township officials' decision to allow natural-gas drilling in an agricultural area, alleging there aren't enough safeguards in place. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 16 June 2010.

**[DRBC: No more drilling.](#)** The anticipated Marcellus Shale drilling boom has been put on hold in the Delaware River basin, at least for now. [Gatehouse News Service](#). 15 June 2010.

**[Clean Skies praises mayors on natural gas resolution.](#)** The American Clean Skies Foundation welcomes the decision by the U.S. Conference of Mayors to support natural gas as a clean and plentiful fuel source for the country. [Bradenton Herald](#), Florida. 15 June 2010.

**[N.Y. legislation would place one-year moratorium on gas drilling.](#)** A bill that would put a one-year moratorium on new natural gas drilling permits in New York received the backing Monday of key lawmakers in the Senate and Assembly. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 15 June 2010.

**[Pennsylvania drilling study questioned over industry tie.](#)** A Pennsylvania State University study that paints a rosy forecast on the economic potential of natural gas drilling has been greeted with skepticism from a citizens group and a pro-severance-tax think tank largely because the research was funded by an industry group. [Associated Press](#). 15 June 2010.

**[Gas drilling key in Va. race.](#)** The first proposal in Virginia to drill into a gas-rich formation of Appalachian shale has emerged as a campaign issue in a special election for a General Assembly seat. [Associated Press](#). 15 June 2010.

**[Offshore drilling backlash may boost shale, oil sands.](#)** The massive Gulf oil spill may hasten the development of shale gas and oil sands, North America's two most important emerging energy sources. The risk of pursuing deepwater oil reserves dwarfs the environmental concerns facing both onshore sectors. [Reuters](#). 15 June 2010.

**[Fire from the faucet ignites doc on dangers of gas drilling.](#)** People who can set the tap water from their faucets on fire are just one of the frightening features of a new television documentary on the potential dangers of natural gas drilling. [Public News Service](#). 15 June 2010.

**[Onshore accidents add to concerns.](#)** A string of accidents this month at natural gas operations on land could not have come at a worse time for Houston's vast energy industry. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 14 June 2010.

**[The great gas rush.](#)** Some of Luzerne County's most prosperous citizens stand to become even more prosperous if energy companies discover rich deposits of natural gas beneath their properties. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 14 June 2010.

**[Sestak urges caution, regulation on drilling.](#)** U.S. Rep. Joe Sestak, the Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate, favors a moratorium on natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania until environmental safeguards are in place. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 14 June 2010.

**[Silt-area drilling report contentious.](#)** Garfield County commissioners want the state to take another look at their consultant's concerns about the West Divide Creek natural gas seep as yet more drilling is being proposed in that area. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 14 June 2010.

**[As urban gas drilling expands, so do health concerns.](#)** On a carved-out hillside beside Tandy Hills, one of the last undisturbed prairies in eastern Fort Worth, sits a gas drilling site belonging to Chesapeake Energy. [Austin American-Statesman](#), Texas. 13 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Marcellus Shale gas drilling put under microscope.](#)** With the BP spill and a "blowout" on June 3rd, this month has not been a quiet one for the booming Marcellus Shale natural gas well drilling industry. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 13 June 2010.

**[For love of the land.](#)** While much of the land surrounding the Lands at Hillside Farms has been leased for natural gas drilling into the Marcellus Shale a mile below, the board is refusing to lease any part of the nonprofit organization's 412 acres in Kingston and Jackson townships. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 13 June 2010.

**[Residents express gas drilling concerns.](#)** With Encana Oil and Gas U.S.A. set to begin construction of a natural gas well in late June and drilling to begin in August, residents sought tough answers from supervisors to protect their rural way of life from possible negative effects of natural gas drilling. [Dallas Post](#), Pennsylvania. 13 June 2010.

**[Lessons from neighbours.](#)** Americans who have experienced the process of shale gas exploration and drilling warn New Brunswickers to ensure rules are stringent enough before the industry here grows. [Campellton New Brunswick Business Journal](#), New Brunswick. 12 June 2010.

**[State probes safety of Marcellus drilling sites.](#)** Pennsylvania is conducting on-site safety reviews at seven Marcellus Shale gas wells drilled by Union Drilling Inc., the subcontractor on a well that exploded Monday outside Moundsville, W.Va., burning seven workers. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 12 June 2010.

**[Boback calls for short-term fixes to gas drilling regulations.](#)** With a decree of "enough is enough," state Rep. Karen Boback called Friday for stiffer - and more immediate - regulations on natural gas drilling companies targeting sites near drinking-water supplies. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 12 June 2010.

**[Penn. regulators let gas drilling resume at 2 wells.](#)** Pennsylvania regulators gave the go-ahead Friday for drilling to resume at two natural gas wells owned by the company that had a blowout last week at a third well nearby. EOG Resources was authorized to resume work at two wells that inspectors determined have no environmental or operational violations. [Associated Press](#). 12 June 2010.

**[State officials ease weeklong drilling ban on EOG Resources Inc.](#)** State officials on Friday eased a seven-day drilling ban imposed Monday on EOG Resources Inc. after a blowout at one of the company's natural gas wells in Clearfield County. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 12 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Recent accidents fuel concerns about Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** Natural gas critics in Pennsylvania have referenced the image of the Gulf Coast oil spill: This is what can go wrong with drilling. Now, two homegrown accidents are stoking a growing unease among some Pennsylvania citizens. [Pittsburgh Business Times](#), Pennsylvania. 11 June 2010.

**[Conservation groups wary of Marcellus wastewater.](#)** The practice of burying wastewater byproducts from natural gas drilling is raising concern among local environmental watchdogs in Pennsylvania. [Somerset County Daily American](#), Pennsylvania. 11 June 2010.

**[Will New York rebel against fracking?](#)** NY has received praise for taking a relatively deliberative approach to fracking, including severe regulatory burdens that will probably eliminate any drilling near the watersheds serving NYC and Syracuse and are considered among the toughest regulations in the nation. [New York Times](#). 11 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[DEP hires petroleum engineer to study well blowout.](#)** A Texas petroleum engineer arrived here Thursday to investigate last week's natural gas well blowout for Pennsylvania's environmental agency, which now says contamination from the incident may have migrated into a stream. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 11 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Data devices to determine Marcellus Shale impact on local waterways.](#)** A joint monitoring project is under way that would effectively create an early warning system for local waterways - both in-stream and groundwater - under the threat of contamination from natural gas drilling operations. [Somerset County Daily American](#), Pennsylvania. 11 June 2010.

**[DEP orders review of driller following W.Va. explosion.](#)** State regulators have ordered Ohio-based AB Resources PA LLC to halt all of its West Virginia operations until the cause of an explosion on Monday that injured seven workers at a Marshall County drilling site is determined. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 11 June 2010.

**[Rep. Michael Burgess wants closer look at environmental agency's actions on air tests at drilling sites.](#)** U.S. Rep. Michael Burgess is calling on state officials to delve further into state regulators' failure to disclose test results that showed toxic emissions near natural gas drilling sites. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 11 June 2010.

**[Drilling moratorium needed.](#)** Sure, there is money to be made from natural gas drilling. But dollars and cents shouldn't contaminate our common sense. A moratorium on natural gas drilling is needed in New York state. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. Editorial, 11 June 2010.

**[New Wyoming rules increase fracking disclosure.](#)** Newly approved Wyoming rules are expected to provide for more public disclosure of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing of oil and gas wells than the groundbreaking Colorado requirements that took effect last year. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 10 June 2010.

**[County unwilling to endorse new Divide Creek drilling moratorium.](#)** Garfield County commissioners will ask for a meeting with the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) to address ongoing concerns about possible water contamination from natural gas drilling in the Divide Creek area. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 10 June 2010.

**[Does Barnett Shale have toxic air?](#)** Concerns about possible toxic air around natural gas facilities are just part of the worries brought by urban drilling reaching into every corner of Fort Worth. City officials are right to move ahead with air quality tests as rapidly as possible consistent with getting scientifically reliable results. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. Editorial, 10 June 2010.

**[Chilling images of drilling's perils, met by numbed eyes.](#)** Here in the far reaches of the Catskills the issues in the documentary "Gasland" aren't abstract, and the gulf isn't so far away. The risks of extracting hydrocarbons is the stuff of daily politics, pitting neighbor against neighbor, revolving around two questions: Is the risk worth the reward? What's the alternative? [New York Times](#). Opinion, 10 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**The next drilling disaster?** Hydrofracking has been embraced as a promising "bridge fuel" that could help smooth the transition to renewable energy sources. But a string of recent disasters – including the TVA coal ash spill, the Massey coal mine explosion and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill – have demonstrated all too vividly that failure to regulate and oversee resource extraction can lead to catastrophe. [Nation](#). 9 June 2010.

**Wyoming approves 'fracking' disclosure rules.** A state agency that oversees oil and gas development voted Tuesday to require energy companies to disclose what chemicals they're pumping underground to improve the flow of oil and gas into well bores. [Associated Press](#). 9 June 2010.

**Armstrong county responders prepared for gas well blasts.** County emergency responders say if a natural gas-related disaster happens, they have a response plan. It's the same one in place for any disaster, they say. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 9 June 2010.

**Stakes high in testing of Fort Worth natural gas sites.** City officials are preparing to start testing for air pollution around natural gas sites, and they're feeling pressure from the public to get it right, especially as drilling moves closer to neighborhoods and in light of problems with other tests conducted by the state. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 9 June 2010.

**Going to extremes.** We've entered an age in North America where the production of energy, especially from fossil fuels, comes with ever-more-expensive environmental tradeoffs. We've entered the era of "extreme energy." [Newsweek](#). Opinion, 9 June 2010.

**Natural gas explosion rocks Texan town.** A big natural-gas pipeline exploded outside this North Texas Monday afternoon, killing one person, injuring several others and sending up a geyser of flame that was visible from miles away. [Wall Street Journal](#). 8 June 2010. [Subscription Required]

**Pennsylvania halts drilling by company after gas accident.** Pennsylvania regulators halted work Monday at dozens of unfinished natural gas wells being drilled by the company whose out-of-control well spewed out explosive gas and polluted water for 16 hours last week. [Associated Press](#). 8 June 2010.

**Accidents bring calls to suspend shale drilling.** Serious accidents at Marcellus shale natural gas drilling operations in Pennsylvania and West Virginia over the past five days have prompted sanctions against one Texas-based drilling company, support for tighter federal regulations and even calls for a moratorium on drilling. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 8 June 2010.

**Pennsylvania orders EOG to halt drilling following well blowout.** Pennsylvania environmental regulators Monday ordered energy company EOG Resources Inc. to halt natural-gas drilling in the state following a blowout at a well on Thursday. [Wall Street Journal](#). 8 June 2010. [Subscription Required]

**Pennsylvania orders company to halt drilling after well blowout.** Pennsylvania environmental officials on Monday suspended drilling operations of a Marcellus Shale natural-gas operator whose Clearfield County well erupted last week into an uncontrolled geyser of gas and wastewater. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 8 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**Pennsylvania orders EOG natgas drilling halt after blowout.** The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ordered EOG Resources Inc to suspend its natural gas drilling operations in the state after a June 3 well blowout, the agency said in a statement on Monday. [Reuters](#). 8 June 2010.

**[Rig fire experts from Houston head to W.Va. blast site.](#)** A crew drilling a natural gas well through an abandoned coal mine in West Virginia's Northern Panhandle hit a pocket of methane gas that ignited, triggering an explosion that burned seven workers, state and company officials said Monday. [Associated Press](#), 8 June 2010.

**[Council approves gas drilling moratoriums.](#)** It's official ... gas drilling will be taking a summer vacation in Flower Mound. [Flower Mound Leader](#), Texas. 8 June 2010.

**[County unwilling to endorse new Divide Creek drilling moratorium.](#)** Garfield County commissioners will ask for a meeting with the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission to address ongoing concerns about possible water contamination from natural gas drilling in the Divide Creek area. [Glenwood Springs Post Independent](#), Colorado. 8 June 2010.

**[Use caution on gas drilling.](#)** The New York Legislature needs to hurry up and pass a law that would tell natural gas drillers to slow down. For those who are tempted to leave the matter to the experts who drill for gas, or to the government agencies that oversee them, we have two letters for you. BP. [Buffalo News](#), New York. Editorial, 8 June 2010.

**[DISH residents alarmed about contaminated water.](#)** Early results from a Texas Railroad Commission study show unusually high levels of poisonous chemicals in the groundwater near a natural gas drilling well, according to town leaders in DISH, a tiny community southwest of Denton. [Fort Worth WFAA TV](#), Texas. 7 June 2010.

**[River advocate takes up fight against drilling.](#)** An advocate for the Susquehanna River is encouraged by the recent naming of the upper Delaware River to a list of the country's most endangered rivers. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 7 June 2010.

**[Drillers testing other shale formations above and below the Marcellus strata.](#)** Pennsylvania's geology has the potential of delivering natural gas from a variety of shale formations beyond the Marcellus strata, a geologist said last week. [Washington Observer-Reporter](#), Pennsylvania. 7 June 2010.

**[Penn. inspectors try to find what went wrong at gas well.](#)** Pennsylvania's environmental regulators worked Sunday to get to the bottom of what caused a natural-gas well to spew explosive gas and polluted water for 16 hours last week before it could be brought under control. [Associated Press](#). 7 June 2010.

**[North Texas air questionable following TCEQ blunder.](#)** The gas drilling-air pollution debate continues, and the state agency in charge of studying local air quality did itself no favors when it admitted recently to failing to disclose to city and state officials errors in testing measures. [Fort Worth Business Press](#), Texas. 7 June 2010.

**[Disturbing parallels.](#)** As we watch the unfolding disaster in the Gulf of Mexico with shock, frustration and outrage, at least we know that it is happening far away. But the parallels between drilling for oil in the Gulf of Mexico and hydro-fracking for natural gas in New York are all too obvious. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. Opinion, 7 June 2010.

**[Bradford County residents see Marcellus Shale development changing their lives.](#)** Winding country roads, abundant wildlife, sprawling farmlands and small-town charm used to be Bradford County's lure. Today's draw is the natural gas trapped in the Marcellus Shale that lays thousands of feet below the county's 1,161-square-mile surface. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 6 June 2010.

**[Cochecton residents leery of new gas-drilling zoning.](#)** In a Town Hall where the Guernsey cows outside have often outnumbered the people meeting inside, it was standing room only for a gas-drilling meeting recently. And why not? [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 6 June 2010.

**[Activist nuns bringing fracking to a vote.](#)** Sisters of St. Francis, investors in Chesapeake Energy, back a resolution that questions risks of breaking through the Shale. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 6 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Gas well problems likely, filmmaker warns.](#)** An out of control natural gas well in Clearfield County on Thursday is the type of incident Pennsylvania and New York residents should brace themselves for as drilling companies race to tap the Marcellus Shale gas reserves, a filmmaker said Saturday. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 6 June 2010.

**[Blast, spill show fossil fuels' risks.](#)** Suspend drilling, the chairman of a Sierra Club in the Valley said Saturday in the aftermath of Thursday's blowout of a natural gas well in Clearfield County. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 6 June 2010.

**[Buried treasure.](#)** In the past two years, energy producers have flocked to the Marcellus shale formation, a 400-million-year-old natural-gas region that spans 54,000 square miles across much of Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York and West Virginia. [Youngstown Vindicator](#), Ohio. 6 June 2010.

**[Gas drilling needs a slow and careful approach to prevent dangerous consequences.](#)** Like many people in our region, I am struggling with the issue of drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale formation. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 6 June 2010.

**[Gas spews from northwest Pa. well rupture.](#)** Natural gas and polluted wastewater blasted out of a well in Northwestern Pennsylvania for 16 hours before being contained Friday in what officials say was the state's most alarming drilling-related accident in recent years. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 5 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Conflicts of interest: Senator George Winner's shale play.](#)** There are two sides competing for money in the Marcellus Shale gas rush: landowners and energy companies. Winner makes money from both. He is an active partner in a law firm that profits from landowners and energy companies involved in natural gas deals. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. 5 June 2010.

**[Bill to halt hydro-fracturing close to Assembly vote.](#)** A bill that could place a lengthy moratorium on natural-gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale formation came one step closer to making it to the Assembly floor for a vote after it was approved by the Environmental Conservation Committee this week. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 5 June 2010.

**[Pennsylvania natural gas well capped after blowout.](#)** Workers on Friday capped a natural gas well in the Marcellus Shale in central Pennsylvania after it ruptured during drilling, spewing gas and drilling fluid 75 feet (23 meters) in the air, officials said. No one was killed or injured. [Reuters](#). 5 June 2010.

**[Blowout occurs at Pennsylvania gas well.](#)** A western Pennsylvania natural-gas well owned by EOG Resources Inc. blew out Thursday night, releasing an undisclosed amount of gas and drilling fluids before being contained about 16 hours later. [Wall Street Journal](#). 5 June 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Gas industry responds to RFK Jr.'s Dimock visit.](#)** A natural gas industry group responded Friday to environmental attorney Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s visit to Dimock Twp. on Thursday, saying Mr. Kennedy and the group of environmentalists who traveled to the rural township received only a one-sided view of the gas development there. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 5 June 2010.

**[Drilling process concerns New Brunswick environmentalists.](#)** The Conservation Council of New Brunswick is raising concerns over a new hydrofracking technique that will be used to extract natural gas from shale deposits located near Elgin. New Brunswick is one of the latest hot spots to search for unconventional natural gas reserves. [CBC Canada](#). 4 June 2010.

**[Robert Kennedy Jr., environmentalists hear of gas woes in Dimock.](#)** Residents' complaints about spills, leaks and drinking-water contamination from Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling drew several high-profile environmentalists to Susquehanna County on Thursday. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 4 June 2010.

**[Upper Delaware River most endangered in US.](#)** The Upper Delaware topped the list of 10 endangered US rivers due to the threat of contamination from chemicals used in gas drilling in New York and on the Pennsylvania side of the river's watershed, said environmental group American Rivers. [Reuters](#). 3 June 2010.

**[Gas drilling could taint Philadelphia drinking water.](#)** A national environmental group says the upper Delaware River tops their list of 25 most "endangered" rivers in the country. American Rivers released a report yesterday that says natural gas drilling is the biggest threat. [Philadelphia WHYY News](#), Pennsylvania. 3 June 2010.

**[Marcellus drilling: A boon for the environment.](#)** To those environmentalists who want to obstruct natural gas production in New York, I say this: Turn off your lights, park your cars, stop cooking and eating out. Walk to work. As long you turn on a light bulb, you are contributing to environmental degradation somewhere. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 3 June 2010.

**[State regulators release additional air quality test results with higher-than-normal benzene levels.](#)** Six days after state regulators revealed that they had suppressed a series of tests showing toxic air pollution near natural gas wells, officials released even more test results showing higher-than-normal levels of benzene at additional sites in and around Fort Worth. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 2 June 2010.

**[Natural gas drilling threatens Upper Delaware.](#)** The threat of natural gas drilling has made the Upper Delaware River the most endangered waterway in the nation, according to a national advocacy group. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 2 June 2010. [Registration Required]

**Upper Burrell group wants to get to bottom of Marcellus Shale.** A group of Upper Burrell residents believes people have heard enough of the pros of Marcellus Shale drilling. They want to make sure the cons are discussed as thoroughly. [Pittsburgh Valley News Dispatch](#), Pennsylvania. 1 June 2010.

**Mountain Watershed Association discusses Marcellus Shale drilling issues.** Gas companies are interested in the gas from the Marcellus Shale in the Laurel Highlands and the state Department of Environmental Protection is on track to approving 20 gas well permits every business day this year. [Connellsville Daily Courier](#), Pennsylvania. 1 June 2010.

**Drilling process draws scrutiny.** The technology for releasing gas embedded deep underground in massive shale fields has not yet been shown to be economical, and could also contaminate water supplies with toxic drilling chemicals. [Chemical & Engineering News](#). 31 May 2010.

**Hydraulic fracturing fluid is a chemical soup.** The exact compounds and their proportions are currently rigorously guarded industry secrets and are tailored for each particular geological site. The industry website Energy In Depth makes public a general list of hydraulic fracturing fluid ingredients. [Chemical & Engineering News](#). 31 May 2010.

**Opponents of upstate 'fracking' point to Penn.** What many scientists believe to be one of the largest fossil fuel pockets in the country has created a heated debate among upstate land owners and city watershed advocates over natural gas drilling on the Marcellus Shale. New York State has spent 18 months examining the hydraulic fracturing drilling method. [NY 1 TV](#), New York. 31 May 2010.

**Extra protection in place for water amid drilling.** Tom Beauduy, deputy director of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, said the commission requires drilling companies to account for “every gallon of water” withdrawn from any water source within the basin – where it comes from, where it’s used and what happens to it after it’s used. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 31 May 2010.

**Concern over cheap shale gas.** Companies from India’s Reliance Industries Ltd. to Japan’s Mitsui & Co. are spending billions to dislodge natural gas from a band of Pennsylvania shale — sedimentary rock composed of mud, quartz and calcite. [Worcester Telegram & Gazette](#), Massachusetts. 30 May 2010.

**Utah energy activist says actions worth possible jail time.** A year-and-a-half after Tim DeChristopher successfully bid for 14 federal oil and gas leases he had no intentions of paying for, he still doesn’t know if his actions will lead to jail time. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 30 May 2010.

**Shell buys US gas shale company East Resources for \$4.7 billion.** Royal Dutch Shell said Friday it will buy East Resources Inc., a major owner of shale gas holdings in the northeast United States, for \$4.7 billion from private investors. [Associated Press](#). 29 May 2010.

**Shell agrees to buy natural-gas exploration company.** Royal Dutch Shell PLC said Friday it has agreed to buy East Resources Inc., a closely held U.S. natural-gas explorer, for \$4.7 billion, in a transaction that underscores the frenzied global interest in North American shale-gas production. [Wall Street Journal](#). 29 May 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Texas agency gave inaccurate air pollution test results to Fort Worth.](#)** The state agency in charge of testing for air pollution gave inaccurate test results to Fort Worth about toxic emissions from gas wells in January. When it realized its mistake, it failed to notify the city or the public for weeks, according to an audit made public this week. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 28 May 2010.

**[Don't back off on fracking disclosure.](#)** A few words for U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette, who introduced legislation to require energy companies to disclose the substances they use to fracture tightly compacted sands thousands of feet below the surface. First: Thanks for slowing down a bit and, perhaps counterintuitively, don't give up. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. Editorial, 28 May 2010.

**[Colo. lawmaker withdraws natural gas 'fracking' amendment to water bill.](#)** Colorado Democrat Diana DeGette withdrew a proposed amendment today from House water legislation that would have expanded regulation of a controversial oil and gas production technique some say has contributed to groundwater pollution. [Greenwire](#). 27 May 2010.

**[Natural gas turns up in unlikely places.](#)** The hottest domestic energy play this year is in the Marcellus Shale natural gas field that covers eastern Ohio, most of West Virginia and Pennsylvania, and the southern half of New York state. [Des Moines Register](#), Iowa. 27 May 2010.

**[Environmental, gas groups spar over Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** Environmentalists descended on the Capitol this week to push a bill that would prohibit issuing natural-gas-drilling permits in New York's Marcellus Shale until a federal study is complete, but a group of drilling advocates called the proposal "unnecessary." [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 26 May 2010.

**[Shale gas costing 2/3 less than OPEC oil incites water concern.](#)** Companies from India's Reliance Industries Ltd. to Japan's Mitsui & Co. are spending billions of dollars to dislodge natural gas from a band of Pennsylvania shale -- sedimentary rock composed of mud, quartz and calcite. [Bloomberg News](#). 26 May 2010.

**[Natgas companies oppose NY plan to delay drilling.](#)** Gas companies, hoping to begin high-volume drilling in New York state early next year, on Tuesday pushed back against a bill before the state legislature that would force them to hold off until a U.S. environmental review has been completed. [Reuters](#). 26 May 2010.

**[Both sides face off on natural-gas severance tax.](#)** The Marcellus Shale Coalition on Tuesday released an industry-commissioned study that projects natural-gas drilling could generate more than \$8 billion in economic benefits this year and add more than 88,000 jobs in the state. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 26 May 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Why care about 'produced water'?](#)** Last year, a report by the U of Wyoming's Ruckelshaus Institute declared that Wyoming's water resources are highly vulnerable to climate change. Yet Wyoming's oil and natural gas industry continues to pump millions of barrels of groundwater to the surface, where only a fraction is put to any specific beneficial use. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. 26 May 2010.

**[Wyoming well owners concerned about nearby 'fracking' to get EPA test results in July.](#)** Residents in a rural central Wyoming community who suspect a drilling technique contaminated their wells can expect to hear from federal officials in July on whether their water might be dangerous to drink, officials said Tuesday. [Associated Press](#). 26 May 2010.

**[DeGette to float 'fracking' amendment to Safe Drinking Water Act legislation.](#)** Colorado Rep. Diana DeGette Wednesday will introduce an amendment calling for full disclosure of hydraulic fracturing fluids to a bill introduced earlier this month that is meant to strengthen the Safe Drinking Water Act. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 26 May 2010.

**[Baker proposes bills on gas drilling, drinking water.](#)** The state senator representing the Back Mountain is proposing a series of bills to protect drinking water sources from contamination associated with natural gas drilling. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 25 May 2010.

**[Pennsylvania seeks stronger drilling rules to combat methane migration.](#)** Methane migration related to natural gas drilling has caused death, injuries and property damage in Pennsylvania, leading to plans for stronger regulations and enforcement efforts. [Gannett News Service](#). 24 May 2010.

**[Shale drilling plans create friction.](#)** In Pennsylvania, miners are pumping millions of gallons of chemical-laced water into horizontal wells to fracture underground shale formations and release valuable natural gas. [Rochester Democrat and Chronicle](#), New York. 23 May 2010.

**[Drilling doubt cast.](#)** Hunters and anglers are expressing concerns about how the drilling boom will affect the streams they fish and the woods they hunt. It's a concern that continues to grow as quickly as the well pads dotting the ground in Northeastern Pennsylvania. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 23 May 2010.

**[Firms find more gas beyond the Marcellus field.](#)** As big as the Marcellus Shale gas bonanza has become, it's not the only Pennsylvania geologic formation yielding new and unexpected quantities of natural gas according to two exploration companies. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 23 May 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Centre County weighs pros and cons of natural gas drilling.](#)** Not everyone in Pennsylvania is happy with the natural gas industry's growth. Critics include residents and environmental groups concerned about drilling in state forests and long-term consequences they think could include compromised water tables. [State College Centre Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 23 May 2010.

**[Marcellus drilling spurs calls for higher bonds.](#)** To avoid future pollution cleanup problems, a bipartisan consensus is emerging that Pennsylvania needs to significantly increase the bond amounts drillers post to cover the cost of plugging or closing natural gas wells. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 23 May 2010.

**[DEP to propose new water standards on dissolved solids.](#)** West Virginia regulators plan to propose a new water quality standard aimed at least in part at protecting state rivers and streams from pollution created by large-scale natural gas drilling. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 20 May 2010.

**[Shannopin Country Club drilled on gas lease plan.](#)** "Did you just use financial factors in your benefits-cost analysis?" asked Joan Mosey of Ben Avon Heights. "Predominately financial, no doubt about it," Mr. Shepard said. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 20 May 2010.

**[Seek upgraded water protection.](#)** The head of a state environmental regulatory bureau said the public can help protect Pennsylvania waterways from pollution related to natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale by contacting legislators and a review board in support of tough new proposed regulations. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 20 May 2010.

**[DISH residents frustrated with 'invalid' state health tests.](#)** Twenty-eight households took part in a study, which showed that 65 percent of those tested had toluene in their systems and 53 percent had detectable levels of xylene. But how dangerous are those chemicals? And are the findings linked to drilling in Barnett Shale? [Fort Worth WFAA TV](#), Texas. 19 May 2010.

**[Tompkins legislature adopts anti-fracking resolution.](#)** Tompkins County legislators were urged Tuesday evening to consider strict regulations and further scientific studies of hydraulic fracturing gas drilling in New York. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 19 May 2010.

**[Drilling industry decries protests.](#)** Company executives say a slowdown in approval of drilling permits in Wyoming, caused by environmental protests and changes in the administration in Washington, has seriously affected the growth of some of their oil and gas field projects. [Casper Journal](#), Wyoming. 19 May 2010.

**[Judge grants feds delay in oil shale lawsuits.](#)** A federal judge has grudgingly granted the federal government a ninth delay in responding to lawsuits challenging a plan to open nearly 2 million acres of public land in Wyoming, Utah and Colorado to oil shale development. [Associated Press](#). 19 May 2010.

**[Shale game.](#)** An epic battle looms in upstate New York over a new form of energy extraction known as high-volume slick water hydrofracturing-- fracking. A single fracking operation requires 2 to 8 million gallons of fresh water, 10 to 30 tons of chemicals and about 1000 tanker truckloads of water and toxic waste. About 4000 wells are envisioned for my county alone. [Orion](#). Opinion, 19 May 2010.

**[Drilling for disaster near homes and schools?](#)** A spike in oil and gas well drilling in urban and suburban areas, combined with too few state inspectors and possible equipment failures, has created a potentially deadly situation, according to industry insiders, community activists and lawmakers. [Cleveland WKYC TV](#), Ohio. 18 May 2010.

**[Tighter wastewater rules advance for gas wells.](#)** New rules approved by the state's Environmental Quality Board Monday would protect the cleanliness and quality of state streams and drinking water from potential damage caused by drilling for natural gas from areas of Marcellus shale. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 18 May 2010.

**[New gas drilling regulations aimed at protecting waters.](#)** The state Environmental Quality Board yesterday gave its approval of new rules to protect water resources statewide from pollution caused by booming Marcellus shale-related natural gas drilling. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 18 May 2010.

**[State to approve a measure to limit drilling.](#)** The House of Representatives approved a measure that would "place a three-year moratorium on leasing additional state forestland for Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling until the impacts of the drilling can be evaluated." [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 17 May 2010.

**[Shale: The next energy game changer.](#)** As new drilling techniques free the natural gas locked in shale, energy companies, U.S. state regulators and environmentalists face off about a fuel source that will radically change supply in North America. [Toronto Globe and Mail](#), Ontario. 16 May 2010.

**[Gas industry urged to act soon on drilling rules.](#)** After fining one natural gas operator for contaminating water wells, Pennsylvania's top environmental official Thursday urged the industry to adopt proposed new drilling standards rather than waiting for them to be formally enacted. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 14 May 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Whitewater drilling plan lights a fire.](#)** When an energy company proposed drilling nearly 500 wells across some 90,000 acres along the western base of Grand Mesa, its switchboard began lighting up. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 14 May 2010.

**[Shale gas fracking opponents injured in head-on collision with facts in Texas.](#)** An incident Tuesday in Texas graphically demonstrates that truth is invariably among the first casualties whenever environmental extremists on the Left and their allies in government and the media campaign to stop something. [Washington DC Examiner](#), District of Columbia. Opinion, 14 May 2010.

**[Dish chemical exposure no worse than U.S.](#)** People who live in the town of Dish are not exposed to natural gas-related contaminants any more than the rest of the United States. That's the conclusion of a long-awaited report from the Texas Department of State Health Services, which was released Wednesday. [Dallas KTVT TV](#), Texas. 13 May 2010.

**[Tests show no gas drilling contamination in residents of Dish.](#)** Residents of the small town of Dish do not have high levels of contaminants in their bodies due to natural gas drilling, according to a state report applauded Wednesday by both industry representatives and Dish's mayor. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. 13 May 2010.

**[Town of Maine residents getting \\$3 million for gas rights.](#)** A Colorado company is paying 130 Town of Maine residents about \$3 million for a jump on Marcellus Shale development in Broome County. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 10 May 2010.

**[To drill, or not to drill: State Legislature tries to balance environmental issues and need for natural gas.](#)** A statewide environmental issue over natural gas drilling on state forests in the immense Marcellus Shale is coming to a head. [Delaware County Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 10 May 2010.

**[Some Marcellus Shale drilling put on hold.](#)** Drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania's easternmost counties has been put on hold until new regulations to govern natural gas projects are in effect. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 7 May 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Drilling companies eye sites near water sources.](#)** The Huntsville and Ceasetown reservoirs, which serve approximately 100,000 Pennsylvania American Water customers, are in relatively close proximity to two planned exploratory natural gas well sites. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 3 May 2010.

**[DEP chief: Strict rules protect water in state.](#)** Pennsylvania's top environmental official said the state has some of the toughest regulations in the nation for natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale beds and is looking for even more ways to protect the environment, especially water resources. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 2 May 2010.

**[Watershed moment on fracking? New well-review rule.](#)** The New York City watershed, which supplies 90 percent of the city's drinking water, will require special reviews for companies seeking state permits for high-volume, horizontal hydrofracture drilling for natural gas. [New York Downtown Express](#), New York. 30 April 2010.

**[Shale shame: Clearville, PA.](#)** Under the surface of Clearville lie many acres of underground storage areas for natural gas, and natural gas processing facilities dot the surface. Residents describe blowouts, sudsy creeks, and animal deaths. [Philadelphia Weekly Press](#), Pennsylvania. 28 April 2010.

**[NY learns gas lessons from Susquehanna County.](#)** Natural gas spills have caused many concerns about the safety of drinking water in parts of Susquehanna County. [Johnson City WBNG](#), New York. 28 April 2010.

**[Fracking.](#)** A state decision to require a separate environmental review for every proposal to drill for natural gas in the Catskills watershed is welcome. Drilling companies will forgo, for now, any attempt to drill within the NYC reservoir area. [Kingston Daily Freeman](#), New York. Editorial, 28 April 2010.

**[Chorus of operators calling for frac fluid disclosure.](#)** When the nation's largest oil and gas exploration and production company offered its support for making the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing public, concerned U.S. residents who want transparency got perhaps their biggest boost from a somewhat unlikely source. [Fort Worth Business Press](#), Texas. 26 April 2010.

**[State blocks drilling for gas in Catskills.](#)** Officials announced that they would impose far stricter regulations on a controversial type of natural gas drilling in the upstate area that supplies most of New York City's drinking water, making it highly unlikely that any drilling would be done there. [New York Times](#). 24 April 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Specter of gas drilling stresses out Cornellians.](#)** Cornell University community members are deeply suspicious of the effects of hydrofracturing and want to see the university clearly state stipulations for potential drilling on university-owned lands. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 23 April 2010.

**[Feds haven't made case for oversight of fracking.](#)** In 2004, the EPA released a study that found no contamination of drinking-water wells by fracking fluids. Yet environmentalists and some legislators are concerned that oil and gas producers are hiding the exact components of fracking fluid from public scrutiny. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Opinion, 23 April 2010.

**[Shale shame: Cabot fined heavily for Dimock water contamination.](#)** With human illness and animal deaths tied to shale gas drilling in Pennsylvania, gubernatorial candidate Joe Hoeffel has called for a moratorium on new permits in the state until new clean water regulations are in place. [Philadelphia Weekly Press](#), Pennsylvania. 21 April 2010.

**[Gas drilling debate rages in Delaware River watershed.](#)** A few hundred yards from Louis Matoushek's farmhouse is a well that could soon produce not only natural gas, but a drilling boom in the wild and scenic Delaware River watershed. [Associated Press](#). 19 April 2010.

**[Fiery faucet is a symbol of division.](#)** As drilling for natural gas in shale formations has expanded, so have concerns that the process may contaminate groundwater. Congress has held hearings, and new regulations have been proposed. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Opinion, 19 April 2010.

**[Contamination suspends Cabot's Pa. gas drilling.](#)** Pennsylvania environmental regulators on Thursday banned an energy company from drilling in the state until it plugs three natural gas wells believed to have contaminated the drinking water supplies of 14 homes. [Associated Press](#). 16 April 2010.

**[Democrats running for governor promise a greener Pennsylvania.](#)** The four Democrats running for governor in the May 18 primary sang in near-perfect harmony Thursday night while portraying themselves as friends of the environment and champions of the green economy. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 16 April 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Cabot Oil to plug 3 Marcellus gas wells, pay fine.](#)** Pennsylvania fined Cabot Oil & Gas Corp \$240,000 and ordered it to permanently shut three gas wells in the state's most aggressive action so far to control development of natural gas in the Marcellus Shale. [Reuters](#). 16 April 2010.

**[Citizens launch awareness campaign.](#)** As natural gas drilling becomes more of an issue in the Marcellus Shale region, citizens are taking action to keep residents of the region and local legislators informed about what is happening in the more concentrated drilling areas in Northeastern Pennsylvania. [Abington Journal](#), Pennsylvania. 14 April 2010.

**[Industry, enviros comment on Wyoming oil-gas rules.](#)** Wyoming needs to strike a balance in requiring the energy industry to disclose the mix of chemicals it uses to boost the productivity of oil and gas fields, Gov. Dave Freudenthal said Tuesday. [Associated Press](#). 14 April 2010.

**[State delays fracking rules decision.](#)** State regulators will take more time to consider several proposed rule changes for the oil and gas industry, including more stringent reporting requirements regarding chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. 14 April 2010.

**[What if Rush Limbaugh were right about global warming?](#)** Let's assume that most scientists are wrong, and Rush is right. Does that mean the U.S. should burn oil and coal to fuel its economy? [Daily Green](#). Opinion, 12 April 2010.

**[Well, well neighbor.](#)** Texas has a storied history of oil and gas production, but it has never experienced anything quite like the current urban gas boom in this city of 650,000 people. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 11 April 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Panel explores impact of Marcellus drilling on water supplies.](#)** Environmental, industry and elected leaders said Wednesday that while the Marcellus shale formation holds great economic benefits for Pennsylvania, the gas should not be captured at the cost of the state's water supplies and other natural resources. [Indiana Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 9 April 2010.

**[Water worries dominate shale hearing.](#)** State Rep. Phyllis Mundy, listened as the Dimock Township resident detailed what she has gone through, from signing a lease with a gas company in 2006 for a mere \$25 an acre and 12.5 percent in royalties to the "nightmare" of living among 63 gas wells squeezed onto nine square miles - with the prospect of more to come. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 9 April 2010.

**[Plenty enough energy here to go around.](#)** We may not know who's right about that for 10 or 20 years, but one thing's clear. There won't be one solution to the nation's energy issues; there will be many. A region with a diversified energy portfolio stands a good chance of being one that thrives. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 8 April 2010.

**[DEP: Fracking used since 1948 in PA.](#)** Despite controversy over hydraulic fracturing, the process isn't unique, according to Scott Perry, deputy director of the Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Oil and Gas. Fracking has been used by the oil and gas industry since 1948. [Abington Journal](#), Pennsylvania. 7 April 2010.

**[Activist challenges DEC claim of few gas drilling problems.](#)** The state's assertion that natural gas production is a clean, well-regulated industry has been called into question by memos from a health official working in drilling communities in western New York. [Gannett News Service](#). 5 April 2010.

**[Drilling bad for Penn., speaker says.](#)** Pennsylvania residents are paying for environmental agencies' failure to require rigorous testing before allowing energy firms to extract gas from shale formations 6,000 feet down, using the relatively new method of "fracking," a University of Pittsburgh center director said. [Altoona Mirror](#), Pennsylvania. 5 April 2010.

**[BP fights to limit controls on shale gas drilling.](#)** BP is lobbying on Capitol Hill against a federal US environmental agency being given jurisdiction over the use of a controversial method of extracting gas from shale deposits, ahead of an important meeting this week. [London Guardian](#), United Kingdom. 5 April 2010.

**[Congress renews interest in fracking.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency's recent decision to study the chemicals injected underground by the natural-gas industry has boosted efforts by Diana DeGette, D-Colo., to pass legislation regulating the chemicals. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 5 April 2010.

**[State lawmakers look to regulate gas drilling.](#)** In response to growing concerns about the effects of natural gas drilling on water supplies and the environment, state lawmakers are proposing legislation to change the way the industry is regulated. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 5 April 2010.

**[Burning issues.](#)** Despite small advances, many think that when it comes to the environment Arkansas could be doing much better. Looking forward, environmental progress in Arkansas is possible, but it will likely require two things: public engagement and major investments in clean-energy industries. [Arkansas Times](#), Arkansas. 5 April 2010.

**[Drilling bad for Pa.](#)** Pennsylvania landowners testified at a hearing in Clearville about water contamination caused by natural gas fracking on their lands. Drilling companies came in with slick pamphlets that made the process seem profitable and innocuous, but landowners have found the reality distressing. [Altoona Mirror](#), Pennsylvania. 4 April 2010.

**[Companies seek new shale gas technology .](#)** Halliburton Co. and Schlumberger Ltd, trying to forestall a regulatory crackdown that would cut natural-gas drilling, are developing ways to eliminate the need for chemicals that may taint water supplies near wells. [Bloomberg News](#). 4 April 2010.

**Pickens: Drilling isn't the answer.** T. Boone Pickens, the famous Texas oilman, billionaire investor and energy evangelist, listened the other day to President Obama's plan to expand offshore oil and natural-gas drilling. He was not particularly impressed. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 4 April 2010. [Registration Required]

**Fracking not a cleaner alternative: Cornell prof.** Natural gas obtained by the controversial technique of hydraulic fracturing may contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions and so should not be considered as a cleaner alternative to coal or oil, according to a Cornell University researcher. [Reuters](#). 1 April 2010.

**What the frack? Natural gas from subterranean shale promises U.S. energy independence – with environmental costs.** Natural gas cracked out of shale deposits may mean the U.S. has a stable supply for a century – but at what cost to the environment and human health? [Scientific American](#). 31 March 2010.

**Wyoming energy Industry fights fracking rules.** State regulators are caught in a heated crossfire in their attempt to fend off critics and maintain primacy over the practice of hydraulic fracturing in the oil and gas industry. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. 31 March 2010.

**Firms see 'green' in natural-gas production.** Natural-gas producers are searching for more environmentally friendly ways to get the increasingly popular fuel out of the ground. [Wall Street Journal](#). 30 March 2010. [Subscription Required]

**Halliburton hunts new bacteria killer to protect shale-gas boom.** Halliburton Co. and Schlumberger Ltd., trying to forestall a regulatory crackdown that would cut natural-gas drilling, are developing ways to eliminate the need for chemicals that may taint water supplies near wells. [Bloomberg News](#). 29 March 2010.

**Risks of gas drilling prompt investigation, vigilance.** In September 2009, Aruba Petroleum claimed about four acres of the Ruggiero's land to drill a new gas well. The company surprised the couple one September morning, taking down their horse fence and bulldozing their pasture after the family left for work and school. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 29 March 2010.

**Ohio needs a thorough study of fracture drilling's effect on groundwater.** It's high time the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency drilled deep into hydraulic fracturing to determine definitively whether it is a danger to groundwater. [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), Ohio. Editorial, 29 March 2010.

**Marcellus Shale: Is it safe to drill?** At face value, the Marcellus gas rush story has the fanciful trappings of a fairytale, with irresistible rags-to-riches storylines and tales of woe and regret. It goes well beneath the surface, however, anchored to the real world with weighty issues of science, politics, law and policy cutting across public and private sectors. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 28 March 2010.

**Landowners face fight over NYC watershed.** New York City may try to block some upstate natural gas drilling. Its incentive: The Delaware River Watershed, over the northeastern portion of the Marcellus, harbors the water source for the city's more than 8 million residents. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 28 March 2010.

**[Wyo. considers new rules for oil, gas development.](#)** Wyoming's oil and gas supervisor said Friday that he's begun reviewing more than 50 written comments on proposed changes to the agency's rules and regulations for oil and gas development, including hydraulic fracturing. [Associated Press](#). 28 March 2010.

**[Gas and drilling not clean choices.](#)** Natural gas as a clean fuel is a myth. Extraction, transport and combustion of Marcellus Shale gas together with leakage of methane makes this gas at least 60 percent more damaging for greenhouse warming than crude oil, and similar in impact to coal. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 28 March 2010.

**[Unfounded fears obscure facts.](#)** The long-term history of gas production and the science behind it show that recent public fears of hydro-fracking are misplaced. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 28 March 2010.

**[Oil, gas deposits draw interest.](#)** Ontario is helping oil companies set up shop in Lambton with little regard for the environmental impacts of new oil and gas drilling techniques, says Mark Calzavara, a regional organizer for the Council of Canadians. [Sarnia Observer](#), Ontario. 27 March 2010.

**[A controversial drilling practice hits roadblock in New York City.](#)** Last fall hydro fracturing ran headlong into opposition from New York City. For now, stiff resistance from the city, which fears the contamination of its pristine water supply in upstate New York, seems to have slowed the fracking momentum. [Yale Environment 360](#). 26 March 2010.

**[Philadelphia seeks ban on natural gas-drilling method.](#)** Philadelphia officials on Thursday asked a state regulator to ban the natural-gas drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing until its environmental effects – especially on drinking water – are studied. [Reuters](#). 26 March 2010.

**[Big Oil seeks shale gas deal in climate bill.](#)** Three oil majors want U.S. senators crafting the climate bill to keep the federal government from regulating shale gas drilling methods that have made vast domestic reserves accessible but have been criticized for polluting water supplies. [Reuters](#). 26 March 2010.

**[US natural gas industry fights back on fracking.](#)** U.S. natural gas industry officials on Thursday defended a controversial drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing as the industry braces for possible new government regulations. [Reuters](#). 26 March 2010.

**[Oil companies draw up fracking proposal.](#)** BP, ConocoPhillips and Shell have provided Senate lawmakers with language to include in a pending climate change bill that essentially would block federal oversight of hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," a key technique used in the current natural gas drilling boom. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 25 March 2010.

**[Oilfield company failed to report fracking violations to EPA.](#)** One of the world's largest oilfield services companies continued to tell U.S. EPA it was complying with an agreement barring the injection of diesel fuel near drinking-water aquifers, documents show, after admitting to Congress that it had violated the pact. [Greenwire](#). 24 March 2010.

**[Before the Massa Meltdown: An interview on the Marcellus Shale.](#)** The resignation of Rep. Eric Massa two weeks ago was a loss to New York industries dependent on a precious resource: clean water. [Washington DC Bureau](#), District of Columbia. Opinion, 24 March 2010.

**[Will climate bill include pro-fracking language?](#)** The Senate bill being drafted by Sens. Kerry, Graham and Lieberman may use a bit of horse trading to help rally some support from an unlikely realm: The energy industry. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Opinion, 24 March 2010.

**[Stick with Trenton gas.](#)** Few people are aware of our other natural gas resource: the Trenton-Black River, which approximates the same geographic area as the Marcellus, only deeper at 10,000-15,000 feet. A scattering of many liquefied pools and pockets, it too contains a massive reserve. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. Opinion, 24 March 2010.

**[Industry should provide more 'fracking' info.](#)** It's clear that the energy development related to hydraulic fracturing has greatly benefited Wyoming, but monitoring what chemicals are used and where they go is the only real way to find out if the process is safe. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. Editorial, 23 March 2010.

**[EPA to take closer look at ~fracking."](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will study potential human health and water quality threats from an oil and natural gas drilling technique called hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," that injects massive amounts of water, sand and chemicals underground. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 22 March 2010.

**[The risks of fracking.](#)** The PA Department of Environmental Protection is hiring new inspectors as fast as it can, and developing new rules for natural gas drillers. But more needs to be done to ensure this aggressive push for domestic fuel doesn't pollute drinking water. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 22 March 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Environmentalists fear damage from natural gas exploration.](#)** Environmentalists say Pennsylvania must take preventive measures to avoid damage from natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#), Pennsylvania. 21 March 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale sends short-line railroad booming.](#)** Fine, spherical sand that is pumped into gas wells to stimulate production has turned into a lucrative commodity for the Tioga County railroad. The sand is used to shatter the Marcellus Shale to unlock its stores of natural gas. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 21 March 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Alberta firm eyes Ontario's untapped shale gas.](#)** A junior oil and gas company from Alberta has been quietly scooping up land rights in southwestern Ontario, part of an audacious plan to bring Alberta-style exploration for shale gas to the birthplace of Canada's petroleum industry. [Toronto Star](#), Ontario. 20 March 2010.

**[Federal EPA to look at environmental concerns over oil and gas drilling's 'fracking' method.](#)** The U.S. EPA is vowing to finally get to the bottom of underground fracking. [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), Ohio. 20 March 2010.

**[EPA to study drill method behind natural gas boom.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said Thursday that it will study potential human health and water quality threats from an oil and natural gas drilling technique that injects massive amounts of water, sand and chemicals underground. [Associated Press](#). 20 March 2010.

**[Wyoming considers stricter fracking rules.](#)** The Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission is considering new rules to require additional information and disclosure about the use of hydraulic fracturing in oil and gas drilling. The proposed rule change says its intent is to protect fresh water. [Associated Press](#). 20 March 2010.

**[EPA launches national study of hydraulic fracturing.](#)** Responding to reports of environmental contamination in gas drilling areas across the country, the U.S. EPA will conduct a nationwide scientific study to determine if the problems are caused by the practice of injecting chemicals and water underground to fracture the gas-bearing rock. [ProPublica](#). 19 March 2010.

**[EPA to study 'fracking' gas drilling method.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency said Thursday that it will study potential human health and water quality threats from an oil and natural gas drilling technique that injects massive amounts of water, sand and chemicals underground. [Associated Press](#). 19 March 2010.

**[EPA to study whether fracking poses water risk.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will do a detailed study of hydraulic fracturing, the technique used to extract natural gas from dense shale formations, to determine whether it poses risks to surface and ground water. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 19 March 2010.

**[EPA to study hydraulic fracturing, but calls for FRAC Act to continue.](#)** Backers of the controversial FRAC Act were quick to caution that a proposed U.S. Environmental Protection Agency study of hydraulic fracturing shouldn't be seen as an alternative to legislation. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 19 March 2010.

**[EPA to investigate hydraulic drilling.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency wants to know if water quality and public health are damaged by the rock-busting technology used to free up natural gas in the deep Marcellus shale underlying Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and Maryland. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 19 March 2010.

**[Wyoming may modify 'fracking' rules.](#)** In order to protect fresh and potable water, state regulators may require the oil and gas industry to provide more detailed and readily available information about hydraulic fracturing activities. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. 19 March 2010.

**[White linked to company in pollution probe.](#)** Democratic gubernatorial nominee Bill White earned more than \$2.6 million serving on the board of a gas well servicing company that now is part of a congressional investigation into possible groundwater contamination. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 17 March 2010.

**[Marcellus Shale drilling has some people worried.](#)** With the advent of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale formation nearing in Luzerne County, residents are starting to express concerns about potential effects on the environment, especially water supplies. [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#), Pennsylvania. 16 March 2010.

**[Gas pipelines, compressors concern some landowners.](#)** Without a sprawling circulatory system to draw gas from thousands of wells and channel it to paying customers, the multibillion-dollar industry sprouting over the Marcellus Shale would not be worth a penny. [Gannett News Service](#). 15 March 2010.

**[The natural gas story.](#)** If the questions about impact on water supplies can be answered satisfactorily, and we believe they can, let's use it effectively to create jobs, lessen dependence on foreign energy, cut our defense costs, change our balance-of-payments picture for the better and make our air cleaner. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Editorial, 14 March 2010.

**[Area gas drilling a danger, activist says.](#)** A representative of Shaleshock Action Alliance spoke about issues of drilling into the Marcellus Shale at a public meeting on Friday. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 13 March 2010.

**[Chortling at Chu.](#)** Our secretary of energy pushes bio-refineries and windmills to oil executives at an energy conference as the administration announces a three-year offshore drilling ban. This is a policy for economic suicide. [Investors Business Daily](#). Editorial, 13 March 2010.

**[Energy: A foot on the gas.](#)** Policymakers have faced a trilemma: how to make energy supplies secure, affordable and clean. Now an abundance of gas appears to provide the answer to all three problems at once. However, there are two problems that could prevent gas from being the “long-term energy solution.” [London Financial Times](#), United Kingdom. 12 March 2010.

**[Natural gas: An unconventional glut.](#)** A gasified American economy would have profound effects on both international politics and the battle against climate change. [Economist](#). 12 March 2010.

**[Brooklyn reps tell Paterson: Protect our drinking water!](#)** A letter to Gov. David Paterson is the latest development of deep concern over companies preparing to drill for huge natural gas reserves buried deep under Marcellus Shale in the Catskills and Delaware Valley, extending into northern Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio. [Brooklyn Daily Eagle](#), New York. 12 March 2010.

**[Lawmakers urge against Marcellus Shale permits.](#)** State Rep. Greg Vitali, D-166, of Haverford, recently joined legislators and environmentalists asking that Gov. Ed Rendell stop granting permits to drill in state forest land over the Marcellus Shale region, a huge deposit of natural gas lying under much of the state. [Delaware County Daily Times](#), Pennsylvania. 12 March 2010.

**[Study: Quakes linked to post-gas drilling process.](#)** A wastewater disposal process done after natural gas extraction – and not the drilling itself – is a plausible cause for the surprising series of minor earthquakes in north Texas, according to a study released Wednesday. [Associated Press](#). 11 March 2010.

**[SMU report on Dallas-Fort Worth quakes released.](#)** Seismologists from Southern Methodist University and the University of Texas released findings Wednesday on Dallas-Fort Worth earthquakes and their possible association with natural gas exploration in the Barnett Shale. [Cleburne Times Review](#), Texas. 11 March 2010.

**[D/FW injection well is 'plausible' quake source.](#)** Scientists believe they've found the source of several minor earthquakes that rattled neighborhoods around Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport in 2008 and 2009. [Fort Worth WFAA TV](#), Texas. 11 March 2010.

**[Obama aide urges listing of gas-drilling chemicals.](#)** President Barack Obama's top environmental adviser urged the natural gas industry to disclose the chemicals it uses in drilling, warning that the development of massive US shale gas reserves could be held back otherwise. [Reuters](#). 10 March 2010.

**US EPA chief concerned about gas drilling fluids.** The top U.S. environmental regulator said she was "very concerned" about fluids blamed by some for polluting water supplies near sites where drillers use them to extract natural gas from shale deposits. [Reuters](#), 9 March 2010.

**Fears raised over process of extraction.** ExxonMobil's \$41bn deal to buy XTO Energy, the shale gas specialist, came with a clause that allows the biggest western-listed oil company to walk away if the threat of regulation makes the key technology used to tap the gas uneconomical. [London Financial Times](#), United Kingdom. 8 March 2010.

**Gas drilling has 'massive effect.'** As Chesapeake Appalachia prepares to drill for Marcellus Shale natural gas in Oglebay Park, Wetzel County resident Raymond Renaud says those living near the drilling sites may get far more than they bargained for. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 8 March 2010.

**Marcellus shale deposit: Buried treasure, hidden costs.** Parts of the Poconos sit atop a massive natural gas deposit that could bring prosperity to northeastern Pennsylvania. But concerns over environmental destruction have made developing these deposits controversial. [Stroudsberg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 6 March 2010.

**Hundreds pack hearing in Pike to condemn natural gas drilling.** The issue in the hearing that lasted nearly six hours is Stone Energy Corporation's proposal for surface water withdrawal and natural gas drilling along the west branch of the Lackawaxen River. [Stroudsberg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 5 March 2010.

**Officials OK plan to drill Marcellus shale for natural gas.** Officials in North Fayette and Robinson, Washington County, have approved an energy company's plans to drill the Marcellus shale field, which contains natural gas. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 4 March 2010.

**Oil drilling project approved within Sherman city limits.** City councilors walked a tightrope between competing property owner rights, and gave neighbors of an oil and gas drilling company some protections on Monday. [Sherman Denison Herald Democrat](#), Texas. 2 March 2010.

**Fort Worth residents see the bad side of natural gas drilling.** Our City Council has abandoned children and their families who expect to live in a safe and healthy place, leaving them exposed to dangers inherent in drilling, fracking, piping, processing and compressing raw natural gas. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram](#), Texas. Opinion, 1 March 2010.

**Gas drilling venture divides neighbors.** Overcome with emotion, vegetable farmer Eusebius Ballantine put his face in his hands, unable to speak, though he only had three minutes. When Ballantine regained his composure, he addressed the crowd of more than 300 at a hearing Wednesday before the Delaware Valley Basin Commission. [Stroudsberg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 26 February 2010.

**Cracking down on fracking.** Mike Markham of Colorado has an explosive problem: His tap water catches fire. It's demonstrated in a new documentary, "Gasland," that shows how people living near gas wells are suffering water contamination, air pollution and numerous health problems that crop up after fracking. [Nevada City Union](#), California. Opinion, 25 February 2010.

**[Spills of drilling chemicals worry experts.](#)** Even with no additional chemicals added by gas companies, water that flows back from hydro-fracked wells has enough heavy metals – and often radioactivity – to be classified as hazardous waste, said Ron Bishop, a biochemist at SUNY Oneonta. [Gannett News Service](#). 24 February 2010.

**[Energy industry reps greet House fracking probe with shrug.](#)** Energy industry insiders say a new House probe of hydraulic fracturing is unlikely to hinder development of new domestic shale gas plays or stall a massive merger between Exxon Mobil Corp. and a large independent gas producer. [Greenwire](#). 23 February 2010.

**[Soul-searching follows U.S. CAP defections.](#)** Last week, with comprehensive global warming legislation languishing in the Senate, two major oil companies and an equipment manufacturer opted out of the \$100,000-a-year Climate Action Partnership. [Greenwire](#). 23 February 2010.

**[Company's system purifies liquid in Marcellus Shale drilling.](#)** The problems: Where to find one million to five million gallons of water needed to fracture shale a mile underground to release gas, and what to do with the polluted waste water returned to the surface once the process is completed? [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 23 February 2010.

**[Plan to truck hydrofracking wastewater to Finger Lakes shelved, for now.](#)** A drama that linked Pennsylvania, a tiny Finger Lakes town and 663 million gallons of chemical-laden water is foreshadowing a problem New York will face if it allows high-volume natural gas drilling. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 21 February 2010.

**[Two oil-field companies acknowledge fracking with diesel.](#)** Two of the world's largest oil-field services companies have acknowledged to Congress that they used diesel in hydraulic fracturing after telling federal regulators they would stop injecting the fuel near underground water supplies. [Greenwire](#). 20 February 2010.

**[Packed house attends Environmental Resources and Energy Committee hearing on HB 2213 in Clearfield.](#)** The purpose of the bill is to provide further protection to surface land and water supplies from natural gas drilling activities. [Gant Daily](#), Pennsylvania. 20 February 2010.

**[Firms report using diesel in fracking.](#)** Two major companies involved in hydraulic fracturing acknowledged pumping thousands of gallons of diesel in the ground despite concerns about the practice at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, according to information provided to a congressional committee. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 19 February 2010.

**[House committee investigates drilling practice.](#)** The U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee said on Thursday it was investigating the potential impact of hydraulic fracturing on the environment and human health. [Reuters](#). 19 February 2010.

**[House wants answers to hydraulic fracturing.](#)** An oil and gas drilling technique that is becoming more widespread is drawing scrutiny from lawmakers concerned that it may pose a hazard to human health by tainting drinking water and harming the environment. [Associated Press](#). 19 February 2010.

**[Oil and gas drilling's threat to our drinking water is local, national debate.](#)** Sandy Mangan draws a small glass of water from her kitchen faucet. It stinks and small bubbles slip up the side of the cup. [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), Ohio. 16 February 2010.

**[EPA official: State regulators doing fine on hydrofracking.](#)** State regulators are doing a good job overseeing a key natural gas production technique called hydrofracking – and there's no evidence the process causes water contamination, a senior federal environment official said Monday. [Wall Street Journal](#). 16 February 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Chesapeake waste disposal plan puts small Steuben town at center of drilling dispute.](#)** What to do with Marcellus Shale waste? Chesapeake Energy, one of the country's largest natural gas drilling companies, has proposed disposing of it beneath the scenic heart of the Finger Lakes Region. [Gannett News Service](#). 15 February 2010.

**[FRAC Act needed to protect Pennsylvanians' from the hazards of gas drilling.](#)** We need laws like the FRAC Act to safeguard Pennsylvanians' health and well-being while protecting the environment so that we are not doomed to repeat the mistakes of our coal mining past. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 14 February 2010.

**[Northeastern Pennsylvania once contained.](#)** Pennsylvania can't allow financial profits to take precedent over environmental stewardship. Harrisburg can begin by calling for a moratorium on gas drilling in the Marcellus shale until a detailed scientific study is completed on the fracking process. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 12 February 2010.

**[Revived interest in natural gas drilling prompts to W.Va. lawmakers to consider new safeguards.](#)** A renewed push to drill for natural gas is pushing West Virginia lawmakers to consider new safeguards for property owners and the environment. [Associated Press](#). 11 February 2010.

**[EPA launches Marcellus Shale watchdog program.](#)** Uncle Sam's chief environmental agency is launching a citizens' watchdog program to help track water pollution and waste disposal related to natural gas production from the Marcellus Shale. [Gannett News Service](#). 11 February 2010.

**[Fracking elicits complaints but no violations.](#)** As Cathy McMullen surveyed the Rayzor Ranch gas well site on Friday afternoon from nearby McKenna Park, she felt her eyes water and nose burn. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 9 February 2010.

**[Pause the Pa. gas rush.](#)** Our state forests and the quality of our drinking water are too important to compromise. Instead of attempting to balance this year's state budget by leasing more forest land, Pennsylvania should impose a severance tax on gas drillers. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 9 February 2010. [Registration Required]

**[Pennsylvania must fight federal regulation of drilling.](#)** The more Pennsylvanians know about fracking, the clearer it will become that federal regulation is not needed. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 8 February 2010.

**[Gas drilling questions raise flags in Flower Mound.](#)** Since 2004, more than 1,000 incidences of water contamination in the western U.S. have been linked to fracking. Most have occurred in remote areas. In densely populated areas, the margin for error is much narrower. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. Opinion, 7 February 2010.

**[Resistance to proposed wastewater facility grows.](#)** As resistance to a proposed Chesapeake Energy toxic wastewater disposal facility near Keuka Lake grows, Pulteney Town Supervisor Bill Weber is vowing to do everything in his power to stop the project. [Corning Leader](#), New York. 6 February 2010.

**[DEP to rewrite brine water land application permits.](#)** Following a bad experience at the Fernow Experimental Forest in Tucker County, U.S. Forest Service employees have found that the current permit conditions for land applications of gas industry drilling wastewater are inadequate. [Charleston State Journal](#), West Virginia. 4 February 2010.

**[Keep close eye on gas drilling.](#)** The natural gas industry's rapid rise in Pennsylvania poses many challenges for policy makers and the public, not the least of which is how to protect our water. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 4 February 2010.

**[Gas drilling in Appalachia runs into resistance: What do you do with the wastewater?](#)** A drilling technique that is beginning to unlock staggering quantities of natural gas underneath Appalachia also yields a troubling byproduct: powerfully briny wastewater that can kill fish and give tap water a foul taste and odor. [Associated Press](#). 3 February 2010.

**[ABCs of natural gas drilling.](#)** As the natural gas drilling industry gains a toehold in Northeast Pennsylvania and a multitude of groups debate whether the industry is an economic boom or an ecological bust, various terms and phrases will be bandied about in reference to the process. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 3 February 2010.

**[Wastewater from gas drilling raises concerns.](#)** A method of natural gas drilling that may soon be employed at Oglebay Park can yield a troubling byproduct: very briny wastewater that regulators believe can kill fish and sour tap water. [Wheeling News-Register](#), West Virginia. 3 February 2010.

**[Sound off on water.](#)** Today's meeting with the state's Ground Water Resources Commission. will work best if enough locals show up to let the commission hear their concerns about the threat to aquifers from natural gas exploration in the Haynesville Shale. Don't let the opportunity pass. [Shreveport Times](#), Louisiana. Editorial, 3 February 2010.

**[Scientists search for the best treatment of frac water.](#)** Pennsylvania has its work cut out for it regarding the treatment and disposal of flowback fluids from drilling in the Marcellus Shale, it was revealed during a summit Friday at Lycoming College. [Willilamsport Sun-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 1 February 2010.

**[Rep. backs state control of drilling.](#)** Concern over environmental damage from natural-gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale region has increased enough to attract federal attention, but at least one state representative believes regulation should be left to the states. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 1 February 2010.

**[Hydro-fracturing has a lucrative dirty secret.](#)** The B.C. government isn't asking many questions about a natural-gas-drilling technique involving toxic compounds. [Georgia Straight](#), British Columbia. 28 January 2010.

**[Drilling has many unknowns.](#)** "There will be winners and losers" in the natural gas gold rush known as Marcellus Shale hydrofracking. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 28 January 2010.

**[Gas drilling will take compromise.](#)** Environmentalists should note natural gas is a better way to create electricity than relying on coal-fired plants that create greater global-warming and acid-rain-producing emissions. And the state has an abundance of natural gas. [Poughkeepsie Journal](#), New York. Editorial, 27 January 2010.

**[Will 'shale gas' save the environment or wreck it?](#)** Fracking's impact on water could be a fly in the ointment for the shale gas boom. The Environmental Working Group published a report this month concluding that fracking has been linked to drinking water contamination and property damage in several states. [Daily Green](#). 26 January 2010.

**[NYC's Bloomberg opposes gas drilling in watershed.](#)** New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg issued his most forceful statements to date opposing natural gas drilling in the city's upstate watershed on Monday, in a boost for anti-drilling protesters amid competing rallies in the state capital. [Reuters](#). 26 January 2010.

**[Exxon-XTO deal forces Congress to reconsider natural gas.](#)** Because natural gas, not oil, is so critical to power generation, Exxon's \$31 billion acquisition of XTO gives the energy giant weight it never had before in the battle over climate policy. [ClimateWire](#). 26 January 2010.

**[Robertson, Lifton among Ithaca contingent at Albany anti-gas-drilling rally.](#)** The rain did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of the approximately 60 anti-drilling activists from the Ithaca area who showed up at the Capitol on Monday to join the protest of hydrofracking in the Marcellus Shale and lobby members of Congress. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 26 January 2010.

**[Gas drilling debate hits Albany.](#)** More than 1,000 people representing both sides of the conflict over hydraulic fracturing gathered just blocks apart near the Capitol on Monday to voice their concerns. [Utica Observer-Dispatch](#), New York. 26 January 2010.

**[Debate over fracking continues.](#)** Wider use of hydraulic fracturing will help the United States increase its domestic energy supplies even as the practice draws concern about its possible impact on drinking water, Exxon Mobil Corp. Chairman and Chief Executive Rex Tillerson says. [McClatchy Newspapers](#). 24 January 2010.

**[Underground injection of gas industry brine taking off.](#)** Several years into the developing Marcellus Shale gas boom, West Virginia well operators are opening new brine disposal injection wells to handle the waste fluids. [Charleston State Journal](#), West Virginia. 24 January 2010.

**[Two sides offer opposite views about fracking.](#)** Gas drilling will pollute our drinking water, ruin our air and desiccate our landscape, say drilling opponents. They're rallying in Albany Monday to "protect New York from the dangers of natural gas drilling." [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 24 January 2010.

**[Drilling tactic unleashes a trove of natural gas—and a backlash.](#)** A mounting backlash against a technique used in natural-gas drilling is threatening to slow development of the huge gas fields that some hope will reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil and polluting coal. [Wall Street Journal](#). 21 January 2010. [Subscription Required]

**[Exxon defends XTO Energy deal, warns against new regulation on hydraulic fracturing.](#)** Exxon Mobil Corp. told lawmakers Wednesday that its merger with natural gas producer XTO Energy Inc. wouldn't violate antitrust laws and warned Congress against new regulations that could slow the development of wells. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 21 January 2010.

**[Energy chiefs defend natural gas from shale as safe.](#)** The heads of Exxon Mobil Corp. and XTO Energy sought to assure skeptical lawmakers Wednesday that their companies can produce natural gas from shale rock without damaging the environment or contaminating nearby drinking water supplies. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 21 January 2010.

**[Oil and gas operators skirt federal law, report says.](#)** Oil and gas operators are skirting federal law when they inject toxic "fracking fluids" into wells, threatening drinking water supplies from Pennsylvania to Wyoming, according to a new report by the Washington-based Environmental Working Group. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. 20 January 2010.

**[Environmental group claims drinking water supplies threatened.](#)** An environmental advocacy group says that companies drilling for oil and natural gas around the US, including in Ohio, far too often skirt federal law and are injecting toxic petroleum distillates into thousands of wells. [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), Ohio. 20 January 2010.

**[Loophole lets gas drillers inject chemical; Texas official says water untainted.](#)** A legal loophole could be letting gas drillers inject fluids with high levels of benzene into the ground in gas-rich regions such as North Texas' Barnett Shale, a study by an environmental group finds. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 20 January 2010.

**[Meeting to explore pros and cons of natural-gas drilling.](#)** On Tuesday, the Olean Strategic Planning Committee will meet to discuss what tapping into the natural-gas reserves in the Marcellus Shale could mean for the city. Despite the economic benefits, concerns loom over the environmental impacts of drilling. [Olean Times Herald](#), New York. 18 January 2010.

**[Arcuri to DEC: Gas regs need work.](#)** U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri, D-Utica, Friday called on the state Department of Environmental Conservation to rewrite regulations for natural gas drilling. The DEC's proposed regulations do not inspire confidence that gas can be extracted without contaminating water supplies, he said. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. 18 January 2010.

**[Agencies keep eye on natural gas drilling boom.](#)** As interest in the Marcellus Shale as a source of natural gas grows, agencies including the state Department of Environmental Protection and the tri-state Susquehanna River Basin Commission are keeping a watchful eye on drillers. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 18 January 2010.

**[Many Central New York lawmakers undecided on hydrofracking.](#)** As New York wrestles with how to regulate natural gas drilling, state lawmakers from Central New York will soon have to decide an important question: Do they support high-volume hydraulic fracturing? [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 17 January 2010.

**[City treating toxic water.](#)** Environmental groups are warning Watertown officials that if the waste fluid the city is now treating from a hydraulic-fracturing mine isn't processed properly, it could harm the Black River and damage the city's sewage treatment facility. [Watertown Daily Times](#), New York. 17 January 2010.

**[Interest runs high in gas-drilling plans.](#)** The New York state Department of Environmental Conservation is one step closer to updating its guidelines for natural gas drilling in the region, and 12,000 people have something to say about that. [Utica Observer-Dispatch](#), New York. 17 January 2010.

**[Keuka Lake town could be next natural gas battleground.](#)** The town of Pulteney could be the next battleground in the natural gas exploration debate. Chesapeake Energy has approached the town about converting a former natural gas well into a disposal facility for wastewater from natural gas drilling. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 15 January 2010.

**[Gas drilling advocates rally to pressure Albany.](#)** People in favor of natural gas drilling say a lot of information out there is false, and that the fear its generated is keeping natural gas drilling from moving forward. Advocates of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale say their voices aren't being heard. [Binghamton WICZ TV](#), New York. 15 January 2010.

**[Oil on ice: An industry 'game changer.'](#)** The enormous power of ice, which through its freeze-thaw cycles can destroy roads, bridges and buildings, may soon also help boost oil and gas production. [Edmonton Journal](#), Alberta. 13 January 2010.

**[State ban on gas drilling unlikely.](#)** Don't look for the state to heed calls to stop or slow down gas drilling — even though the requests have come from such powerful interests as New York City, the Environmental Protection Agency and a union of Department of Environmental Conservation workers. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 11 January 2010.

**[Protect New York's water: Frackers must not endanger city's reservoirs.](#)** Absolutely, positively and inscribed in stone, Gov. Paterson must bar any thought of putting the city water supply at risk by allowing natural gas drilling a hop, skip and a jump from the banks of upstate reservoirs. [New York Daily News](#), New York. Editorial, 11 January 2010.

**[Top environmental health stories of 2009.](#)** In 2009, the team at Environmental Health News hand-selected and posted 71,143 stories that were published in the worldwide media. Here's a list of those we consider the year's most important. [Environmental Health News](#). 10 January 2010.

**[Dispute over 'fracking' for natural gas.](#)** Environmental groups want more regulation of the chemicals used in fracking. But industry groups say more rules aren't necessary. [Talk of the Nation](#), NPR. 9 January 2010.

**[City site will treat mining fluids.](#)** An Otsego County mining operation that uses the controversial hydraulic fracturing method will have its fetid fluids treated at the city of Watertown's sewage treatment plant beginning today. [Watertown Daily Times](#), New York. 5 January 2010.

**[Pale greens honor BC climate vandals.](#)** An embarrassingly large number of people and agencies in Canada and abroad have been hoodwinked by the BC government's claims to environmental stewardship and its greenwashing propaganda. [Pacific Free Press](#), British Columbia. Opinion, 5 January 2010.

**[Concerns rise in Pennsylvania from natural gas drilling.](#)** When Cabot Oil & Gas offered the Switzers a lease for the natural gas under their land a few years ago the company said it might drill a single well nearby. Now there are 63 wells, and the Switzers are afraid to drink their water because of chemical contamination. [Voice of America](#), 4 January 2010.

**[Natural gas fight looms for TVA.](#)** TVA's chief says the federal power producer is ready to start using more natural gas as it gets away from burning so much carbon-producing coal to make electricity. But environmentalists say the chemical-laced drilling process could present as many problems as it solves. [Nashville Tennessean](#), Tennessee, 4 January 2010.

**[Cornell grad creates detailed guide to fracking.](#)** While lawmakers, activists and members of Congress debated the merits and risks of natural gas drilling, an intern with the Broome County Health Department quietly got to the root of the issue, detailing how hydrofracking can affect water quality. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York, 4 January 2010.

**[Natural gas drilling: What we don't know.](#)** In the next 10 years, the US will use fracturing technology to drill hundreds of thousands of new wells astride cities, rivers and watersheds. Drilling companies assert that the destructive forces unleashed by the fracturing process remain safely sealed as much as a mile or more beneath the earth. [ProPublica](#), 1 January 2010.

**[EPA questions New York state plan to drill for shale gas.](#)** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has "serious reservations" about allowing shale gas drilling in New York City's watershed, warning of a threat to the drinking water for 9 million people. [Reuters](#), 1 January 2010.

**[U.S. states strive to regulate shale gas industry.](#)** As U.S. energy companies scramble to mine natural gas from shale deposits, state regulators are struggling to keep pace amid criticism that they lack the resources to enforce environmental laws. [Reuters](#), 31 December 2009.

**[Almost 10,000 people submit comments on New York's proposed hydrofracking regulations.](#)** Gov. David Paterson and the state Department of Environmental Conservation are being deluged with last-minute lobbying over a document that will set guidelines for natural gas drilling for years to come. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York, 30 December 2009.

**[DEC union asks for more study before permitting gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale.](#)** The union representing nearly 2,000 professional, scientific and technical staff within the New York Department of Environmental Conservation has asked Gov. David Paterson to hold off on allowing natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. [Gannett News Service](#), 30 December 2009.

**[Hinchey calls for closer study before allowing Marcellus drilling.](#)** U.S. Rep. Maurice Hinchey said "a lot more work is needed," so development of the gas-rich Marcellus under the Southern Tier and parts of the Finger Lakes region doesn't ruin the environment or create public health risks. [Gannett News Service](#), 30 December 2009.

**[Drilling questions abound.](#)** Thanks to research by Tompkins County staff and our engaged community, and in-depth reporting by this paper, we're learning about the profound impacts of gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York, Opinion, 30 December 2009.

**[2009 a pivotal year for Marcellus drilling, but to which way?](#)** Even without a single well drilled in 2009, the Marcellus Shale continued to be at the center of a polarizing debate about visions for the future in the southern Finger Lakes and Southern Tier. [Gannett News Service](#). 29 December 2009.

**[Hydrofracking for gas.](#)** Natural gas burns a lot cleaner than oil and coal, so a lot of people are excited about gas's role in a greener energy sector. But drilling for natural gas? That's not quite so green. Second part in a series. [Environment Report](#). 29 December 2009.

**[As NY mulls hydrofracking regulations, gas companies lease land in CNY watersheds.](#)** You can't dump trash, sewage or pesticides into Skaneateles Lake. After all, it provides drinking water to more than 200,000 people. But the state is poised to allow oil and gas companies to use chemicals, sand and large amounts of water to drill for natural gas within the watershed. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 28 December 2009.

**[Hydrofracking for gas.](#)** A new technique for extracting natural gas is making it profitable to drill in new gas fields all over the country. The technique is called hydrofracking, and it has raised the nation's natural gas reserves by 35%. But hydrofracking is not without its critics. [Environment Report](#). 28 December 2009.

**[Steep environmental costs to tapping Marcellus shale for gas.](#)** Although the short-term gas extraction may bring economic relief to New York, before long, recovery of the depleted natural resources will render the state bankrupt. [Lower Hudson Valley Journal News](#), New York. Opinion, 28 December 2009.

**[New gas wells leave more chemicals in ground.](#)** It's possible that for each modern gas well drilled in the Marcellus and places like it, more than three million gallons of chemically tainted wastewater could be left in the ground forever. [ProPublica](#). 27 December 2009.

**[Safety, health come first.](#)** We need to say loudly that New York's draft document on hydraulic fracturing does not contain requirements that must be followed. Nor does it address the cumulative effect of air and water pollution from spills, leaks, accidents or migration in any part of the process. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. Opinion, 27 December 2009.

**[Feds should regulate natural gas drilling.](#)** Compared to nuclear power - which is tightly regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission - natural gas has enjoyed a free ride with respect to adequate protection of the environment and public health and safety. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 27 December 2009.

**[A fracking mischaracterization.](#)** Tuesday's editorial in Investor's Business Daily gets into trouble when the body of its editorial veers into mischaracterizing ProPublica's reporting on the environmental risks that need to be dealt with to produce the huge amounts of natural gas available underground in the US. [ProPublica](#). Opinion, 25 December 2009.

**[Environmental fears over U.S. shale gas drilling.](#)** The boom in shale natural gas drilling has raised hopes the United States will be able to rely on the cleaner-burning fuel to meet future energy needs. But concerns about its impact on water quality could slow the industry's ability to tap this bountiful resource. [Reuters](#). 24 December 2009.

**[NYC says Catskill gas drilling risks are too great.](#)** New York City's Department of Environmental Protection called on state officials Wednesday to ban natural gas drilling in the Catskills watershed, saying it would pose too great a risk to the city's upstate drinking water system. [Associated Press](#). 24 December 2009.

**[NYC urges ban on shale gas drilling in watershed.](#)** New York City urged the state to ban natural gas drilling in its watershed on Wednesday, becoming the most powerful opponent to date of a process that critics say is poisoning drinking water. [Reuters](#). 24 December 2009.

**[NYC Department of Environmental Protection wants ban on watershed drilling.](#)** The New York City Department of Environmental Protection says gas drilling should be off-limits in the Catskill Reservoir, which funnels fresh water to millions downstate. [Johnson City WBNG](#), New York. 24 December 2009.

**[Wind resistance.](#)** Will the petrocracy - and greens - keep Wyoming from realizing its windy potential? [High Country News](#). 22 December 2009.

**[Gas gold rush ignites in rural New York.](#)** After a lifetime struggling to make money from the land, New York farmer Bill Graby has discovered he's sitting on treasure -- possibly the biggest natural gas deposit in America. [Agence France-Presse](#). 20 December 2009.

**[Analysts: Marcellus to produce fuel of choice.](#)** Marcellus Shale gas will contribute to landmark changes to energy markets facing the age of global warming. That's the forecast of analysts and industry representatives following Exxon Mobil's purchase of XTO energy last week. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 20 December 2009.

**[Back Mountain braces for natural gas drilling.](#)** The start of natural gas drilling in Luzerne County will come with issues such as where the companies will get water for the process, and whether they will take steps to mitigate infrastructure wear and prevent water contamination. [Wilkes-Barre Citizen's Voice](#), Pennsylvania. 20 December 2009.

**[Dish results released.](#)** Sixty-one percent of the health problems reported by residents in a survey are associated with the toxic air emissions detected here, according to an independent analysis released Thursday. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 18 December 2009.

**[Experts weigh risks of natural gas drilling.](#)** Drillers claim their methods of transporting fracking fluid and injecting it deep in the earth are secure while environmental groups point to spills and ground water contamination at other drilling locations around the state and country. [Stroudsburg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 18 December 2009.

**[Exxon can stop deal if drilling method is restricted.](#)** Exxon Mobil Corp. can back out of its \$31 billion deal to acquire natural-gas producer XTO Energy Inc. if Congress passes a law requiring stronger federal oversight of the controversial drilling technique called fracking. [Wall Street Journal](#). 17 December 2009. [Subscription Required]

**[Underused drilling practices could avoid pollution.](#)** Industry has developed innovative ways to make it easier to exploit the nation's natural gas reserves without polluting air and drinking water. But it tends to use these environmental safeguards only when political, regulatory, cost or social pressures force it to do so. [ProPublica](#). 14 December 2009.

**[A fortune in natural gas lies under Upstate New York forest.](#)** Environmental advocates worry the calm there soon will be shattered by high-volume hydraulic fracturing, as has happened in Pennsylvania. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 13 December 2009.

**[Susquehanna residents wary of gas-drilling operation.](#)** When Norma Fiorentino's relatives used to visit her house, they often filled a few jugs of clean country water from her well before returning to town. That was before Marcellus Shale gas drilling came to Dimock. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 13 December 2009. [Registration Required]

**[Cornell team concludes DEC ill-equipped to oversee natural gas drilling.](#)** The state's new blueprint for Marcellus Shale development proposes 187 new tasks to regulate natural gas drilling with no mention of how they will be completed. [Gannett News Service](#). 12 December 2009.

**['Frack' process to unlock gas raises environmental concerns.](#)** In March 1949, Halliburton pumped millions of gallons of water, sand and chemicals into an oil well site near Duncan, Okla. It was the first use of a technique for increasing oil and natural gas production called hydraulic fracturing. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. 11 December 2009.

**[Monitors to check streams in gas-drilling areas.](#)** Responding to concerns that the Marcellus gas boom may cause an increase in water pollution, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission announced that it would install electronic monitors to measure water quality in the gas-drilling areas. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 11 December 2009. [Registration Required]

**[A tale of two species or I wish I was a caribou.](#)** If the EPA were allowed to look into fracking perhaps the people of the Southern Tier would have the same rights as the Caribou; for every member of the human species, even those without a gas lease, to live long and prosper! Is being as cared about and protected as a Caribou asking all that much? [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 11 December 2009.

**[6,000 sign petition asking DEC to strengthen natural gas-drilling regulations.](#)** An Ithaca environmental activist and 6,000 other individuals and organizations asked the governor Tuesday to withdraw the state's newly drafted regulations on natural gas drilling. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 9 December 2009.

**[Chesapeake, Schlumberger fined for acid spill during fracking.](#)** Two energy companies face \$31,000 in fines after a caustic chemical bound for the Marcellus Shale in Bradford County, Pa., didn't make it down the well bore. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 8 December 2009.

**[Natural gas locked in the Marcellus Shale has companies rushing to cash in on possibilities.](#)** It was only in 2008 that interest in the Marcellus Shale exploded, a development triggered by the release of two reports. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 6 December 2009.

**[Delco wastewater treatment permit rescinded.](#)** Months ago, with little public awareness, the Delaware County wastewater treatment plant got a state permit to accept wastewater from natural gas-drilling operations hundreds of miles away. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 4 December 2009. [Registration Required]

**[Make companies build freshwater ponds.](#)** The Friends of the Chemung River Watershed is concerned about the water that natural gas companies will remove from our waterways for their high-pressure water drilling into the shale beneath us. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. Opinion, 3 December 2009.

**[Regulating hydrofracking.](#)** A new drilling technique called hydrofracking has opened up previously inaccessible natural gas fields all over the country and created a boom in natural gas production. But it's also generated a lot of controversy, since hydrofracking is exempt from almost all federal regulations. [Environment Report](#). 2 December 2009.

**[Hydrofracking for gas contains multiple threats.](#)** Save our drinking water. Let the devil keep his sorry, sooty fuel. Let's meet our energy needs by insulating our homes and powering them with solar and wind energy. Ask the governor to extend, indefinitely, the moratorium on hydrofracking and horizontal drilling. [Buffalo News](#), New York. Opinion, 27 November 2009.

**[Put hold on drilling in state.](#)** Jeopardizing our water resources by rushing into hydro-fracking the Marcellus Shale would be a terrible mistake. We need a moratorium on this type of mining. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. Opinion, 25 November 2009.

**[Marcellus Shale natural gas drilling creates need for wastewater treatment facilities.](#)** The boom in drilling for natural gas across northern Pennsylvania has created a potential flood of business for wastewater treatment plants. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. 23 November 2009. [Registration Required]

**[Pennsylvania residents sue gas driller over polluted wells.](#)** Pat Farnelli and her neighbors are plaintiffs in a lawsuit that alleges Houston-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. polluted their wells with methane gas and other contaminants, destroying the value of their homes and threatening their health. [Associated Press](#). 21 November 2009.

**[Frack 2, Scene 1.](#)** In 2006, Grand Junction and Palisade, Colorado lost a long battle to keep natural gas drilling off the land that supplies the two communities' drinking water. Now, the drilling boom has moved out East--and the political landscape of the oil and gas fight appears to have undergone a tectonic shift. [High Country News](#). 20 November 2009.

**[Degette continues push for Federal fracking law.](#)** A just-passed Interior Department spending bill includes a provision that encourages the agency to study whether fracking - short for hydraulic fracturing - is polluting groundwater. [Greeley KUNC Radio](#), Colorado. 19 November 2009.

**[Gas drilling raises environmental concerns.](#)** Molly Pritz, who studies the wastewater by-product of hydrofracking, detailed its potential to deplete water supplies, contaminate water, pollute air and destroy established ecosystems. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 18 November 2009.

**[DEC should ban 'fracking'.](#)** If DEC officials are listening at all during the hearings being held across the region, then they'll have to conclude that most people don't want natural-gas drillers consuming and ruining our water, wrecking our roads, dotting our landscapes and adding hydro-carbon emissions to our air. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. Opinion, 14 November 2009.

**Marcellus shale drilling is biggest threat to Pennsylvania wilds.** Gas well development destroys acres of forest and inadequate liner materials in wastewater retention ponds can result in contaminants leaching into groundwater. [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#), Pennsylvania. Opinion, 14 November 2009. [Registration Required]

**DEC hears impassioned debate on gas drilling.** About 1,000 people crowded into a high school auditorium Thursday night to give their best - and perhaps final - shot at influencing the great debate over natural gas drilling. [Gannett News Service](#). 13 November 2009.

**New Yorkers tell DEC: 'no fracking way'.** It didn't take long for a New York City public hearing on natural gas drilling to descend into near chaos. [ProPublica](#). 12 November 2009.

**League studies effects of natural gas drilling.** Ramifications of natural gas drilling into the mile deep Marcellus Shale — economic and environmental — are being studied by about 15 members of the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area. [Sunbury Daily Item](#), Pennsylvania. 12 November 2009.

**GarCo commissioners vote 2-1 to oppose DeGette's FRAC Act.** A grass-roots citizen's group troubled by air and water pollution from natural gas drilling in Garfield County expressed "extreme disappointment" Monday when the county commissioners voted 2-1 to oppose more federal oversight of the industry. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 10 November 2009.

**State files show 270 drilling accidents in past 30 years.** As the debate over the merits of Marcellus Shale development reaches a crescendo, a researcher has culled a list of 270 files documenting wastewater spills, well contamination, explosions, methane migration and ecological damage related to gas production in the state since 1979. [Elmira Star Gazette News](#), New York. 9 November 2009.

**Pennsylvania lawsuit says drilling polluted water.** A Pennsylvania landowner is suing an energy company, saying it ruined his land with toxic chemicals used in or released there by hydraulic fracturing. [Reuters](#). 9 November 2009.

**Debate draws strong viewpoints.** Gas drilling has become a dominant issue in central New York, with money to be made and risks to be taken. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. 7 November 2009.

**Natural gas quest: EPA to review safety of fracking process.** The safety of fracking -- a controversial process to stimulate natural gas production from the Marcellus Shale -- will be re-evaluated by the Obama administration. [Gannett News Service](#). 7 November 2009.

**DEP keeping tabs on Cabot gas drilling.** Last month, Pennsylvania fined Cabot Oil and Gas for 3 separate spills in Dimock Township. Cabot had to stop its hydro-fracking process until it came up with a pollution prevention plan. Now, the DEP has fined Cabot again for polluting 13 nearby water wells with methane. [Johnson City WBNG](#), New York. 6 November 2009.

**Pennsylvania natgas water treatment plant challenged.** Environmentalists have challenged the proposed construction of a plant that would process waste water from natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania's booming Marcellus Shale field, an activist group said on Tuesday. [Reuters](#). 4 November 2009.

**[The new gold rush.](#)** A new process makes it easier to extract natural gas from shale. This makes a huge chunk of upstate New York economically viable for natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale — including the region that's the source of New York City's unfiltered tap water. [Crain's New York Business](#), New York. 2 November 2009.

**[Shale game.](#)** A boom in natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania will ease energy demands and boost the state economy. But there's reason to be concerned that environmental regulators won't be able to keep up with this new gold rush. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 2 November 2009. [Registration Required]

**[Plan to drill on Colorado plateau meets resistance.](#)** Bill Barrett Corp., a Denver energy company that holds natural gas drilling rights to the Roan Plateau, is at the center of a battle that could influence the fate of thousands of acres in the high country known as the intermountain West, beloved by many for its clear streams and rugged beauty. [New York Times](#). 30 October 2009. [Registration Required]

**[Gas producers favor state oversight of 'fracking.'](#)** States do a fine job of regulating the natural gas drilling process of "fracking," and transferring that regulatory authority to the federal government is not necessary, according to West Virginia oil and natural gas industry executives. [Charleston State Journal](#), West Virginia. 30 October 2009.

**[Marcellus Shale hearing draws critics and supporters.](#)** Chesapeake Energy, one of the nation's largest natural gas producers, said Wednesday that it won't drill in the New York City watershed in upstate New York because of opposition from politicians and environmental groups. [Associated Press](#). 30 October 2009.

**[Environmentalists learn about 'hydrofracking' and how they can try to stop it.](#)** The natural gas drilling method known as fracking is "the most serious environmental challenge we've ever faced," a spokesman for the Onondaga Nation said Thursday at a meeting of about 100 environmentalists and citizens in Syracuse. [Syracuse Post-Standard](#), New York. 30 October 2009.

**[Chesapeake won't drill in NYC watershed.](#)** Chesapeake Energy, one of the nation's largest natural gas producers, said Wednesday it won't drill in the New York City watershed in upstate New York because of opposition from politicians and environmental groups. [Associated Press](#). 29 October 2009.

**[Pennsylvania tapped, drillers not.](#)** The full scale of the Marcellus gas boom is still coming into focus. As each new well comes into production, gas drillers are reporting robust discoveries. While oil and gas drilling nationwide has fallen by half since the stock market crashed a year ago, the number of rigs has doubled in Pennsylvania. [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 25 October 2009. [Registration Required]

**[Dunkard polluters need to be punished.](#)** Dunkard Creek used to be a pretty decent place to fish. Not any more. It's dead. Pollution killed it. [Charleston Gazette](#), West Virginia. Opinion, 25 October 2009.

**[Documentary offers anecdotes, not evidence.](#)** Many of the people in the documentary, "Split Estates," have heart-breaking stories about health problems they have suffered. What they don't have is actual evidence that connects their health problems to the hydraulic fracturing of natural gas wells. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. Opinion, 25 October 2009.

[\*\*New York City officials urge gas drilling ban in watersheds.\*\*](#) New York City officials and environmental groups on Friday urged a ban on natural gas drilling in the city's watersheds, fearing it could contaminate the city's water supply. [Reuters](#). 24 October 2009.

[\*\*New York's natural gas battle.\*\*](#) A battle is raging over the Marcellus Shale, a largely untapped deposit of natural gas that runs from West Virginia to New York. Gas companies, environmentalists, and cash-strapped farmers have been squaring off over the lucrative commodity, whose fate could be decided soon. [Fortune](#). 23 October 2009.

[\*\*Pennsylvania fines Cabot over drilling spills.\*\*](#) Pennsylvania has fined Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. for three spills of about 8,000 gallons of LGC-35, a fluid used in natural gas drilling, amid concern about groundwater contamination, state regulators said on Thursday. [Reuters](#). 23 October 2009.

[\*\*Delaware River impacts from natural gas drilling.\*\*](#) Upstate, some folks have started putting spikes in the roads to block trucks related to the natural gas industry. Downstate, meetings have stayed polite but tense, so far. [Philadelphia Weekly](#), Pennsylvania. 21 October 2009.

[\*\*Drilling plan includes recycling.\*\*](#) As if responding to previous community criticism about a similar facility, company officials hoping to build a drilling-waste treatment plant near Meshoppen said Tuesday recycling water is part of their plans. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 21 October 2009.

[\*\*How safe is your drinking water?\*\*](#) An estimated one in 10 Americans have been exposed to drinking water that contains dangerous chemicals or fails to meet a federal health benchmark in other ways. We're talking carcinogens in the tap water of major American cities and unsafe chemicals in drinking water wells. [Fresh Air](#), NPR. 20 October 2009.

[\*\*Colorado gas industry still's claim of swigging fracking fluid hard to swallow.\*\*](#) The gas industry has taken drinking the Kool-Aid to an absurd new level. A lobbyist with the Colorado Oil and Gas Association appears in a new film defending the safety of the compounds blasted underground to free up wells. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Opinion, 20 October 2009.

[\*\*Sullivan County would do well to look at Pennsylvania experience with fracking.\*\*](#) Steel yourself, Sullivan County. When the natural gas rush hits the Catskills — and it will — your life and land will profoundly change. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 18 October 2009.

[\*\*Questions arise over wastewater treatment plant.\*\*](#) One of the most challenging pieces of the area's gas drilling puzzle is the question of what will be done with "flowback water" — the millions of gallons of contaminated water that will travel back to the surface of each well after it is hydraulically fractured. [Sayre Morning Times](#), New York. 17 October 2009.

[\*\*Shale and our water.\*\*](#) New York State must give those who have serious doubts about the potentially toxic process of drilling for natural gas in the New York City watershed a fair chance to state their case. [New York Times](#). Editorial, 17 October 2009. [Registration Required]

[\*\*Fracking poses 'unprecedented threat,' : critics.\*\*](#) The stakes couldn't be higher for proposed gas drilling rules, speaker after speaker said at the first public hearing for those state regulations. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 16 October 2009.

**[Support disclosure of chemicals used in gas drilling.](#)** I am encouraging every citizen of the Central NY community to support the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals (FRAC) Act (HR 2766 and S. 1215). [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 13 October 2009.

**[Fears of tainted water well up in western Colorado.](#)** Last year there were 206 spills in Colorado connected to or suspected in 48 cases of water contamination. Since 2003, there have been around 300 cases. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 11 October 2009.

**[View SEORA's 'streamlining' with caution.](#)** The governor is looking to the \$1 billion that, apparently, would come from "fracking." But what good is \$1 billion if you can't drink the water, and be charged with a \$20 billion filtration plant to render it potable? [Lower Hudson Valley Journal News](#), New York. Opinion, 11 October 2009.

**[Gas drilling vs. drinking water.](#)** A preliminary report warns that "nearly every activity" associated with natural gas drilling could potentially harm the city's drinking water supply and that while the risk can be reduced with strict regulations, "the likelihood of water quality impairment.... cannot be eliminated." [ProPublica](#). 8 October 2009.

**[Drillers gassing on about support for state regulations.](#)** To hear industry cheerleaders tell it, we don't need a federal law regulating drilling because state rules are working so well. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Opinion, 8 October 2009.

**[Residents: Keep drilling discharge out.](#)** Residents attending a public hearing Tuesday were decidedly unconvinced that a purported facility to treat gas-drilling wastes would protect the Susquehanna River. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 7 October 2009.

**[With natural gas drilling boom, Pennsylvania faces an onslaught of wastewater.](#)** Workers at a steel mill and a power plant were the first to notice something strange about the Monongahela River last summer. [ProPublica](#). 4 October 2009.

**[NYC watershed must be spared from gas drilling.](#)** There is still no reason to take a chance in the city's watershed, where any misstep could be too costly, to too many people. [Lower Hudson Valley Journal News](#), New York. Editorial, 4 October 2009.

**[Gas execs call for disclosure of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing.](#)** Two prominent gas industry executives have directly addressed one of the key environmental concerns surrounding the expansion of natural gas development by calling for the disclosure of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing. [ProPublica](#). 3 October 2009.

**[Water worries threaten U.S. push for natural gas.](#)** People living near gas drilling facilities in states including Pennsylvania, Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming have complained that their water has turned cloudy, foul-smelling, or even black as a result of chemicals used in a drilling technique called hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking." [Reuters](#). 2 October 2009.

**[Spills, looming regulations spur natural gas industry toward disclosure.](#)** The natural gas industry is moving to disclose information about chemicals used in controversial extraction technologies in the wake of spills at drilling sites in Pennsylvania and as New York is proposing new regulations. [Greenwire](#). 2 October 2009.

**[NY natgas drilling rules plan seen raising costs.](#)** Energy companies believe New York State's plans to require disclosure of chemicals used in natural gas drilling and tighten environmental safeguards will boost industry costs but help calm public fears of water contamination, executives said on Thursday. [Reuters](#). 2 October 2009.

**[NY state weighs natgas drilling in Marcellus shale.](#)** New York State's proposed new environmental rules allowing drilling for natural gas in the multi-state Marcellus Shale formation face opposition from environmental groups and, potentially, from New York City. [Reuters](#). 2 October 2009.

**[Environmentalists fight natural-gas leasing in Pa. forests.](#)** The state's fragile budget deal rests in part on a plan to open up more state forest land to gas drilling. Now, environmental groups and some Democratic lawmakers are furiously trying to roll back the agreement [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Pennsylvania. 2 October 2009. [Registration Required]

**[NY regulators release gas drilling rules.](#)** State officials have completed new environmental regulations for natural gas drilling that will clear the way for well permits in New York's part of a rich field that covers parts of four states. [Associated Press](#). 1 October 2009.

**[Concern over environmental impact of new budget plan.](#)** A state budget deal announced Sept. 18 between Gov. Ed Rendell and legislative leaders "would have a devastating impact on Pennsylvania's environment," according to an environmental advocacy group and at least six Southeastern Pennsylvania legislators. [Pottstown Mercury](#), Pennsylvania. 30 September 2009.

**[A fracture in the secrecy about fracking.](#)** If other companies join Chesapeake Energy and Range Resources, they could introduce more accountability and transparency into fracking operations even without Congress passing the FRAC Act. Failure to do so may increase chances for passage of the bill. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. Opinion, 29 September 2009.

**[Cabot learns the dangers of fracking.](#)** It's vital that the oil and gas industry voluntarily implement tougher standards on hydraulic fracturing, the recovery of chemicals from wells, and the safeguards to avoid contaminating groundwater with chemicals, or politicians will let the Environmental Protection Agency do it for them. [Forbes](#). Opinion, 29 September 2009.

**[Spills raise worries on water safety in NY gas drilling.](#)** Spills of cancer-causing chemicals at a natural gas drilling site in Pennsylvania have some New Yorkers more worried than ever about planned drilling in New York's Marcellus Shale geological formation. [Public News Service](#). 28 September 2009.

**[Shale drilling stirs concern.](#)** John Kurilla was glad to hear Cabot Oil & Gas Co. can no longer hydraulically fracture shale in Susquehanna County to get natural gas for now. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 28 September 2009.

**[Pennsylvania halts Cabot's hydraulic gas drilling.](#)** Citing three recent chemical spills at one well site, Pennsylvania regulators said Friday they had ordered Cabot Oil and Gas Corp. to halt its use of a drilling technique that uses liquids to fracture rock and release natural gas. [Associated Press](#). 26 September 2009.

[\*\*Pennsylvania orders Cabot Oil and Gas to stop fracturing in troubled county.\*\*](#) After three chemical spills in the past nine days, and following a history of environmental problems, Pennsylvania officials have ordered a company to stop its hydraulic fracturing operations in Susquehanna County pending an intensive review. [ProPublica](#). 26 September 2009.

[\*\*UDC river towns complete natural gas impacts study.\*\*](#) “Time is of the essence” for local municipalities to prepare for the impacts of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale that underlies 36% of the Delaware River Basin, concludes a new study funded in part by the Upper Delaware Council. [Wayne Independent](#), Pennsylvania. 24 September 2009.

[\*\*Oil and gas industry reps attack FRAC Act survey.\*\*](#) Oil and gas industry representatives this week assailed a phone survey in Colorado’s 3rd Congressional District showing overwhelming support for federal regulation of a natural-gas drilling process called hydraulic fracturing. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 24 September 2009.

[\*\*Pennsylvania charges Cabot with natgas chemical spills.\*\*](#) Pennsylvania regulators issued a notice of violation on Tuesday to Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. for spilling thousands of gallons of a chemical used in natural gas drilling. [Reuters](#). 23 September 2009.

[\*\*Frack fluid spill in Dimock contaminates stream, killing fish.\*\*](#) Pennsylvania environment officials are racing to clean up as much as 8,000 gallons of dangerous drilling fluids after a series of spills at a natural gas production site near the town of Dimock late last week. [ProPublica](#). 22 September 2009.

[\*\*There is a natural gas gold mine under our feet.\*\*](#) Hydraulic fracturing allows us to recover clean energy resources that time, gravity and pressure - political and otherwise - has rendered unavailable. [Washington DC Examiner](#), District of Columbia. Opinion, 20 September 2009.

[\*\*Wyo. fracking contamination case eerily similar to Colorado's Divide Creek.\*\*](#) Louis Meeks says he witnessed shoddy hydraulic fracturing practices on his ranch near Pavillion, Wyo. The EPA last spring found the presence of the toxic chemical 2-Butoxyethanol (or 2-BE) in Meeks’ water wells. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 19 September 2009.

[\*\*An exemption by another name.\*\*](#) Is fracking exempt from one of the nation’s most important environmental laws? The Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act states that its purpose is to “amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to repeal a certain exemption for hydraulic fracturing.” [Narrowsburg River Reporter](#), New York. 18 September 2009.

[\*\*State probes spill at gas-drilling site.\*\*](#) Between 6,000 and 8,000 gallons of an agent used to stimulate natural gas production leaked from a pipe at a drilling operation and contaminated a nearby wetland and stream in Susquehanna County, according to the state Department of Environmental Protection. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 18 September 2009.

[\*\*Researcher sees drilling moving into other states.\*\*](#) Out-of-state basins filled with greater portions of natural gas and long permit periods could endanger Colorado drilling, energy trend researcher Porter Bennett said in his keynote address Thursday at the Mesa State College Energy Management Symposium. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 18 September 2009.

**[GarCo commissioners put off FRAC Act resolution.](#)** Garfield County commissioners decided to delay any resolution on the federal hydraulic fracturing legislation until they see a movie on the topic and take more public input. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 16 September 2009.

**[Debate over fracking bill heats up.](#)** After an energy company located a drilling fluid pit near Rick Roles' home south of Rifle several years ago, he became "deathly ill," he says. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 15 September 2009.

**[EPA's study of gas drilling in Wyoming could impact local operations.](#)** The EPA's findings of caustic chemicals associated with natural gas production in private water supplies have intensified battle lines over controversial drilling regulations proposed by members of Congress. [Gannett News Service](#). 14 September 2009.

**[Wyoming community blames fracking for water woes.](#)** Residents of a small, rural farming community blame their water woes — and what they perceive to be the unusual health problems in their midst — on hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," a common technique used in drilling new oil and gas wells. [Associated Press](#). 7 September 2009.

**[Surge in gas drilling amplifies debate over water treatment rules in Pennsylvania.](#)** A battle is brewing over proposed rules designed to protect the state's water resources from high levels of pollutants -- action prompted by a boom in natural gas drilling that generates millions of gallons of contaminated wastewater. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 6 September 2009.

**[Water quality worries could slow shale drilling.](#)** The boom in shale gas drilling has raised hopes the United States will be able to rely on the cleaner-burning fuel to meet future energy needs, but concerns about its impact on water quality could slow industry's ability to tap this relatively new resource. [Reuters](#). 2 September 2009.

**[Wyoming testing increases chance for passage of fracking legislation.](#)** An EPA investigation found traces of oil, gas or metals that could implicate drilling in contamination of 11 of 39 water wells tested. Three wells were found to contain a chemical specifically used in hydraulic fracturing. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. Opinion, 1 September 2009.

**[Air secret ingredient in new heavy-oil extraction method.](#)** A "fire in the ground" method of extracting heavy oil could change the way deep deposits are tapped, and alter the face of in situ production around the world. [Edmonton Journal](#), Alberta. 30 August 2009.

**[U.S. finds water polluted near gas-drilling sites.](#)** U.S. government scientists have for the first time found chemical contaminants in drinking water wells near natural gas drilling operations, fueling concern that a gas-extraction technique is endangering the health of people who live close to drilling rigs. [Reuters](#). 28 August 2009.

**[Chemicals found in Wyo. drinking water might be from fracking.](#)** Federal environment officials investigating drinking water contamination near the ranching town of Pavillion, Wyo., have found that at least three water wells contain a chemical used in the natural gas drilling process of hydraulic fracturing. [ProPublica](#). 26 August 2009.

**Officials downplay Schlumberger issues.** A top official from the company building a controversial facility in Horseheads sought to reassure concerned residents and environmentalists Tuesday during a visit to the Southern Tier. [Corning Leader](#), New York. 26 August 2009.

**2,000 attend rally for natural gas drilling.** Responding to a rallying cry to protect their rights and royalties, about 2,000 people gathered in Bainbridge on Sunday afternoon to urge state officials to allow energy companies to drill for natural gas in their backyards. Advertisement [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 24 August 2009.

**Frack chemical contamination.** Industry watchdogs say the contamination of about 40 wells in Wyoming, being investigated by the federal Environmental Protection Agency, may provide solid evidence that chemicals used in the fracking process can end up in drinking wells. [Narrowsburg River Reporter](#), New York. 21 August 2009.

**Family dilemma: To drill or not to drill.** The 65 acres of land my family owns in Vestal are in the middle of the natural gas-plentiful Marcellus Shale. My family has heard the offers to drill. But as an environmental science and policy major, I have studied natural gas drilling and have reservations about it. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. Opinion, 17 August 2009.

**Chesapeake shuts two re-injection wells down as a precaution.** Several recent earthquakes caused some to question whether gas well drilling activity might have been the cause. Researchers from Southern Methodist University have installed seismographs around the affected towns to study the incidents. [Cleburne Times Review](#), Texas. 15 August 2009.

**We don't need no regulations.** During the past several months, hydraulic fracturing has become a hot topic and subjected to much misrepresentation. [Craig Daily Press](#), Colorado. Opinion, 15 August 2009.

**Recent incidents raise issues on drilling, environment.** Blanche Jefferson's granddaughter and five great-grandchildren live south of Spring Ridge and close to where 17 cows died after ingesting liquid that spilled from a nearby natural gas drilling rig site into a pasture. [Shreveport Times](#), Louisiana. 9 August 2009.

**Tanker truck crash, mercury storage plan underscore energy concerns.** Last Sunday a tanker truck blew a tire on Interstate 70 and rolled over in Edwards, shutting down the highway for 11 hours. The truck was headed from the rich natural gas fields just to our west to Denver for processing. [Vail RealVail](#), Colorado. Opinion, 3 August 2009.

**The land where the drilling rigs will go.** Estimates of the energy trapped in the Marcellus Shale are staggering. But to get that energy, we will have to give up the biological integrity of the land above it. To stand in a glade in the Catskills is to realize what a deeply troubling trade-off that is. [New York Times](#). Opinion, 28 July 2009. [Registration Required]

**Exxon sees natural gas potential with new drilling technique.** Exxon aims to export a new drilling process to the unconventional natural gas reserves it is accumulating around the world. Drilling for more natural gas could make Exxon a lot of money as Americans demand cleaner fuel. [Dallas Morning News](#), Texas. 26 July 2009.

**[Geothermal project review under way.](#)** A decision to delay a new geothermal project in The Geysers until further study is completed appears to have come directly from the top of the federal Department of Energy. [Lakeport Lake County News](#), California. 26 July 2009.

**[Back off on move to restrict 'fracing' of wells.](#)** The Obama administration's continuing assault on oil and gas companies demonstrates once again that good politics can make for bad policy. [Houston Chronicle](#), Texas. Opinion, 26 July 2009.

**[Colorado Guv cozies up to natural gas.](#)** Governor Bill Ritter is not known for being a friend of fossil fuels. So, many were surprised when he stated that natural gas should be included in policies to help lower carbon emissions. [High Country News](#). 24 July 2009.

**[Concerns over gas drilling's potential effect on Seneca Lake.](#)** Local leaders, environmentalists, and gas drilling companies are all getting ready for the state's report on the environmental impact of drilling for gas in the Marcellus Shale. [Horseheads WENY TV](#), New York. 22 July 2009.

**[PA shale gas estimated at \\$1,000,000,000,000.](#)** Marcellus shale is a geologic formation found about a mile below the ground that covers 60 percent of Pennsylvania. [Stroudsberg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. 19 July 2009.

**[Lawmakers seek disclosure of fracking chemicals.](#)** Chemicals pumped into the earth to extract gas and oil have left some residents of oil-producing states quite concerned about their drinking water supplies. A bill in Congress would require drilling companies to disclose the chemicals used during fracking. [Dickinson Press](#), North Dakota. 17 July 2009.

**[Garfield County commissioner backs DeGette fracking bill.](#)** Garfield County is split on the issue of "fracking," which U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette wants the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to regulate under the Safe Drinking Water Act. [Colorado Independent](#), Colorado. 15 July 2009.

**[EPA should revisit fracking.](#)** The vigorous debate over hydraulic fracturing — an oil and gas extraction technique — has raised an important question that must be answered before federal lawmakers consider additional regulation. Has the process contaminated drinking water? [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Editorial, 11 July 2009.

**[Gas drilling co. begins application.](#)** It's the opening salvo for gas drilling in one of the nation's most pristine — and protected — regions. The nation's largest natural-gas corporation has applied to withdraw 1 million gallons of water per day from the Delaware River in Wayne County, Pa, an area rich in wildlife, lush land and small communities. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 7 July 2009.

**[Drinking water is 'well' worth fretting about.](#)** You can't stop "progress," but you can watch it closely. And the natural gas-drilling activity that concerns Shohola homeowner Keith LaPan deserves watching. [Stroudsberg Pocono Record](#), Pennsylvania. Editorial, 6 July 2009.

**[Mining in New York raises concerns over fracking process.](#)** Concerned New Yorkers unfurled banners on the steps of City Hall Wednesday, calling for a statewide ban on hydraulic fracturing. Hydraulic fracturing is the mining method proposed by several natural gas companies to extract underground natural gas deposits. [Epoch Times](#). 3 July 2009.

**Lawmakers work to protect water supplies.** Two measures to protect water supplies from contamination by drilling for natural gas deposits in the Marcellus Shale formation were approved Wednesday by a House committee. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 3 July 2009.

**County opposes 'fracking' regulation.** All of Morgan County's commissioners agreed that a new bill proposing to regulate hydraulic fracturing in oil production is a bad idea. [Fort Morgan Times](#), Colorado. 3 July 2009.

**Analyst says fracking chemicals used in drilling harmful to humans.** Environmental analyst Theo Colborn presented the chemical issues behind the drilling of natural gas Monday night at Fort Lewis College's Center for Southwest Studies Lyceum. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 1 July 2009.

**Fracking scare tactics.** Want to give the federal government more power to regulate an industry? Start by telling scare stories to alarm the public and set the industry on its heels. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Opinion, 1 July 2009.

**Expert questions gas-drilling chemicals.** The toxic chemicals used to extract natural gas from deep underground and process it are among substances creating a dizzying list of embryonic - and subsequent - developmental aberrations in animals, including humans, according to an environmental health analyst. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 30 June 2009.

**Rep. Salazar should explain his position on the Frac Act.** If Rep. John Salazar wants to lead on oil and gas drilling issues, he needs to speak out now in support of the "Frac Act," or offer a credible alternative. Anything less is an abdication of leadership on this important public health issue. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. Opinion, 24 June 2009.

**Yampa River runs with possibility and protest.** A three-way battle may rise to a boiling point in Colorado. The Yampa River runs in the northwestern section of the state through Dinosaur National Park, and its mighty water is coveted by a powerful energy company, western cities and recreation advocates. [Morning Edition](#), NPR. 22 June 2009.

**Fracking legislation introduced.** As expected, a bill was introduced last week to Congress that would regulate hydraulic fracturing. [Pinedale Sublette Examiner](#), Wyoming. 16 June 2009.

**County downplays need for fracking rules.** Proposed federal legislation targeting hydraulic fracturing fluid drew the ire of the Mesa County Commission on Monday. The commission unanimously passed a resolution in opposition to further regulation. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. 16 June 2009.

**Watching out for fracking.** Under the Bush administration, fracking was exempted from federal water-quality laws, and the chemicals the industry uses were proprietary trade secrets. Now, Congress is considering a change that would require drillers to report what they're using. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Opinion, 16 June 2009.

**Restoring federal regulation of gas drilling praised, booed.** Federal legislation now under discussion in Washington would impose rigorous environmental regulations on natural gas drilling while seeking to protect drinking water from contamination which has reportedly occurred because of the industry's activities. [Gatehouse News Service](#). 11 June 2009.

**[Industry warns on bill to regulate natural-gas technique.](#)** U.S. lawmakers Tuesday unveiled legislation that would repeal an exemption for the process of "hydraulic fracturing" in the Safe Drinking Water Act that requires disclosure of the chemicals used in the production process. [Dow Jones Newswires](#). 10 June 2009.

**[Oil and water don't mix, so lose loophole.](#)** At issue are hydraulic fracturing fluids that the industry injects deep into wells. Dick Cheney's infamous 2005 Energy Policy Act exempted so-called "fracking juices" from the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the law protecting water supplies. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Opinion, 10 June 2009.

**[Who gets to regulate hydraulic fracturing?](#)** A controversial process used in natural gas drilling is at the center of a tug-of-war dispute between the energy industry and some legislators over whether hydraulic fracturing should be regulated by the state or the federal government. [Fort Worth Business Press](#), Texas. 8 June 2009.

**[Fed explores the big fracking deal.](#)** The oil drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," is under federal scrutiny this week. The oil industry says reversing the process could add big fees and hinder exploration. [MarketPlace](#). 8 June 2009.

**[Federal fracking legislation unnecessary.](#)** The Environmental Protection Agency under both a Democratic and a Republican president found no threat to domestic drinking water from the gas industry practice of hydraulic fracturing. [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#), Colorado. Editorial, 8 June 2009.

**[Drilling method's exemption challenged by bill.](#)** U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette plans to introduce a bill next week that will regulate a widespread drilling technology that uses benzene and other toxic chemicals but also has been a main driver of the West's natural-gas boom. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 5 June 2009.

**[Energy industry lobbies to avert drilling rules.](#)** The oil-and-gas industry is gearing up for a battle over the regulation of a high-tech drilling technique that has opened up huge new fields for drilling--but that environmentalists fear could contaminate ground water. [Wall Street Journal](#). 5 June 2009. [Subscription Required]

**[Colorado, New York reps want regulation of gas 'fracking.'](#)** Democratic Reps. from Colorado and New York plan to reintroduce a bill that would repeal a ban on regulating a widely used oil and gas drilling process under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. [Associated Press](#). 5 June 2009.

**[Disclosure of fracking fluids vital.](#)** We applaud the Otsego County Solid Waste and Environmental Concerns Committee, which is pushing natural-gas drillers to disclose more information about fracking fluids, and the group's efforts to protect people from practices that could endanger local water supplies. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. Editorial, 31 May 2009.

**[Natural gas politics.](#)** Four years after Vice President Dick Cheney spearheaded a massive energy bill that exempted natural gas drilling from federal clean water laws, Congress is having second thoughts about the environmental dangers posed by the burgeoning industry. [ProPublica](#). 27 May 2009.

**[Faceoff over 'fracking': water battle brews on Hill.](#)** Environmentalists and the natural gas industry are getting ready for a battle in Congress over something known as "hydraulic fracturing." [Morning Edition](#), NPR. 27 May 2009.

**[EPA gets look at Pinedale Anticline.](#)** Air quality and environmental impacts were top priorities for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson as she toured the Jonah Field on May 21. The objective of Jackson's energy tour was to open a dialog between the EPA and the state of Wyoming. [Pinedale Sublette Examiner](#), Wyoming. 27 May 2009.

**[Contamination concerns rise out of gas wells.](#)** Allegations are now popping up across the country that fracking is contaminating groundwater and causing illnesses and environmental problems. [Denver KUSA TV](#), Colorado. 26 May 2009.

**[Over industry opposition, Glenwood voices fears over oil and gas drilling.](#)** City Council unanimously agreed to send a letter to legislators asking for tougher federal regulations of the oil and gas industry, despite attempts from an industry group to stop the letter. [Aspen Daily News](#), Colorado. 22 May 2009.

**[Tompkins County Legislature asks for safeguards on gas drilling.](#)** Tompkins County officials are urging the state to delay the permitting of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale until it has adequately developed and funded an inspection and enforcement program. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 20 May 2009.

**[DeGette targets controversial form of natural-gas drilling.](#)** U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette is leading the charge to increase federal oversight of the nation's natural gas industry, reintroducing a bill that specifically targets a process called hydraulic fracturing, which some say can lead to groundwater contamination. [Vail RealVail](#), Colorado. 15 May 2009.

**[Industry campaign targets 'hydraulic fracturing' bill.](#)** Fearing a push by House Democrats to regulate a controversial form of natural gas production, an industry coalition launched a campaign yesterday arguing that new rules would kill jobs and batter the economy. [Greenwire](#). 8 May 2009.

**[Gas drillers battle Pennsylvania pollution concerns.](#)** U.S. energy companies rushing to exploit Pennsylvania's massive natural gas reserves have launched a public relations campaign to calm fears the bonanza is contaminating water with toxic chemicals. [Reuters](#). 4 May 2009.

**[DEQ: 'Nobody is owning up to it'.](#)** An unidentified substance that apparently flowed from a natural gas drilling site into a pasture is being eyed as a potential cause of the deaths of 16 head of cattle Tuesday evening, according to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. [Shreveport Times](#), Louisiana. 30 April 2009.

**[A new mantra for the oil patch: Chill, baby, chill.](#)** A record number of natural gas wells were drilled in the US last year. But in a stunning reversal, hundreds of rigs have been idled and thousands of roughnecks laid off. In the space of six months, the oil patch has gone from drill, baby, drill to chill, baby, chill. [High Country News](#). 24 April 2009.

**[Clarksburg making gas drilling wastewater deal.](#)** A deal to treat salty wastewater from gas drilling operations could mean \$300,000 a year for the city of Clarksburg. [Associated Press](#). 24 April 2009.

**[County wants more tests near underground nuke site.](#)** Garfield County in Colorado is asking federal officials to drill test wells near a 1969 underground nuclear blast site to make sure that natural gas development won't release any radioactive contamination. [Associated Press](#). 18 April 2009.

**[Gassing up.](#)** The Natural Gas industry says their home-produced product could help the country cut its CO2 emissions and oil imports. But so far the Obama Administration is taking a pass on gas. [Living On Earth](#). 11 April 2009.

**[UT plan to lease forestland for gas drilling raises concerns.](#)** The University of Tennessee is poised to lease 8,600 acres of rugged forestland in the Cumberland Mountains for natural gas drilling by a private company. [Nashville Tennessean](#), Tennessee. 7 April 2009.

**[Playing the Haynesville Shale.](#)** The Haynesville Shale is being described as one of the richest fields of natural gas ever discovered in northwest Louisiana. But most industry experts agree it's too early to say for sure if the discovery will transform the landscape and economy of parishes that sit atop it. [Shreveport Times](#), Louisiana. 4 April 2009.

**[Drilling proposal worries residents in Ligonier Twp.](#)** Ligonier Township property owners voiced concerns Tuesday over a proposed Marcellus shale natural gas drilling project by a Texas-based company on nearby land. [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#), Pennsylvania. 1 April 2009.

**[Soil cleanup to last two more weeks in Rifle.](#)** Cleanup of hazardous natural gas condensate-contaminated soils in Rifle, is likely to continue for about another couple weeks, according to the CEO of the transportation company that owned the tractor-trailer that overturned and spilled the liquid. [Rifle Citizen Telegram](#), Colorado. 26 March 2009.

**[Pennsylvania says natural gas drilling risks inevitable.](#)** Pennsylvania's top environmental official said on Friday that a natural gas drilling boom would inevitably result in some environmental damage including possible contamination of water supplies. [Reuters](#). 21 March 2009.

**[Possibility of drilling Marcellus Shale draws large and curious audience.](#)** Talk of developing the Marcellus shale natural gas deposit has generated a lot of excitement across the state, but just how much activity may appear in Northwest Pennsylvania still an open question. [Clarion News](#), Pennsylvania. 19 March 2009.

**[Watchful eyes will help protect area streams during gas drilling.](#)** Marcellus Shale drilling can bring much needed money to the economy, but some groups are looking for more information. [DuBois Courier Express](#), Pennsylvania. 15 March 2009.

**[U.S. energy future hits snag in rural Pennsylvania.](#)** Some geologists believe Marcellus has the potential to meet total U.S. natural gas needs for a decade or more. But some residents say the drilling has clouded their drinking water, sickened people and animals and made their wells flammable. [Reuters](#). 13 March 2009.

**[Playing the Haynesville Shale.](#)** The recent announcement of a large natural gas deposit in northwest Louisiana, called the Haynesville Shale, could be this century's gold rush — or a fool's gold of hype. [Shreveport Times](#), Louisiana. 4 March 2009.

**[OK for processing gas well water may be tough.](#)** Getting approval to process waste water from natural gas drilling may be difficult for managers of the Honesdale Sewer Treatment Plant. The reason is the high quality grade given the Lackawaxen River, which brings tight limits on what may be discharged into the water. [Wayne Independent](#), Pennsylvania. 26 February 2009.

**[U.S. gas drilling boom stirs water worries.](#)** There are concerns that the "fracking" fluid may escape, and that the chemicals in it have the potential to cause cancer, damage human immune and reproductive systems, and trigger other illnesses. [Reuters](#). 25 February 2009.

**[The danger down below.](#)** Drilling for natural gas comes with a problem – what to do about the polluted water. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 22 February 2009.

**[Boom in gas drilling fuels contamination concerns in Colorado.](#)** Some scientists and citizens want firms that extract natural gas to reveal what chemicals they're using. [Christian Science Monitor](#). 6 February 2009.

**[Hydraulic fracturing: An environmentally safe method.](#)** Hydraulic fracturing has opened up vast new resources of clean energy without environmental damage. [Fort Worth Business Press](#), Texas. Opinion, 2 February 2009.

**[Natural-gas drilling plans slow down in Sullivan.](#)** The perfect storm that just a few months ago had Sullivan County bracing for a natural-gas drilling explosion has vanished. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 1 February 2009.

**[Columbia University students to explore "fracking" issue.](#)** Students from Columbia University have agreed to produce a citizen's guide on natural gas drilling that should be available in Sullivan and Pike counties at the end of the spring semester. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 1 February 2009.

**[Park toxins offer lesson on drilling.](#)** More than a dozen years and a dozen million dollars after NYSEG was pressured to clean up toxic wastes in Oneonta's Neahwa Park, monitoring wells are showing contamination is still present. [Oneonta Daily Star](#), New York. Editorial, 29 January 2009.

**[Noise an issue with natural gas drilling.](#)** If your wife wanted to run a hair dryer next to your ear for 24 hours a day, seven days a week, chances are you'd have a problem with that. But that's about how loud the compressor stations used to pump natural gas from the Haynesville Shale can run. [Shreveport Times](#), Louisiana. 3 January 2009.

**[Eminent dominance.](#)** When the industry gets hungry — needing additional pipeline access or more land for another well — the couples watch as their nest eggs shrivel, sometimes through eminent domain. Expansion of natural gas industry into Barnett Shale leaves Argyle families little recourse. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 28 December 2008. [[related story](#)]

**[State concerned about waste water from new gas wells.](#)** Gas well drillers, in Pennsylvania, tapping into the deep Marcellus Shales add up to 54 substances, some of them toxic, to the water they use to fracture that rock and release the gas. [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), Pennsylvania. 21 December 2008.

**[More natural gas drilling ordinance changes to come.](#)** The city's 2008 Gas Drilling Task Force this week is expected to round out its decisions on recommended changes to the Fort Worth Natural Gas Drilling Ordinance, which has been in place since 2006, after almost 10 months of deliberation. [Fort Worth Business Press](#), Texas. 15 December 2008.

**[Hunt for gas lead drillers to NYC watershed.](#)** The hunt for the natural gas fields that could help make the U.S. more energy independent has brought developers to the edge of the watershed for one of the world's biggest cities. [Associated Press](#). 13 December 2008.

**[Health board wants fracking disclosure.](#)** The Tompkins County Board of Health adopted a resolution calling for disclosure of the chemicals used in a technique used to explore for oil and gas before state authorities allow drilling of the Marcellus Shale rock formation. [Ithaca Journal](#), New York. 12 December 2008.

**[What's in that fracking fluid? Pennsylvania discloses the chemicals used by the drilling companies.](#)** It's something many people in the Upper Delaware region want to know: what chemicals are being used by the natural gas industry in its drilling processes? [Narrowsburg River Reporter](#), New York. 6 December 2008.

**[Hydraulic fracturing is safe, key to energy goals.](#)** Ninety-seven percent of the natural gas consumed in the U.S. is produced in North America, and since it emits just over half the CO2 of coal, we will need even more natural gas in order to reduce our carbon footprint in coming years. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Opinion, 1 December 2008.

**[Fort Worth deals with shale environmental issues.](#)** Jerry Horton doesn't want a pipe drilled across her front lawn. Pipelines are one of the things Fort Worth residents say they never anticipated when the Barnett Shale play began. Another is truck traffic. [Shreveport Times](#), Louisiana. 30 November 2008.

**[Hinchey vows frack attack.](#)** Congressman Maurice Hinchey has vowed to lead the fight against hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, when the new Congress convenes next year. [Narrowsburg River Reporter](#), New York. 28 November 2008.

**[Election may bring hard look at oil-gas exemption.](#)** Energy companies can coax valuable oil and gas out of the ground by injecting a mix of water, sand and chemicals into rock formations -- a process they say has never been shown to contaminate ground water. [Associated Press](#), [Denver CBS4 TV](#), Colorado. 28 November 2008.

**[Natural gas rush stirs environmental concerns.](#)** Advanced drilling techniques that blast millions of gallons of water into 400-million-year-old shale formations a mile underground are opening up unconventional gas fields from southern New York to West Virginia. They are touted as a key to the nation's energy future. But what effect will they have on water? [Associated Press](#). 16 November 2008.

**[Buried secrets: Is natural gas drilling endangering US water supplies?](#)** Over the last few years, a series of contamination incidents have ignited a debate over whether the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing may threaten the nation's increasingly precious drinking water supply. [ProPublica](#). 14 November 2008.

**Oil, gas wells face waste hurdle.** The Pa Department of Environmental Protection has ordered nine sewage plants to curb their processing of wastewater hauled from oil and gas drilling sites. [Pittsburgh Business Times](#), Pennsylvania. 3 November 2008.

**Fort Worth's experience may offer lessons.** The city was the first in America to have had a major natural gas deposit discovered right under the heart of its city limits. [Gannett News Service](#). 26 October 2008.

**A new 'gold' rush.** Across upstate New York, from the Catskills to Buffalo, lies a vast natural gas field that some see as the economic savior of upstate New York and others fear is an environmental disaster waiting to happen. [Lower Hudson Valley Journal News](#), New York. Editorial, 19 October 2008.

**Co. wants to draw 20 million gallons a day from river.** After it received approval to withdraw about 2 million gallons of water daily from the Susquehanna River, Chesapeake Energy Corp. is trying to increase that allowance roughly tenfold. [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#), Pennsylvania. 11 October 2008.

**Sullivan gas drilling expected to begin in 2009.** A gas company vying for land in Sullivan County told local officials it expects to start drilling by the end of 2009. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 19 September 2008.

**Controversial path to possible glut of natural gas.** Water and chemicals injected at high pressure can extract more gas – and possibly pollute drinking water. [Christian Science Monitor](#). 18 September 2008.

**Commission seeks to protect water.** The Delaware River Basin Commission is beefing up its regulations to try to stem the effects of natural gas drilling on the watershed. [Doylestown Intelligencer](#), Pennsylvania. 16 September 2008.

**Coalition aims to protect environment.** But it's not just money the landowners want. It's protection of the green land, mountain air and clean water that many environmentalists fear will be ruined by drilling. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 7 September 2008.

**Deep-well natural gas drilling a concern for state's water quality.** This latest wave of gas-well drilling is unlike other previous exploration because the wells are so deep, tapping the Marcellus shale formation, which is a mile or more below the surface of much of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and New York. [Gant Daily](#), Pennsylvania. 1 September 2008.

**State reviewing gas drilling regulations.** With Pennsylvania poised to be pinpricked by natural gas drilling rigs, some are reviewing the state's regulations and wondering whether they are enough to protect groundwater and surface water. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 27 August 2008.

**Not all landowners see opportunity in gas boom.** Pat Carullo and other transplants from New York and New Jersey are now faced with a heartbreaking choice: Stay and watch their pristine landscape change as the natural gas drilling boom overtakes the region or move from the area they love for greener pastures. [Scranton Times Tribune](#), Pennsylvania. 27 August 2008.

**A toxic spew?** Largely unregulated, 'fracking fluids' have been employed by the energy industry for decades and, with the exception of diesel, can be made up of nearly any set of chemicals. [Newsweek](#). 21 August 2008.

**[What are saltwater disposal wells?](#)** When you think about oil and natural gas companies, pictures of large trucks, men in hard hats and Eiffel Tower-looking drilling rigs probably come to mind. Lesser known in all this are saltwater disposal wells, a key component in the search for oil and natural gas. [Shreveport Times](#), Louisiana. 17 August 2008.

**[Gas industry secrets and a nurse's story.](#)** Cathy Behr wanted to tell Colorado's Oil and Gas Conservation Commission the story of how she nearly died after being exposed to a mystery chemical from a gas-patch accident. Regulators said they didn't want to hear it. [High Country News](#). 1 August 2008.

**[Deep concerns.](#)** Tapping the natural gas trapped deep in the Marcellus Shale formation will require tapping another vital natural resource: Pennsylvania's water. [Altoona Mirror](#), Pennsylvania. 27 July 2008.

**[Our towns - the light is green, and yellow, on drilling upstate.](#)** Gov. David A. Paterson signed a measure on Wednesday essentially ushering in a new era of energy production upstate; but he did so with a cautionary yellow light. [New York Times](#). 27 July 2008. [Registration Required]

**[Questions surround gas-drilling waste water.](#)** Try pouring 10 gallons of industrial waste into a 10-ounce cup, and there you have the disposal problem regulators face with the natural gas industry settling into the Twin Tiers. [Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin](#), New York. 27 July 2008.

**[Oil secret has nasty side effect.](#)** Oil and gas companies have spent lots of time and money arguing Colorado doesn't need new rules regulating their industry. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Opinion, 24 July 2008.

**[Natural gas drilling: is New York ready?](#)** The US Department of Energy considers the waste water produced in gas drilling to be some of the most toxic of all industrial byproducts. How will it be handled if plans to drill the Marcellus Shale--loaded with natural gas--proceed? [New York WNYC Public Radio](#), New York. 22 July 2008.

**[Secrets surround gas-field chemicals.](#)** After exposure sickens a nurse who treated a field worker, the community is asking questions about the chemicals used to extract the area's natural gas - the gas that heats millions of American homes and serves as an economic engine for the Four Corners. [Durango Herald](#), Colorado. 21 July 2008.

**[Sullivan bracing for enormous rush by natural gas companies.](#)** Sullivan County, and your Pennsylvania neighbors along the Delaware, brace yourselves. The natural gas rush is on, and your lives will forever change. [Middletown Times Herald-Record](#), New York. 6 July 2008.

**[Weighing the environmental cost of natural gas drilling.](#)** The fate of the Allegheny Forest, which has been splintered by conventional drilling, is on the minds of citizens and environmental groups as a new, unconventional natural gas rush is sweeping into forests and farmland in Northeastern Pennsylvania. [Towanda Daily Review](#), Pennsylvania. 8 May 2008.

**[Gas drilling hits northwest Dallas suburbs.](#)** The natural gas drilling trend in North Texas has moved east, from rural farms in Fort Worth sitting on proverbial "gold mines," to half-acre lots in the suburbs. [Flower Mound Leader](#), Texas. 29 March 2008.

**Stepping more lightly on the land.** Touring the gas fields of Garfield County, Susan Alvillar talks proudly about the efforts of her company, oil and gas giant Williams Companies Inc., to step a little lighter on the land. [Denver Rocky Mountain News](#), Colorado. 10 December 2007. [\[related stories\]](#)

**5 key environmental concerns.** Regulators, environmentalists, sportsmen and citizens have cited numerous worries about the oil and gas industry's impacts to the environment, both realized and potential. [Denver Rocky Mountain News](#), Colorado. 10 December 2007. [\[related stories\]](#)

**Legislative hearings focus on drilling, environment.** Some county residents have questioned the environmental impact of natural gas drilling in White County and throughout the state. [Searcy Daily Citizen](#), Arkansas. 18 November 2007.

**Gas drilling's dirty side effect.** Blasted free by millions of gallons of fresh water and chemical soup sent miles below ground, some of Earth's baddest geological actors — radioactive elements capable of scarring soil and scouring human health — are slowly rising to the surface along with the Barnett Shale's natural gas. [Denton Record-Chronicle](#), Texas. 11 November 2007.

**Looking for answers.** EnCana Corp. has assured that its "baseline" sampling of drinking water wells in Pavillion, Wyoming so far have yielded no cause for concern, but a local resident has reason to believe otherwise. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. 10 November 2007. [\[related story\]](#)

**Oil, gas rules hearings begin next week.** Representatives of the energy, economic and environmental communities are polishing their legal arguments as they ready themselves for two weeks of hearings that begin Nov. 5 in Santa Fe. [Farmington Daily Times](#), New Mexico. 28 October 2007.

**Drinking water outlook grim, officials learn.** New Jersey officials heard sobering news Tuesday that the state is running out of drinking water, but environmentalists said the bigger problem is the government is not doing anything about it. [Cherry Hill Courier-Post](#), New Jersey. 24 October 2007.

**Gas wells cause friction between neighbors in Texas.** Drilling rigs are rising over golf courses, churchyards, even tree-lined neighborhoods of Fort Worth, which sits on one of the nation's largest natural gas fields. [Associated Press](#). 6 June 2007. [\[related story\]](#)

**Oil and gas well-ness checkup.** Residents of Colorado's Western Slope believe their aches and pains are directly related to some of the 31,522 wells that dot vast stretches of the Piceance Basin. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 6 May 2007. [\[related stories\]](#)

**Western Slope drillers embracing "green" method.** The company planning to drill for oil and gas on the slopes that hold the drinking-water source for Palisade and Grand Junction, CO has promised not to use the toxic substances that are generally pumped into the ground to fracture rock formations. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 27 December 2006. [\[related stories\]](#)

**An answer to the ills.** Researchers at a small nonprofit in Paonia, CO, are scrambling to identify the chemicals used by energy companies to determine if there's a link between natural gas operations and area residents' health complaints. [Aspen Times](#), Colorado. 3 December 2006. [\[related story\]](#)

**Senate should craft a saner energy bill.** The legislation that passed the U.S. House of Representatives last month is an industry giveaway that threatens the West's air, water and wildlife. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Editorial, 19 May 2005.

**[Drilling near nuclear blast cavity called risky business.](#)** Even though the residue contains some of the most radioactive and toxic substances on Earth, a Texas energy company has proposed drilling for gas near the site of a 1969 nuclear blast in Colorado. [Los Angeles Times](#), California. 9 May 2005. [\[related stories\]](#) [Registration Required]

**[States may retain oversight of process in gas oil fields.](#)** A congressional committee has approved legislation that would keep regulation of hydraulic fracturing in gas and oil fields with states, rather than transfer it to the federal government. [Associated Press](#). 19 April 2005. [\[related story\]](#)

**['Fracking' regulation may undo energy bill.](#)** Environmentalists have launched a new offensive against an oil-drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing that could throw up a roadblock to the new energy bill Congress is considering. [United Press International](#). 16 April 2005. [\[related stories\]](#)

**[Breached well fuels feud with gas firm.](#)** Laura Amos was no environmental crusader until the metal top blew off her rural water well in May 2001, making it look like a geyser. A gas company had been drilling on a property about 100 yards from her home south of Silt when Amos' water well blew. Soon after that, her water turned bubbly and gray and had a nasty smell. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. 18 February 2005. [\[related stories\]](#)

**[Landowners unhappy with gas drilling mull legal options.](#)** Some are considering a lawsuit seeking safeguards they say industry and regulators have denied them. [Associated Press](#). 23 December 2004. [\[related stories\]](#)

**[Change in the skies.](#)** Many around Pinedale and Sublette County have noticed a change in air quality since the boom of oil and gas exploration. [Casper Star-Tribune](#), Wyoming. 7 November 2004. [\[related stories\]](#)

**[The costs of fracking.](#)** An EPA whistleblower seeks protection after challenging White House efforts to exempt a technique developed by Halliburton to force oil out of the ground under enormous pressure. [Living On Earth](#). 25 October 2004. [\[related stories\]](#)

**[Hunger for natural gas fuels rush to tap west's deep pockets.](#)** The fight over drilling in federal lands around Pinedale has become one of the most important land-use battles in the West, along with disputes in the Powder River region of northeast Wyoming, the San Juan National Forest in Colorado, the red-rock Book Cliffs area of central Utah, and the Otero Mesa region in southern New Mexico. [San Francisco Chronicle](#), California. 25 October 2004. [\[related stories\]](#)

**[Toxic bubbles trouble Silt.](#)** Residents of Silt began drinking bottled water last Wednesday after natural gas seeped into a nearby creek, and possibly into their wells. [Denver Rocky Mountain News](#), Colorado. 13 April 2004. [\[related stories\]](#)

**[Fracing' may pollute water](#)** Congress is poised to hand the energy industry another benefit at the possible expense of America's drinking water. At stake is whether the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency can ever react to a problem if oil and gas drilling companies pollute drinking-water wells. [Denver Post](#), Colorado. Editorial, 14 September 2003. [\[related stories\]](#)