

## **PBS PROGRAM – NEED TO KNOW – FEBRUARY 18, 2011**

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### **FRACKING VS. DRINKING WATER?**

**Back in this reality, we provide an update to our previous reports on hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”). We speak with ProPublica’s Abrahm Lustgarten about recent allegations that fracking may violate the Clean Water Act.**

A controversial process of extracting natural gas may violate the Safe Drinking Water Act, a new congressional report charges. Need to Know revisits the story.

**Video:** ProPublica’s Abrahm Lustgarten on fracking

### **Includes 31 States & the Gulf of Mexico**

### **Companies Involved Natural Gas Drilling:**

Encana

British Petroleum

EXXON Mobile

Halliburton

**Note:** Property owners only have the rights to the surface of their land not to areas underground. Corporations can purchase the underground rights from the state and pay owners for access to their land to drill, etc. There is nothing the owners can do about this invasion.

### **Water & Air Pollution – Hydraulic Fracking (Fracturing)**

A fine white mist began spewing from the ground...the state does not regulate this process in Wyoming and other states. (Diesel Fuel contains Benzene - Methane + Other Exotic Chemicals found in drinking water in many areas.)

**Note: Water Safe to Drink or use for Agriculture? Many questions.**

**What Chemicals Used in this Process:** Halliburton Loophole: Fracking not covered under U.S. Legislation under the Clean Water Act unless the frackers use diesel fuel and other chemicals which is the case in many areas. (A State Agency provides water to some owners paid for by Encana in Wyoming.) The EPA should do more to stop and heavily regulate this practice.

**Health Effects:** Skin Rashes, loss of sense of smell and taste, severe vomiting, respiratory ailments, shortness of breath, lesions, severe headaches, nausea, swelling, etc. Same stories thousands of miles apart-stories identical.

Note: During 2005-2009 a U.S. Congressional Investigation in 2011, revealed - 12 companies injected 32 million gallons of diesel fuel and other chemicals containing Benzene into frack wells in 19 States during the hydraulic fracking process. U.S. Congressman Henry Waxman - No permits issued for hydraulic fracking and no laws require a permit for this activity. EPA found diesel range chemicals in testing including the toxic 2-VEP also found in wells in Wyoming and other states.