

When residents ask questions about gas drilling in New York State, we should know the answers.

Recently, gas-drilling companies have proposed using controversial new techniques, including horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, also known as hydro-fracking, to reach natural gas reserves in New York's Marcellus Shale. Hydro-fracking is a process that involves splitting underground rock by injecting it with a potentially harmful chemical mix that could threaten New York's water supplies. While there may be benefits to drilling this gas reserve, doing so without the proper monitoring and regulation by state and local officials could present a number of serious threats to human health and the environment in New York State.

Even after the preparation of a draft environmental study (DSGEIS), there remain many serious unanswered questions and concerns regarding hydro-fracking, including:



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- The chemical composition of the hydro-fracking fluid, which the gas companies won't release publicly.
- The potential for pollutants to contaminate our drinking water.
- The large quantity of water needed in the drilling process, affecting local water supplies.
- The need for disposal sites for fluids, and the potential for spills.
- The impact of drilling and industrialized operations on our air quality, noise and traffic.
- The impact on stormwater runoff, and the potential for increased flooding.
- The consequences for the character and beauty of our communities.
- The lack of answers for New Yorkers regarding the risks to their health, their environment, their property values, and their way of life.

We owe it to New York residents to get the process right

The DSGEIS does not address basic requirements called for under the State Environmental Quality Review Act. We are asking Governor Paterson and the state legislature to:

- ✓ Make sure all the questions are answered before issuing drilling permits.
- ✓ Initiate a complete analysis of the effects of drilling on our environment, water supply and public health.
- ✓ Develop a new, comprehensive set of rules that will ensure proper oversight, safeguard the environment, and protect all New Yorkers.

When it comes to hydro-fracking and gas drilling in New York, there are just too many unanswered questions. Let's slow down, and make sure we get it right.

For more information visit: NRDC.org

