

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/28/2018 4:00:00 AM

First name: Ursula

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Re: No on fracking in the Wayne national forest

I wanted to include a few excerpts from this peer reviewed scientific journal called the "Fracking Science Compendium" which discuss the health risks posed to people living near fracking wells and near the pipelines that will inevitably be installed to transport the natural gas.

- October 12, 2017 - Researchers at University of Albany's Institute for Health and the Environment prepared a 300-page technical report on the health effects of the emissions from 18 natural gas compressor stations in New York State. The team found that, collectively, these sites released 40 million pounds of 70 different contaminants over a seven-year period, making natural gas compressor stations the seventh largest point source of air pollution in the state. By volume, the largest emissions were nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), formaldehyde, and particulate matter. Exposure to these chemicals is linked to cancer, as well as cardiovascular, neurological, and developmental disorders. The authors noted, "The potential health impacts of the large volumes of pollutants generated by natural gas compressor stations have not been addressed, let alone answered, by those arguing for their construction and expansion."⁸¹⁶

- July 17, 2017 - A comprehensive investigation of the pipeline approval process by the Center for Public Integrity, StateImpact Pennsylvania, and National Public Radio found that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which is charged with ensuring the public's interest, routinely assesses need based on company filings and functions as an agency captured by industry interests, concluding, "at every turn, the agency's process favors the pipeline companies." The result, according to this analysis of more than 500 pipeline cases, is that the financial interests of the gas industry, and not market demand or public necessity, is driving the ongoing pipeline build-out. In some cases, utility companies have complex financial ties to the pipeline companies that service them.⁸¹⁸ Continuing this investigation, InsideClimate News then reviewed several large, new pipeline proposals in the Marcellus and Utica Shale regions, focusing on joint ventures and interlocking financial relationships between customers (state-regulated utilities) and suppliers (pipeline companies). Affiliate agreements that allow parent companies of utilities to seek federal certificates for interstate pipelines-which typically allow a 14 percent return on equity-contribute to the ongoing frenzy of pipeline construction even when natural gas demand is flat. Existing pipelines, the investigation noted, run at only slightly more than half capacity.⁸¹⁹

- November 30, 2016 - A CityLab investigation used data from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to map all significant U.S. pipeline accidents between 1986 and 2016 and concluded, "wherever pipelines are extended, deadly accidents will follow." Pipeline accidents over the past 30 years have resulted in 548 deaths, more than 2,500 injuries, and over \$8.5 billion in damages. Accidents are particularly common in Texas and Louisiana.⁸²⁴

On Tue, Aug 28, 2018 at 1:27 AM Ursula McVey wrote:

Hello. I am concerned about the prospect of companies being allowed to frack for natural gas in the wayne national forest. I think that this is a bad idea and that you should vote against it. Our state should be investing in clean renewable energy and not passing laws that allow us to extract more fossil fuels from the ground. It s a well known fact that fossil fuels significantly contribute to global climate change and we need to do all that we can to stop and reverse that. This country has already experiecned more mega storms in the past decade than we have in history and it is only going to keep getting worse if we do not make major efforts to move away from fossil fuels.