

Is Hydraulic Fracturing Putting You at Risk?

Natural gas exploration and drilling companies are making record profits from hydraulic fracturing while possibly putting millions of innocent people across the nation in harm's way.

Hydraulic fracturing is a controversial method of extracting natural gas from deep underground. The "fracking" process involves injecting a mixture of sand, water, and a concoction of toxic chemicals at high pressure into a two mile deep well. Mini earthquakes are purposefully created to break apart rock formations, thereby releasing natural gas trapped within.

Gas drilling companies have come under scrutiny for their drilling methods and highly publicized blunders. The toxic muds and "fracking" chemicals that enter groundwater aquifers can contaminate drinking water supplies. Individuals living in communities near drilling sites are often unknowingly put at risk of developing adverse health effects.

The hydraulic fracturing industry has drilled hundreds of thousands of wells in mainly rural communities across 32 states. The industry has been lightly regulated for over a decade and is currently exempted from 17 EPA mandated pollution control laws. Companies violating public health safeguards and found to be causing environmental damage are rarely fined or penalized for their actions.

On numerous occasions, cancer causing chemicals such as benzene and methane have leached into the groundwater and polluted the top soil of nearby communities. Thousands of individuals living in close proximity to drilling sites may have unknowingly been exposed to these chemicals and suffered adverse respiratory and neurological illnesses as a result.

Property values in some areas have plummeted as contaminated freshwater supplies have killed off livestock and wildlife, making these areas uninhabitable. Hydraulic fracturing lawsuits have been lodged in several states in order to stop further hydraulic fracturing exploration and drilling. New York State has extended a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing and several townships across the nation are seeking to take legal action to stop fracking activities in their vicinity.

Fracking lawsuits allege that the gas drilling industry may have exposed the public to serious dangers by using poisonous chemicals and disregarding safety regulations in the hydraulic fracturing process.

If your property and health have been negatively impacted as a result of hydraulic fracturing you may be eligible to receive compensation. The hydraulic fracturing lawyers of Nagelberg Bernard Law Group are investigating claims against natural gas drillers that have caused environmental damage and endangered public health. Our law firm is experienced in environmental and injury litigation and can assist you in making an informed decision about your legal options.