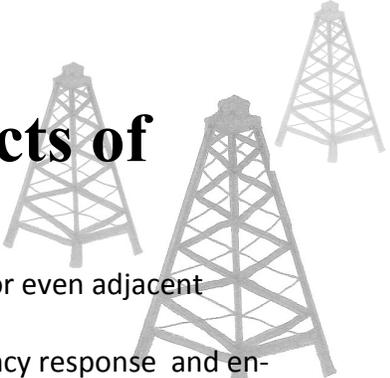


Economic & Community Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing



Despite claims of prosperity, research and case studies have shown hydraulic fracturing “fracking”, brings many negative economic and community impacts to gas-drilling areas.

Economic Benefit Myths

- **Myth:** Hydraulic fracturing creates a lot of local jobs. **Truth:** about 70% of new jobs are given to out of state workers who travel with the drilling companies. Local worker jobs are usually low-paid, low-skill, part-time jobs.
- **Myth:** People who sign Mineral Rights Leases to drilling companies make a lot of money. **Truth:** Very few people become rich. “Predatory leases” can hurt landowners by requiring them to provide water, roads, and other infrastructure for drilling.
- **Myth:** Hydraulic fracturing brings a town money for years. **Truth:** Most gas is recovered and profits made within the first year — leading to a boom-bust cycle that leaves taxpayers to foot the bills.

Regional & Local Economic Impacts

- Other businesses and jobs are negatively impacted, leading to less diverse economy (losses in businesses like tourism, recreation, farming, etc.);
- Out of area drilling workers drive up rental-housing and labor costs, followed by fewer jobs and greater income inequality after initial ramp-up of construction
- Increased cost of road maintenance; higher public safety costs; more demand for health and education services; higher cost for permitting, planning and zoning, assessments, housing assistance, etc.
- Churches can lose nonprofit status by leasing mineral rights
- Housing prices decline. Some mortgage companies refuse loans on properties with

leased mineral rights—or even adjacent properties.

- New strains on emergency response and environmental monitoring and clean-up. Lack of expertise and protocol with fracking dangers.

Community Impacts:

- Increases traffic congestion (~1,000 truck trips/well for equipment, water, chemicals and waste)
- Increased crime and substance abuse around drilling rig “camps”
- Leasing of mineral rights pits neighbor against neighbor because of pollution, and different lease terms
- Gas pipelines threaten local property rights, due to eminent domain,
- Industrialization of the rural landscape, causing “fractured” communities.

Water and Health Impacts:

- Millions of gallons of water are used to drill each site, and the water is then contaminated by gas, fracking chemicals and underground metals.
- There are no good options for disposal of water contaminated by fracking.
- Neighboring drinking water wells can become contaminated—as has happened in other parts of the country.
- Evaporation of fracking chemicals on site causes local air pollution hazard.
- Fracking is exempt from many federal environmental protection laws, including the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act.

For more information on hydraulic fracturing in North Carolina and links to community and economic impact sources, visit:

www.cwfn.org

(This flyer produced by Clean Water for NC, the Haw River Assembly, Chatham Citizens for Effective Communities and Deep River Clean Water Society)