

## Fracking Our Farmland, Our Families, and Our Future: A New Toxic Legacy Addendum Summary

Even with the strictest regulations and enforcement there are enormous health and safety issues that cannot be resolved with hydraulic fracturing.

- 1) Water use, contamination and wastewater disposal
- 2) Loss of agriculture industry due to competing water interests
- 3) Wildlife and California Endangered species impacts
- 4) Earthquake induction local and remote
- 5) Inevitable spills and leaks
- 6) Fracking is poised to undermine California's ability to reduce greenhouse gases and comply with its 2006 Global Warming Solutions Act.

The oil and gas industry as a whole, negatively impacts public health and the environment. Hydraulic fracking creates a newer and more toxic legacy within that framework. It destroys communities, wildlife, farmland, our precious and scarce drinking water and the natural beauty of our lands not to mention exacerbating global climate change. The growing body of peer reviewed science revealing threats to public health, documentation of human and animal harm and the realization that federal regulations are lax have pushed communities and states to impose much needed regulations with transparency and accountability. There is a desperate need to guide our economy wisely, in a sustainable way and not forsake public health or the environment for shortsighted goals such as a run of "cheap" gas or an endless war economy.

The only sensible approach is an indefinite moratorium on hydraulic fracking and wastewater well injections until there are reversals of oil and gas loopholes in federal environmental laws, thorough independent studies affirming that fracking can be safely done without harm to public health, the environment or to our natural resources and if so with strict regulations, monitoring, adequate funding and enforcement already in place. This has to include supporting a rapid switch to renewable energy.

We teach our children to make better choices to have a happier and healthy life. As adults and leaders we need to make better choices too. Let's keep the coal in the hole, the oil in the soil and support a different sustainable policy to energy independence for our children and future generations.