

To: SAB@EPA
Date: 03/08/2011 03:51 PM
Subject:

SAB Staff,

I am writing to voice my opinion regarding the issues surrounding hydraulic fracturing. Though this method does help maximize the extraction of natural resources from below the ground, the consequences of "fracking" are not worth it. A 2009 study by Dr. Michael Hendryx and Dr. Melissa Ahern showed that there are increased rates of mortality in the Appalachia region where Natural Gas mining is popular. I feel that the general health of communities in that area is much more important than the economic gain of natural resources. This resource extraction is having a horrendous impact on the health of the community. Also on the topic of health, hydraulic fracturing leaves flowback which must then be discharged into water on the surface or stored underground. Either way, this contaminates the drinking water supply further harming humans in the region. This process is doing irreversible damage and must be changed.

Please put public health before financial gain.

Thank you,
Liz Baumgartner