

**H<sub>2</sub>oh!no!**



Gas companies want to drill **thousands** of wells on the island of **Ireland**. They want to use **millions** of gallons of our clean, sparkling **water**, pollute it with a **toxic stew** of chemicals, and destroy our pristine **environment**, all in the name of a fast buck. Then they will leave behind an ugly **poisonous** mess that we can **not** clean up. Ask yourself.... is it really worth it ???

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## What is 'Fracking'?

Fracking is short for hydraulic fracturing, this is a highly industrial process involving pumping a mix of water, sand and chemicals under huge pressure into gas bearing rock.

The Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources has granted three licences in Ireland for shale gas exploration. If the companies decide to go ahead with gas production fracking will be used to extract the gas. The area affected include Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Donegal, Cavan, Monaghan, Clare, Limerick, Cork and Kerry. Licences have also been issued in Fermanagh in Northern Ireland.

## What are the main concerns?

There is a wide range of concerns with this process, the main concerns include

- Huge water usage with a risk of contamination of surface and underground water. This process will produce millions of gallons of polluted water that will require safe disposal.
- The industrialisation of the area being fracked with drilling pads every 2 kilometres
- Air pollution due to volatile chemicals and methane being released into the atmosphere.
- Damage to roads and infrastructure caused by increased truck traffic, each drilling pad can involve thousands of truck journeys.
- Climate change, due to release of methane into the atmosphere.
- There is the potential risk to Ireland's reputation as a clean green country, as a major food exporter and tourist destination large numbers of jobs are dependent on our green image.
- Studies in the USA have shown that there are significant long term human health risks associated with this process.

## What can I do

Get informed, these websites have more information on fracking.

ROI

<http://frackingfreeireland.org/>

<http://sites.google.com/site/frackingireland/>

<http://frackingfreeclare.org/>

<http://nofrackingireland.wordpress.com/>

<http://what-the-frack.org>

Northern Ireland

<http://frackaware.com/wordpress>, <http://notofracking.com>, <http://www.notforshale.com/>

are Northern Island websites.

Lobby your local, national and European politicians. Fracking is banned in some Irish counties, various European countries and in some States of America. Ask for a full ban in Ireland and Europe. Join your local group, there are several groups opposed to fracking, you will find contact details on the websites listed above.

Thank you for reading this, please help us to keep Ireland Fracking Free.



Contact: [info@frackingfreeireland.org](mailto:info@frackingfreeireland.org)

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