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Testimonies of top experts and regulators as to safety of hydraulic fracturing and the lack of actual impacts on freshwater due to hydraulic fracturing

Lisa Jackson, former EPA Secretary, “I’m not aware of any proven case where the fracking process itself has affected water” (US Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, 5/24/11)

Ken Salazar, former Secretary of the Interior: “I would say to everybody that hydraulic fracturing is safe” (Washington Examiner, 9/24/13)

U.S. Government Accountability Office: “[R]egulatory officials we met with from eight states – Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Texas – told us that, based on state investigations, the hydraulic fracturing process has not been identified as a cause of groundwater contamination within their states.”

Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission: “There have been no verified cases of harm to ground water in the State of Alaska as a result of hydraulic fracturing.” (Regulatory Statements on Hydraulic Fracturing, 6/09)

Ernest Moniz, Secretary of the Department of Energy: “I still have not seen any evidence of fracking per se contaminating groundwater” (Washington Examiner, 8/1/13)

Steven Chu, former Secretary of Energy: “This (fracking) is something you can do in a safe way” (Columbus Dispatch, 9/18/13)

Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources: “There have been no instances where the Division of Oil and Gas has verified that harm to groundwater has ever been found to be the result of hydraulic fracturing.” (Regulatory Statements on Hydraulic Fracturing, 6/09)

Louisiana Dept. of Natural Resources: We are “unaware of any instance of harm to groundwater in the State of Louisiana caused by the practice of hydraulic fracturing.” (Regulatory Statements on Hydraulic Fracturing, 6/09)

Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality: “There is no indication that hydraulic fracturing has ever caused damage to ground water.” (Regulatory Statements on Hydraulic Fracturing, 6/09)

Hal Fitch, Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality: “As far as migration of gas or fracture fluids, we have never seen an instance where a fracture communicates directly with the fresh water zone”

Oklahoma Corporation Commission: “We have no documentation of such an instance.” (Regulatory Statements on Hydraulic Fracturing, 6/09)

Railroad Commission of Texas: “Though hydraulic fracturing has been used for over 60 years in Texas, our Railroad Commission records do not reflect a single documented surface or groundwater

contamination case associated with hydraulic fracturing." (Regulatory Statements on Hydraulic Fracturing, 6/09)

South Dakota Dept. of Environment and Natural Resource: "In the 41 years that I have supervised oil and gas exploration, production and development in South Dakota, no documented case of water well or aquifer damage by the fracking of oil or gas wells, has been brought to my attention. Nor am I aware of any such cases before my time." (Regulatory Statements on Hydraulic Fracturing, 6/09)

Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission: "No documented cases of groundwater contamination from fracture stimulations." (Regulatory Statements on Hydraulic Fracturing, 6/09)

PA DEP's Scott Perry, director of the Bureau of Oil and Gas Management: After a "million experiments across the county," and doing his own research into the subject, "I've yet to see a single impact of fracking actually directly communicating with fresh groundwater resources," Perry [said]. "Again and again and again, I never see a single incidence of fracking causing this direct communication that we keep hearing about." (Platts, 6/28/11)

PA DEP: "Responding to recent concerns expressed by residents of Dimock Township, Susquehanna County, the Department of Environmental Protection has collected dozens of water supply samples in the Carter Road area and determined that nearby gas well hydro fracturing activity has not impacted local wells." (Release, 3/27/09)

Top Texas Oil, Natural Gas Regulator: "With many thousands of fracs taking place in Texas, Commission records do not indicate a single documented water contamination case associated with hydraulic fracturing in our state. (Texas Insider, 7/9/10)

Alabama Oil, Natural Gas Regulator: "There have been thousands of fracking operations in the state", according to board Deputy Director Dave Bolin, going back to the 1940s, when the process was in its infancy. "There has never been a confirmed report of groundwater contamination," (Birmingham News, 7/12/10)

Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Victor Carrillo: "There are no documented cases of fracturing causing groundwater contamination in Texas" (Ft. Worth Star-Telegram, 7/8/10)

David Neslin, director of the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission: told the EPA the state has found no verified incident of hydraulic fracturing harming groundwater. (Grand Junction Sentinel, 7/14/10)

Top Okla. Oil, Nat Gas Regulator: "We've used HF for some 60 years in Oklahoma, and we have no confirmed cases where it is responsible for drinking water contamination – nor do any of the other natural gas-producing states.(The Oklahoman, 8/6/10)

PA DEP: "It's important to be clear about where the problems have been," said PA Dept. of Environmental Protection Sec. John Hanger. "We have not had a single case of these [fracking] fluids coming back to the groundwater." (CNN, 10/25/10)

Tim Kustic, California Div. of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources: "There is no evidence of harm from fracking in groundwater in California at this point in time. And it has been going on for many years." (San Jose Mercury News, 12/18/12)