

Talking Points You Can Use for Making Public Comments:

Human Health

Exposure to Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's) released during the fracking process can lead to serious long and short-term health impacts, such as: **asthma, nosebleeds, headaches, dizziness, preterm births, birth defects, pediatric cancer, endocrine disruption and many others**. Research has also shown mental health issues related to constant noise and light pollution, low-frequency vibrations, loss of sleep, disturbances from increased truck traffic, and degraded quality of life leading to **chronic stress and depression**.

Water

On average, one single fracked well uses anywhere from **4-16 million gallons of water**; with the potential to use over **100 million gallons** during its life cycle. Once used in combination with a cocktail of toxic chemicals, this water is **permanently polluted, removing it from our water supply**. In the midst of a historic drought, we cannot afford to dispose of this scarce and precious resource.

Air

Fracking has been known to **increase levels of nitrogen oxides, VOC's, ozone, methane and other hazardous air pollutants**. At a time when Colorado is experiencing its highest number of ozone alerts and our air pollution is already at unhealthy levels, we cannot allow fracking to add to our worsening air quality crisis.

Public Safety

The risks of **toxic leaks, spills, explosions and well blow-outs** are very real, as witnessed by more than a dozen tragic incidents at oil and gas sites throughout Colorado in 2018. Several of these incidents injured workers, and one resulted in the death of two innocent residents. Allowing the risk of dangerous life-threatening **industrial drilling in our suburban neighborhoods, and near our children's schools is unconscionable**.

Wildlife

Fracking threatens our local parks, nature preserves, and delicate ecosystems. It has been documented that **fracking disrupts nesting & hunting patterns** for a variety of wildlife.

Climate

Methane is up to 86 times more potent than CO₂ at trapping heat in Earth's atmosphere over a 20-year period. As fracking emits dangerous amounts of methane, it is contributing to longer **droughts, decreased snowpack, and increased frequency and severity of wildfires**, all of which we are already suffering the tremendous impacts of.

Economic

Cleaning up and plugging abandoned and orphaned wells costs Colorado **taxpayers millions of dollars**. In Colorado, bonding requirements are a meager \$10,000 - \$100,000 regardless of the number of wells drilled. The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission estimates an **average cost of \$80,000 - \$120,000 to clean up and remediate one well**, rendering the bonds paid by oil and gas companies inadequate. Local municipalities - and **taxpayers - are left to foot the bill**. Statewide, this already amounts to more than \$8 billion dollars.