

John Bird

My comments:

Fracking has caused many people in West Virginia many problems. Several health studies have shown health problems occur the closer to a well one lives. One study shows that babies born near fracking wells have a higher risk of birth defects. Each well is viewed separately as a point source. No consideration is given to the fact that many wells in a valley will each contribute to to a very large air quality problems. Check out the "BTEX" chemicals emitted by activity at wells.

The biggest problem, I believe, is making gas more available. Climate change is real, here today, and will cause huge problems for America and the rest of the world. I have two degrees in physics and have been following the climate change literature for 25 years and have not seen any doubt about climate change or human involvement in its cause. The question now is how sensitive is the climate to an increase in CO2 and how bad will the problems be. Sea level rise is projected to displace 10s of millions of people by 2050. Where will they go?

Coal use is declining and oil and gas will follow. Renewables are now about as cheap as gas for electric generation and create more jobs.

If you do not care about climate change you should should care about the people who will be affected. Check WV's roads, listen to compressor stations, check the air quality near places with many wells, find out how many people near wells have bad water, check for radioactivity in well waste, check for possible political influence in our DEP. Did I mention pipe lines? They affect property values as do closeness to wells.

You really don't want to allow fracking.

John Bird