

## Wyoming Interfaith Network (formerly Wyoming Council of Churches)

Our inability to undo the health hazards from fracking is the subject of a 361 page report by the Physicians for Social Responsibility. Their study follows the health hazards of fracking in states like Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, and New York. This is their conclusion "A significant body of evidence has emerged to show that these problems are dangerous to people and their communities, and they are difficult, if not impossible to mitigate." The report specifies that "produced water" begins with "fracking Fluids" which consist of "biocides, lubricants, gelling agents, anti-scaling agents, anti-corrosion agents" and to that mixture is added "flowback materials from the subsurface" which definitely contains excessive sodium and may contain "heavy metals and radioactive substances." (p. 18 of the 2019 Compendium) In short, the permit asks for dumping up to 8.27 million gallons of "production water" per day into tributaries of Boysen Reservoir. How can we blithely offer permit to dispose of such toxic water and to allow up to 4100 new wells in Fremont County? What to do with "produced water" is not answered by glossing over the solution of dilution. We still harm the habitats downstream and eventually the communities that depend on clean water. We have discovered how to get "energy" by fracking underground, but even the best scientists haven't discovered how to "put the geni back in the bottle." The long-term costs of high intensity fracking are enormous and it is the health of our communities that will bear "the pain." The decisions about Moneta Divide are not just financial; they are moral. And, they last a lifetime. Sincerely, Rev. Dr. Sally Palmer