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## Fossil Fuel Company CNX Claims that Its Operations Are Safe

## Convergence Tomorrow in Dimock, PA, Where Water Is Undrinkable, Shows Otherwise

(August 15, 2024: Philadelphia) CNX has released <u>a report</u> claiming that its fracking operation is "safe and poses no public health risk." The report, which is not peer-reviewed, covers only six of the hundreds of dangerous chemicals involved in fossil fuel extraction. Numerous, peer-reviewed studies show that fracking is dangerous, and Pennsylvania communities like **Dimock, Pennsylvania** continue to suffer from ongoing harm from environmental contamination caused by fossil fuel extraction.

"CNX is producing pseudo-science designed to deceive Pennsylvanians, including investors, and distract from its worsening finances. But the real culprit here is Governor Shapiro, who is allowing CNX to regulate itself. And the real victims are the people of Pennsylvania," said Tonyehn Verkitus, PSR PA's Executive Director.

CNX's report was made public just as <u>Piper Sandler is downgrading the company's</u> stock price to \$20 based on low gas prices.

On August 16, a convergence of environmentalists from across the state of Pennsylvania will take place in Dimock to support the community.

August 16, 2024:
Stand With Dimock Day
11081 State Route 3023, Montrose, Pa.
Friday, Aug. 16, 1 - 6 p.m.

The event will be held in person and also live-streamed starting at 3:00 p.m. on Friday on Facebook and YouTube.



Peer-review studies conducted by the University of Pittsburgh on behalf of the PA Department of Environmental Protection, released exactly one year ago demonstrate a link between fracking operations and pediatric cancer, low birthweight babies, and worsening asthma in Pennsylvania. Here is an annually updated <a href="compendium">compendium</a> listing scores of studies that demonstrate the health and environmental dangers of fossil fuel extraction.

Among other deficiencies, CNX measured only six of the hundreds of dangerous chemicals produced by fracking over a small number of air monitors over a limited number of months. CNX was allowed by Governor Shapiro's deal to decide where those air monitors should be placed, and was allowed to self-report the chemicals used in its operations.

In 2021, CNX Resources was criminally charged with violating the Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Act. The company pleaded no contest and was fined \$1.6 million. Since 2020, CNX has been cited for over 400 violations of Pennsylvania law, according to the FrackTracker Alliance.

## What Should Happen?

A 2020 Grand Jury <u>report</u> that found the state's Department of Environmental Protection failed to protect Pennsylvanians from the health and safety risks of fracking.

## Here are the Pennsylvania Grand Jury's eight recommendations:

- 1. Expanding no-drill zones in Pennsylvania from the required 500 feet to 2,500 feet;
- 2. Requiring fracking companies to publicly disclose all chemicals used in drilling and hydraulic fracturing before they are used on-site;
- 3. Requiring the regulation of gathering lines, used to transport unconventional gas hundreds of miles;
- 4. Adding up all sources of air pollution in a given area to accurately assess air quality:
- 5. Requiring safer transport of the contaminated waste created from fracking sites;



- 6. Conducting a comprehensive health response to the effects of living near unconventional drilling sites;
- Limiting the ability of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection employees to be employed in the private sector immediately after leaving the Department;
- 8. Allowing the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General original criminal jurisdiction over unconventional oil and gas companies.
- Governor Shapiro refuses to discuss these studies as well as other pertinent climate research, and rather than instituting the findings of the Grand Jury report, has enacted risky, unproven measures such as allowing CNX Resources, a major fracking company, to regulate itself.

For more information, see <u>Shapiro Fact Sheet #1: A Troubling Deal Between PA</u>
<u>Governor Shapiro and CNX Resources Allows Voluntary Self regulation of a</u>
<u>Fracking Company.</u>