

Frac Sand Sentinel

...keeping watch on the industry

Issue # 17 DATE JUNE 26, 2013

Which Piece of this puzzle will be your legacy?

Sustainable Rural Land

Industrial Mine



ACTION ALERT TO ALL:

Dear Colleagues:

There is an urgent issue developing on Long Island in New York State concerning the building of ports to export LNG.

On June 14th, Liberty LNG applied for permission to build a pipeline and deepwater LNG port off Jones Beach on Long Island in New York. Despite the scale of the project

and its potential adverse impacts, the Maritime Administration has announced that it will cut off public comment on the 1,500 page application on July 15th.

The attached letter requests an extended public comment period and additional public hearings.

Note: Liberty LNG claims that its port will only be used to import LNG, but there is good reason to believe it will actually be used to export fracked gas to Europe and Asia.

Even if your org is not based in NY or NJ, please feel free to sign onto to this letter - deepwater ports are being touted as "the next big thing" by the gas industry and, to paraphrase the song, "If they can make it here, they can make it anywhere."

The Civil Society Institute has signed on to the letter as have several other ACEA groups.

Please reply by Friday afternoon -- and please forward this email to other list serves. This letter is being circulated by Catskill Citizens which is a member of ACEA - please send you replies to Bruce Ferguson at bafbafbafb@gmail.com

Thank you,

Gail Pressberg

Civil Society Institute

Jim Tittle interviewed Dr. Tom Power, Professor Emeritus, University of Montana, after his presentation in St. Paul. Please use them as educational "tools" with anyone who can learn from them. As usual with all of Jim's work, they are exceptional. Thanks, Jim!

<http://youtu.be/L7Iv-g7mGaY> <http://youtu.be/Z7GU9VF-H4o>

<http://youtu.be/D-QNzKMS9nk> <http://youtu.be/DCNUe8AhyJw>

<http://youtu.be/TNrZ2e2ZPvM> <http://youtu.be/iDi-dB4Q5wA>

<http://youtu.be/qtt9VIYeMSc>

A note from Dr Thomas Pearson:

Jim Tittle Nice Pictures (612) 991-6423 jimtittle@nicepix.biz ****

Several months ago I was asked to write an article about frac sand mining for the academic journal Culture, Agriculture, Food and Environment, and it has finally been published. The article provides an overview of the main concerns surrounding frac sand mining, of local conflicts and community organizing, and of some ways in which the frac

sand industry has responded to local opposition. Here's the full citation with a link to a copy of the article:

☒ Pearson, Thomas W. 2013. [Frac Sand Mining in Wisconsin: Understanding Emerging Conflicts and Community Organizing](#). *Culture, Agriculture, Food and Environment* 35(1):30-40.

The issue of CAFE in which this article appears includes a few other research reports addressing the social dimensions of hydraulic fracturing and the anthropology of energy. Feel free to share the link to the article. As always, I welcome any comments or feedback. Thanks!

Tom
Thomas Pearson
Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Social Science Department
University of Wisconsin-Stout <http://www.uwstout.edu/faculty/pearson/>

Take a look at the videos and materials produced in the Marcellus Shale Area. They may be advanced ideas that could be applied in the Midwest. While I have not looked at each yet, please take some time to check them out. Is there anyone who would find these studies of interest? <http://www.slideshare.net/MarcellusDN/hydraulic-fracturing-or-fracking-a-short-summary-of-current-knowledge-and-potential-environmental-impact>

FROM ELLEN CANTAROW:

Folks, Sorry for the delay on my review of "The Price of Sand," Jim Tittle's long-awaited and wonderful film about frac-sand-mining in Wisconsin (and Minnesota.) The film is a must-see. Here is the URL: <http://truth-out.org/opinion/item/16962>

Please circulate to your lists. [The review describes the film, which exposes this massively destructive industry with profiles of people whose land has been affected, and it recaps some of my original Tom Dispatch article on frac-sand-mining last year (<http://www.tomdispatch.com/blog/175544/>) (reprinted at [http://mondediplo.com/openpage/how-](http://mondediplo.com/openpage/how-rural-america-got-fracked)

[http://grist.org/natural-gas/against-the-grain-fracking-](http://grist.org/natural-gas/against-the-grain-fracking-companies-mine-rural-wisconsin-for-sand/)

[companies-mine-rural-wisconsin-for-sand/](http://grist.org/natural-gas/against-the-grain-fracking-companies-mine-rural-wisconsin-for-sand/), and other sites.) Also see Steve Horn's good and

recent article on frac-sand-mining at De Smog Blog: there cannot be enough written about this little-known arm of the fracking behemoth.]

**** From our friend, Jennifer Krill-EARTHWATCH Jennifer recently visited Chippewa County!

<http://bit.ly/11Eolxu> -Article:

In Frac Sand Land, Residents Have Little Protection Against Silica

Dust Exposure

One quote from article:

" Dust flies off the sand in every stage of mining and processing, and more dust flies when the sand is moved around in open trucks, open train yards, and on conveyor belts. Even though the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) [requires strong protections for frac sand workers](#), neither Wisconsin nor the federal government regulates silica dust for people living next to frac sand mining operations."

Water: the essence of life!

<http://www.anthropocene.info/en/home>



What next? Juneau County's Frac Sand Mine in Camp Douglas will start-up shortly. The County Board wants to issue a \$64 million Bond to Shadowland Operation.

Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice at the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair

WNPJ, with Carl Sack at the helm, facilitated the "Empowering Grassroots Environmental Activism" panel, featuring Philomena Kebec, attorney for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior, Pat Popple, silica sand activist from Chippewa County, and Rob Danielson of SOUL, La Farge, on June 22 and Sun June 23.

Josh Fox was a dynamic key note speaker. He spoke of the need to reclaim DEMOCRACY for us all! ****

UW-EC student selected for prestigious CDC internship: Kleist is a student of

Dr. Crispin Pierce!

http://www.leadertelegram.com/news/front_page/article_fa0f480a-c360-11e2-9b3e-0019bb2963f4.html?_dc=700076409382.7456

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

WEBINAR WITH DR. TOM POWER: <http://youtu.be/Jli9EAD7SU4>

STORM WATER VIOLATIONS : <http://www.wqow.com/story/22708447/2013/06/27/frac-sand-companies-face-storm-water-violations>

This is what Deborah Rogers has been saying. <http://www.texassharon.com/2013/06/27/harvard-study-confirms-shale-fracking-treadmill/>

they will need to drill 100,000 more wells in North Dakota and Texas because “Shale oil wells reach peak output almost immediately but quickly decline, so new wells are constantly needed.”

They will have to drill 90 new wells a month in North Dakota just to keep the production even.

WANTED:

Hello from one of the north's most frac sand invaded townships,

I would like to get a list of the townships that are receiving payments from the mining facilities, the amount they are getting, and for what - but not property tax.

I keep hearing that such and such a township gets so much per ton or mile or some other payment - not property tax. I would like to have this info as Sumner Township will be negotiating to allow a mining/processing facility in the township.

Thanks in advance, I hope, Carole Crisler 715-859-6142

A vote was taken on the A.F. Gelhar Conditional Use Permit application for an industrial sand mine in the Town of Union, Waupaca County on June 6.

N.Y. Senate Fracking Backer Tied to Firm With Gas Lease

The main roadblock to the passage of a fracking moratorium in the New York State Senate is now apparently under investigation by the FBI <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-05-09/n-y-senate-fracking-backer-tied-to-firm-with-gas-lease.html> By Freeman Klopott

With 11 mines, 4 processing plants, and several trans-load stations plus the "rush" of trucks and trains through Chippewa County, WI carrying silica day and night, there is no need for an air quality study?

<http://www.wqow.com/story/22189043/2013/05/07/chippewa-county-says-no-for-now-to-air-quality-study-of-frac-sand>

PUT JULY 16TH ON YOUR CALENDAR FOR A TRIP TO TREMPPEALEAU COUNTY:

In June, the County Board of Health directed the director of health services, Sherry, to research the health hazards of non-metallic mining. The next meeting is scheduled for July 16th @ 6pm in the health dept lobby (from this public hearing the board could make a recommendation to go the county board of supervisors and ask for a moratorium on frac sand mining in Tresp county.) Please help to keep these issues on the front burner!!!!

FROM JACKSON COUNTY: INFORMATIVE WEBSITE.....TAKE A LOOK!

<http://www.jacksoncocitvoices.org/>

Microsampling Air Pollution

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/06/03/microsampling-air-pollution/>

Ohio law shielding details of fracking chemicals may violate federal statute | The Columbus Dispatch

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/06/26/Feds-say-Ohio-law-that-shields-fracking-chemicals-is-wrong.html>

Friday Trash Dump: Obama DOE Approves 2nd Fracked Gas LNG Export Terminal

<http://desmogblog.com/2013/05/18/obama-doe-approves-second-fracked-gas-export-terminal> ****

Being and good parent and activist:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ElFnU4nDw2U&feature=youtu.be&a>

Sandra Steingraber describes how she can willingly go to jail and still be a good parent. How fighting for freedom from fossil fuels is comparable to abolitionists fighting against human slavery. And more.

Much to be learned from this extraordinary mother, scientist, author, and activist. ****

A few messages of importance:

1. The Monroe County Zoning Committee considered the Mathy CUP request to have their mine in Cataract on May 20. This is being done in spite of differences with the town on the ordinance.

2. A story from another part of the world about fracking.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/energy/10049462/Which-side-will-you-take-in-Britains-frack-wars.html>

3. From Jay:

There is an excellent summary article on climate change in the NY Times to incorporate into your websites and e-mailings that has lots of great, easy to understand, educational links buried in it:

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/11/science/earth/carbon-dioxide-level-passes-long-feared-milestone.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130511

Perhaps it will help change the nation's thinking about the current "value" of extracting, transporting and burning fossil fuel. Hopefully, it will help uninformed readers to more easily reject the babble of the few remaining - now mostly oil, gas, coal and pipeline industry sponsored (or influenced) - climate-change contrarians, who continue their efforts to cloud the issue and end up further delaying needed action to sharply

curtail the use of this self-destructive form of energy.

4. International NEWS:

The city council of Amsterdam has rejected shale gas exploration until more is known on the environmental risks. The city follows several other larger Dutch cities

BNK Petroleum applied for an exploration last year in the centre of Netherlands, the license included part of Amsterdam.

Recently also drinking water suppliers have voiced their concern, and also other companies relying on clean water such as brewers (including Heineken).

5. Article on Powers Economic Report on costs of frac sand mining has been picked up at Resilience.org:

<http://www.resilience.org/stories/2013-05-20/new-report-raises-concerns-about-expansion-of-frac-sand-mines-in-minnesota-and-wisconsin>

Duke Study Links Fracking to Water Contamination as EPA Drops Study on Fracking Water Contamination



READ | DISCUSS | SHARE

Steve Horn, News Analysis: A damning study conducted by Duke University researchers published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences again links shale gas fracking to groundwater contamination. The Duke researchers did so by testing samples of 141 drinking water samples of Pennsylvania's portion of the Marcellus Shale basin. This is the Duke professor's third study linking fracking to groundwater contamination, the source of drinking water for hundreds of thousands of citizens in the Keystone State.

The link to this short film about CELDF is worth a look. It give a historical perspective of local vs. corporate rights and clears up some misconceptions. Very clear explanation of some of our land use issues and why we don't seem to get very far w/ local control. Food for some future thinking.

<http://celdf.org/section.php?id=399>

<http://www.desmogblog.com/2013/06/25/obama-climate-plan-touts-fracking-transition-fuel-doubling-down-methane-risk>

Obama Climate Plan Touts Gas Fracking As "Transition Fuel," Doubling Down on Methane Risk

<http://www.desmogblog.com/2013/06/24/duke-study-links-fracking-water-contamination-epa-drops-study-fracking-water-contamination>

Duke Study Links Fracking to Water Contamination As EPA Drops Study on Fracking Water Contamination

Tsunami of Public Outrage Against Fracking in Colorado

<http://ecowatch.com/2013/public-outrage-against-fracking-colorado/>

ALEC at it again:

Halliburton and ALEC Push Industry-Friendly Fracking Legislation in North Carolina

<http://ecowatch.com/2013/halliburton-alec-push-fracking-legislation-north-carolina/>

Have a great 4th of July!!!!!!!

Welcome to the Frac Sand Sentinel, a newsletter highlighting resource links, news media accounts, blog posts, correspondence, observations and opinions gathered regarding local actions on, and impacts of, the developing frac sand mining and processing industries.

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