

Childhood Cancers on the rise in SW Pennsylvania.....are they related to pollutants caused by the fossil fuel industry?



*.....keeping watch on
the industry*

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**The number of
cancers in
schools in SW
Pennsylvania
appears to be
increasing and
particularly
among young**

children and youth. Ewing Sarcoma, a serious cancer, has increased immensely. This area has fossil fuel exposures due to the drilling and hydraulic fracturing industry that has rapidly developed in the past 11 years or so. Take a look at the health concerns being exposed in the area.

Who knows what is taking the lives of our young people or giving them life-long concerns that require medication and monitoring, but health and safety should be our primary concern before industries in vast numbers like these get started

and pollute our water and air.

https://newsinteractive.post-gazette.com/blog/childhood-cancer-pittsburgh-pennsylvania-canon-mcmillan-pollution/?utm_source=EHN&utm_campaign=6c0111d0c9-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_8573f35474-6c0111d0c9-99471945

You won't want to miss this special report from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. This study has been quietly accomplished over several years.

About this project: The HUMAN TOLL

Risk and Exposure in the Gas Lands (where some of our frac sand goes to be forced under pressure and used as a proppant to prop open fissures in the shale).

"Pollution science is clear even if the skies are not. For every ton of airborne pollution, there's a well-defined impact on human health, and more specifically, mortality.

In 2010, the Post-Gazette published its own epidemiological study of pollution's impacts that

showed 14 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania had 14,636 excess deaths from 2000 through 2008, when compared with the national average. Many of those additional deaths showed up in municipalities downwind from pollution-spewing, coal-based power, coke and steel plants.

As part of the Post-Gazette's effort to update the 2010 "[Mapping Mortality](#)" project, Nicholas Muller, an economist at Carnegie Mellon University, was asked to study current air pollution and related mortality, and that review predictably — given the closure of many coal-fired power plants — shows pollution-related deaths in decline.

However, the Muller study also shows that deaths from locally generated pollution were in decline from 2008 until 2011, but then increased by about 100 deaths from 2011 to 2014. He said this reflects increases in locally emitted pollution — most likely from increases in local economic activity and the shale gas industry.

U.S. Steel's Clairton Coke Works, one-third of the Pittsburgh-based steelmaker's Mon Valley Works, continues to have an outsized impact on regional air quality, and awareness of that has heightened following the massive Christmas Eve 2018 fire that destroyed the facility's coke oven gas desulfurization unit and led to repeated exceedances of federal air pollution standards. And coal still accounts for most pollution deaths in southwestern Pennsylvania. But what are we

being exposed to from fracking?

In addition to the CMU study, “The Human Toll: Exposure and risks in the gas lands” in coming months will look at the health impacts of this growing industry:

It will look at the additional risks to fetuses, infants and children; new research on the dangers of the ultra-fine particulates that are produced by natural gas and diesel fuel; the impact of the tons of radioactive materials being transported and disposed of in municipal landfills; the impact of the topography of southwestern Pennsylvania in pollution emissions; potential health impacts of the pollution from the Shell cracker plant under construction in Potter, Beaver County; and how shale gas drilling may have a greater impact than coal-burning on climate change.

Check out the link above for more information and the stories of young people suffering due to pollution in the numerous counties being impacted." This is only a segment from the actual article)

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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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CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: CCC-WIS.COM and for additional information, [click here](#) for panoramic aerial views of frac sand mines, processing plants, and trans-load facilities. FracTracker.org is also an excellent source of information