

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

about the health impacts of living near a natural gas compressor station

Health risks associated with fracking *are not* confined to the drilling/fracking sites. The infrastructure needed to transport fracked gas to the consumer (pipelines, metering stations, and compressors) pose an equally serious threat to our public health.

Gas moving through pipelines is **not** clean. It contains toxic chemicals and radon. Pipelines leak gas and toxins into the ground and air. They explode!

Compressor stations emit massive amounts of methane gas, particulate matter, toxins, radon, and known carcinogens into the air that reach far beyond the site of the station.

HEALTH IMPACTS FROM LIVING NEAR A COMPRESSOR STATION

Acute impacts: nosebleeds, visual impairment, respiratory impacts, severe headaches, decreased motor skills, irregular heartbeat, skin rashes, dizziness, allergic reactions, fatigue, joint and muscle pain, nausea, vomiting, confusion, depression, anxiety, sinus problems, skin, nose, eye, throat and lung irritation.

Chronic impacts: damage to liver, lungs, kidneys, cardiovascular system, nervous system, changes in blood cells and blood clotting ability, mutagenic and neurological impacts, aplastic anemia, leukemia, reproductive damage and damage to developing fetus. ¹

An increase in birth defects, notably congenital heart disease, in infants born to mothers living 10 miles from the site of natural gas development. ²

WHY ARE CHILDREN PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE

- Children have higher respiratory rates and as a result, children exposed to air contaminants breathe in more toxins per pound of body weight than adults.
- Children accumulate more toxins in their bodies than adults. Their bodies are still maturing and they cannot metabolize some toxicants as well as adults. They don't detoxify as efficiently.
- Children spend more time engaged in vigorous activity outside.
- Children's brains are still developing. Many toxic agents are known to interfere with developmental processes within the brain.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: WWW.SAVEBURDENLAKE.ORG

¹ Investigating Links Between Shale Gas Development and Health Impacts Through a Community Survey Project in Pennsylvania, Steinzor, N., Subra, W., Sumi, L., New Solutions Journal, Vol 23(1) 55-83, http://courses.washington.edu/enviro300/papers/Steinzor_et_al_2013.pdf

² Birth Outcomes and Maternal Residential Proximity to Natural Gas Development in Rural Colorado Lisa M. McKenzie,¹ Ruixin Guo,² Roxana Z. Witter,¹ David A. Savitz,³ Lee S. Newman,¹ and John L. Adgate¹ <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/1306722/>