
Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Back against the well or wall as they say.

Re: Back against the well or wall as they say.

Author: : Gudgeonville

Date: : 2011/7/28 6:20:31

URL:

Quote:

melvinp wrote:

Gudgeonville i have some questions, **1 what is going to happen with the Billions of gallons of frack water that is pumped under ground(will it stay there or is it going to slowly leach out)2 what about the shale layer that is being broken up will it settle causing seismic activity at a later date**. Nationwide is starting to sell seismic insurance in are area. il am no expert but i think these are pretty important issues. Not aiming this at you the tunkhannock creek is getting very low but still huge amounts of water is leaving and it does not seem to be anyone official looking at it(Tunkhannock creek north and lower south branch). Thank you for your input.

melvinp

the wells are frac'ed using approximately 100,000 to 400,000 gals of water per stage. Companies frac anywhere from 10 - 15 stages per lateral. After the well is frac'ed flow back (gas pushing fluids back up the well bore) begins to clean frac fluids from the formation. approximately 20 - 40% of fluids return up through the well casing and back into tanks for disposal or reuse. There are also production fluids (brines or saltwater) that are associated with ALL drilled wells. (even wells drilled 150 years ago here in PA.) Companies use portable tanks to hold initial fluid flowback. When well is ready to be put into production, there will be a battery of tanks on the well site. These tanks are for catching the rest of the frac fluids and production fluids that flow back over the life of the well. These fluids are confined to the shale formation for the life of the well by geologic overburden (weight of strata above the shales) and by interstitial pore pressure that holds the water/fluid molecules to the rock/formation itself. Fluid flowback has always been a problem for well operators because pipelines require minimal amounts of fluids to be in gas when moved to market. That is why it is so important to monitor and track your production so that fluid does not kill or hold back production.

The shale during fracing is more like prying cracks opened so that very fine grained sand (softer than any beach sand that I have seen) can be pumped back into the shales. while they are fracing, the pump pressure from the trucks overcomes the overburden pressure at the small perforations in the casing while the sand and water flow in, then after the the trucks let the pressure off, the shale section settles back down onto the sand grains allowing small fractures to stay propped open ever so slightly. one of the misconceptions put forth by the media is that there is an explosion downhole that causes huge caverns....this could not be further from the truth.

Hope this helps clarify some things, sorry took so long