

**Submission  
No 861**

## **INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS**

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## Chemical and Biological Risk Assessment for Natural Gas Extraction in New York

<http://sustainableotsego.org/Risk%20Assessment%20Natural%20Gas%20Extraction-1.htm>

PLEASE READ THE WHOLE DOCUMENT!!

- More than one of every six shale gas wells will leak fluids to surrounding rocks and to the surface over the next century.

Short-term collateral damage from gas well development constitutes only part of this industry's hazard profile. In 1992, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimated that of 1.2 million abandoned oil and gas wells in the U.S., 200,000 were leaking (53

Rock strata beneath the earth's surface are populated by microscopic organisms, and the advent of air-lubricated drilling (without biocides) has introduced a risk of contaminating surface (fresh) water zones with bacteria and other microbes from deeper (brine) layers, where they often flourish

Among other possible health concerns, there is overwhelming evidence that industrial pollutants can cause or promote cancer in humans (128)