About a mile under the surface of the earth lies a layer of rock called the Marcellus Shale. It contains high levels of naturally-occurring radioactive material that has been there for tens of millions of years.

The Marcellus Shale also contains small bubbles of natural gas. Hydrofracking brings those bubbles of gas to the surface. But along with the gas comes millions of tons of radioactive sludge and wastewater.

Once it’s out, there’s no way to put radioactive material back in the ground. So gas drillers want to spread it on our roads, dump it in our landfills, or “process” it through our water treatment plants, where it will contaminate the environment for thousands of years.

Let’s be clear: there is no way to get rid of radioactive material. It just goes from one place to another.

Energy independence is a goal we all share, but we deserve a better solution than this extreme form of energy extraction that will increase cancer deaths, raise health care costs, and contaminate the earth for generations to come.

Fracking is Radioactive

Flyer produced by Grassroots Environmental Education, a non-profit organization. www.Grassrootsinfo.org