

FRACKING POLLUTING WATER: Our Country Is Being Fracked by the Merger of Government and Big Business

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The Government Is Using Its Police Powers to Protect Fracking

Fracking is <u>polluting water all over the country</u>. A new study published in the journal Ground Water predicts that the highly-toxic fluids used in fracking can migrate to aquifers <u>within a few short years</u>.

The government has <u>officially stated that fracking can cause earthquakes</u>. And see <u>this</u>. Some fracking companies now <u>admit</u> this fact.

And yet a <u>new law</u> passed in Pennsylvania will allow doctors to access information about chemicals used in fracking, but will *restrict them from sharing that information with their patients*. See the writeups by <u>Mother Jones</u> and <u>Truthout</u>.

The director of the Emmy-award winning documentary on fracking – *Gasland* – was <u>arrested</u> <u>for attempting to film a Congressional hearing on fracking</u>.

Actor Mark Ruffalo was put on a terror watch list after he organized showings of Gasland.

The Washington Post reported in March that the FBI is investigating anti-fracking activists as <u>potential terrorists</u>.

The state of Pennsylvania hired an Israeli-American company with extensive military and intelligence ties to put out "terror" alerts. The company – ITRR – <u>describes</u> itself as:

The preeminent Israeli/American security firm providing training, intelligence and education to clients across the globe.

ITRR <u>explains</u>:

The Institute of Terrorism Research and Response's research and analysis center, known as the Targeted Actionable Monitoring Center (TAM-C), is located in Israel. The Targeted Actionable Monitoring Center is staffed with former law enforcement, military, and intelligence professionals experienced in the production and utilization of intelligence products.

ITRR <u>considered</u> opponents of fracking to be potential terrorists.

Fracking companies are also using <u>military psychological operations techniques to discredit</u> <u>opponents</u> (and <u>see this</u>).

Not Just Fracking ... Government Using "National Security" Powers to Protect All Big Business

The above is not unique, but part of a trend of <u>using national security laws to protect big</u> <u>companies</u> (more). As just a few of many examples:

- Investigating factory farming may get one <u>labeled as a terrorist</u>
- The government used national security excuses to prevent reporters and scientists from being able to investigate the BP oil spill. Indeed, the <u>White House</u> pressured scientists to underestimate the size of the spill (and see <u>this</u> and <u>this</u>), and tried to <u>smear scientists who found underwater oil plumes</u>. The government <u>covered up</u> the danger of dispersants
- The government's response to the outbreak of mad cow disease was simple: it stopped testing for mad cow, and prevented cattle ranchers and meat processors from voluntarily testing their own cows (and see this)
- The government is protecting the nuclear industry by promoting voodoo science about the safety of radiation on human health, and by <u>covering up</u> what's really going on. Government is simply acting as a <u>cheerleader for the nuclear power</u> <u>companies</u>. Indeed, nuclear power plants would not be built in a free market: without billions in government insurance, subsidies and guarantees, no one would want to build the bloody things
- The government <u>underplayed the huge Tennessee coal ash spill</u>. The former head of the National Mine Health and Safety Academy <u>says</u> that the government whitewashed the whole coal ash investigation
- Fraud was one of the main causes of the Depression and of the current financial crisis, but <u>nothing has been done to rein in fraud today</u>. Indeed, the only real action the government is taking in regard to the financial crisis is to help <u>cover</u> <u>up the fraud of the giant banks</u>
- As the ACLU <u>notes</u>, Fusion Centers a hybrid of military, intelligence agency, police and private corporations set up in centers <u>throughout the country</u>, and run by the Department of Justice and Department of Homeland Security – allow big businesses like Boeing to get access to classified information which gives them an unfair advantage over smaller competitors
- Law enforcement agencies spy on protesters and then <u>share the info at</u> <u>taxpayer expense</u> - with the giant Wall Street banks
- In an effort to protect Bank of America from the threatened Wikileaks expose of

wrongdoing – <u>the Department of Justice told Bank of America</u> to a hire a specific hardball-playing law firm to assemble a team to take down WikiLeaks (and see <u>this</u>)

One of the best definitions of fascism – the one used by Mussolini himself – is the "<u>merger of</u> <u>state and corporate power</u>".

We're pretty much there ...

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