

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

By [Washington's Blog](#)

Global Research, May 05, 2012

[Washington's Blog](#) 3 May 2012

Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Environment](#), [Oil and Energy](#)

The Government Is Using Its Police Powers to Protect Fracking

Fracking is [polluting water all over the country](#). A new study published in the journal Ground Water predicts that the highly-toxic fluids used in fracking can migrate to aquifers [within a few short years](#).

The government has [officially stated that fracking can cause earthquakes](#). And see [this](#). Some fracking companies now [admit](#) this fact.

And yet a [new law](#) 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 [Mother Jones](#) and [Truthout](#).

The director of the Emmy-award winning documentary on fracking – *Gasland* – was [arrested for attempting to film a Congressional hearing on fracking](#).

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 [potential terrorists](#).

The state of Pennsylvania hired an Israeli-American company with extensive military and intelligence ties to put out “terror” alerts. The company – ITRR – [describes](#) itself as:

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

ITRR [explains](#):

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 [considered](#) opponents of fracking to be potential terrorists.

Fracking companies are also using [military psychological operations techniques to discredit opponents](#) (and [see this](#)).

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

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

- Investigating factory farming may get one [labeled as a terrorist](#)
- The government used national security excuses to [prevent reporters and scientists](#) from being able to investigate the BP oil spill. Indeed, the [White House pressured scientists to underestimate the size of the spill](#) (and see [this](#) and [this](#)), and tried to [smear scientists who found underwater oil plumes](#). The government [covered up](#) 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 [covering up](#) what’s really going on. Government is simply acting as a [cheerleader for the nuclear power companies](#). 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 [underplayed the huge Tennessee coal ash spill](#). The former head of the National Mine Health and Safety Academy [says](#) 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 [nothing has been done to rein in fraud today](#). Indeed, the only real action the government is taking in regard to the financial crisis is to help [cover up the fraud of the giant banks](#)
- As the ACLU [notes](#), Fusion Centers – a hybrid of military, intelligence agency, police and private corporations set up in centers [throughout the country](#), 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 [share the info – at taxpayer expense](#) – with the giant Wall Street banks
- In an effort to protect Bank of America from the threatened Wikileaks expose of wrongdoing – [the Department of Justice told Bank of America](#) to hire a specific hardball-playing law firm to assemble a team to take down WikiLeaks (and see

[this](#))

One of the best definitions of fascism – the one used by Mussolini himself – is the “[merger of state and corporate power](#)”.

We’re [pretty much there ...](#)

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