



# MYTHS & FACTS on Maryland Shale Development



ENERGY IN DEPTH

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Maryland has an incredible opportunity to join the rest of the country in developing clean burning natural gas through hydraulic fracturing (or fracking) – a process that has been used safely for decades in the United States. Unfortunately, the debate over how to develop these resources safely in Maryland continues to suffer from a severe shortage of actual facts. Meanwhile, President Obama and his top environmental regulators have said that fracking is safe and brings enormous benefits.

## MYTHS

“We know we are not ready for fracking in Maryland, if we are ever going to be.”

- Sen. James Raskin  
(D-Montgomery County)

“Look at the bottled water they’re bringing into West Virginia. Take a look at Pennsylvania how they’ve ruined rivers. I mean this is not for Maryland. Uh it just doesn’t make sense.” - Sen. James Brochin  
(D-Baltimore County)

“There’s an opportunity cost: it’s too much water, that it’s driving climate change, and we should just take a pass.”  
- Delegate A. Shane Robinson  
(D-Montgomery County)

“This is simply just not a technique for getting gas that in any way, shape, or form is safe, so until or unless it becomes safe, it’s not something we should do.”  
- Sen. Bobby Zirkin (D-Baltimore County)

“If you really research this... nothing good has come from this.”  
- Sen. Jim Brochin (D-Baltimore County)

We need a moratorium and I’m here to add my voice to say: moratorium now.”  
- Sen. James Raskin  
(D-Montgomery County)

## FACTS



**FACT:** “We’re committed to ensuring that Marylanders have access to the economic opportunities associated with fracking.”  
- Fmr Gov. Martin O’Malley (D)  
(November 2014)



**FACT:** “Risks associated with water contamination were rated most commonly as low.”  
- Fmr Gov. Martin O’Malley Administration  
(October 2014)



**FACT:** “Responsible development of natural gas is an important part of our work to curb climate change and support a robust clean energy market at home.”  
- Gina McCarthy, U.S. EPA Administrator  
(August 2013)



**FACT:** “Fracking has been done safely for many, many years.”  
- Sally Jewell, Secretary of U.S. Dept. of Interior  
(May 2013)



**FACT:** A study by Towson University found that shale development would bring over 3,500 jobs and over \$6 million in new tax revenues to western Maryland.  
(May 2014)



**FACT:** “We’ve got to take advantage of this incredible natural resource and think about what could happen if we do. Think about an America where more cars and trucks are running on domestic natural gas than on foreign oil.”  
- President Barack Obama (January 2012)