

# HEI's Proposed Energy Research Program

<https://www.healtheffects.org/unconventional-oil-natural-gas>





HEALTH  
EFFECTS  
INSTITUTE

October 2015

## Strategic Research Agenda on the Potential Impacts of 21st Century Oil and Natural Gas Development in the Appalachian Region and Beyond

HEI Special Scientific Committee on Unconventional Oil and Gas Development in the Appalachian Basin

### Funding provided by:

- Richard King Mellon Foundation
- Henry L. Hillman Foundation
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## HEI Special Committee: *Strategic Research Agenda*

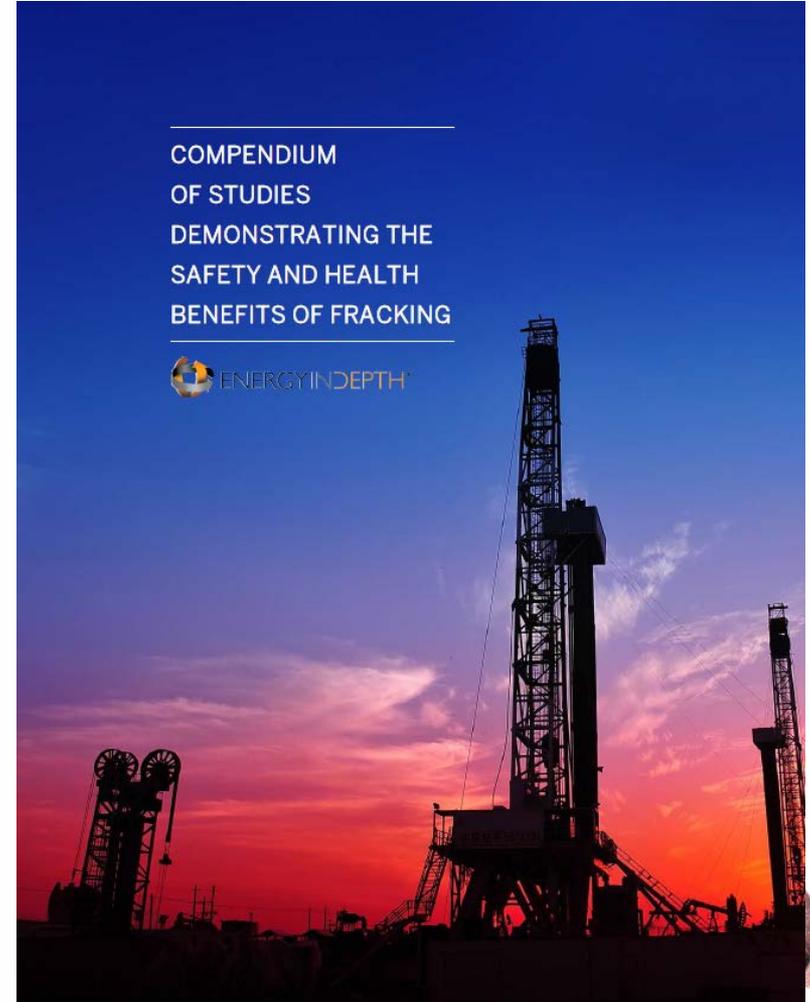
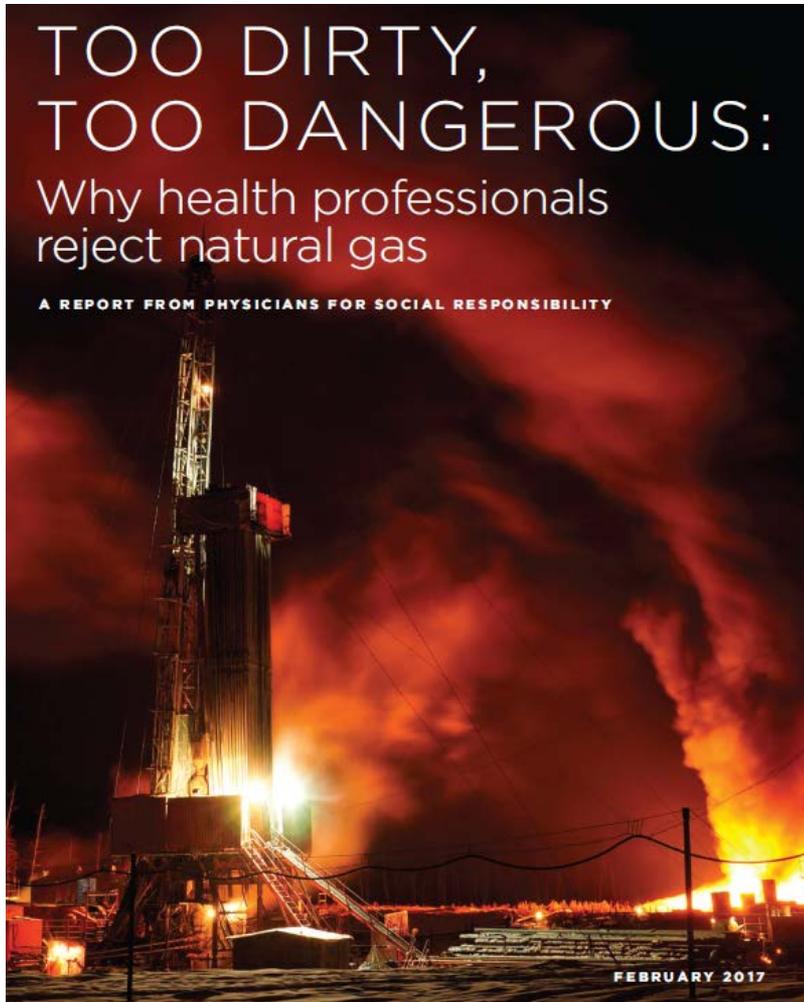
- Released in late 2015 after extensive stakeholder consultation and expert review
- Identifies key research questions as a foundation for moving forward
- Building on this, the HEI Energy Research Program will fill knowledge gaps about potential population exposures and health effects across the US



# The controversy lingers

...with some expressing health concerns

...while others ask - what health effects?



# As the public debate continues, so does oil and natural gas development

April 24, 2017

## API SmartBrief

energy **API**

News for the oil and natural gas industry

SIGN UP - FORWARD

TOP STORY

**ABS Group**

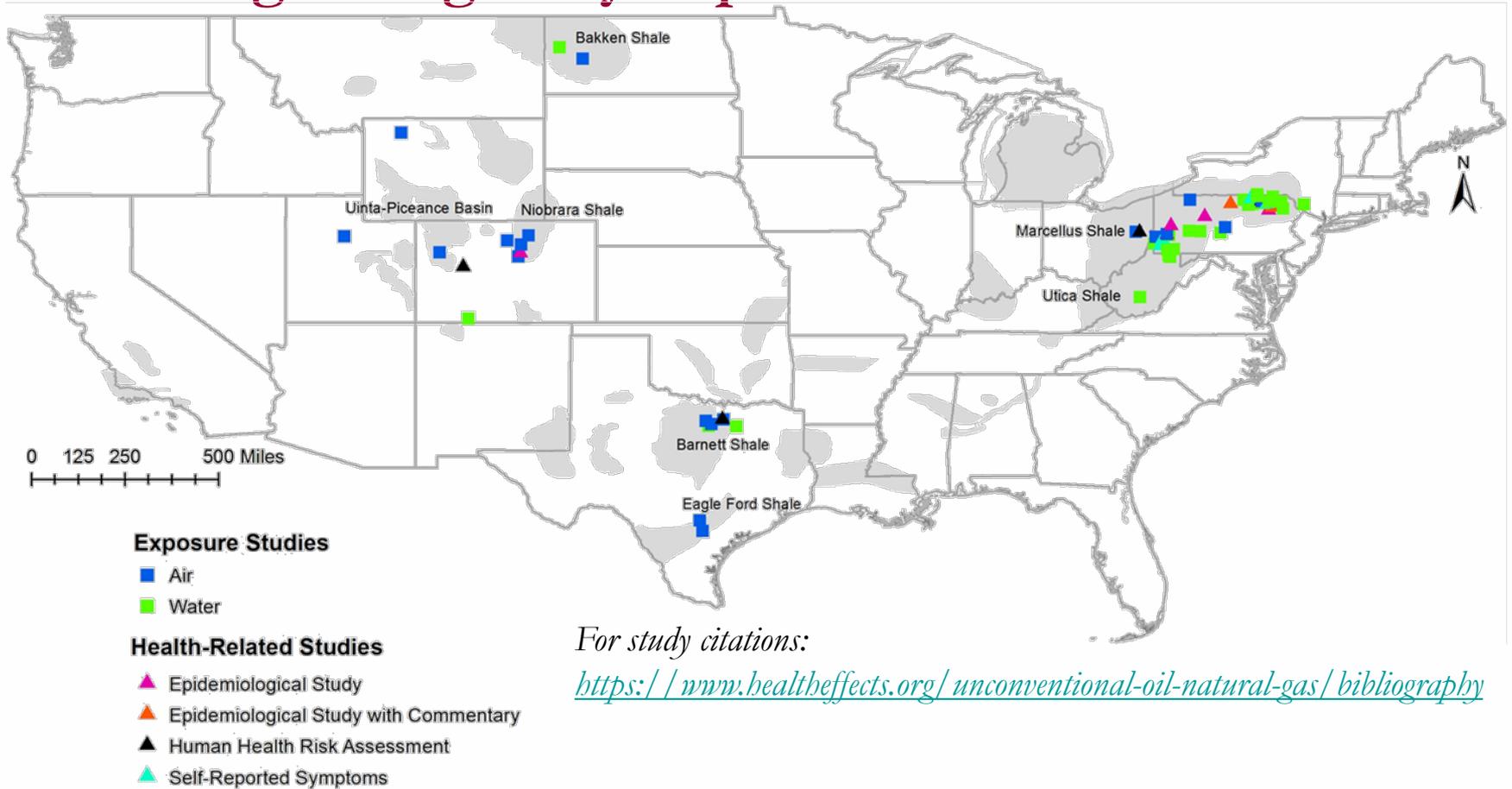
### US shale resurgence stronger than OPEC can handle

OPEC's plan to balance the global oil market with production cuts has been derailed by a stronger-than-expected US shale revival, driven by rapid progress, technological advances and higher price expectations. Increased shale activity has caused US crude production to surge by 550,000 barrels per day since OPEC announced in November that it would cut supplies, with production seen rising by 860,000 barrels per day by the end of this year, according to the Energy Information Administration.

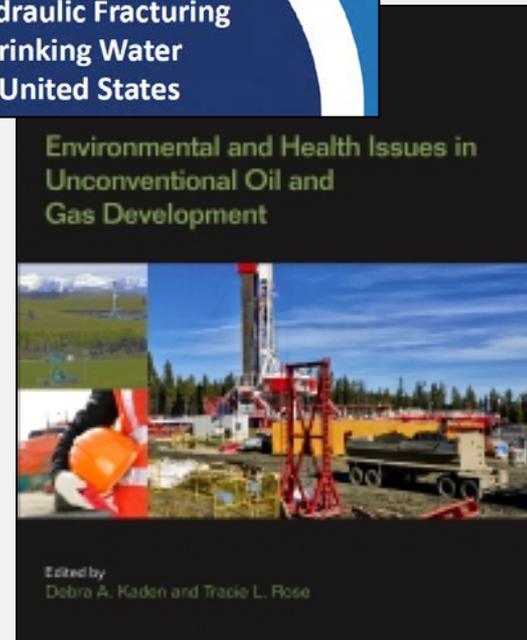
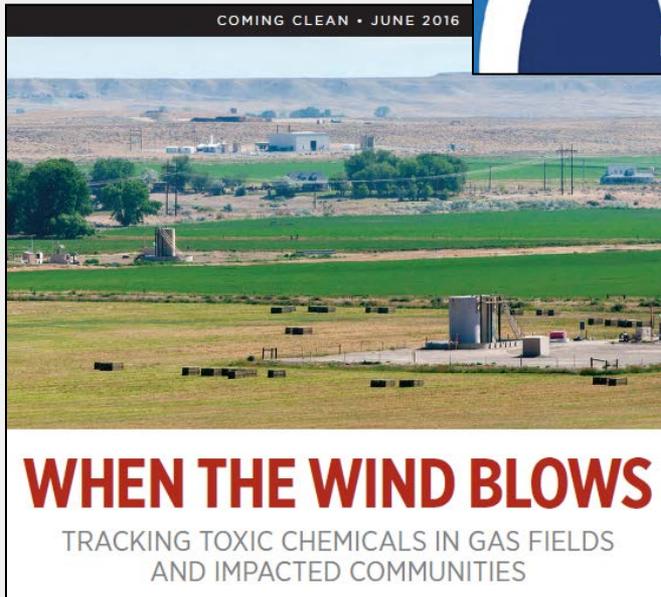
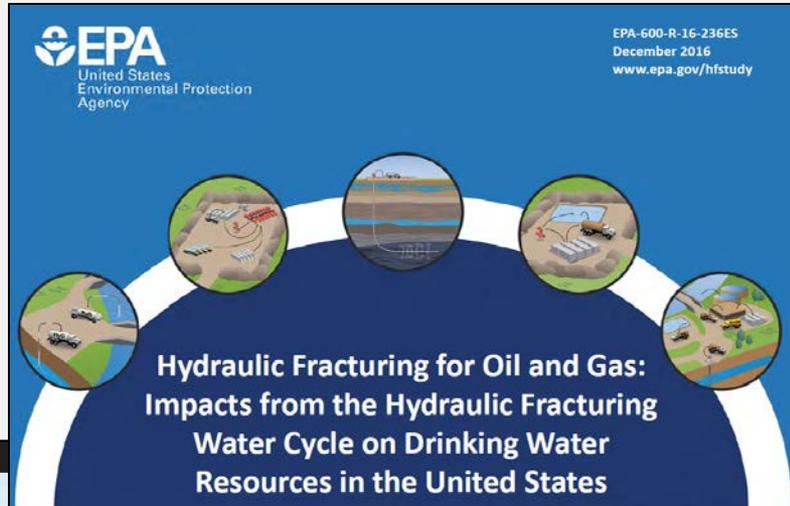
[Bloomberg Gadfly](#) (4/23)



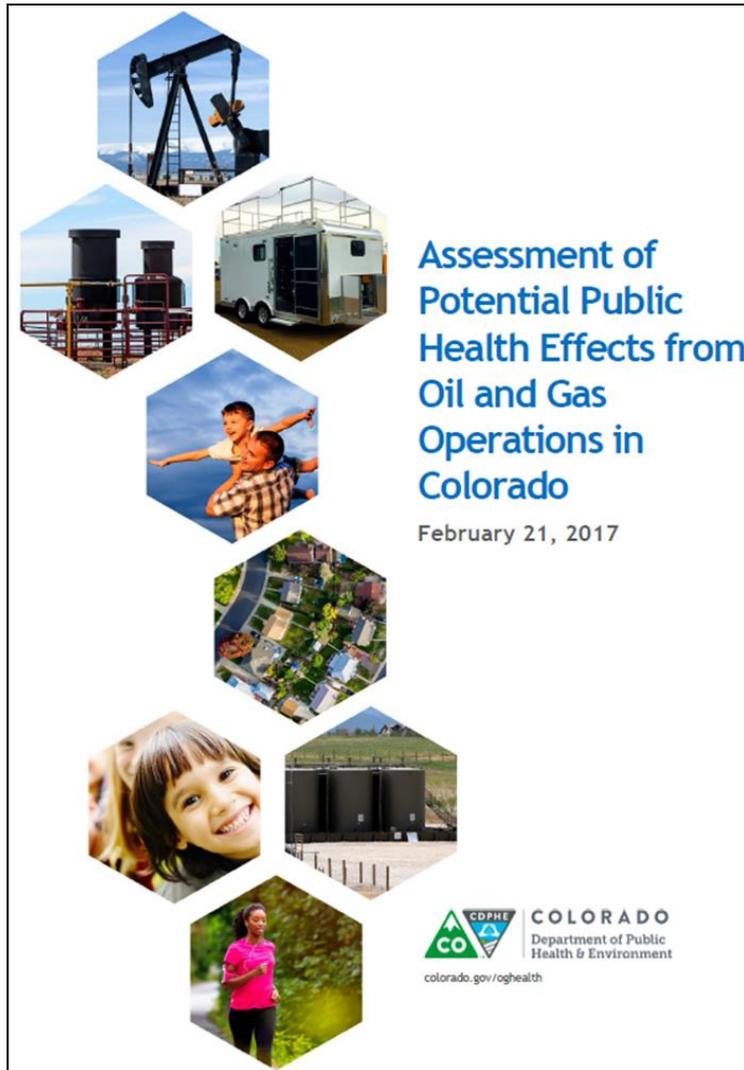
# At the same time, we are learning more about potential exposure and effects with a small but growing body of peer-reviewed literature



# Also much work beyond the peer-reviewed scientific literature



# But knowledge gaps remain and calls for research continue...



- CDPHE’s Conclusion: “Exposure and health effect studies do not indicate the need for immediate public health action, but do indicate the need for more detailed exposure monitoring and systematic analyses of health effects of residents living near oil and gas operations.”
- CDPHE’s Recommendations:
  - Continued monitoring of exposures for people living near oil and gas operations
  - Continued evaluation of health risk using more comprehensive exposure data
  - Continued monitoring of health effects in areas with substantial oil and gas operations with high quality epidemiological studies, including improved characterizations of exposure

# HEI anticipates receipt of balanced funding to begin Year 1 of the Research Program in June 2017

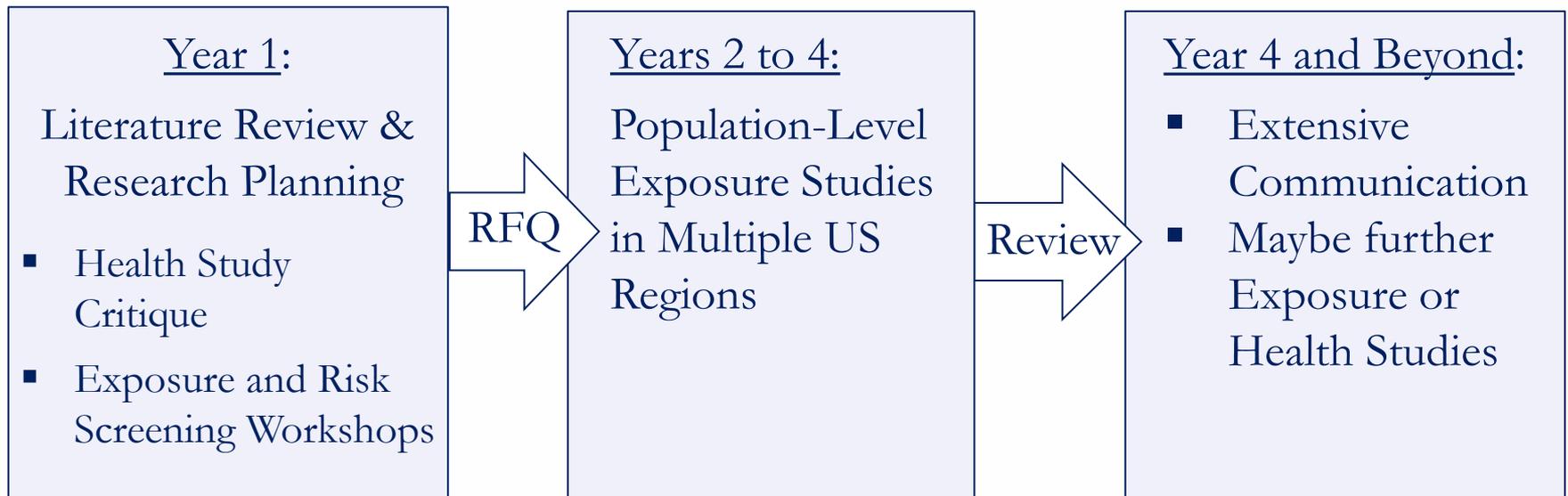
<b>Year 1 Task Description</b>	<b>HEI Report Release Date (estimated)</b>
Health Study Critique	Aug 2017
Exposure and Risk Screening Workshop #1	Oct 2017
Interim analysis recommended at Workshop #1	-
Exposure and Risk Screening Workshop #2	Feb 2018
Request for Qualifications (RfQ)	Mar 2018



# Year 1 tasks are part of a broader vision for a multi-year Energy Research Program

**Goal:** Answer questions about potential human exposure and health effects from development of oil and natural gas from unconventional resources

**Approach:** Same one that HEI has used for 35 years to answer questions about air quality and health



# Next Steps

- Finalizing sponsor commitments
- Forming a separate governance structure for the new research program
- Continuing to plan for Year 1 tasks, beginning with an impartial critique of the health literature
- Working toward the goal of full implementation of the research program in 2018



# Thank You

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