

Class II Injection wells in Ohio

Class II injection wells in Ohio receive liquid oil and gas industry waste from Ohio, WV, PA and other states. These wells were not designed for hazardous waste (for example, NO monitoring wells surround them to detect migration of toxic chemicals). They create serious risks to human health and the environment during transport, injection, and waste storage and no benefits to communities.

Did you know that the public and local officials have NO say in permitting of injection wells?

Did you know that any oil/gas well in Ohio can be turned into an injection well accepting millions of gallons of toxic waste?

Did you know that Class II Injection wells accept waste from oil/gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing (fracking)? This waste contains quantities of undisclosed highly toxic chemicals, including benzene, xylene, cadmium, mercury, arsenic, and radioactive radium, etc.

Did you know that some Ohio injection wells have open pits from which toxic substances vaporize?

Did you know that, according to a US Geological Survey report, radioactivity in liquid oil and gas waste from Appalachia has exceeded USEPA safe drinking limits by up to 3,600 times and federal Nuclear Regulatory Agency industrial discharge limits by more than 309 times?

Did you know that nine Ohio injection wells received liquid waste from four wells in PA that had to send drill cuttings to U.S. Ecology in Idaho due to high levels of radioactivity?

Did you know that in 2012 Ohio injection wells received 13,990,846 barrels (587,615,532 gallons) of oil/gas industry waste? 8,050,974 of this came from out of state. Local communities received no payments for this waste. ODNR received \$.003/gallon—which amounts to over a million dollars from the industry it's meant to regulate, a clear conflict of interest.

Did you know that Ohio has close to 200 active injection wells, with many more in the permitting process, and even new wells can be permitted in wellhead protection areas?

Did you know that no Ohio law limits the amount of waste that can be injected on a given day or in a given week (only yearly averages are specified)?

Did you know that in 2004, the Ohio Legislature approved H.B. 278, which took control of drilling and waste disposal away from local communities?

Did you know that even Class I wells in Ohio have leaked and had to be shut down?

Did you know that oil and gas industry waste is legally exempt from federal hazardous waste regulations and from important provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act?

Did you know that from 2007 to 2010, one out of six injection wells in Ohio failed mechanical integrity testing, according to state and federal records?

Did you know that many existing Class II wells are old production wells not built even to the current inadequate state standards for injection?

Did you know that the industry-supported Fraser Institute ranks Ohio as among the top 10% of jurisdictions globally for receptivity to the oil and gas industry?

Did you know that the recently introduced Ohio HB 148 would ban Class II injection wells? Athens and Cincinnati City Councils, Athens County Commissioners, and two Portage Commissioners have endorsed the ban. Please ask your legislator to support HB 148, which will also be introduced in the Senate. Visit acfan.org for more information.