

Dear panel-My name is Ronald Benoit and I was born in Black Duck brook on the Port au port peninsula. I am baffled by the fact that the panel is going ahead to determine whether fracking should go ahead in the area. My god,. how much more information is needed to know that this process is destructive-It's been banned everywhere that governments had the courage to stand up to big oil, and have the foresight to see that the process will destroy our environment for future generations. We have always been short-sighted here in Newfoundland-trading off our fishery for short term gain etc...-who will fracking benefit Oil companies, some royalties to the government-who will pay- depletion of our water , effect on our fishery- and years down the road what will we be left with? We read report after report about how difficult it is to obtain the truth from the oil companies, how they shirk their responsibilities, how secretive they are. I see that you have read a lot of reports supplied by the governments, oil companies-but have you had the oppertunity to visit this area, to see how fragile the shale is etc. I ask you to take a more balanced approach by having more research done on the geology of the area, view the water situation-the wetlands, marshes etc-it,s a very fragile place. Some would have people believe that we live in abject poverty here in this area-that this will rise us out of our squalor – well I think we're doing ok-Thank you. Ronald Benoit.
ps.I am attaching a document-similar to hundreds of others I could have attached- that further illustrates the point that this process is dangerous-

<http://www.propublica.org/article/buried-secrets-is-natural-gas-drilling-endangering-us-water-supplies-1113>