

A Summary of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Multi-Year Study of the Contamination Risks to Sources of Drinking Water from Hydraulic Fracturing

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Congress requested EPA to assess the potential impacts to drinking water from hydraulic fracturing activities. The work began in 2010 and was completed in 2016. The EPA issued a draft report which was peer reviewed by the SAB with a final report issued in December 2016.

This abstract provides insight from members of the U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board Panel that provided peer review of EPA's work. The SAB panel reviewed and commented on both the report and "charge questions" posed to the SAB for consideration by EPA.

The presentation will include a discussion regarding the "dissenting opinion" will be advanced regarding the high level conclusion reached by the agency. The report was considered a "highly influential scientific assessment" - meaning the conclusions would be used by policy makers, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders in evaluating the potential exposure pathways for hydraulic fracturing activities to impact drinking water supplies.