



MEDIA ALERT



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For Immediate Release

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“The Truth and Consequences of Fracking”

Canadian Oil & Gas Consultant Jessica Ernst to Give Four Presentations in Region May 21-25

Watkins Glen, N.Y.—Jessica Ernst, a scientist from Alberta, Canada who is suing the EnCana gas company for contaminating her water well with methane and toxic chemicals and the Alberta regulators for negligence and unlawful activities, will present “The Truth and Consequences of Fracking” on four nights, May 21-24, in Elmira, Owego, Ithaca and LaFayette.

“We are fortunate that Jessica Ernst is taking the time from her difficult and painful situation to share her cautionary story with us,” said Maura Stephens, a member of two of the sponsoring grassroots groups. “Even as a person who works in the industry, she had her water poisoned. And she’s been treated abominably by the corporation that poisoned it and the regulatory agencies that are supposed to protect people from such assault.”

Alberta has been hit hard by fracking. Industry, the regulators and Alberta government try hard to silence Ernst. She is visiting New York to help residents understand the dire consequences of fracking from the “ruthlessly cruel” industry before it begins in the state. Ernst sent comments and provided extensive documentation to the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation during its public comment period last year.

EVENTS LOCATIONS and INFORMATION. All Events Start at 7 p.m.

Monday, May 21, Heights Theater, 210 E. 14 St., **Elmira**, sponsored by People for a Healthy Environment, Inc.

Tuesday, May 22, Hubbard Auditorium, Tioga County Office Building, 76 Main Street, **Owego**, sponsored by RAFT – Residents Against Fracking Tioga, and Coalition to Protect New York.

Wednesday, May 23, First Unitarian Society of Ithaca, 306 N. Aurora St., **Ithaca**, sponsored by Shaleshock, DRAC, and the Social Justice Committee of First Unitarian Society

Thursday, May 24, LaFayette High School, 3122 Rte. 11 N., **LaFayette**, sponsored by Gas Drilling Awareness of Cortland County, ShaleshockCNY, Syracuse Peace Council, and Skaneateles Citizens Hydrofracking Committee

The events are free and open; sponsoring groups suggest donations of \$10 for the public, \$100 for industry and regulators.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Jessica Ernst background:

Jessica Ernst, from Rosebud, Alberta, Canada, is an environmental consultant to the oil and gas industry with 30 years of experience. Speaking to worldwide audiences about the consequences of fracking, she has traveled to Ireland and to the United Nations, where she received UNANIMA International’s “Woman of Courage” award for her efforts to hold companies accountable for environmental harm done by fracking.

Ernst’s lawsuit (allegations to be proven in court): <http://www.ernstversusencana.ca/>

Video of Jessica Ernst talk 11/12/11:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=1xRQt3Q0xPc#

For further information or to arrange an interview with Jessica Ernst, please contact Sara Hess, 607-272-6394, sarahess63@yahoo.com.