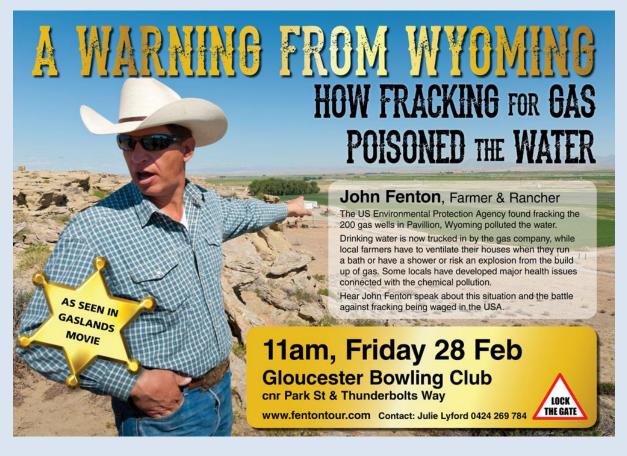
John Fenton – Australian Tour



John Fenton is a farmer from Pavillion, Wyoming, who has been living with pollution of ground water and air, and a range of other impacts from the gas industry.

In 2008 the US EPA investigated discoloured ground water in Pavillion. In 2010 the EPA warned Pavillion residents not to drink the water and use a fan when bathing or washing clothes to avoid the risk of explosion, after it found the water contaminated with dangerous chemicals and methane caused by fracking for gas.

The gas company now trucks in drinking water for local farmers. Some eat from paper plates because they cannot wash dishes without contamination, and they must open their windows when they have a shower. The water flowing out of the bores and taps smells like diesel and can be lit if contained in a jar. Several people in the district have developed neuropathy or other health ailments. Animals have also become sick.

John Fenton has a gas well situated only 100 metres from his house and the snow melt irrigation district has 200 wells dotted over the farm land.

Local farmers also suffer from gas land use clashing with agriculture, with well pads, access roads, pipelines, truck visits and compressor stations all affecting farm operations.

John Fenton has become a leading activist in the US against unconventional gas.

He is touring Australia to highlight the risks of the unconventional gas industry.

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