A new tool for informing regulatory decisions: The Shale Research Clearinghouse (SHARC)

Alan Krupnick

RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE

Health Effects Institute
Austin, TX. September 12-13, 2018

SHARC—Shale Research Clearinghouse (beta)

SHARC is a publicly accessible, curated clearinghouse for information on the economic, health, and environmental impacts of oil and gas development.

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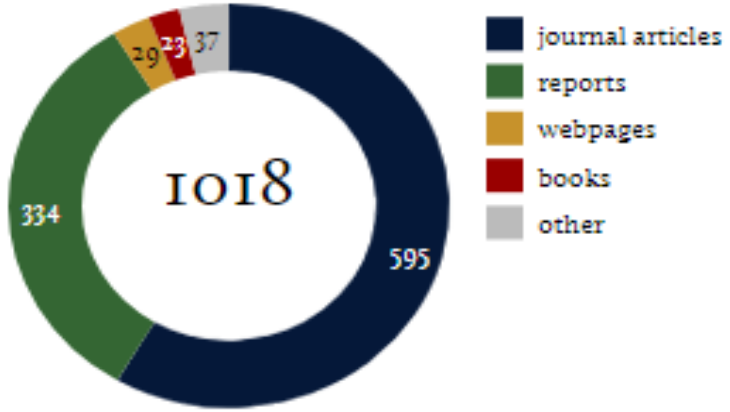

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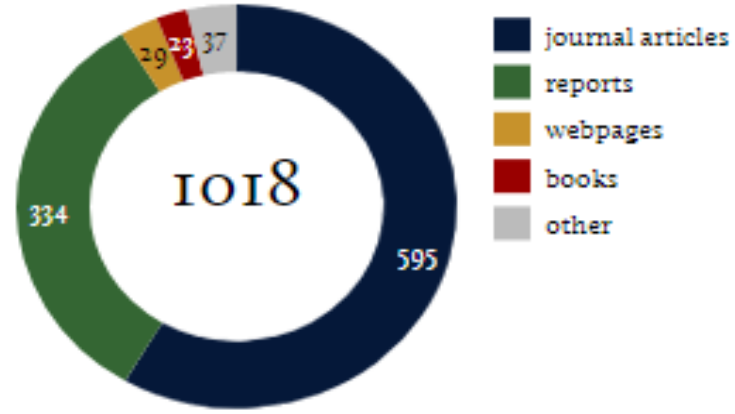

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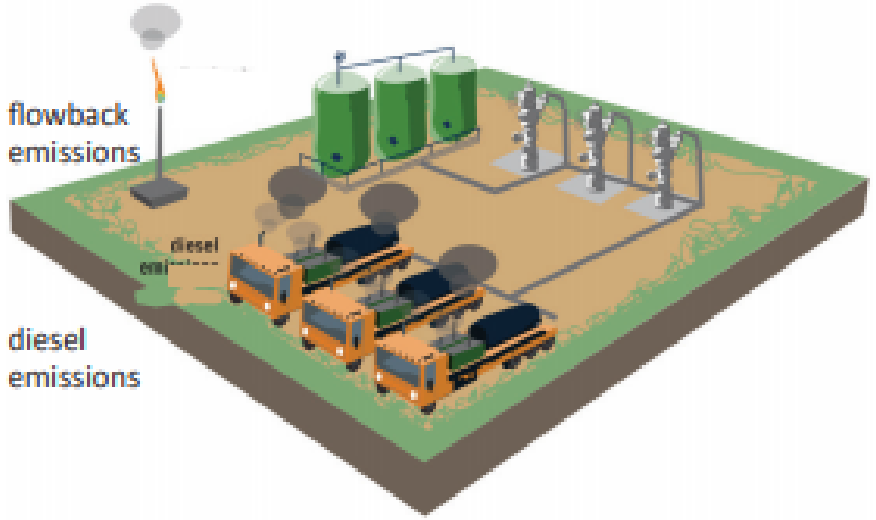
APRIL 2018 | ISSUE BRIEF 18-04

The Health Impacts of the Shale Revolution

Daniel Raimi*

The shale revolution has dramatically increased drilling activity in both densely and sparsely populated regions of the United States. While the industry has operated for decades in major cities such as Los Angeles, the number of communities living alongside oil and gas development has increased in states including Colorado, Pennsylvania, and Texas. This proximity, along with the specific technologies such as hydraulic fracturing used to develop shale plays, has raised concerns over the health risks of living near oil and gas production sites.

Local Risks



A second risk comes from air emissions that occur during the well development, drilling, and completion process. Each of these activities requires powerful diesel engines that often run 24-hours per day for weeks or months at a time. The extent of the health effects from diesel exhaust (which includes volatile organic