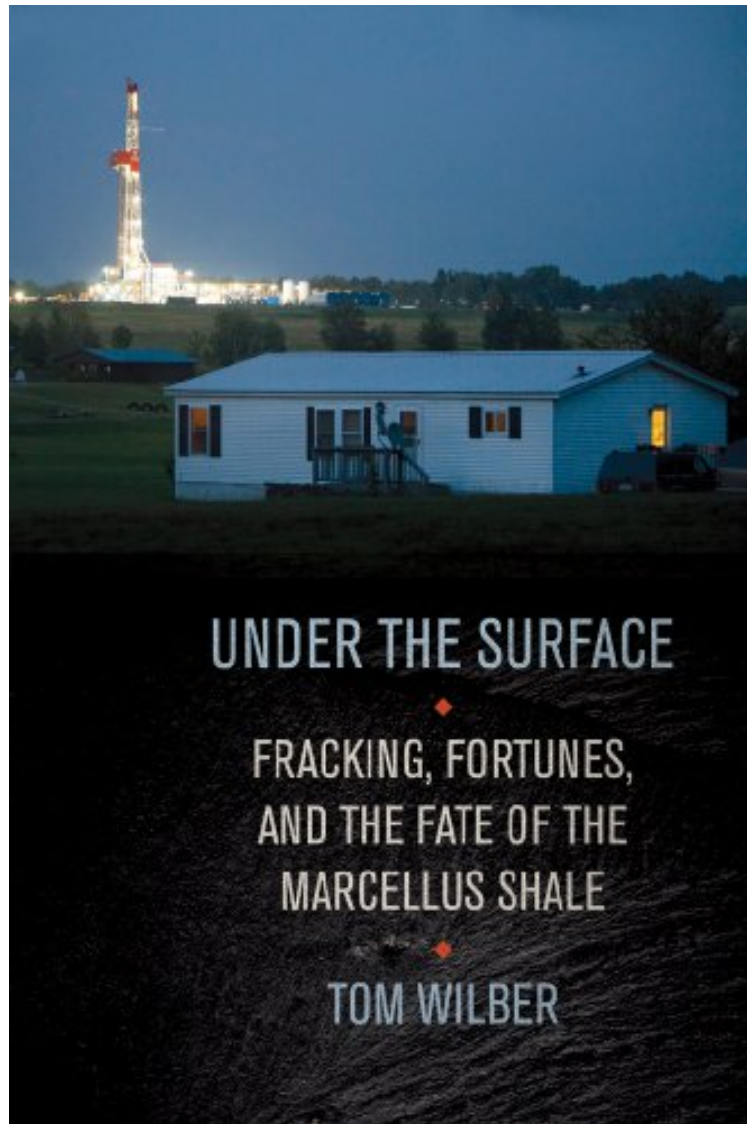


[Library ebook] Under the Surface: Fracking, Fortunes, and the Fate of the Marcellus Shale

# Under the Surface: Fracking, Fortunes, and the Fate of the Marcellus Shale

*Tom Wilber*

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**Tom Wilber : Under the Surface: Fracking, Fortunes, and the Fate of the Marcellus Shale** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Under the Surface: Fracking, Fortunes, and the Fate of the Marcellus Shale:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. GUSHING WITH PRAISEBy Landon ShultzWell, maybe not gushing, but this was a very good book. It explains the good, the bad, and the ugly of the new "fracking" technology which makes possible the extraction of natural gas from previously unusable shale. The author has done thorough

research, talking with people in the industry, in politics, and on farms who were directly affected by this new approach to "developing" our natural resources. There is a lot of information, but the author has a good narrative style, and the story pulls you along. He makes a good effort to remain objective, but it becomes clear that his sympathies lie with the landowners who have been abused by unethical oil companies. The author does make the point that many oil companies have been ethical and careful. Reading this book will give you helpful understanding of fracking generally and of the Marcellus Shale issues in particular. Since fracking is already having an enormous economic impact in America, it is worth learning about.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. MUST-READ if you're interested in fracking

By Nellie Voratnatz I'm a journalist, and I write about fracking. Wilber has been out there reporting on it far longer than I have. This is a very well-crafted book, focusing on a small group of people in upstate Pennsylvania. He is very even-handed, according a sympathetic ear not only to the victims of fracking but also to the industry representatives he interviews. At the end you see that the victims really ARE victims, not "just whiners." If you're looking for a Naomi Klein or a Christopher Hedges - or maybe even an Ellen Cantarow (that's me), Wilber isn't what you want. But if you're interested in this horrendously destructive industry, this book is a must-read.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. the best information I have seen

By Barbara J. Weedawagner My thanks to Author Mr. Wilber. I bought two books because I wanted our local library to have one. Everyone needs to read and understand the consequences of this issue. Mr. Wilber studied this for a long time and came up with all the information we need to form an opinion. I found it amazing that Barnes and Noble does not have this book on their shelves. Perhaps someone should contact them. Thank You

Running from southern West Virginia through eastern Ohio, across central and northeast Pennsylvania, and into New York through the Southern Tier and the Catskills, the Marcellus Shale formation underlies a sparsely populated region that features striking landscapes, critical watersheds, and a struggling economic base. It also contains one of the world's largest supplies of natural gas, a resource that has been dismissed as inaccessible-until recently. Technological developments that combine horizontal drilling with hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") have removed physical and economic barriers to extracting hundreds of trillions of cubic feet of gas from bedrock deep below the Appalachian basin. Beginning in 2006, the first successful Marcellus gas wells by Range Resources, combined with a spike in the value of natural gas, spurred a modern-day gold rush-a "gas rush"-with profound ramifications for environmental policy, energy markets, political dynamics, and the lives of the people living in the Marcellus region. Under the Surface is the first book-length journalistic overview of shale gas development and the controversies surrounding it. Control over drilling rights is at stake in the heart of Marcellus country-northeast Pennsylvania and central New York. The decisions by landowners to work with or against the companies-and the resulting environmental and economic consequences-are scrutinized by neighbors faced with similar decisions, by residents of cities whose water supply originates in the exploration area, and by those living across state lines with differing attitudes and policies concerning extraction industries. Wilber's evenhanded treatment gives a voice to all constituencies, including farmers and landowners tempted by the prospects of wealth but wary of the consequences, policymakers struggling with divisive issues, and activists coordinating campaigns based on their respective visions of economic salvation and environmental ruin. Wilber describes a landscape in which the battle over the Marcellus ranges from the very local-yard signs proclaiming landowners' allegiances for or against shale gas development-to often conflicting municipal, state, and federal legislation intended to accelerate, delay, or discourage exploration. For millions of people with a direct stake in shale gas exploration in the Marcellus or any number of other emerging shale resources in the United States and worldwide, or for those concerned about the global energy outlook, Under the Surface offers a worthwhile and engaging look at the issues.