



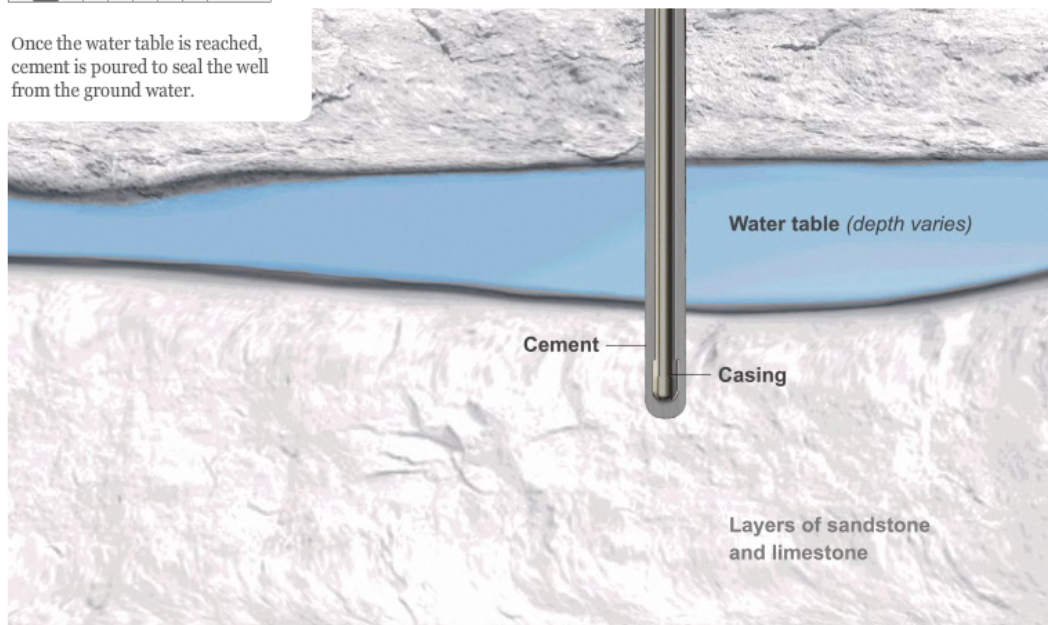
Published: February 26, 2011

# Extracting Natural Gas From Rock

A look at the process and hazards of hydraulic fracturing.

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Once the water table is reached, cement is poured to seal the well from the ground water.



**Problems**

Well casing or cement failures can cause underground contamination of aquifers; long-term migration of well fluids is still debated.

GRAHAM ROBERTS, MIKA GRÖNDAHL and BILL MARSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES | [Send Feedback](#)

Sources: Dr. Anthony R. Ingraffea, Cornell University; gas industry publications

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