



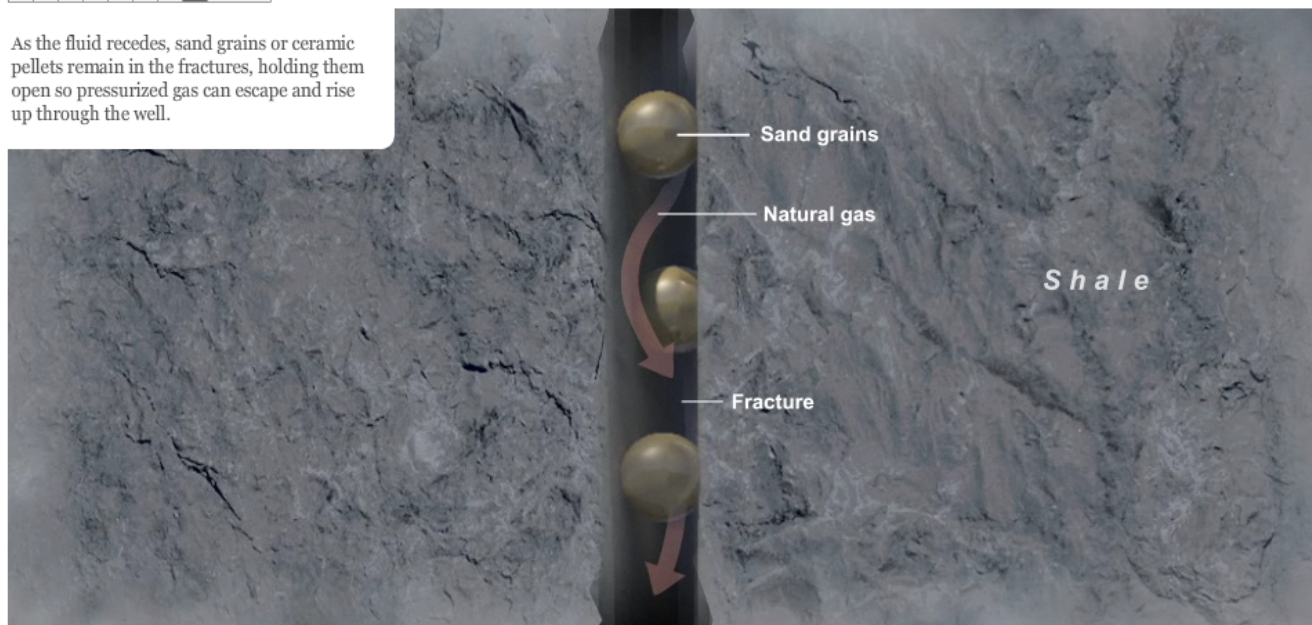
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Extracting Natural Gas From Rock

A look at the process and hazards of hydraulic fracturing.

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As the fluid recedes, sand grains or ceramic pellets remain in the fractures, holding them open so pressurized gas can escape and rise up through the well.



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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