



FACES OF FRACKING

 CEL CLIMATE LAB

grist

THE PROJECT

Thousands of wells have already been fracked across California -- in the heart of our cities, on our farmland, next to our schools -- even in our ocean and national parks. For years the practice has operated behind closed doors and with little, if any, regulation.

Faces of Fracking -- a project of the [Citizen Engagement Lab's](#) (CEL) Climate Lab, working in partnership with [Grist](#), a leading online environmental publication -- is a deep journalistic investigation into fracking in California that goes beyond single story reporting. An ongoing collection of stories, Faces of Fracking profiles individuals and communities on the front lines of fracking, and those engaged in the grassroots movement against it.

Faces of Fracking fills an important void in the statewide and national conversation about fracking and increased oil and gas development. By telling the personal stories of people who are affected by and fighting fracking in their communities, we endeavor to deepen society's understanding of fracking's potentially devastating consequences and bring to light the human and environmental risks.

OUR MODEL

Faces of Fracking provides stories, in both English and Spanish, available for reprint by outside news publications and a library of photos that can be used at any time, compiled on [Flickr](#) for easy downloading and free for media and organizations under a Creative Commons license.

Our home page www.facesoffracking.org houses all content to date, including written profiles and photos of each subject, a short accompanying audio clip, and a data visualization component that offers visitors an in-depth look at how the impacts of fracking are being felt in California. Each story will also be published on [Grist](#).

Like us on Facebook: [Faces of Fracking](#)

Follow us on Twitter: [@facesoffracking](#)

OUR TEAM



Tara Lohan
Journalist

Tara has over a decade of experience writing narrative journalism about extreme energy. Her work has been published in Salon, the Nation, AlterNet, Moyers & Co, and others.



Sarah Craig
Photographer

Sarah studied at the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies and has been covering fracking in California since 2013.



Anna Flagg
Data Journalist

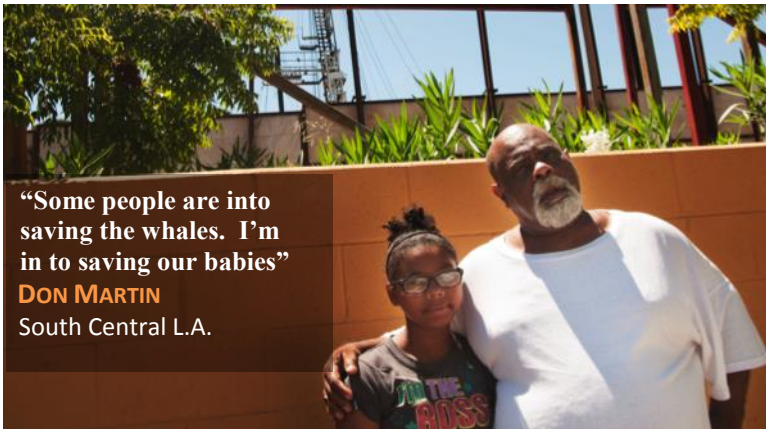
Anna is a San Francisco-based journalist focused on telling stories with data. She has worked with the Center for Responsive Politics and ProPublica, and is currently at Al Jazeera.

STORIES FROM THE FRONT LINES OF FRACKING

In May 2014, journalist Tara Lohan and photographer Sarah Craig set out across California to visit communities where fracking is, or may soon be, taking place. Their work has revealed the risks not just at the well, but the downstream impacts on water, air, public health, and the local economy from fracking and other kinds of high intensity oil and gas production. With five stories just published and more on the way, their reporting project is still ongoing.

By combining multiple forms of media, including written profiles, photos, audio clips and a data visualization, Faces of Fracking provides a uniquely unparalleled, in-depth look at how the impacts of fracking are being felt in California. By capturing personal stories and sharing them far and wide, the project hopes to amplify the voices of those living on the front lines of extreme oil extraction and illuminate the true **faces of fracking**.

MEET THE FACES OF FRACKING



“Some people are into saving the whales. I’m in to saving our babies”

DON MARTIN

South Central L.A.

DON

Don Martin lives next door to the Murphy Oil site, a 30-well operation owned by Freeport McMoRan. Don started to investigate the site after his granddaughter, Kiari, was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. He believes her illness is related to the chemicals wafting from next door.

[Read](#) or [Hear](#) Don's Story

ROSANNA

Rosanna Esparza lives in Kern County, the epicenter of oil production in California, where the industry is trying every trick they know -- including fracking -- to access oil trapped in the Monterey Shale. Big Oil is claiming they are not endangering the community, Rosanna says. “We are learning that that is absolutely not true.” Rosanna is going door to door in the small, agricultural, and mostly Hispanic or Latino communities in the Central Valley to collect health surveys from residents and their kids.

[Read](#) or [Hear](#) Rosanna's Story



“I fear for them – for their health, for their safety, and their children”

ROSANNA ESPARZA

Kern County



“Standing up for equality and social justice is part of my DNA”

LUPE ANGUIANO

Oxnard

LUPE

Lupe Anguiano, an 85-year-old environmental and civil rights activist, is working to stop fracking near the beautiful pacific beaches and fertile agricultural fields of her hometown, Oxnard, CA. She is concerned with not just the drilling in Oxnard, but also the disposal of fracking's dangerous wastewater, which is injected underground in a process that has been linked to earthquakes in other states.

[Read](#) or [Hear](#) Lupe's Story