

# Shielding ensures safety



Hydraulic fracturing wells go far below underground aquifers.

2000ft

3000ft

4000ft

5000ft

6000ft

In the hydraulic fracturing process, there are about inches of steel and concrete

# 10 SHIELDING

underground aquifers.



That's comparable to an armored door on a bank vault.

Ten inches of steel and concrete; that's the shield protecting Mother Nature as rigs extract much-needed clean-burning natural gas from deep beneath shale formations from Pennsylvania to Texas.

This vault-thick armor isn't just on a few of the natural gas wells, it's the industry standard. Hydraulically fractured wells have multiple layers of steel and concrete to protect underground aquifers and isolate the wellbore. On top of this protection, state regulators and the industry are also making sure that well construction meets an additional host of rigorous safety standards.

They reach approximately **6,000 feet** or more under the earth's surface - almost the distance of

**4** Empire State buildings

stacked on top of each other.

