## CONTENTS

REFACE: WHY I WROTE THIS BOOK				
NTRODUCTION: A TWENTY-FIRST-CENTURY BONANZA				
art I Hydrofracking: What, How, and Where?				
Energy in Context: A Fossil Fuel Primer	9			
What Are Fossil Fuels?				
What Is Coal?	10			
What Are Oil and Gasoline?	13			
What Is Natural Gas?	13			
Why Is Natural Gas Called a "Bridge Fuel"?	1			
What Are "Unconventional" Fuels?	1:			
What Is Shale Gas?	2			
What Is Tight Gas?	2			
What Is Sour Gas?	2			
What Is Shale Oil?	2			
What Is Oil Shale?	2			
What Are Tar Sands?	2			
What Is Coal Bed Methane?	2			
	REFACE: WHY I WROTE THIS BOOK  TRODUCTION: A TWENTY-FIRST-CENTURY BONANZA  art I Hydrofracking: What, How, and Where?  Energy in Context: A Fossil Fuel Primer  What Are Fossil Fuels?  What Is Coal?  What Is Natural Gas?  Why Is Natural Gas?  Why Is Natural Gas Called a "Bridge Fuel"?  What Are "Unconventional" Fuels?  What Is Shale Gas?  What Is Tight Gas?  What Is Sour Gas?  What Is Shale Oil?  What Is Oil Shale?  What Are Tar Sands?			

VVI	nat is coal Gasilication?	. 22
	What Is Synfuel?	22
2	What	24
	So What Is Hydrofracking, and Why Has It Become So Central to the Energy Landscape?	24
	What Is Hydrofracking Used For?	26
	What Is the History of Hydrofracking?	26
	Who Was the Determined Tinkerer?	28
3	How	31
	How Do We Hydrofracture a Well?	31
	How Do Horizontal Wells Differ from Vertical Wells?	32
	What Are Hydrofracking Fluids?	37
4	Where	40
	What Are Shale Plays, and Where Are the Major Shale Plays in the United States?	40
	Where Is Hydrofracking Restricted?	46
	Is Hydrofracking Taking Place outside of the United States?	47
Pa	art II Hydrofracking: The Debate	
5	The Case for Hydrofracking	53
	Who Benefits?	53
	What Is the Impact of Shale Oil and Gas on the US Economy?	54
	How Many Jobs Does Hydrofracking Create?	55
	How Has Supply Affected the Price of Natural Gas?	55
	How Has Cheap Gas Impacted the Petrochemical Industry?	56

	How Have Chemical Companies Been Affected by Natural Gas Prices?	<i>57</i>
	What Is the "Halo Effect" of Gas Prices on Other Industries?	58
	What Are the Nonindustrial Benefits of Hydrofracking?	60
	How Has the Natural Gas Bonanza Affected Foreign Investment in the United States?	60
	How Do New Shale-Gas Supplies Affect the Global Energy Market?	61
	How Will This Affect Transportation?	62
	What Impact Has Hydrofracking Had on Water Supplies?	64
	What Is the Halliburton Loophole, and How Do Drillers Respond to the Charge That It Conceals the Chemicals Used in Hydrofracking?	65
	How Has Hydrofracking Affected Global Warming?	66
6	The Case against Hydrofracking	70
	What Questions about Hydrofracking Need to Be Asked and Answered, According to Opponents?	72
	What Are the Biggest Concerns in Terms of Water Supplies?	72
	Does Fracking Deplete Aquifers?	73
	Does Hydrofracking Contaminate Groundwater?	<i>75</i>
	How Well Regulated Is Groundwater?	77
	What Is Methane Migration?	80
	Are the Chemicals in Hydrofracking Fluids Harmful?	83
	How Is Flowback Disposed of?	85
	Can Flowback Be Radioactive?	87
	What Are Injection Wells?	88
	Does Hydrofracking Cause Earthquakes?	89
	What Are "Fugitive Emissions"?	90
	What Are the Consequences of Fugitive Emissions?	92
	Why Are Reports about Health Impacts Mostly Anecdotal?	93
	Is Anyone Studying How Hydrofracking Impacts Animal and Human Health?	94
	Can the Gap between Hydrofracking's Proponents and Opponents Be Bridged?	95

## Part III Hydrofracking: Today and Tomorrow

7	The Future of Fracking	101		
	How Much Gas and Oil Is There in American Shale Deposits?	101		
	How Political Has Hydrofracking Become?	103		
	How Is Hydrofracking Being Regulated?	106		
	What Steps Are Drillers Taking to Conserve Water?	107		
	What Are "Green Completions"?	108		
	How Has the Business of Hydrofracking Evolved?	110		
	What Technical Innovations Are on the Horizon?	113		
	What Are "Tracers," and How Are They Changing?	116		
	How Are Citizens Harnessing Big Data to Track Fracking?	116		
	What Are Federal Regulators Doing to Improve the Environmental Safety of Fracking?	118		
	Will Cars of the Future Run on Natural Gas?	120		
	Can Hydrofracking Help China, the World's Biggest Emitter of Greenhouse Gases, Reduce Its Carbon Footprint?	122		
C	onclusion: Beyond Hydrofracking	124		
	What Are "Renewables," and How Might They Affect Greenhouse Gas Emissions?	124		
	How Does the Low Price of Natural Gas Affect Renewables, and How Can Renewables Succeed?	127		
	Fracking Is Here to Stay: How Will We Respond?	128		
ΑI	PPENDIX: LIST OF CHEMICALS USED IN HYDROFRACKING	131		
N	NOTES			
Fl	JRTHER READING	172		
IN	IDEX	175		