

The following is a testimonial about gas drilling in Wheelock, Texas. This is drilling for gas. All gas drilling involves extensive air pollution from venting, flaring, blowouts and diesel emissions. Pipelines only work by venting, otherwise they would explode. In addition, in Wheelock, there is hydrogen sulfide from the wells. It is not known whether there will be hydrogen sulfide in the Marcellus Shale in this area.

From: Dorothy in Wheelock Texas

Date: March 30, 2008 9:59:59 AM EDT

If the gas drilling comes, it is something every day. The well being drilled close to us (across the road and down) was flaring all night and continues. Seismic people are here today, Sunday morning. They are here with large trucks, etc. I'm almost afraid to go to church, we never know when or what they are going to do.

It is a mess.

Dorothy

I just got home, went to see my Mom who is in a nursing home in Bryan. She is unable to live out here either. While I was in town I mailed you several copies of the chapter from my book that I'm writing with pictures.

My husband and I started our place here in 1992. We started with a small cabin, and then we built a guesthouse, office, main house, outdoor cookhouse pump house etc. It is a beautiful place. We did most of the work ourselves. We collected for many years the antique wood we used in our home. I was a Realtor in Houston and my husband was an Engineer. We spent our weekends, holidays, vacations for all those years building this place. We were so excited to be able to retire here. This land has been in my family since 1935 and it is not easy for us to leave. **However, the gas drilling has forced us from our home. I ask myself how can this happen? We've made the decision that we cannot live here.**

When my grandmother purchased this property, she got 1/2 of the minerals. When she gave me approx 7 acres to built our place she pasted that 1/2 interest to me. My husband and I did not sign a lease. We planned to live on the land and did not wish to deal with the oil/gas people. **As far as we know, everybody else around here has leased their minerals, including my Mom. Our neighbors to the north is one of the cheerleaders but they recently purchased a new fancy place in College Station, Texas and have moved there. Our neighbors to the south, who also have been**

run off, leased all of his minerals that he had a long time ago before the current boom. He just bought a place away from here. Everybody in the valley has left. They have royalty checks to buy fancy homes. We do not. We put all our money in this place.

Some of the people did lease years ago and their land is tied up.

This has always been a poor county and the gas company didn't have to pay much to take it over. . It is a joke between my husband and I that all it took in some cases was the promise of a cattle guard and a white rock road. (I think I'm naming my book that).

The other big landowner across the road from us is the landowner who allowed the gas plant to be built on his property. He actually leased the land for the gas plant for 25 years with option for another 25 years. Guess who pays the taxes? He does. Not the gas company. He is typical absentee mineral interest owner. (Doesn't live here) He has many gas wells on his property and it stinks and makes us sick.

We were evacuated from our home about 1 year ago when one of the wells being drilled next to us had a major problem. Blow out. (That is another story)

I don't know why we're here tonight. We should be at our place in Wimberley.

We have a rental in Wimberley, Texas. It is a one-room cabin. This is all we can afford until we get a settlement. If and when we ever do ----- lawyers----another story.

I have so many stories about the local officials, State Agencies, Lawyers etc. That is why I'm writing a book, to tell the story of the Corruption.

Once they've -----you out of your home, what else can they do to us.

Let me know if you need more.

Dorothy