SLIDES: What Went Wrong at Divide Creek?

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Attorney Matthew Sura

- Introduction...
  - Former Director of Western Colorado Congress
  - Graduate of University of Colorado Law School
  - Attorney specializing in representation of landowners and mineral owners in oil and gas transactions and disputes
Hydraulic Fracturing
Example Horizontal Well

- Treatable Groundwater Aquifers
- Private Well
- Municipal Water Well: < 1,000 ft.
- Additional steel casing and cement to protect groundwater
- Protective Steel Casing
- Shale Fractures
Denver Post study: From 2008–2010, average of more than a spill per day, average size of 5,300 gallons
Leaking Waste Pits

Hydraulic fracturing pit.
Divide Creek in Silt Colorado, April 2004, contaminated with methane and ignitable. The accident also affected water wells in three homes.
CEMENT CHANNELING

PRESSURE BUILDS UP

CONDUCTOR PIPE
SURFACE CASING
PRODUCTION CASING

FRESH WATER AQUIFER ZONE
SHALLOW PRODUCING ZONE
TARGET PRODUCING ZONE

CASING CEAMENT FORMATION
FRESH WATER AQUIFER ZONE

SHALLOW PRODUCING ZONE

TARGET PRODUCING ZONE

INSUFFICIENT CEMENT COVERAGE

CONDUCTOR PIPE

SURFACE CASING

PRODUCTION CASING

PRESSURE BUILDS UP
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