APPENDIX 6: FLIR VIDEO EMISSIONS FROM OIL & GAS EXTRACTION

(Brief of Earthworks as Amicus Curiae in the Hearing of the Peoples' Permanent Tribunal on Human Rights, Fracking and Climate Change)



EARTHWORKS

Liquids offloading at Northridge High School in Greeley, CO (2014)

Synergy Resources Northridge 21-4D Well Site Greeley, Weld County, CO (40.431618, -104.785564) Visited 9/14/2014 (video of plume over school: <u>https://youtu.be/GN_ABMiCQCk</u>) 5/5/2015 (<u>https://youtu.be/9KyPQNUpbqc</u>), and 4/5/2017 (<u>https://youtu.be/9vz6IIBi9rI</u>)

In response to our 2014 visit and the resulting video of a large dense plume settling over Northridge High School, "Synergy Chief Operating Officer Craig Rasmuson called the conditions, simply, normal." Realizing the operator could not be reigned in, members of the local PTA began to organize in opposition to the practices used at this site.

For more information: <u>https://www.greeleytribune.com/news/local/environmental-group-industry-clash-over-drilling-near-northridge-high-school-video/</u>

For more FLIR videos of oil & gas air pollution in Colorado: <u>http://bit.ly/CEP-CO</u>

Ongoing gas leak crisis at Aliso Canyon Facility in Los Angeles, CA (2015)

SoCalGas Aliso Canyon Storage Field Porter Ranch, Los Angeles County, CA (34.30917, -118.5361) Filmed 12/3/2015 - 12/5/2015

EDF owned version using Earthworks' FLIR footage: <u>https://youtu.be/exfJ8VPQDTY</u> Earthworks owned version: <u>https://youtu.be/Rnbcsm0VzQM</u>

These videos were the first visual evidence of the gas leak affecting residents in Porter Ranch. Until Earthworks and EDF collaborated on this trip in December 2015, California regulators and operator SoCalGas repeatedly claimed there was little to no threat from the leak and that the community's recent health symptoms were unrelated. For more information:

http://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow/watch/special-cameras-make-massive-gas-leak-visible-585845827625

For more FLIR videos of oil & gas air pollution in California: http://bit.ly/CEP-CA

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Venting at Bluestone Processing Plant in Butler County, PA (2016)

MarkWest Energy Partners Bluestone Processing Plant Harmony, Butler County, PA (40.805393, -80.073787) Filmed 4/2015, 3/2016, 5/2016, 7/2016, & 9/2016 (venting event: <u>https://youtu.be/8luTNN0ZbA4</u>)

Earthworks visited the Bluestone Plant 10+ times over the past 3 years, and has found concerning emissions during each visit. During September 2016, it appears that a large and unlit flare stack was being used to vent an egregious amount of natural gas from the facility. This was the most dramatic FLIR video ever taken at this site. As new energy infrastructure continues to spread throughout the Marcellus and Utica Shale regions, MarkWest continues to expand this facility. Bluestone is currently in its 4th phase of expansion.

For more FLIR videos of oil & gas air pollution in Pennsylvania: <u>http://bit.ly/CEP-PA</u>

Large blowdown at well site in Uintah Basin, UT (2017)

QEP Energy Company SG 12MU-14-8-22 Well Site API # 43-047-35078 / BLM Lease # UTU-73687 Uintah County, UT (40.12075, -109.414667) Filmed 4/25/2017 (large blowdown: <u>https://youtu.be/EwkH4-tO3Qw</u>), and 11/30/2017 (<u>https://youtu.be/v_GQWGfLIKs</u>)

In response to this video, Colorado regulators called the video "a stunt, political theater." They do not believe in the necessity of strong federal rules that would work to prevent this type of pollution, and were unconcerned about dangerous Utah based emissions making their way across the border and into Colorado communities. For more information:

http://www.nbc11news.com/content/news/Thermal-cam-video-pushes-politicians-to-keep-BLM-ruleopponents-call-it-political-theater-misleading-420681594.html

The BLM field office in UT responsible for regulating this site was notified of this release, but no formal action was taken against the site or operator. Earthworks suspects this 'blowdown' may have been part of normal venting operations, despite being one of the most dramatic venting events we have caught on camera.

For more FLIR videos of oil & gas air pollution in Utah: <u>http://bit.ly/CEP-UT</u>

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EARTHWORKS

XTO well pad blowout in Powhatan Point, OH (2018)

XTO Energy Schnegg Well Pad Powhatan Point, Belmont County, OH (39.863671, -80.863729) Filmed 3/3/2018 (<u>https://youtu.be/ny6EsEWmgB8</u>)

3 weeks after an explosion occurred during hydraulic fracturing operations at the Schnegg Well Pad, the blowout and resulting leak had not been contained. 100 residents in a 1 mile radius were evacuated from the immediate vicinity as gas continued to spew uncontrollably into the community. Earthworks worked with residents to get visual evidence of the leak, the first evidence that demonstrated the severity of the situation other than residents' reported health impacts. Very soon after the video was released, the leak was reported to be plugged by the operator. XTO has avoided claiming responsibility for the blowout by calling it an accident. Despite Earthworks and residents filing formal complaints, no formal action has been taken against this company by OH EPA.

For more information: <u>http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/43768-ohio-gas-well-is-still-spewing-methane-pollution-three-weeks-after-blowout</u> <u>http://www.theintelligencer.net/news/top-headlines/2018/03/xto-well-in-powhatan-point-capped-after-20-days/</u>

For more FLIR videos of oil & gas air pollution in Ohio: <u>http://bit.ly/CEP-OH</u>