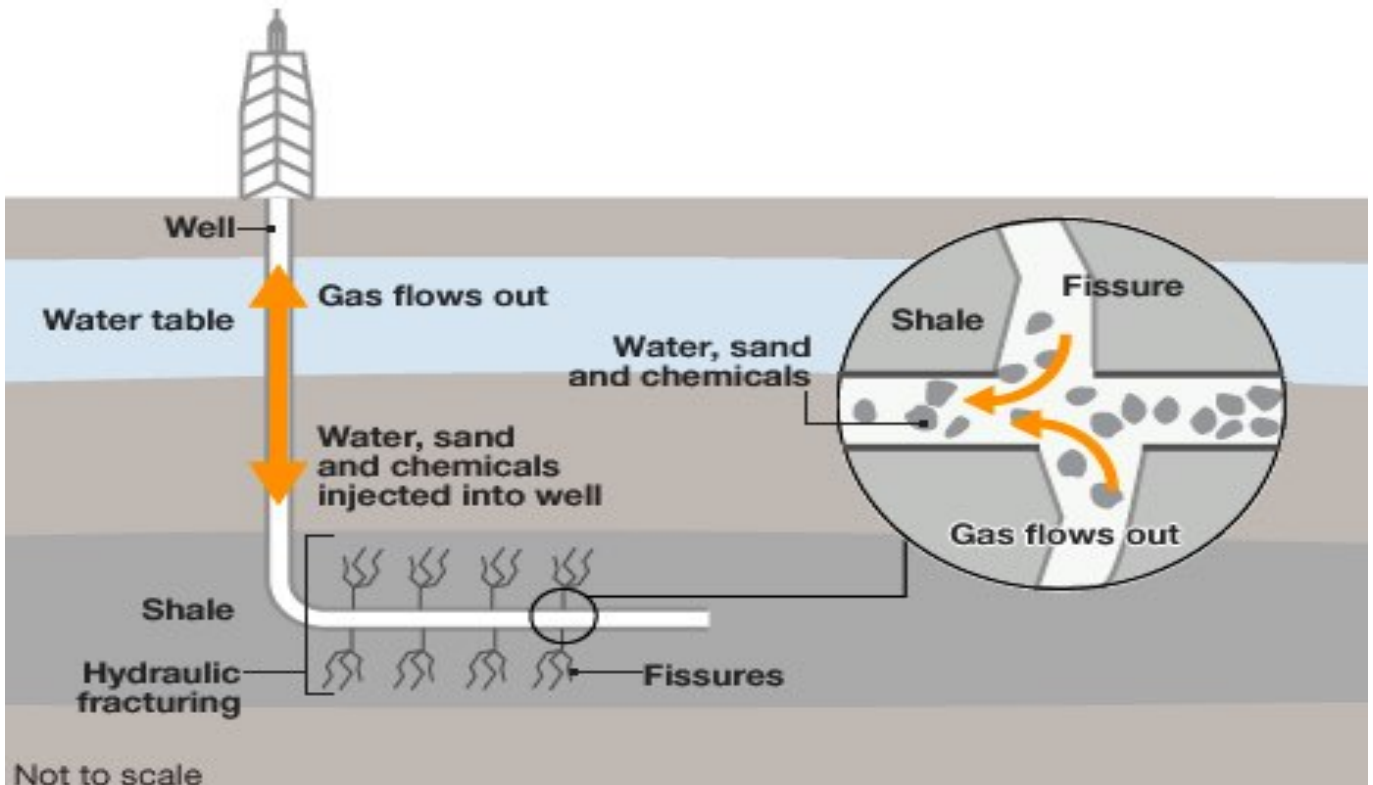




# FRACKING

## Shale gas extraction



### What is it?

Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is a technique designed to recover gas and oil from shale rock.

### Why is it controversial?

The first is that fracking uses huge amounts of water that must be transported to the fracking site, at **significant environmental cost**. The second is the worry that potentially **carcinogenic chemicals used may escape** and contaminate groundwater around the fracking site.

### What is the SNP's position?

A moratorium on planning consents for unconventional onshore oil & gas wells, including fracking, has been introduced by the Scottish Government. **Scottish Labour MPs failed to vote for a moratorium on fracking in the House of Commons**, despite Jim Murphy stating his supposed opposition to the technology. **Every SNP MP voted in favour of a UK-wide moratorium.**