

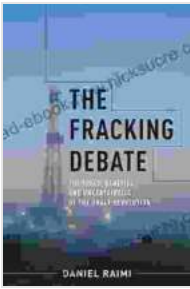
# The Risks, Benefits, and Uncertainties of the Shale Revolution Center on Global Energy Security

The shale revolution, a surge in natural gas and oil production from shale formations, has had a profound impact on the global energy landscape. It has transformed the United States from a net importer of energy to a net exporter, and it has helped to lower energy prices around the world. However, the shale revolution also poses a number of risks and uncertainties, particularly with regard to climate change and environmental pollution.

The shale revolution has provided a number of benefits, including:

- **Reduced energy prices:** The shale revolution has helped to lower energy prices around the world. This has benefited consumers and businesses, and it has helped to boost economic growth.
- **Increased energy security:** The shale revolution has made the United States more energy secure. The United States is now a net exporter of energy, and it is less reliant on imported oil. This has reduced the risk of supply disruptions and price spikes.
- **Job creation:** The shale revolution has created millions of jobs in the United States. These jobs are in a variety of fields, including drilling, construction, and transportation.

The shale revolution also poses a number of risks, including:



## The Fracking Debate: The Risks, Benefits, and Uncertainties of the Shale Revolution (Center on Global Energy Policy Series) by Daniel Raimi

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 8616 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 262 pages



- **Climate change:** The shale revolution has increased greenhouse gas emissions. Natural gas is a fossil fuel, and its combustion releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas, and it contributes to climate change.
- **Environmental pollution:** The shale revolution has also led to an increase in environmental pollution. Drilling and fracking can release methane, a potent greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere. Fracking can also contaminate groundwater with chemicals.
- **Water use:** The shale revolution requires large amounts of water. This can deplete water supplies in areas where water is scarce.

The shale revolution is still in its early stages, and there are a number of uncertainties about its future. These uncertainties include:

- **The long-term availability of shale resources:** It is not clear how long shale resources will last. The United States has large shale

reserves, but it is not clear how much of these reserves are economically recoverable.

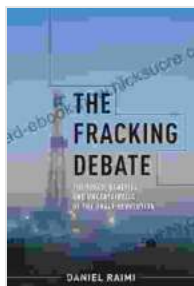
- **The cost of shale production:** The cost of shale production has declined in recent years, but it is not clear if this trend will continue. If the cost of shale production increases, it could make shale gas and oil less competitive with other energy sources.
- **The environmental impact of the shale revolution:** The environmental impact of the shale revolution is still being studied. It is not clear what the long-term effects of drilling and fracking will be on air and water quality.

The future of the shale revolution is uncertain. There are a number of factors that will determine the future of shale, including the availability of shale resources, the cost of shale production, and the environmental impact of shale development.

If shale resources are abundant and the cost of shale production remains low, the shale revolution could continue to have a major impact on the global energy landscape. However, if shale resources are scarce or the cost of shale production increases, the shale revolution could slow down or even come to an end.

The shale revolution has had a profound impact on the global energy landscape. It has transformed the United States from a net importer of energy to a net exporter, and it has helped to lower energy prices around the world. However, the shale revolution also poses a number of risks and uncertainties, particularly with regard to climate change and environmental pollution. The future of the shale revolution is uncertain, but it is clear that

shale will continue to play a major role in the global energy mix for years to come.



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