

HydroConfidence Abstract

The mission of HydroConfidence is to provide the natural gas extraction industry with an offering of tools and services to help maximize gas production while minimizing environmental impact. HydroConfidence is developing two product offerings. The first product, which is now in field testing, is an aquifer monitoring system for monitoring groundwater for methane migration via a network of sensors installed in existing water wells and/or newly drilled monitoring wells. The second product, which is in development phase, is a downhole monitoring system for monitoring gas production wells for gas flow and mechanical integrity. For both products, monitoring may be performed by our non-profit partner Concurrent Technologies Corporation and/or by the client's own data center. By measuring pre- and post-drilling water quality, the aquifer monitoring system helps clients to understand the impact of shale gas drilling on the local environment and to take proactive corrective action when necessary. This system is now undergoing field testing in the Loyalhanna Watershed Association region, supported by a grant from the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds. The second product is designed to monitor the pressure and flow of gas and liquid within the horizontal pipeline to allow the well producer to optimize production and future fracking operations. A network of thermistor flow sensors positioned between the horizontal fracture points tell the producer where gas is being produced, and which fractures have been effective.

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