



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
CONTACT:  
PHONE NUMBER:  
EMAIL:

### Headline

**DATELINE (City, State, Today's date):** The award-winning documentary *Split Estate*, a riveting look at a David vs. Goliath confrontation unfolding in communities throughout the US, will screen **(date and location)**. The film maps a tragedy in the making as citizens in the path of a new domestic drilling boom struggle against the erosion of their civil liberties, their communities and their health.

The screening is presented by **(name of host organization or group + brief mission or statement of purpose about the group)**.

Natural gas is being sold to the American public as the answer to all of our energy woes. It's championed by industry and politicians on both sides of the aisle as "the clean fossil fuel," and "the bridge fuel," as we look to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and our dependence on foreign oil.

In the midst of the hype, *Split Estate* shows there is no such thing as a "clean" fossil fuel. Nor, is there clean extraction, as citizens on the frontlines of the drilling boom will attest.

"*Split Estate* tells a powerful story about Americans living with the dirty side of oil and gas development in their own backyards," states Amy Mall, Senior Policy Analyst with the Natural Resources Defense Council.

**Insert quote here from local organizer about intent of screening + brief description of local situation vis a vis oil and gas.**

*Split Estate* premiered in August 2009 at DocuWeeks in New York City and Los Angeles, and had its world television premier in October 2009 on Planet Green, a network of Discovery Communications. Since its national broadcast, the film has been having an impact in communities throughout the US, particularly in those challenged by the presence of the industry.

Filmmaker Debra Anderson, a long-time editor for the film and television industry, began to shoot *Split Estate* after reading about Laura Amos from Garfield County, Colorado, who developed a rare adrenal tumor after drilling commenced in her neighborhood. Anderson was moved to tell the story of a growing number of people, like Laura, who are experiencing serious health effects associated with drilling practices.

Anderson affirms, "I wanted to create a tool to educate communities about the true costs and long-term consequences of socially and environmentally irresponsible drilling. I wanted to give citizens information that will empower them to take action and work each other and with policymakers to protect their health, their rights, and their land."

*Split Estate* is a presentation of Red Rock Pictures, a production company dedicated to the creation of documentaries that explore deeply felt human stories about the environment, energy and human rights. ([www.splitestate.com](http://www.splitestate.com))

To view the Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvT4PycSAPk>