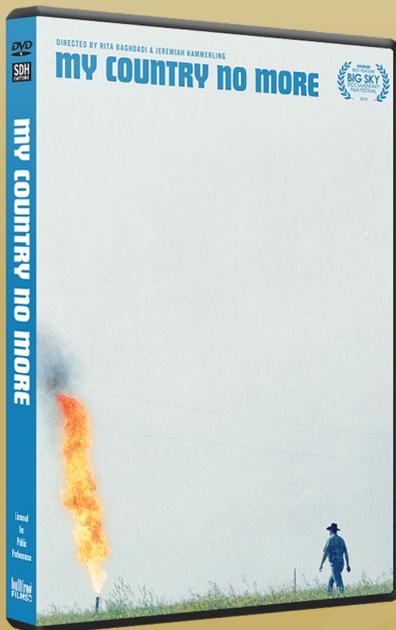


MY COUNTRY NO MORE

Use your screening of **MY COUNTRY NO MORE** as a tool for educating your community about the impact of fossil fuel extraction and infrastructure development on rural communities. This guide offers some background information, helpful tips & discussion questions for an informative, rewarding screening. **Good Luck!**

what you'll find inside!

- about the film & filmmaker
- ready to watch! screening guide
- ready to talk! discussion guide
- ready to act! handout



About the film

Between 2011 and 2016, drilling for oil in America reached an unprecedented peak, setting off a modern day gold rush in one of the most rural communities in the country: Trenton, ND. Kalie Rider and her older brother Jed are both striving to rebuild farming in their family, having suffered the foreclosure of their parents' farm during the 1980s farm crisis. When their uncle makes a decision to sell a piece of his land, it sets off a domino effect of industrialization. With the local church being eyed for a diesel refinery, the community becomes riven by competing interests. While Jed faces the possibility of having to uproot his young family and move away, Kalie learns to organize and resist.

About the filmmakers

Rita Baghdadi is a Moroccan-American Emmy award winning documentary filmmaker based in Los Angeles. Her character-driven work has been supported by Sundance, Tribeca, Netflix, BBC, CNN Films, A&E, International Documentary Association, Film Independent and Technicolor, and has screened in top festivals worldwide. Born and raised in North Dakota, Jeremiah Hammerling is an award-winning director, cinematographer and co-founder of Endless Eye, a production studio in Los Angeles. Hammerling is an alumnus of Werner Herzog's Rogue Film School.



ready to watch!

Ideas and best practices to help make your community screening a success!

1. Publicize Your Event! This is the most important step because it not only tells the world what you're up to, but it lets the Bullfrog Community team know what your plans are so we can help you publicize your event. Visit http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/my_country_no_more to register and get the word out about your upcoming screening. You can also email us at info@bullfrogcommunities.com if you need help getting started!

2. Visualize Your Goal! What do you hope to achieve with your screening? Your goal could be to generate a lively post-film discussion about issues raised in the film, gain support or recruit volunteers for a local grassroots campaign, or raise funds for a group on your campus or in your community. Or, you can simply use the screening to provide an opportunity for your audience to watch and learn together.

3. Where To Host? Consider which locations in your area would be ideal for accommodating an in-person community film screening of the size you anticipate: downtown movie theaters, churches and synagogues, town halls, community centers, public libraries, school auditoriums, university and college venues, warehouse spaces, a local business, outdoor screenings at parks and playgrounds, and even private homes have been venues for many successful community screenings. Virtual screenings can be hosted on <https://streaming.bullfrogcommunities.com>, or by using a customized screening room on Vimeo.

4. Find A Partner! Give some thought to who is already working on this issue in your community. Can they help sponsor the event? Spread the word? Participate in a panel discussion or Zoom meeting after the screening? Some potential partners include: student groups at schools, universities and colleges; a local public or campus library; representatives from local religious congregations or faith-based community groups; local chapters of national/global activist or grassroots organizations; faculty members at nearby universities and colleges; reporters/journalists from local news publications such as newspapers and magazines; local nonprofits; and any community organizations that share goals or views with the film you are screening.

5. Invite A Guest Speaker! Guest speakers and panelists are a great way to encourage discussion and debate after a community screening. When people are engaged and thinking about the issues they will stay engaged long after the screening has passed. Contact representatives of local non-profits, faith groups, journalists and reporters from local media outlets, or teachers and professors who have expertise and/or insight into the issues raised by the film, and invite them to attend your screening—in person, via Skype or Zoom, etc—and participate in a discussion or Q&A session with your audience.

6. Engage Your Audience! Use this discussion guide to engage your audience. Included in this guide is a section called Ready to Talk! with a few suggested discussion questions to get the conversation started, and a section called Ready to Act!— which can be used as a handout — listing additional resources for further investigation about key issues raised in the film.

7. Spread The Word! Think about the best methods available to you for publicizing your film screening to people in your community. Sending emails to a contact list, creating event notifications on Facebook, Instagram, Eventbrite or an online community calendar, using Twitter to announce your event, and placing screening announcements in local newspapers and newsletters is a good start. In addition to this guide, you can download a screening poster and press photos at that can be used to help publicize your event:

http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/my_country_no_more

8. Tell Us How It Went! Visit http://www.bullfrogcommunities.com/my_country_no_more to tell us about your event. Contribute to the film's discussion page (if available) to help other student groups, universities, non-profits, congregations and community groups further the discussion and put on successful screening events of their own. Where was your screening held? Who attended? What went well, and what was challenging? What did you discuss? Your feedback will help others to organize their own events, and will energize Bullfrog Communities as a whole.

ready to talk!

Your audience will be excited to discuss the issues raised by MY COUNTRY NO MORE. Here are some questions that will get people talking.

- 1.** How would you define “community”? What does community mean to you?
- 2.** Who do you think should have a say in what gets built in a community, and why? Landowners? Businesses? Government?
- 3.** What are the roles of the County Commission and Planning & Zoning committee in a rural community? What decisions are they responsible for making?
- 4.** What are some reasons for getting involved in your local County Commission and Planning & Zoning committee? How can you get involved?
- 5.** How would you define “progress”?
- 6.** What do you think we should be willing (or unwilling) to sacrifice in the pursuit of progress in our community? In our country?
- 7.** Who should decide what is the best use of the natural environment? Why?
- 8.** How might decisions we make today affect the future of our communities? Can you think of any recent or notable examples from your own community, city or state?
- 9.** How might the relationship between industry and agriculture change our approach to community planning?
- 10.** What is the value of open space? In what ways could open space better serve a community than commercial or industrial development?

ready to act!

handout

Family Farm Defenders — <https://familyfarmers.org/>

FFD works to create a farmer-controlled and consumer-oriented food and fiber system, based upon democratically controlled institutions that empower farmers to speak for and respect themselves in their quest for social and economic justice

Dakota Resource Council — <http://drcinfo.org/>

Formed in 1978, Dakota Resource Council grew out of existing organizing efforts responding to impacts from coal development. DRC's mission is to promote sustainable use of North Dakota's natural resources and family-owned and operated agriculture by building member-led local groups that empower people to influence the decision-making processes that affect their lives and communities.

FracTracker Alliance — <https://www.fractracker.org/>

FracTracker studies, maps, and communicates the risks of oil and gas development to protect our planet and support the renewable energy transformation.

Food & Water Watch — <https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/>

Food & Water Watch mobilizes regular people to build political power to move bold & uncompromised solutions to the most pressing food, water, and climate problems of our time. We work to protect people's health, communities, and democracy from the growing destructive power of the most powerful economic interests.

Food and Water Action — <https://www.foodandwateraction.org/>

An affiliate of Food & Water Watch, FWA holds our elected officials accountable and ensures that those who represent us reflect and embody our core values of universal access to safe food, clean water, and a livable climate.

Friends of the Earth (FOE) — <https://foe.org/>

FOE strives for a more healthy and just world. Understanding that the challenges facing our planet call for more than half measures, FOE pushes for the reforms that are needed, not merely the ones that are politically easy.

Greenpeace — <https://www.greenpeace.org/>

Greenpeace is a global, independent campaigning organization that uses peaceful protest and creative communication to expose global environmental problems and promote solutions that are essential to a peaceful future.

Honor the Earth — <http://www.honorearth.org/>

Honor the Earth works to create awareness and support for Native environmental issues and to develop needed financial and political resources for the survival of sustainable Native communities.

National Parks Conservation Association — <https://www.npca.org/>

The NPCA works to protect and enhance America's National Park System for present and future generations.

Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) — <https://www.psr.org/>

PSR mobilizes physicians and health professionals to advocate for climate solutions. PSR's health advocates contribute a health voice to energy and environmental health policy at the local, federal and international level. PSR's Environment and Health Program amplifies the voices of health professionals and other advocates on the catastrophic consequences of climate change and other environmental hazards to health.

350.org — <https://350.org/>

350.org was founded in 2008 by a group of university friends in the United States along with author Bill McKibben, who wrote one of the first books on global warming for the general public, with the goal of building a global climate movement. 350 was named after 350 parts per million — the safe concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

The Wilderness Society — <https://www.wilderness.org/articles/blog/7-ways-oil-and-gas-drilling-bad-environment>

Oil and gas drilling has serious consequences for our wildlands and communities. Drilling projects operate around the clock, disrupting wildlife, water sources, human health, recreation and other aspects of public lands that were set aside and held in trust for the American people. The oil and gas industry is encroaching upon too many of our nation's unspoiled wildland, and the consequences could be devastating for the environment and local communities.

Reading List

[Drilling Down: Fracking adjacent to Theodore Roosevelt National Park is changing the landscape. And a whole lot more.](#), National Parks Conservation Association, By Melanie D.G. Kaplan

[Fracking Our Food Supply](#), Food and Environment Reporting Network, By Elizabeth Royte

[Livestock Falling Ill in Fracking Regions, Raising Concerns About Food](#), Food and Environment Reporting Network, By Elizabeth Royte

[Salting the earth: North Dakota farmers struggle with a toxic byproduct of the oil boom](#), NBC News, By Likhitha Butchireddygar