SILICA DUST: FRACKING
IT WILL TAKE YOUR BREATH AWAY!

SILICA LOCATIONS/TASKS

SAND TENT

TRUCK BOTTOM DUMP

HOPPER

DISTURBING SILICA POWDER

SAND STORAGE UNLOADING

FILL AND VENT NOZZLES

CONVEYOR JUNCTIONS

WHAT IS SILICA

Crystalline (Quartz) Found in rock, sand, cement

Visible Dust

Crystals in Lungs

Silica is a naturally occurring mineral found in sand, rock and dry mixable products. Silica is hazardous when it is inhaled, often as a dust. When silica dust is visible, overexposure is often just a matter of time without safety measures. The health effects are typically not felt right away, but years later.

SAFETY MEASURES

Enclose junction points. Don’t put worker under tarp

Dust suppressants

Full-face respirator three meters from source

Signage

Disposable coveralls when disturbing silica powder

Leading engineering controls

Time and distance

WHMIS labels

RETHINKING, IT'S JUST DUST!

In the past, I did not give much thought to the dust clouds on frack sites as I did not work with the sand and I am not in the dust that much. Now that I know this dust can cause serious disease and how easy it is to be overexposed, I look at it differently. Engineering controls at the sources are needed so that workers like me are not wearing respirators every time the wind changes direction. - Water Hauler