

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Planning Control](#)  
**Subject:** Planning Ref. No: NY/2025/0030/ENV Europa Oil and Gas application for appraisal drilling at Burniston Mill Site  
**Date:** 18 March 2025 08:04:28

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Amy Taylor - Case Officer

Planning Department

North Yorkshire Council

County Hall

Racecourse Lane

Northallerton

DL7 8AD

**Re: Planning Ref. No: NY/2025/0030/ENV Europa Oil and Gas application for appraisal drilling at Burniston Mill Site**

Dear Amy,

I am writing in connection with the above Planning Application made by Europa Oil and Gas for the construction, drilling and testing of this site to extract gas through a proppant squeeze process.

Though I am not a resident of Burniston or Cloughton, I am a resident of Scarborough with family in Cloughton and it is an area I visit often and love walking along the cliffs and enjoying the beauty of the area.

Having considered this fully, I wish to object for the following reasons:

**Impact on Local Environment**

This is an area of in my opinion outstanding beauty, it has the heritage coastline, national park, historic villages and great walks. The cliffs are only a few hundred metres from the proposed site and I am concerned these fragile the cliffs are put at risk by this development. We already lose too much of them through natural erosion, if the are made more fragile through human folly and greed we will only see more loss at a much faster rate.

I am also concerned at the risk of contamination of the water table from the contaminated water and chemicals they intend to use will impact the farmland and the farmers who rely on clean uncontaminated water supplies. Europa cannot guarantee there is no risk, they can only mitigate a risk. If it happens it's too late to change it.

Europa say it's a short-term thing and that any risk is negligible because its short term. Even in the short term the people in the area will suffer as a result of this, their intention is to extract gas here for the next 20 years with multiple sites in the area, the industrialisation of this beautiful area can only lead to the destruction of the local people lives and homes. So, I object to not only on Europa's short term project, but on Europa's intent for the future.

## **Net Zero Targets & Climate Change**

Climate change and its impacts on our world and our country cannot be denied. The continued burning of fossil fuels speeds up that process and we are seeing more and more extreme weather events; all indications are its only going to get worse. Our government has set targets to get to net-zero, therefore this application is a direct contradiction of the governments policy and goes against the feelings of most people in this country. Gas and Oil is an industry that is dying, eventually oil and gas will run out. Renewables such as Solar, Wind and tidal are plentiful, developing new green sources of energy is the only way to go forward.

## **Concern at the risk of Seismic Activity**

Though they say that this does not meet the definition of ‘Fracking’ covered by the current moratorium, it is still a form of Hydraulic Fracturing. They say there will not be any resulting seismic activity. But the area considered for extraction is known to have fault lines. Hence you cannot eliminate the risk of seismic activity if a fault is encountered.

## **Impact on Local Tourism Economy**

Who would want to visit “The largest on-shore gas field in the UK”. This whole area Scarborough to Whitby relies on the tourism to survive. The potential impact on that industry and hence the livelihoods of locals are put at risk.

Europa made claims that it will create jobs and be a net positive on the local economy. But the vast majority of jobs coming in the area will be taken up by their own specialist workers from out of this area. The tourist industry supplies far more employment to locals in the area than Europa ever will, resulting in a negative impact on local employment. Europa cannot say there is any positive impact on the economy of the local area. They will be taking and taking but not giving anything back. There are no benefits to the locals in either jobs or business.

## **We do not need the gas for energy security**

The trend in the use of gas is going down. The emphasis needs to be in growing renewables and green technologies. Europa say this will lead to a drop in the reliance on imported gas, it will reduce the price we pay. However, the gas is not guaranteed to be sold to and used in the UK. It is sold on open markets and its global markets that set the prices of energy, also the gas they would produce accounts for a tiny fraction of the gas needed so has no significant impact on the country’s energy security. Energy security can only be achieved by moving away from fossil fuels and development of renewables and green technology.

I hope that my concerns are fully taken into account by the Planning Committee during your review process.

Yours sincerely,

*Jacqueline Dunkerton*

