

15 EAST PARK ROAD, SCALBY, SCARBOROUGH, NORTH YORKSHIRE YO13 OPZ

# JOHN KITTMER PhD

Scalby, Monday 17 March 2025

Ms Amy Taylor  
Planning Department  
North Yorkshire Council  
County Hall  
Racecourse Lane  
Northallerton DL7 8AD

Dear Ms Taylor,

I am writing to object to the application by Europa Oil and Gas to drill for gas at Burniston, using a fracking procedure.

I live in Scalby, only a couple of miles away from the planned centre of the drilling operations; it is clear that these operations, if permitted, would have an unacceptable impact on the communities of Burniston, Cloughton and Scalby. In particular, I am deeply concerned about:

- The impact of this new gas field on the UK's ability to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels—the new field will have an entirely negative impact on carbon emissions and climate change;
- The effects of pollution and industrialisation on our rural way of life—the new field will cause noise, dust and light pollution, destroying farmland, putting pressure on local roads and blighting the coast and countryside with unsightly rigs and other largescale equipment;
- The impact on tourism and nature—how is this site compatible with protection of the coast, wildlife, birdlife; how can it be squared with our real need to develop our local tourist offer?
- The risks to our homes—we all know the problems caused by now abandoned fracking procedures in Lancashire; earth tremors may put at risk our water supply, cause damage to our homes, and affect property prices across the large area affected.

In all the briefings I have seen so far, there is little evidence that Europa Oil and Gas care at all about the interests of our local community. There is no credible plan to mitigate the predictable impacts (as above) of these drilling activities, and no evidence that any part of the local community will derive lasting benefit from Europa Oil and Gas's planned operations in this area. Like the gas itself, profits will be extracted and sent outside Yorkshire.

**As the local planning authority, North Yorkshire Council has an overriding responsibility to the people who live here and elect our Council representatives. Taxpayers whose property values will be blighted by this proposed activity and voters who elected you to look after our interests will not look kindly on a decision to allow this unwanted drilling to go ahead.**

**I urge the planning authority to reject this plan—now and into the future.**

**Yours sincerely,**

**Dr John Kittmer**