

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning Control](#)
Subject: Objection to planning of fracking in Burniston
Date: 21 March 2025 14:13:55

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Lee Hague
39A Limestone Grove
Burniston
Scarborough
YO13 0DH

[REDACTED]

Amy Taylor – Case Officer
Planning Department
North Yorkshire Council
County Hall
Racecourse Lane
Northallerton
DL7 8AD

20 March 2025

Re: Planning Ref. No: NY/2025/0030/ENV

Objection to above planning application for Fracking in Burniston, Scarborough

Dear Amy

I am writing to **formally object** to the planning application submitted by Europa Gas and Oil for the construction, drilling and testing of this site through the proppant squeeze process.

This proposal poses **significant and unacceptable** risk to our local environment, community and economy.

I wish to object on the following grounds:

- **Community, residents and heritage:** Burniston is situated in close proximity to the North York Moors National

Park, the Heritage Coast, the Cinder Track, and the Cleveland Way—areas of outstanding natural beauty that **must** be protected. Any industrial-scale fracking operation would irreversibly damage the landscape, endanger wildlife, and threaten the stability of our already eroding coastline. The long-term nature of this project, potentially lasting up to 20 years, will significantly impact the quality of life for local residents, bringing 24hr noise pollution, light pollution, potential water pollution and an increased risk of seismic activity.

- **Environmental and Public Health Risks:** Fracking poses a serious threat to air quality and could lead to contamination of local waterways, impacting both human health and a delicate balance of wildlife. Atmospheric CO2 levels continue to rise due to human use of fossil fuels and the impact of climate change is clear to see—storms, floods, rising sea levels, extreme heat and unpredictable natural disasters are becoming ever-more common. Fracking produces large volumes of polluted water, which contain's fracking chemicals and may contain radioactive materials from deep underground.
- **Seismicity** (earthquakes) which happened when fracking took place in Lancashire and Sussex. We live above a complex geological fault system which is difficult to map and may be impacted by local fracking – our Heritage Coastline and the Cleveland Way is already eroding at an unprecedented rate, this proposed activity will only serve to accelerate and exacerbate this.
- **Traffic and Infrastructure Strain, DANGER to life:** The requirement for over 1050 HGV movements to transport contaminated waste away from the site will place immense pressure on local roads, which are already heavily used and will cause damage to road infrastructure, unacceptable levels of noise and air pollution and will heighten the risk of accidents to other road users; cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians. The proposed routes away from the site include a blind corner, a narrow village road with Grade 2 listed buildings kerbside, pedestrian routes to a local primary school and a crossing that is part of a national cycle track network.
- **Impact on Tourism and Local Economy:** Scarborough

relies heavily on tourism, an industrial fracking operation in such a sensitive, tranquil and beautiful area will deter visitors, causing economic harm to local businesses. The proposed project **will** have a devastating impact on visitor numbers to Scarborough and the surrounding villages and the economic benefits they bring. Granting such an abhorrent plan would be short sighted and will lead to the loss of income and jobs for local residents and businesses – pubs, cafes, bars, leisure facilities, holiday rentals, hotels, B&B's, retail outlets, restaurants and many more.

- **Wildlife and Ecology** – I believe the proposed area is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is used by local walkers, runners, nature enthusiasts and bird watching groups. Scarborough Birders have recorded over 245 species of birds in and around the area in recent times. There are 2 bodies of water on the site, both of which are teeming with wildlife and serve as home to many species, including newts and are also a vital source of water for the wildlife too. Walking around the area and looking at aerial images, it is evident that there are many pathways to and from the water, across the land and through to adjacent fields, this area is a wildlife super highway and must be protected rather than industrialised.
- **Visual Intrusion** – The proposed 38m high drilling rig will be a blot on the landscape of what is currently a beautiful coastal area, this includes views from local villages and the North York Moors National Park. The rig will be seen for miles as has been proven in local walk audits recently, I can produce evidence of this if required. In addition, the 24HR gas flaring from the drilling rig will produce toxic fumes, unpleasant smells, and night-time light pollution in an important area of 'Dark Skies' beauty.
- **This is FRACKING** – a central government banned operation, despite Europa calling it "proppant squeeze"
- **No local or UK benefits** - The UK does not need this gas, local bills will not be reduced as a result of this operation. This proposal represents less than 1% of our national gas consumption, the UK is transitioning to clean energy, we simply do not need more gas production (gas consumption is falling year on year) any gas extracted from this site is most likely to be sold on the international market for export. Permission for gas extraction elsewhere in the

UK (Surrey, Cumbria) has been turned down by the High Court because of the CO2 and other emissions from using the gas and coal, there would be no benefits to this disruptive and polluting 'exploration' s in our area?

- **Planning** - Europa wants to develop an industrial development in a largely residential and rural area— close to our homes, the National Park and Heritage Coast—even though North Yorkshire Council has a presumption against major development in our area
- **UK National Planning Policy Framework** advises against 'inappropriate development' in communities countrywide.

Given these concerns, I **strongly** object to this planning application and urge the council to reject it in order to safeguard our community, environment, protected wildlife, the local economy and ultimately the town of Scarborough.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my objection. I trust that North Yorkshire Council will prioritise the well-being of its residents and the preservation of our natural heritage over short-term, short-sighted industrial gains.

Yours sincerely,

Lee Hague

Sent from my iPhone