

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning Control](#)
Subject: Fwd: Planning Ref. No: NY/2025/0030/ENV Europa Oil and Gas application for appraisal drilling at Burniston Mill Site
Date: 23 March 2025 11:21:40

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Hodgson

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18/03/2025

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 its is an area I have visited often and enjoyed the walks and beauty of the area.

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

Impact on Local Environment

No one can deny the whole area is a beautiful place, it has the heritage coastline, national park, fantastic scenery and walking. Walking along the cliffs of the Cleveland Way between Scalby and Whitby you can see how fragile the cliffs are. The cliffs that the proposed site are only a few hundred metres from are fragile, the industrialisation of this area can only further weaken the cliff edge and lead to collapse of parts of the cliffs. I am concerned at the risk of contamination of the water table from the chemical fluids they intend to put down them. The proposed development is farmland and the farmers rely on clean uncontaminated water supplies. Though Europa recognises this is a risk it states that mitigation techniques will minimise the risk. This is not a guarantee; if you allow this you are putting the local farmers and their produce and the local villages at risk. If it happens it's too late to change it.

Europa make a big thing in their statements about it's a short-term thing. A risk is negligible because its short term. Even in the short term that this particular application covers people will be significantly impacted visually, through noise and changes to traffic congestion. The people in the area will suffer as a result of this.

You cannot ignore they say if successful they will want to go full blown extraction for the next 20 years with multiple sites in the area, the industrialisation of this beautiful area will be destroyed by multiple sites, pipeline development, noise, much higher traffic volumes and all.

Net Zero Targets & Climate Change

The world is now seeing the impacts of climate change on our world and our country. The continued burning of fossil fuels is speeding up that process and is leading to extreme weather everywhere and 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. What is still in the ground should be left there. The only way we can achieve net-zero is though

development of renewable and sustainable energy. Gas and Oil is a dying industry, these resources are getting harder to find and extract and costly, Solar, Wind, tidal are not we have these in abundance in this country and on this coast. Economically for our future these green sustainable energy needs to be the emphasis

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. I object to this application for the safety of the communities they intend to drill under.

Impact on Local Tourism Economy

This whole area Scarborough to Whitby relies on the tourist industry for its economic survival. survive. The potential impact on that industry and hence the livelihoods of locals are put at risk. Who would want to visit "The largest on-shore gas field in the UK". In Burniston and Cloughton users of the cinder track and cliff walks regularly use village resources like the shop and pubs. Industrialisation of this area can only put off this trade and impact local businesses.

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 any new jobs would only be the security type jobs and not very many, the tourist industry supplies far more employment to locals in the area than Europa ever will.

There really is no benefit to either Burniston or Cloughton or any of the surrounding areas impacted by this and future applications, there are only negatives

So I object to this application.

We do not need the gas for energy security

The trend in the use of gas is going down. Europa say this will lead to a drop in the reliance on imported gas, it will reduce the price we pay, it will make us more energy secure. However, energy is priced and sold on the open markets, it gas is not guaranteed to be sold to and used in the UK. 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,

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