

Dear members of NYC planning committee,

Planning application by Europa Oil and Gas No. NY/2025/0030/ENV.

I am writing to record my strong objections to the proposed proppant squeeze by Europa Oil and Gas at Burniston near Scarborough.

I was part of the campaign to stop fracking taking place at Kirby Misperton, just a mile from where I live, for which we were successful after almost 5 years of hard work, so I know what the threat of this industry to a local community means.

The residents of our villages close to that fracking site were consistently lied to by Third Energy, who constantly told us that the process would be good for the community, with jobs for locals, there would be limited disturbance to the local wildlife and the people living close to the site etc etc, all of which I have noticed Europa Oil and Gas saying to the local people of Burniston and all of which was untrue then, as it will be again.

There is currently a moratorium on fracking. The process of a proppant squeeze is the same thing as fracking, and this terminology is being used to take advantage of a legal loophole.

My objections to this latest proposal, planning application No: NY/2025/0030/ENV are as follows:

- The UK is committed to transitioning to clean energy. Therefore, more gas production goes against this aim. CO2 levels are continuing to rise globally and the effects of this have been only too visible, with increased flooding, storms, extreme heat etc.
- Elsewhere in the UK, proposals to extract gas have been turned down by the High Court, (Surrey and Cumbria), because of the increased emissions of CO2 from the use of gas and coal, so it seems ridiculous to me that this is being proposed near Burniston.
- The proposed site at Burniston is very close to residential properties, and in a rural area close to our National Park and Heritage Coast. North Yorkshire Council has a presumption against major development in the area and UK National Planning Policy Framework advises against “inappropriate development”. Indeed, I wonder if the close proximity of this proposed development to the unstable cliffs has even been considered? Fracking has well documented cases of causing seismic activity, which could well cause further serious erosion of this beautiful and fragile coastline.
- The whole area is within a complex geological fault system that is extremely hard to map accurately. Any serious impacts of fracking would have huge implications to local communities and wildlife and be impossible to predict.

- And then there is more direct detrimental impacts on the lives and well being of local people and wildlife. Many HGV movements will be required for the construction of the site, moving aggregates, large pieces of drilling equipment and other cargoes required of this industry. These journeys will entail turning across a busy main road on a blind corner in order to get onto the site and could very well cause accidents. HGVs passing local houses, pubs etc. will increase the diesel emissions causing increased pollution as well as damaging vibrations affecting the buildings along the route. Gas flaring produces toxic fumes with unpleasant smells. During operations which continue day and night, the site will be lit, including the drilling rig which will be very high and difficult to screen. The flaring will be highly visible at night as well. This increased lighting of the night sky causes significant distress to local people and the local wildlife. The noise from these well pads and the operations carried out on them, particularly during the process of drilling the well, is increased dramatically and is known to cause severe distress to people and wildlife.
- Fracking produces huge quantities of polluted water which includes poisonous chemicals and possibly radioactive materials. These should be disposed of carefully, which uses yet more movements of vehicles, this time tankers. Sometimes the water is stored in lined containment pools, which often leak, with the danger of the chemicals leaching into ground water.
- Local people are dependent upon tourism in this area and it is difficult to understand why holiday makers would come to this area if it were to become a gas field. Incomes of people in the area could be severely reduced and jobs lost. Property values are very likely to fall and the impact on local people's lives would be significantly and detrimentally impacted.

Europa Oil and Gas have been clear in their intentions to drill for gas and to extend into the wider area, encompassing other villages. This will mean that their drilling will likely go beneath properties and significant natural environments with more wells spreading out from the Burniston site. This means that an area of natural beauty and peace, that tourists flock to in their thousands every year will no longer be an attractive proposition to them and local wildlife will also be badly affected.

Fracking will significantly and detrimentally affect our heritage coastline with visual intrusion, noise, vibrations, dust and light pollution. An estimated 1,050 HGV movements at the initial exploration phase and more if production goes ahead will make the roads much more dangerous spoil the pleasure of travelling within the area.

It is a fact that gas produced by UK is not sold to UK households and businesses but goes onto the national market and therefore UK household bills will not be reduced

by this proposal should it go ahead. The planned production only represents 1% of our national production which is falling every year.

I therefore strongly object to this planning application and urge NYC to do so too in order to protect the fragile Heritage Coastline, its villages and National Park and all of the people and wildlife dependent upon it.

Thank you for taking the time to read my objection.

Yours faithfully,

Susan Gough

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