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26th March 2025

To: planning.control@northyorks.gov.uk

Dear North Yorkshire Council

Objection to Planning application:

Reference number of application:

NY/2025/0030/ENV

Location:

Land East of the Mill Yard, Burniston Mill, Coastal Road, Burniston, Scarborough, YO13 0DB

Proposal:

Construction of a temporary wellsite for the appraisal of gas, including drilling operation, proppant squeeze and flow testing operation and site restoration

Reasons for my objection

1. The location of my property is directly across a field from the proposed drill site.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Loss of sleep during the drilling phase will have a detrimental effect on, not just mine, but everyone's lives in the area.

2. Airborne dust particles from drilling will also impact on people's health , particularly those with existing breathing problems.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dust will also impact upon the drying of clothes. Clothes on the line outside will be covered in dust.

Dust is likely to cover everything and may well contain toxic and/or radioactive particles.

3. Large heavy vehicles on our roads that are not designed to take the volume of extra heavy traffic proposed, concerns me.

Recently, as I joined Coastal Road (A615) from Cross Lane, Burniston I followed a large vehicle which was being followed by 3 or 4 cars. The vehicles were moving slowly, no more than 20mph and traffic began to build up behind me.

When the large vehicle reached the entrance to the Mill Yard proposed drilling site, I observed it taking a left turn into the site with great difficulty.

On another occasion as I was approaching the mill yard site in the same direction. I observed a similar large vehicle taking a left turn out of the Mill Yard, again with difficulty.

At best there will be a slowing down and build up of traffic on that stretch of road and blockage as vehicles heavily laden with water and toxic waste try to manoeuvre in and out of the site. At worst, accidents.

4. The road surfaces in the area are in a poor state of repair.

These are recent photographs of Scalby Road (A171) just south of the Burniston roundabout;





Note from the road signage above, the angle at which vehicles have to turn from Scalby Road into Coastal Road, and from Coastal Road into Scalby Road.

Note also pedestrian crossing points before and after the roundabout. Potential here for serious accidents. Injuries and fatalities.

Here are recent photographs of the road condition of Coastal Road on the approach to the roundabout;





The State of Coastal Road approaching Mill Yard is in a similar condition to that shown in the photographs of Scalby Road.

This can only get worse with large vehicles carrying heavy loads to and from the planned drill site.

5. Burniston has two well used routes for people to enjoy on foot, bicycle, or horse away from traffic; the Cleveland way coastal path and the Cinder Track. The site for the proposed drill site is located between the two, an eyesore and potential health hazard for people travelling along these routes. They come for fresh air and beautiful

scenery, neither of which they will enjoy when drilling is in progress or when gas is being burned off when the flares are in operation.

Last year the Cinder Track between Burniston and Cloughton was out of use for the holiday season due to upgrading work that cost around £700,000. I'm not sure it will be in use this holiday season if drilling is to take place, or in the future if development of the largest on-shore gas field is permitted to take place. I can't see anyone coming to take in these sights.

I've met people, on Rocks Lane who have come for the wildlife, Harriers, Barn Owls, Merlin amongst the diversity seen here. I don't want to see our wildlife driven out of their habitat.

6. There are implications for the tourist industry that our area depends upon and has done for over 400 years. Coming from Leeds originally Scarborough was a place my grandparents, parents and myself have looked forward to coming to.

North Yorkshire Council has worked to promote and invest in the area to encourage tourism. That will go if Europa get their way with a loss of jobs in, and supporting, tourism in and around Scarborough.

Europa offers no jobs to locals to compensate.

7. We were seriously considering investing in solar panels on our roof before Europa came. We are very much in favour of renewable energy and saving the planet, but wonder if it will be worth the expenditure when flares will be burning gas into our atmosphere locally and contributing to the exacerbation of global warming nationally and globally from the burning of fossil fuels.

We await the outcome of North Yorkshire Council's decision on this application before going ahead with solar pannels.

8. The field between our property and the proposed drill site is arable land, growing mainly grain. In the weeks before harvest the vegetation dries out. Gas, by nature is flammable and prone to explosion. Any spark or explosion can very easily ignite the dried grain plants, destroying crops and spreading to housing.

The land will also be prone to spillage of toxins and radioactivity through dust and seepage from the hydraulic fracturing process.

In a world climate of wars, and trade wars we need to maintain our food production and care for our land.

9. I am concerned about the water used in the hydraulic fracturing process

- a. Is the water that is used to fracture rock of clean drinking water standard?

If so isn't that a waste of precious drinking water?

If not what are the contaminants in it and the consequences of spillage or seepage
On surrounding land and on our community?

- b. How is the contaminated/ radioactive waste from the process to be disposed of?
The impression given is that it will be taken away, but no information of how it is
to be safely disposed of, if that is in fact possible, or on whose doorstep.

I have heard reports that the waste water is to be taken away along the A64, a
route used by ambulances to transfer sick people to York Hospital. York NHS trust
has transferred a number of services, including stroke, from Scarborough to York.
This could delay treatment.

Although Europa say the water table and our local drinking water will not be affected,
I'm not sure how they can guarantee that, given the process they will be using to
fracture the rock beneath our communities.

10. Other areas that have been subject to hydraulic fracturing have experienced tremors
and earth quakes.

Recent reports are that seismic activity is increasing in the UK

(<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/science/earth-science/reason-why-uk-is-becoming-earthquake-hotspot-as-50-hit-in-just-three-months/ar-AA1BrzEa>)

I do not want to see Induced Seismicity in our communities, as has been experienced
in other areas though the hydraulic fracturing of rock.

11. We live close to the coastal cliffs. The site on which Europa plans to drill is close to the
cliffs. Cliffs are susceptible to erosion, cracking and falling. It would be a great shame
and act of vandalism if Europa is allowed to escalate the disappearance of our
coastline cliffs through their activity by destroying the integrity of the layer of
sandstone beneath us and the cliffs.

12. From the contact I have had with Europa, I have found them untrustworthy, and
insulting my intelligence.

In September a man named Jamie rang my doorbell, cold-calling.

He came to tell me that an independent company would be coming to do a noise
impact assessment assuring me that it would be totally independent.

He invited questions about the assessment, none of which he was able to answer. He
then invited questions regarding the proposed drilling and subsequent hydraulic
fracturing.

I expressed concerns about contamination of surrounding land especially the land where crops are grown. His answer was that it would not be a problem as they would put down a sheet of plastic at the site. I couldn't see how this might prevent the problem.

I expressed concern over contaminated water from the fracturing process leaking out and contaminating neighbouring land. He told me that it would not happen as the sandstone was encased in Salt. I wasn't sure how he knew this or if it was true. But I do know, from studying chemistry to "A" level that salt will dissolve in water and is not a barrier to it.

He continued to encourage me to question me, but responded to most of my questions with "I don't know".

In the end he told me that he wasn't really interested in the things I was asking about; his interest was to get the gas out of the ground.

He then took my email address, with my consent, to give to the independent company who does the noise assessment for them to answer my questions.

An email on 24.9.24 from Andrew Corkill of spectrum acoustic.com had this wording, "I understand that my colleague Jamie McGill from Europa Oil and Gas visited you last week..."

I do not associate the word "colleague" with an independent company.

At Europa's Invitation "Another chance to have your say" I responded by email in 16.1.25, asking questions about my concerns, many of which are listed above . To date they have not replied.

I do not trust Europa oil and Gas and fear for a detrimental effect on the whole of the North Yorkshire Coast area.

Yours Sincerely,

Clare Qunibi (Mrs)