

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Planning Control](#)  
**Subject:** EUROPA PLANS TO FRACK NEAR SCARBOROUGH  
**Date:** 08 April 2025 11:34:25

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**Ref: NY/2025/0030/ENV**

Dear Planning Control,

As a resident of Scarborough and an advocate for the preservation of wildlife and the natural world, I strongly oppose the proposal of Europa Oil and Gas to create the largest onshore gas field in the UK in Burniston, at the northern edge of Scarborough using Hydraulic fracturing to explore for fossil fuels.

I am shocked and horrified to read that:

Europa Oil and Gas are planning to install a 30 metre high drilling rig on agricultural land between the Cinder Track and Cleveland Way, meters from houses in Burniston; fracking will take place in a large area affecting our Heritage Coast; if enough gas is found, the company then plan to frack for 20 more years with 4 or 5 more drilling rigs in Burniston, with more in Cloughton to create the UK's Largest Onshore Gas Field.

These are my objections:

- 1. Ruining the unspoilt views of the heritage coast and its effect on tourism.**  
This is an area of unspoilt outstanding natural beauty next to a national park: Europa plan to build a 100ft drilling rig which would ruin the landscape. Many locals and tourists enjoy this countryside. Tourists bring revenue to the locality ,Scarborough is a tourist town and relies heavily on tourism for its economy.
- 2. Damage to wildlife & biodiversity**  
The vibrations from seismic testing, the pollution from the gas flares and machinery could disturb and harm birds and animals. Wildlife worldwide is already under threat and this area is home to many endangered species such as skylarks and swifts. The National Park is working hard to protect and reintroduce turtle doves - this could be devastating for so many species.
- 3. Potential tremors and damage to the fragile cliffs**  
The area is above the Peak fault line and the cliffs are fragile. Europa plan to drill and fracture the rock for miles underneath the whole area – they claim their “proppant squeeze” technique is less dangerous than hydraulic fracking but it still involves fracturing the rock, which might cause earth tremors, subsidence, or damage to the cliffs. As a local I see coastal erosion happening regularly and to compound this would also affect farmers and their disappearing land.
- 4. Air pollution**  
The fumes from machinery, heavy goods vehicles and the CO<sub>2</sub>, sulphur dioxide and methane produced by the rig will pollute the atmosphere, ruining the air quality in an area close to popular walking routes, local schools and houses. Clearly this would have an effect on human health.
- 5. Noise pollution**  
The peaceful atmosphere of nearby properties will be ruined by the banging and drilling coming from the drill site. It will affect all local businesses within earshot such as popular pubs, holiday rentals, cafes, not to mention destroying the quiet walks and cycle paths of the area such as the Cinder Track and the Cleveland Way.
- 6. Light pollution**  
The site will be floodlit 24/7 which will ruin the natural darkness of the coastal area and could drive away nocturnal birds and animals like owls and bats.
- 7. Increase in traffic from HGVs**  
Over 1000 heavy goods vehicles will be needed for the testing stage alone, which will have to travel on small country roads, causing noise, pollution and carrying toxic chemicals. They will be travelling along Scalby Road and the mini roundabout in Burniston village. There will be dust and noise. They will be working every day except

Sunday. This is completely unacceptable.

8. **Potential water supply contamination**

To reach the gas, Europa have to drill through the natural underground water supply. If anything goes wrong with this, it could contaminate the water supply - clearly this is a danger to health.

9. **Potential reduction in house prices**

The rig will be visible for miles away (unlike at Sanddown in the south which Europa are using as their example to claim house prices won't be affected). It will be the first thing that comes up on an environmental survey, potentially reducing property prices and making it more difficult for people to sell their homes. This is clearly unfair on people who have chosen to live in the area because of the peace, quiet and beauty. I would live in that area if I could.

10. **No reduction in UK or local gas bills**

Europa plan to sell the gas on the open market and may even be exported – it won't be available locally and won't reduce gas bills. The gas will financially benefit Europa and their shareholders, not residents. The price of gas is determined by global factors. Drilling on the North Yorkshire coastline will not bring down your bills.

11. **It's not just Burniston**

Because the drilling goes down and then sideways, the fracking will be spreading under land and properties well beyond Burniston. A map of where the pipes will go shows lines of pipework extending west in diagonal lines towards Scalby.

12. **It's just fracking by another name**

The industry say that by injecting liquid at a lower pressure, it doesn't count as fracking. They call it 'proppant squeeze' instead. This is just playing with words and exploiting a loophole in the ban on fracking. This is basically lying and manipulation.

13. **Fossil fuels cause climate change**

We now know that Europa Oil and Gas hope that this area of coastline could become **the largest on-shore gas field in the UK**. Their intention to extract the large amount of gas further north, past Cloughton, towards Ravenscar will require more wells to be drilled and fracked north of the Burniston site. Europa plan to continue drilling for 20 years, the emissions from the burning of the gas they plan to extract will further add to the climate crisis, wrecking our planet for future generations.

I would welcome money being spent on alternative energy instead - surely this is sensible when we are an island that could benefit much more from wind farms off-shore, as well as much more solar power.

PLEASE do not let this appalling proposal become reality.

Yours sincerely,  
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