
From: planningregister@northyorks.gov.uk
Sent: 11 April 2025 16:32
To: Planning Control
Subject: New comments for application NY/2025/0030/ENV

Categories:

New comments have been received for application NY/2025/0030/ENV from Miss Patricia Jephcott.

Comments:

Dear North Yorkshire Council Planning Department, I am writing, as a visitor to family in Scarborough, to express my deep concern about the proposal to grant Europa Gas and Oil a licence to use hydraulic fracturing at Burniston. It would be a very grave mistake to do so, for the following reasons:

- * The company may be calling this operation a "proppant squeeze", but it is fracking by the back door and should not be allowed anywhere. The fact that they have found a loophole in the current moratorium on fracking is lamentable;
- * Burniston is in a very rural area and the roads would not be able to cope with the volume of traffic created by fracking operations. When Third Energy was attempting to frack at Kirby Misperton, the huge convoys of heavy vehicles were a nightmare on the country lanes. Additionally, vehicles from Burniston needing to travel inland will have to go via what is already a very busy junction with the A64 in Scarborough, which will cause horrendous delays;
- * This area relies predominantly on two industries - tourism and agriculture. Both will be severely impacted by this egregious development. Nobody wants to go on holiday in a gas field, so the hospitality sector around Burniston will be badly damaged. Noise pollution, light pollution and traffic impact will all contribute to the destruction of the tourist industry in the area. As for agriculture - even industry experts admit that they do not know what happens to the polluted water they are pumping into the ground. At Preston New Road, fracking chemicals were found in the aquifers almost immediately. Agriculture is hardly going to benefit from this;
- * The site is dangerously close to an underground fault line, the Peak fault. Again, may I refer you to the Preston New Road fracking operation, which was closed in the end because of earthquakes. A very quick Internet search will show how many, how frequent and how strong they were. Many of the cliffs in this area are boulder clay, which is notoriously unstable in any case, so the additional pressure of fracking could be disastrous;
- * Climate change - we should be moving away from gas, not finding more of it. Leave it in the ground! Britain has the potential to be a world leader in renewables, particularly wind power, due to our geographical location, and that is where our efforts should be concentrated;
- * There will be next to no benefits for local people. Firms such as Europa will bring staff with them from outside the area, so there will be no jobs boom. Nor will any gas extracted benefit the local area: it will be sold on the international market at market prices.

I can see no benefits for Burniston or the wider Scarborough area for this proposed development. I object very strongly to it.