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Sent: 14 April 2025 13:21
To: Planning Control
Subject: Objection to Proppant Squeezing proposals at Burniston - NY/2025/0030/ENV

Categories:

To Yorkshire County Council Planning Department:

Objection to Proppant Squeezing proposals at Burniston - NY/2025/0030/ENV

My name and address are at the bottom of this message.

I object strongly to the proposals for Proppant Squeezing by Europa Oil & Gas at Burniston, and the Cloughton gas-field, for the following reasons.

- 1) The proposals resemble fracking under another name, an activity that is already banned in the UK and should remain that way.
- 2) The production of gas at Burniston will directly contradict the efforts being made by the UK government, and represent an affront to people generally, in their efforts to reduce the production of carbon-dioxide in the atmosphere.
- 3) Just as when fracking licences sought more widely in North Yorks a few years ago, no mention of the use of **biocides** appears to have been made. Biocides are added to the fracking liquor or gel that is to be injected below ground to prevent microbial activity that otherwise tends to block the pores in the rock created by the fracking or Proppant Squeezing, Such biocides are dangerous, persistent poisons that are usually banned from all uses above ground. Below ground, they will inevitably contaminate the subterranean aquifers penetrated by the fracking wells where the concrete linings are always ultimately destroyed by the high pressures used. Such poisons will gradually return to the surface by diffusion, where they will contaminate fields, boreholes, wells and the wider environment in an unpredictable manner. There is a real danger that such areas will be turned into irretrievable 'dead zones', of no further use to anyone. Inspection of the predicted gas-field to be tapped, suggests that any area may be affected as far west as Newton Dale. I conclude that some of the most valuable and beautiful areas of the North York Moors will be threatened by the direct risk from the use of such biocides within some 20 years. Such damage will prove impossible to stop or to correct afterwards.
- 4) The presence of dangerous levels of natural alum in the ground-water in many parts of the North York Moors should itself serve as a warning of the effects to be expected from the use of biocides.
- 5) If in the unlikely event that biocides are not used, then Europa Oil & Gas have stated that plastic 'nano-mites' may be employed instead to keep the pores open after fracking. Such micro-plastics are already proving noxious contaminants of the environment the world over. Such uses should not be encouraged by any form of deliberate policy.

I might also remind you of the near-riotous reactions of the general public when I first raised the issue of biocides in fracking wells during a) the North Yorks County Council briefing at County Hall in Northallerton; and b) at the meeting held at the Princess Helena College in Pickering. There is widespread, strong feeling about such issues on our doorsteps.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roderick Robinson

Shinglebeck, Beck Lane, Leavening, Malton, North Yorks, YO17 9SG, UK.

