



(Please redact contact details)

April 13 2026

Amy Taylor - Case Officer, Planning Department
North Yorkshire Council
County Hall
Racecourse Lane
NORTHALLERTON
DL7 8AD

Planning Reference Number: NY/2025/0030/ENV
Europa Oil and Gas application for appraisal drilling at Burniston Mill Site

Dear Ms Taylor,

I am writing to add further concerns to my objection (made in March 2025) to the application made by Europa Oil and Gas for exploratory drilling & testing on the Burniston Mill site to extract gas using a proppant squeeze / hydraulic fracturing process.

I strongly believe that to help reduce global warming and climate change new investment should be concentrating on renewable sources of energy NOT on fossil fuels. This will not be “Yorkshire gas for Yorkshire people” as claimed by Europa but will be sold on the international market to enhance company profits.

I am not convinced by the applicant’s claims that this development will have “no significant”, “negligible”, “minor” “small” impact on the local community. The CEO of Europa recently said that this site was selected for appraisal drilling as it is an industrial area. IT IS NOT – Burniston is a rural village close to the North Yorkshire Heritage Coast.

Geological stability remains a cause for concern. The cliffs on the North Yorkshire coastline are unstable and prone to landslides, with some slippage most winters. This year there as been a large cliff fall near Burniston Rocks which is just a few hundred meters from the proposed site. Drilling & fracturing rocks

on a known geological fault close to the coast can only exacerbate this problem and I understand that the company has not carried out a seismic survey. A recent study by a geologist at Edinburgh University found that there was no proof that low volume fracking does not cause earthquakes. The report stated that proppant squeeze caused equally large and unpredictable tremors as higher volume fracking. It continued to say that if the rocks at Scarborough behave like those in Lancashire a lot of people in the area would feel earthquakes.

I hope that these concerns will be fully taken into account when this application is considered by the local authority planning department. It is imperative that all involved in making the decision should visit the site of both the proposed work & the nearby cliff collapse. Only three councillors took part in a site visit before the postponed planning meeting in January which is not acceptable. All involved in making this important decision must look very carefully at all the submissions, taking particular note of the expert scientific evidence.

I continue to urge the rejection of the proposed development.

Yours sincerely
Evelyn Peterson