

As a resident living in reasonably close proximity to this proposed application I would urge you to consider my concerns when considering this appeal.

I perceive there to be particular dangers in attempting such an extraction at this location. Firstly there are the redundant mine workings from the Gresford colliery, I have spoken to fellow residents and some believe the precise location of each of these workings is not really known. I am informed that the nearest of these workings is believed to be a mere 0.6 miles from this proposed extraction point, that doesn't leave much margin for error does it? Is it not inconceivable that some of these workings could possibly extend further than initially believed? At the time of the Gresford mining disaster were all of these drawings completely up to date?

Then there is the possibility of land/water contamination from this kind of activity in an area with a high water table and in close proximity to areas which have suffered from flooding in recent times. Should there be a contamination issue of any kind I am fearful it could very well lead to pollution which could end up in our drinking water.

There is also the risk of subsidence issues which I believe have been known to occur in areas where this kind of activity has taken place.

Please consider that this proposed extraction point is in fairly close proximity to a number of residential areas. The redundant mine workings run directly under some of these residential areas, hardly an ideal scenario for activity of this kind in my view.

I am also fearful of the possible effect of the disturbing of any radon gas in this area. I have done some brief research on this and it would appear that it is present in this area. Please take a look at this map:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/press/images/coi-w-0710ap-pic1.jpg>

I am aware that this application is for a test drilling and not a full scale extraction programme, however I am gravely concerned that any of these issues may not become apparent at this point. These issues may not raise their heads for years down the line when it will clearly be very difficult to do much about them. I am not any kind of expert on these matters but as a concerned resident I did attend one of the public consultation meetings DART Energy held and after a serious discussion with one of their agents left there wholly unconvinced that this proposed development is a good idea.

WCBC planning committee's decision to refuse this test drilling permission was correct in my view and I support it 100%. There are just too many possible issues at this location for this to be deemed to be a good idea. If this drilling is allowed to happen and there are issues in the future then who will residents be able to hold accountable?, will this be the people who carried out the extraction or those that went against our planning committee's decision to allow them permission? I do not believe it is unreasonable for concerned residents to want some guarantees in matters which could possibly effect our future wellbeing.

Kind Regards

Peter Warner
15 Hawthorn Road
Marford
Wrexham
LL12 8XJ.