

**Planning reference: P 2013 0660**

**Welsh Government reference: H6955/A/14/2218276**

**Description: Part of field west of Commonwood Farm and south of Borrass Road, Commonwood, Holt, Wrexham.**

Dear sir/Madame,

I am writing to you as a Wrexham constituent, in full support of Wrexham Councils rejection of DART energy's application for a test borehole site west of commonwood farm. This decision is based on sound advice and evidence provided by experts in all the relevant fields and as such is a sound rejection.

Before I go any further I feel that the most important point that I can make here I am afraid will fall outside of any planning legislation currently in existence. Almost all uk citizens who are against Fracking would agree with the following:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS MUST BE CARRIED OUT ON ANY PROPOSED SITE WHETHER IT'S A PROPOSED BOREHOLE OR ACTIVE UNCONVENTIONAL GAS EXTRACTION SITE. CURRENT PLANNING RULES WERE NOT DESIGNED TO ASSESS THE SUITABILITY OF PRACTISES AS INTRUSIVE AND DAMAGING TO OUR HEALTH AND OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AS FRACKING HAS BEEN PROVEN TO BE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

WITHOUT SUCH AN ASSESMENT, CARRIED OUT INDEPENDENTLY OF DART ENERGY WE, THE PEOPLE OF WREXHAM AND BRITAIN AT LARGE WILL HAVE NO BASE READING OF CONTAMINENTS PRESENT IN OUR SOIL AND WATER BEFORE AND AFTER BOREHOLES AND FUTURE FRACKING HAVE TAKEN PLACE AT THIS PREVIOUSLY REJECTED SITE THIS WILL MEAN ZERO CHANCE OF PROVING THAT DART HAVE CAUSED DAMAGE TO OUR ENVIRONMENT AND WILDLIFE SHOULD THIS ALL GO WRONG, WHICH IT SO OFTEN DOES.

POINTS WHICH MAKE AN UNDENIABLE CASE AGAINST A SITE AT COMMONWOOD FARM

- 1) NOISE POLLUTION – Borrass is a densely populated area of hard working families who would have their days and nights immeasurably intruded upon. This would have an impact on both the working lives of adults and the education of children. These may seem like small points to Dart but would in some cases have lasting effects on health and education.
- 2) HEAVILY INCREASED INDUSTRIAL PLANT MACHINERY AND TRAFFIC – The major route into the site would be the A483. This road would suffer hugely from the proposed increases. The more minor roads immediately outside of the site would be impossible to use with such heavy plant machinery travelling to and from the previously rejected site. Safety would be massively compromised and accidents inevitable. COMMONWOOD FARM IS SURROUNDED BY UNSUITABLE ACCESS ROUTES.
- 3) GEOLOGY -The geology of Wrexham is unsuitable for unconventional gas extraction. In order for extraction to commence in the future the coal seam would have to be drained. This will

often lead to subsidence especially in such unstable geology. Dart cannot control natural tendencies in rock to crack and fail and earthquakes follow as we saw in Lancashire.

- 4) INTENTION – Knowing that the area is unsuitable for gas extraction due to natural geology Dart still want to spend huge sums of money and time testing at commonwood farm. This signals that they expect that once they have decided that it is financially feasible for them as a company to extract at the site they will apply to do so and get permission. The government have been advised that the area is far from suitable for any activity of this nature. Dart are not being very transparent and are not making their intentions for commonwood farm clear to the community or the council. Alarm bells sound.
- 5) LOOK AT WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN OTHER COUNTRIES – France have banned fracking, states in America are now banning it as the practise has killed both people and livestock. America is a huge land mass and people can move and have migrated away from fracked areas in fear for their health if not their lives – these are not scare stories they are fact. IF IT GOES WRONG ON OUR LITTLE ISLAND AND GIVEN THE STATISTICS TO LESSER OR LARGER EXTENT – IT WILL – WHERE WILL WE GO? Overturning the previous rejection to test at commonwood would be the foot in the door.
- 6) CONTMINATION OF AQUIFERS – Natural drinking water is essential. We cannot take for granted that water treatment plants as a part of our national infrastructure will operate forever, uninterrupted. If we were invaded and our national water infrastructure destroyed, water contaminated by chemicals used in fracking would quickly make us very ill. This is legally graded as toxic waste. How can we allow any company no matter how much money they will offer our community, to take away our access to drinkable water? Water is essential for life. Short term financial gain is not. Allowing them to test at commonwood farm is the first step towards them doing just that and could be disastrous for our community and nation in the future.
- 7) RESIDENTS HOMES (which is the main and very often only asset) WILL NOT BE WORTH A ROUND OF DRINKS - At the very best, Borrás residence can expect to experience a significant drop in the value of their homes overnight at worst their homes would be rendered un sellable. More than likely some will find themselves in negative equity. Dart will not compensate them for loss of equity.
- 8) FUTURE EXTRACTION WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY LEAD TO A LOSS OF AGRICULTURE IN THE AREA WHICH IS IMPORTANT TO THE CULTURE OF OUR HISTORIC MARKET TOWN.

I MAKE ALL OF THE ABOVE POINTS BECAUSE THE APPEAL SHOULD BE REJECTED. I AM NOT A TOP SOLICITOR WHICH NO DOUBT THE DART REPRESENTTIVE WHO WROTE THEIR APPEAL IS. I AM A WREXHAM BOY BORN ND BRED WHO WAS BROUGHT UP ON SMITHY LANE. THOUGH I MAY NOT HAVE THE LEGAL E's, I AM AN EXPERT ON THE SUBJECT OF WREXHAM AND LOCAL TO THE PREVIOUSLY REJECTED SITE.

KIND REGARDS

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