

The Planning Inspectorate

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(Date received)

COMMENTS ON CASE

Please note that comments about this case need to be made within the timetable for it. This can be found in the notification letter attached. Comments submitted after the deadline may be considered invalid and returned to sender. Your comments can also be made on-line at www.planningportal.gov.uk.

This form will be published on the Planning Portal, please do NOT sign it. This is to ensure that all personal data is protected in line with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998.

DETAILS OF THE CASE

Case Reference:

P/2013/0660

Address of site

Part of field, west of Commonwood Farm + south of
Baras Rd, Commonwood, Holt, Wrexham

Postcode
(if known)

SENDER DETAILS

Name

Jean Geraldine Flavell

Acting On Behalf Of

(leave blank if writing on
your own behalf)

ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?
(Neighbour, Councillor, Owner, Tenant)

Neighbour + conservationist

What kind of representation are you making?

Opposing

Firstly, I would like to say that I am not a NIMBY. I live in a rented house that is 400m from the proposed drilling site but I am planning to move 200 miles away in the next couple of years to be near my family, therefore I am not concerned that my house may be unsaleable and uninsurable if this exploratory drilling goes ahead.

However, I do care about the environment. I was brought up in the 1950's living in close proximity to large scale petro-chemical industries in Ellesmere Port. The various oil and chemical works in that area provided thousands of jobs for the local community and new plants were welcomed.

This proposed drilling site is in the middle of a rural landscape of good productive farmland. It is not welcomed by the community. No one in this community wants this exploratory well, which will blight the landscape and create 24 hour constant noise.

The only access to the site is by single track country lanes. There will be an unacceptable amount of over sized HGV traffic in this rural area traffic, resulting in increased noise levels as well as an adverse impact on the rural landscape. This would be contrary to Policy GDP1 of Wrexham Unitary Policy Plan (2005).

Please see photo of the access route. The gate into the proposed site is on the left of the road, beyond the Borrass sign and marked with a white square.

The road is clearly unsuitable for heavy traffic.

The proposed borehole involves an industrial form of development outside recognised limits with open countryside. To allow the development is contrary to Policies PS1 & PS2 of Wrexham Unitary Development Plan (2005).

The submitted geophysical survey sufficient information in respect of the impact of drilling upon the vertical and lateral movement of gas. The whole area is riddled with coal mines. There is a risk that the sealed underground tomb from the Gresford Mining Disaster could be disturbed. There is also a risk of explosion in any of the abandoned underground workings, caused by the exploratory drilling

To allow this development is contrary to Policy GDP1 (f) and (i) of the Wrexham Unitary Development Plan (2005).

There are two organic farms very close to this site the site, It would be disastrous for them if they lost their organic status due to pollution that may be caused by this borehole. Test drilling will go down through the Kinnerton Formation, a major aquifer, with a risk of polluting the groundwater and water supplies.

The proposed drilling site is up hill above the Dee floodplain. All the local streams run down to the River Dee from this area. A few miles down stream there is a major water treatment works at Huntingdon, Chester. The water extracted from the Dee at Huntingdon is piped to all households in Chester and many of the Wirral. There is a major concern that this borehole could cause pollution to this drinking water.

This proposed exploratory bore hole must not be allowed to go ahead as there could be so many possible disastrous consequences.

