

Fracking – Test site Borrás Holt Wrexham Planning Ref: **P/2013/0660**

Welsh Assembly Government Ref: **H6955/A/14/2218276**

Section 78 Appeal at: Part of Field West of Commonwood Farm and South of Borrás Road, Commonwood, Holt, WREXHAM

11th August 2014

Dear Sirs,

I am a resident on Borrás Road, within 1 mile of the proposed site. I have grave concerns about the above detailed application. These are listed below.

Lucy Morris. – Smithy Lodge, Borrás Road, Commonwood, Holt Wrexham.

Objections:

1. Environmental impact potential:

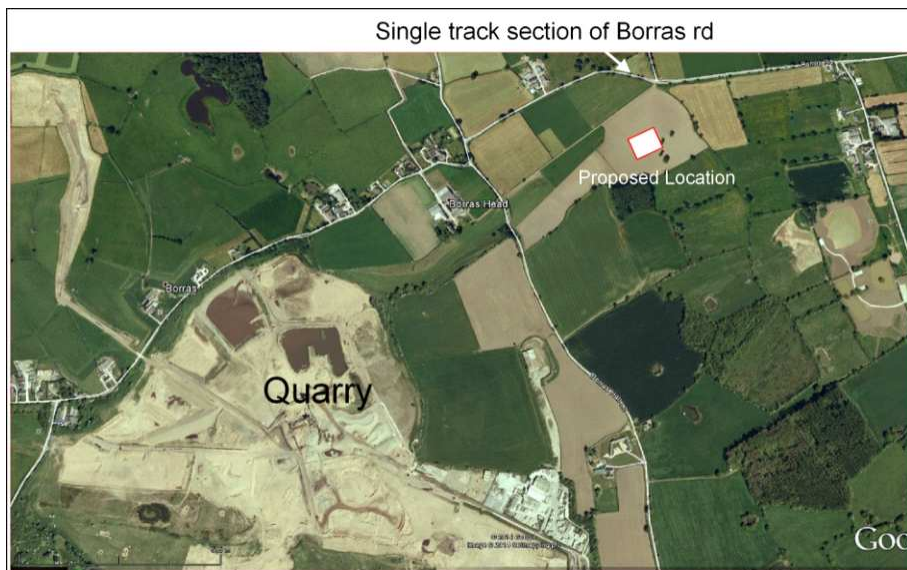
- a. The site is a very short distance up-hill from a local amenity – the fishing lakes and associated farm land. If there is a spillage of toxic waste water from this site, then the impact to these local business's needs to be taken into account.
- b. At the last planning hearing it was claimed that 'it was not necessary to take a full environmental impact assessment or full base line environmental measurements as this was just a test 'bore hole' '. The reality is that, during operation, there will still be in the region of 30 Tanker loads of waste sludge to be disposed of per day. In view of the alleged increases in benzene levels in the water around the Scottish fracking sites where it is claimed that they were 'pre-existing' and not related to the current activity, it is vital to avoid the potential for this being an issue and the current base line recordings should be made.
- c. The potential Impact of Radiation in the wastes created at the site is of great concern. Gresford is a known Radon hot spot, as it is very likely that the materials coming up from the well will contain radioactive materials. How has the handling of these been accounted for? What measures do they have for a safe disposal route for potentially radioactive wastes?

1. Location:

- a. The site is accessed via Borrás road, a small country lane with a single track section at the point where the vehicles will be entering and exiting the site. The gateway to the site is continually used by traffic as a waiting point when cars are seen to be coming down the hill. Just before and just after the site entrance the road effectively narrows to single file and this waiting spot is vital to the safe flow of traffic. This is not suitable to handle the increased volume

of traffic at this location. There has already been one recent fatality at this at the corner where they will access the site.

Taking into account the above potential issues, I am surprised at the chosen location being part way up a slope with poor road access. Especially as within 1,000 meters to the south west there is a large quarry with storage lagoons, bunding, site security and excellent road access. This would provide significant mitigation to several of the shortcomings of the current location it would provide an environmentally more secure site and significantly less costly to operate.



1. Whilst not a site specific matter, a concern of fracking in general is that some \british insurers are considering excluding claims for fracking damage from household cover. (See Sunday Times article dated 3-8-2014 "Fracking puts cover on shaky ground")

The article states that earlier this year Martin Milliner,claims director of insurers LV , saiod "Fracking is alleged to have caused a small earthquake in Lancashire and environmental damage in America.....As with flooding, where a house becomes uninsureable it could also become unmortgageable and unsellable". Nationwide in the USA has excluded fracking damage from a wide range of household policies. This is all a big concern for local residents like us. What protection do we have?

4. What protection is in place such that when the energy company departs, having removed the natural resources, leaving Wales and Wrexham with the environmental contamination legacy and all its associated costs? That seems to be a common historic case.