

Lower Park Farm
Parkside, Rossett.
Wrexham
LL12 0BN

11/08/2014

To whom it may concern.

Section 78 Appeal at: PART OF FIELD WEST OF COMMONWOOD FARM AND SOUTH OF, BORRAS ROAD, COMMONWOOD HOLT, WREXHAM.

We are writing to lodge our objections to the planning application above. We are Organic farmers producing Organic milk on the neighboring farm to the proposed drilling sight. We have over 650 cattle producing milk that is consumed locally. Our cattle are drinking water, that is extracted through a borehole from the under ground water aquifer. Fracking companies claim that there is little or no risk of contamination to water aquifers by their drilling operations. This would not appear to be the case on other drilling sights around the world and in the UK, where Benzene and methane contamination of drinking water as a direct result of coal gas extraction and shale gas fracking is well documented.

We would expect Wrexham planners to have commissioned a full environmental impact report at the very least before approving planning permission for such a controversial industry, with baseline water, air, noise and wildlife assessments taken, so that any future adverse environmental impact can be properly benchmarked.

The main concerns that we as farmers in the local area have in order of priority:

1. Contamination of underground water aquifers.
2. Increase in radon gas immersions.
3. Subsidence and ground tremors as a result of rapid gas/water extraction.
4. Above ground water and soil contamination as a result of dirty water disposal.
5. Huge increases in road traffic in the form of large articulated wagons, 30 trips per day per well.
6. The rapid growth of the gas field in the form of hundreds of wells either purchased through misguided landowners consent or compulsory purchase.
7. The rapid decline of food production in the Wrexham area as a direct result of the industrialization of the farmland by a foreign owned company with little if any of the gas revenue going back into the adversely effected local community.
8. The long-term environmental, human and animal health problems that will inevitably occur long after the gas extraction has finished, washed their hands of any liability due to cleverly worded contracts or company sale/ bankruptcy.

As far as any benefit to the local economy is concerned, this industry does not appear to be offering anything back to the local communities other than the indication that there will be jobs created. Unfortunately the number of jobs involved in this kind of industry will hardly equate to the number of coal miners graves that they will be desecrating as they drill through the flooded mineshafts that entomb 255 bodies of the 266 men and boys that died in the 1934 Gresford Calorics disaster.

It is common knowledge that all of the coal board maps where destroyed by the owners of Gresford Collieries shortly after the disaster and it is inevitable that they will drill into the flooded shafts that entomb those poor men and boys' bodies.

National government strongly supports "rural" coal gas extraction and shale gas fracking regardless of the nationality or reputation of the company's involved. Any long-term damage to the environment and public health are not deemed relevant when compared to the potential short term tax revenue that will be generated.

"Fuel" is essential for wealth generation and perceived quality of life.

"Food" is essential for life and the survival of mankind!!!!

Any society that sacrifices long-term food production, for short-term wealth generation is a society run by fools and destined for destruction!

Wrexham planners and council members have a responsibility to the residents of the Wrexham borough to safeguard the long-term health and prosperity of this area, regardless of the short-term policies of National Government.

As such we implore you to enact that responsibility by undertaking stringent due diligence on the potential environmental impact that such an industry will have on our Borough both short and long term. This area has already had one major disaster in the last century and another will not be forgiven or forgotten lightly!

Yours sincerely

Sadie & Richard Tomlinson.