

Rebecca Kirkland

From: Nigel Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 January 2021 16:11
To: development management
Subject: V/4202 - objection to IGas extension at Misson Springs
Attachments: DAVID SMYTHE REPORT Dec1st 2015.pdf

Ref: V/4202

Application by Island Gas to extend planning permission to delay restoration for 3 years at Misson Springs

We object to this application.

1) This is an application to do nothing apart from delay restoration. The site should have been restored following work carried out under the planning permission which ended in November 2020. In any case restoration should have been completed before the 2021 bird breeding season.

2) IGas are a financially challenged company who are cynically gaming the planning system in order to delay their responsibility to restore the site.

3) As the application notes, the government has a presumption against hydraulic fracturing consents due to the risk of unpredictable seismic activity (which would not have prevented completion of the work for which IGas had planning permission at Misson Springs). The OGA recently published a "Summary of the PNR2 studies" which reinforced the conclusion that "it is not yet possible to accurately predict the seismic response to hydraulic fracturing".

<https://www.ogauthority.co.uk/exploration-production/onshore/onshore-reports-and-data/preston-new-road-well-pnr2-data-studies/>

It would therefore seem unlikely that this moratorium will be lifted in the near future, contrary to IGas' wishful thinking.

4) Attached is a copy of the report by Emeritus Professor David Smythe commissioned by Bassetlaw Against Fracking and submitted as evidence in opposition to the original planning application. This demonstrates that there are serious questions as to whether the underlying geology is safe for hydraulic fracturing. There is nothing in IGas' current application which demonstrates that they are doing anything to address the seismic risks associated with this site. It should therefore be assumed that it is highly unlikely that any hydraulic fracturing consent will be granted for this site in the next three years.

5) It should also be noted that when IGas started work on this site they breached a planning condition prohibiting certain work during the bird breeding season, relying on retrospective approval.

6) It is in the interests of the Misson Carr SSSI and local residents to terminate this failed experiment immediately. The earliest that the site could now be restored will be late 2021. It should not be delayed beyond that.

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