

Europa's plans for appraisal drilling in Burniston

We have been looking for a suitable site for appraisal drilling to test the Cloughton gas field. The site needs to be within reach of the underground gas reservoir while minimising the impact on local people and wildlife.

We think that the site we have identified at Burniston Mill is suitable and we are keen to talk to residents to understand your concerns and address them in our planning process.

We are in the process of preparing the layout and design of the site. We will be carrying out a number of surveys which will carefully consider existing levels of traffic, ecology and biodiversity, archaeology, noise, air quality, flood risk, surface water drainage, landscape and lighting. The site design will take into account the results of these surveys and include measures to mitigate the impacts, both during the construction and the drilling of the wellsite.

Any appraisal operations at Burniston are subject to planning permission by the mineral planning authority, North Yorkshire Council. We are intending to submit our planning application before the end of November.

Our application will only seek permission for site construction, drilling and testing, and the restoration of the site. That work will tell us if the gas contained in the underground reservoir can be extracted at sufficient

rates to make it commercially viable for production. If successful, any production phase would be subject to a separate planning application at a later stage.

We would like to invite you to a drop-in session where you can meet the team and find out more about the plans.

Where: Burniston and Cloughton Village Hall, High Street, YO13 0HJ

When: Anytime between 1pm and 6pm
Thursday 26th September 2024

We hope to see you there but if you cannot make it to our event, you can:

Find all the information at **www.europaoil.com**

Email **info@europaoil.com** to request a copy of our brochure.



Your questions answered

Why drill for gas?

The new Labour government recognises that we will still require oil and gas until at least 2050 in order to make a smooth transition to renewables and meet our Net Zero commitments.

The UK is currently using twice as much gas than we are producing from the North Sea and onshore and we are importing half of the gas that we consume from abroad. This balance of domestic versus imported gas is forecast to worsen to 2050. This imported gas that we consume has significantly more greenhouse gas emissions associated with it than domestically produced gas. High levels of imports also make us more vulnerable to security of supply such as experienced following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

What about the climate crisis?

The UK will require gas for heating and cooking until at least 2050. Producing gas locally in the UK is much better for the environment as it displaces liquified natural gas imports, which would reduce global emissions.

Are you fracking?

Fracking, or high volume hydraulic fracturing is the process of removing gas from shale rocks and is currently banned in the UK. It is termed 'unconventional' because of how it differs from traditional methods.

However, low volume hydraulic fracturing operations, which have been used for many decades in the UK, were not included in the 2019 moratorium. They were deliberately excluded because these operations are well-established and proven to be safe, both from a health and safety and an environmental perspective. As such the legal basis under which the ban on high volume hydraulic fracturing was prosecuted does not apply. This is therefore not a "loophole" in the law relating to the 2019 moratorium.

The proposed drilling activities at Burniston include a conventional low volume hydraulic fracturing operation, which is called a proppant squeeze. The proppant squeeze is a standard industry technique which is safe and non-polluting. It has been used on sites including Crosby Warren in Scunthorpe and Wressle at Broughton in North Lincolnshire.

What about impacts on the village?

We will be working hard to minimise any impacts such as traffic, views of the site, air quality, lighting and noise. The planning application will address a wide range of issues, all of which you will be able to comment on.

You can find out more about this at the event or online. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss your concerns and work with you to help mitigate them.