
From: R BAZLEY [mailto:rbazley@btinternet.com]
Sent: 12 December 2011 12:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Shale Gas

[REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your response. Probably I am too close to the shale gas debate to think any of the environmental groupings are debating anything else! They obviously are, especially after the recent South African meeting. Friends of the Earth are very much following the shale gas debate through the film Gaslands and not asking to meet those who have the facts (whether they agree with them or not) except in hostile situations.

I will seek a meeting with James Orr.

Good wishes for the meeting,

Regards,


Tony

From: [REDACTED]
To: R BAZLEY <rbazley@btinternet.com>
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2011, 10:50
Subject: RE: Shale Gas

Tony,

Thank you for your message, but I am not sure what gave you the impression I will be talking about shale gas on Wednesday – I will be reporting on a survey of public attitudes to the planning system and my comments will be restricted to that.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

From: R BAZLEY [mailto:r.bazley@btinternet.com]

Sent: 10 December 2011 12:51

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Shale Gas

[REDACTED]

I have been invited to the launch of the Friends of the Earth 'Planning Campaign' next week. That is via a conservation organisation to which I am attached. I also produce a magazine with an Earth science conservation theme and have strongly advocated geotourism for many years - indeed, initiated cross border projects.

So it may surprise you that I work for Tamboran Resources, a company currently exploring for shale gas in County Fermanagh. I know that the gas, if it can be persuaded to leave the shale, can be produced with minimal environmental impact. Indeed, it will not be allowed if sites do not meet stringent national and European planning conditions. It offers a relatively clean fuel with the potential to bridge until the time that renewable energy resources can take over. It should be considered seriously and not in a facile way with reference to the Gaslands film that seems to have made many people think they are experts.

Intelligent people are going to realise that even in the USA shale gas production would have ceased years ago if hydraulic fracturing had had the effects depicted in the Gaslands film. In that country with relatively lax control about 60,000 wells have been hydraulically fractured over the past 6 years with less than one failure per 1,000. One failure that taints water (not much worse) is one too many and with good practice will not happen. Regulations here are different to the USA because the crown owns the mineral rights. So there will not be wells scattered all over the place but well pads at 2-4 km spacing with around 16 wells on each, with water used from wells around the site and not allowed to leave the site. This means much reduced lorry traffic and no contamination of local water sources. We will be using no chemicals in the hydraulic fracturing process that lasts about 8 hours in any single well and is not repeated. There will be no release of methane into the air.

I invite you to control whatever you might say at next week's meeting about shale gas to real facts. The well near Blackpool did cause an earth tremor but caused no harm and the report shows that will not be repeated. There is no increased radioactivity due to the operation, nor are nasty elements released, like lead, arsenic, mercury etc. If you have simply garnered information from Gaslands and the internet then you will probably be one of those putting out further untruths. If you have attended any of our public information meetings then you will have had a chance to hear the facts. The chance of many long term jobs and a major boost to the local economy should not be thrown away without serious consideration.

If you want to know some of the facts about our operations in Northern Ireland, where even drilling a test well is at least 2 years away, please log on to www.Tamboran.com. We do not expect to change minds but we would like a fair hearing. We care about the environment as much as anyone.

Tony Bazley

(Director for Environmental and Community Affairs)