Comment for planning application WSCC/045/20

Application number Name

WSCC/045/20

Liz Sleeper

Address

The Hub, 2 Station Street, Lewes East Sussex BN7 2DA

Type of Comment Comments

Objection

The proposed flow testing is the beginning of a process of major development in an AONB There is no evidence that this development is in the public interest nor evidence that there will be any local benefit arising from the project. In fact there will be significantly increased transport movement and risks taken with the local water supply. I am concerned that locals and the local council will be left with long term responsibilities to manage financial, health and biodiversity impacts if accidents were to occur. Furthermore West Sussex County Council have declared a climate emergency and thus supporting this testing and action does not only jeapordise the wellbeing of Balcombe residents and nature but also contributes towards climate change. Which clearly is against Council policy. The application from Angus Energy is to generate fuel based on an outdated 19th century model of energy generation, distribution and use of hydrocarbons. Testing and drilling takes unnecessary risks with the local living ecosystem and life support system, have a negative impact on the local environment it's ultimate result - to sell a hydrocarbon based fuel source will increase carbon emissions. As a nearby community energy group, we have developed models of energy generation and distribution that benefit local people and the local economy with minimal environmental impact. We also maintain that reduction of energy use is a better way forward. We commend the actions of RePower Balcombe who have initiated an innovative energy generation and distribution project - Riding Sunbeams, which has support from BEIS, Network Rail and other stakeholders and is creating low carbon energy sources to fuel public transport. We object to this application and encourage the Council to support low carbon, low risk, locally owned energy generating projects that work with and benefit local communities and are suitable to the 21st Century.

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Attachments