Comment for planning application WSCC/045/20

Application number	WSCC/045/20
Name	Anthony Woodward
Address	The Orchard Church Island Staines Upon Thames
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	I am writing to object to the proposed removal of drilling fluids and carrying out an extended well test. I do not believe this application is in the public interest and is not appropriate to an area of outstanding natural beauty. The Parliament of the United Kingdom and numerous local authorities have declared a climate emergency and in this context drilling for oil at new sites is totally inappropriate. If the U.K. is to meet its obligations under the Paris climate treaty we must leave any oil under the ground. I believe it would be fundamentally wrong to establish industrial activity in this quintessentially rural area. Alongside the damage to the rural character of the area there will also be a significant increase in traffic, including heavy goods vehicles on small roads. This will lead to more air pollution, increased risk of traffic accidents and additional damage to already degraded road surfaces. If this proposal is approved it will be difficult to then refuse applications for further development of this facility. The application includes the proposal to use stimulation by acid, which is another term for fracking with acid. This process poses significant risks to the ground water in an area not far from the Ardingly reservoir. I understand that there will also be a flare to burn off excess gas. This will not only add to levels of CO2 at a time when we should be reducing CO2 levels, but it would also create an air pollution that will effect local residents. I object to this proposal on the grounds that it is inappropriate in this area and it will have negative effects not just for local residents, but everyone in the UK when we are trying to reduce CO2 emissions and preserve our remaining biodiversity.
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Attachments	