
From: [REDACTED] ryankearley [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Sent: 27 February 2021 15:03

To: Tracey Guinea <Tracey.Guinea@westsussex.gov.uk>; Paul High <paul.high@westsussex.gov.uk>; Liz Kitchen <liz.kitchen@westsussex.gov.uk>; Karen Sudan <Karen.Sudan@westsussex.gov.uk>; Morwen Millson <morwen.millson@westsussex.gov.uk>; Louise Goldsmith <louise.goldsmith@westsussex.gov.uk>; Noel Atkins <Noel.Atkins@westsussex.gov.uk>; Andrew Baldwin <Andrew.Baldwin@westsussex.gov.uk>; Richard Burrett <richard.burrett@westsussex.gov.uk>; Sean McDonald <Sean.Mcdonald@westsussex.gov.uk>; Pieter Montyn <pieter.montyn@westsussex.gov.uk>; Simon Oakley <simon.oakley@westsussex.gov.uk>; Ashvin Patel <Ashvin.Patel@westsussex.gov.uk>

Subject: Objection to WSCC/045/20 Balcomnbe

Dear Councillors,

Please consider my request to reject this application **WSCC/045/20 – Temporary permission for exploration and appraisal comprising the removal of drilling fluids and subsequent engineering works with an extended well test for hydrocarbons along with site security fencing and site restoration. Lower Stumble Exploration Site, London Road, Balcombe RH17 6JH.**

I am objecting on the following points that the process of flow testing poses unacceptably high risks of:

1. *groundwater contamination, that would impact the entire Ouse*

catchment and the households supplied through the Ardingly and Barcombe Reservoirs.

2. Risk of harmful toxic emissions, conflicts with paragraph 205, section 17 Facilitating the sustainable use of materials. From the National Planning Policy Framework

3. earth tremor provocation. Risk of seismic activity is the danger of well deformation as was born out in the incident at Preese Hall, and subsequent compromising of the well's integrity.

4. The process is also likely to impose significant demands on water resources, already under severe strain in southern England.

5. Lower Stumble is located in an AONB, and borders an SSSI. The development of drilling wells risks irretrievable damage to a precious and widely appreciated landscape and doesn't comply with West Sussex's 2018 'Joint Minerals Local Plan'.

6. The development of sustainable energy should be supported, rather than ongoing investment in the extraction of fossil fuels. Therefore permitting flow testing conflicts with the WSCC's Climate Change Strategy for 2020-2030