

## **Fracking Update** December 2012

### Clare Licensing Option

Enegi Oil holds the only licensing option granted to date in Clare. The area under license is 495 km<sup>2</sup>. The government offered a large area known as the Clare Basin, which comprises most of west and north Clare and parts of Kerry, Limerick and Cork, but Enegi Oil expressed an interest only in the area of west Clare that comprises the Loop Head Peninsula. It is this smaller area that is covered by the licensing option (see overleaf for list of townlands).

The terms of the licensing option granted in February 2011 require Enegi Oil to submit a programme of works to the Petroleum Affairs Division of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources by November, and the DCENR has confirmed that the company has done this. The company has said it will publish this programme once it has been granted an exploration license. It must submit its application for an exploration license by the end of February 2013.

### Irish Government Actions

The Irish government commissioned a preliminary report on hydraulic fracturing from the University of Aberdeen, which was published in May 2012 (see EPA website).

Questions have been raised about the impartiality of this report. The University of Aberdeen is heavily sponsored by the oil and gas industry. The author of the study, Dr. David Healy, has received funding from Total E&P UK and BG International. The study for the EPA based its conclusions in part on a study from the University of Texas at Austin which found that fracking did not contaminate groundwater, a study which has since been discredited due to an undeclared conflict of interest on the part of the study's director (he is a director of a company engaged in fracking).

The government is now planning to commission a more comprehensive study and has said that hydraulic fracturing will not be allowed until the report has been completed and considered, sometime in 2014.

*NOTE 1:* The government has not said that it will wait to issue exploration licenses until the results of the study are considered, only that it will not allow hydraulic fracturing for exploration. This leaves the door open for drilling deep vertical wells, which is the step that precedes hydraulic fracturing.

*NOTE 2:* The EPA has no regulatory role in the exploration phase. All environmental and health monitoring in the exploration stage would be the responsibility of the DCENR.

For further information, see the following websites:

[frackingfreeireland.org](http://frackingfreeireland.org)

[frackingfreeclare.org](http://frackingfreeclare.org)

<https://sites.google.com/site/frackingireland>

Or email: [clarefrack@gmail.com](mailto:clarefrack@gmail.com), [nofrackingthanks@gmail.com](mailto:nofrackingthanks@gmail.com)

Townlands in Enegi Oil licensing option area

(Source: Licensing option documents, obtained by FOI request):

Acres, Ahaga, Alva, Aughagarna, Ballard, Ballycurraun, Ballykett, Ballymacrinan, Ballymacurtaun, Ballynagun East, Ballynagun West, Ballynote East, Ballynote West, Ballyonan or Doonaghboy, Ballyurra, Baumore, Bellia, Binvoran, Bleanmore, Breaghva, Breaghva (ED Clooncoorha), Breaghva (ED Moyarta), Brisla East, Brisla West, Burrane Lower, Burrane Upper, Caheraghacullin, Cahercannavan, Caherfeenick South, Caherfeenick North, Caherlean, Cahermurphy, Cammoge, Cappagh, Carnaun, Carrow, Carrowbane, Carrowblough Beg, Carrowblough More, Carrowdotia North, Carrowdotia South, Carrowfree, Carrowlagan, Carrowmore, Carrowmore North, Carrowmore South, Carrownaweelaun, Carrowncalla North, Carrowncalla South, Carrowniska North, Carrowniska South, Cassarnagh, Castlepark, Clarefield, Cloghaun Beg (East), Cloghaun Beg (West), Cloghaun More (East), Cloghaun More (West), Cloghaunbeg, Cloghauninchy, Cloghaunnatinny, Cloghaunsavaun, Clonderalaw, Cloonadrum, Cloonconeen, Clooncullin, Clooneenagh, Clooneylissaun, Cloonmore, Cloonnagarnaun, Cloonnakilla (ED Glenmore), Cloonreddan, Cloonwhite North, Cloonwhite South, Coolmuinga, Corbally, Craggaknock East, Craggaknock West, Craggaun, Creegh North, Creegh South, Cross, Cross Beg, Cross More, Dangananella East, Dangananella West, Derreen, Derreen, Derrybrick, Derrylough, Derrynalecka (ED Kilmurry), Doon Beg, Doonaha East, Doonaha West, Doonmore, Doonnagurroge, Dough, Drimna, Drumdigus, Drumellihy (Cunningham), Drumellihy (Mac Donnell), Drumellihy (Westby), Drumellihy (Westropp), Dunneill, Durha, Dysert, Einagh, Emlagh, Farrihy, Feagahroge, Feard, Finnor Beg, Finnor More, Fodry, Foohagh, Furroor Lower, Furroor Upper, Garraun, Garraunnaatooha, Glascloon, Gortnaskagh, Gower North, Gower South, Gowerhass, Kilbaha North, Kilbaha South, Kilballyowen, Kilcarroll, Kilcasheen, Kilclehaun, Kilclogher, Kilcredaun, Kildeema, Kifearagh, Kilkee Lower, Kilkee Upper, Killard, Killeenagh, Killinny, Kilmacduane East, Kilmacduane West, Kilmihil, Kilmore, Kilmurry East, Kilmurry West, Kilnagalliagh, Kilrush, Kiltrellig, Kiltumper, Kinlea, Knock, Knockaderreen, Knockerry East, Knockerry West, Knockmore, Knocknagarhoon, Knocknahila More (North), Knocknahila More (South), Knocknahooan, Knocknahooan, Knockroe, Lack East, Lack West, Lacken, Leadmore East, Leadmore West, Leaheen, Leitrim, Lisdeen, Lisgurreen, Lisheencrony, Lisheenfurroor, Lisheenydeen, Lisluinaghan, Lismuse, Lissalougha, Lissanair, Lissyneillan, Moanmore Lower, Moanmore North, Moanmore South, Moanmore Upper, Molosky, Molougha, Moneen, Mountrivers, Moveen East, Moveen West, Moyadda Beg, Moyadda More, Moyarta East, Moyarta West, Moyasta, Moyglass Beg, Moyne, Newtown East, Newtown West, Oughterard, Parknamoney, Pouladarree, Querrin, Quilty, Quilty West, Rahaniska, Rahona East, Rahona West, Rapepark, Rehy East, Rehy West, Rinemackaderrig, Rineroe, Ross, Seafield, Shandrum, Shanganagh, Sheeaun, Sragh, Tarmon, Teernagloghane, Teervarna, Termon East, Termon West, Thomastown, Tonavoher, Tromra East, Tromra West, Tromracastle, Trusklieve, Tullabrack, Tullabrack East, Tullabrack West, Tullagower, Tullaher, Tullaroo, Tullig, Tullycreen Lower, Tullycreen Upper