



Information letter for those to whom fracking matters and (some) updates on the website  
FFI contact: [ineke@frackingfreeireland.org](mailto:ineke@frackingfreeireland.org) visit: [www.frackingfreeireland.org](http://www.frackingfreeireland.org)

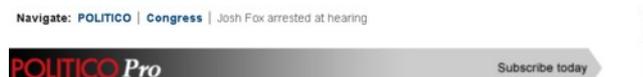
**Thanks to all for the contribution**

*Our friends teach us what we can do  
Our enemies teach us what we must do*

*This is not the fight of our lives  
This is the fight for our lives*

## BREAKING NEWS – Josh Fox arrested

charged with "unlawful entry" and court date is February 15.



### Josh Fox arrested at hearing



By TALIA BUFORD | 2/1/12 10:42 AM EST Updated: 2/1/12 12:29 PM EST

[www.politico.com/news/stories/0212/72298.html](http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0212/72298.html)

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/02/01/house-republicans-order-j\\_n\\_1246971.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/02/01/house-republicans-order-j_n_1246971.html)

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/NaturalGas/6912758>

## TAMBORAN REPORT

<http://ubuntuone.com/1bqDo7Tfw4SzKA7MsmdEdQ>

NI announcement full text at the end of the newsletter

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

### Request from Meg

Australian explorer bids to invest €7bn in Leitrim gas field

By Peter Flanagan  
Wednesday February 01 2012

THE good times could be coming to Leitrim after an Australian explorer said it wants to invest €7bn in a natural gas field it says it has found there.

Tamboran Resources said a feasibility study confirmed a "substantial shale gas field" in Leitrim which could create 600 full-time jobs and up to 2,400 indirect jobs if it is developed.

Tamboran said it hoped to spend €7bn developing the field, which could deliver "substantial" natural gas volumes for the next 40 years. The full analysis will be published by the end of this year.

Tamboran is focused on the northern area of Leitrim and it has also been granted an exploration licence in an adjacent area in south-west Fermanagh.

According to the company, the field potentially has 2.2 trillion

PRINT | EMAIL | TEXT SIZE

#### Also in Irish

- ▶ Tullow Oil chief sues developers as work on Caribbean resort is halted
- ▶ Car industry predicting drop in sales despite January boost
- ▶ McKinsey's €2.75m deal to sort out Anglo debt is extended
- ▶ NAMA poised to take over part of Agar's real estate empire
- ▶ IL&P investor not allowed to represent own firm in bailout court battle

**The good times good be coming to Leitrim.....**

**please could as many people as possible go onto this link, and comment**

about fracking. very few comments, could do with a boost.

<http://www.independent.ie/business/irish/australian-explorer-bids-to-invest-7bn-in-leitrim-gas-field-3005753.html>

(Web FFI Irish press)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### All-Island anti fracking meeting on establishing Cross Border linkages

Public Event · By [Tyler James McNally](#), [Mick McEvoy](#) and [Eoin Brady](#)

When Saturday, February 4, 2012 Time 3:00pm until 5:00pm

Carrick Against Fracking are organising a bus from Carrick on Shannon on Sat. 4th Feb to Enniskillen. Bus will leave from the fire station Park Lane at 11am, calling at Drumshanbo, Ballinaglearagh, Dowra and stopping for a symbolic demo on the border bridge between Blacklion and Belcoo. Leave message on CAF page if you require seat.

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### ROWING CLUB EVENT – opportunity to raise fracking awareness

Carrick on Shannon Rowing Club are hosting the Head of the Shannon on the **18th feb** 2012. It will be a big day for the club with rowing and river enthusiasts taking to the Shannon nearly all day from 10.30am ish til 5pm ish. Crews and clubs will be in the Carrick area from early morning and i'm sure it would be an ideal opportunity to inform people of the Hazards of Fracking and also the current status of the whole fracking issue

More info:

Mick O'Rourke PRO  
Carrick Rowing Club  
0863366007

[www.headoftheshannon.com](http://www.headoftheshannon.com)  
[www.carrickrc.com](http://www.carrickrc.com)

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### BROADCASTING - (Web FFI Irish press)

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**TV3 Afternoon Show 1 Febr.:** Glenfarne  
[http://www.tv3.ie/news.php?request=&tv3\\_preview=&video=44941](http://www.tv3.ie/news.php?request=&tv3_preview=&video=44941)

**TV3 News 1 February**  
<http://www.tv3.ie/3player/show/2/44920/1/>

**Colm Hay show 1 febr.**  
<http://2fm.rte.ie/radio/radioplayer/rteradioweb>

[.html#!rii=1%3A3185435%3A4710%3A%3A](#)

**TV3 show 2 febr. Tony Bazley and Susan O'Keefe** text AM + 53131

0818286606

<http://www.tv3.ie/3player/show/184/44956/1/Ireland-AM>

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## REPORT from CAMPAIGNERS

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**Missed text message** :( - Terry MacDermott  
[terryathome@gmx.ie](mailto:terryathome@gmx.ie)

Hi all,

just a quick update on my own (non?) involvement with the Ireland AM show, and a notice re another opportunity perhaps.

I got a text sent to me by the producer at 9.15pm last night asking if I'd do a brief phone interview at 7.10 this morning, if there was time, just before they were to interview Bazley. He said they might not ring me, just to know if I was available.

I saw this text at 8.15 this morning, too late.

I did contact him later in the morning, and he texted -

"No worries. **I hope we covered most of the residents concerns this morning. The Morning Show will also be covering the issue in a couple of weeks.**"

This gives us time to think of our response, and so on.

**I'm going to start shouting more about the jobs issue, I really don't feel our side have quite grasped how powerful an issue the threat of massive job losses is!!**

I might do an article for the Newsletter, when I get a day free.

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**A FISHERMANS STORY** – report from  
[geoff@fishingforall.com](mailto:geoff@fishingforall.com)

**The fight is on – will history be repeated?**

Mr Moorman and Co are obviously prepared to

use every trick in the book. I tell a cautionary tale which could have a parallel path. In the 1990's the Masonite Corp arrived on our doorstep.

The promise was for over 700 jobs and all that goes with it to benefit the locality.

Prior to this they had hawked themselves around Europe with no takers.

We were daft enough to accept them and the factory was built at Drumsna on the banks of the river. The government of the time were insane enough to also issue them with a licence to pollute.

During the early 1990's the Shannon corridor had a booming trade in angling tourism.

Indeed during the period up to 1995-1996

Irish coffers benefited to the tune of over £85,000,000 per annum purely from the angling tourism business. In November 1998

Masonite began pumping Formaldehyde in to the river and have actually admitted on occasions exceeding the IPC licence by over 600%.

Nothing was, or has been done and both the EPA and the SHRFB ignored the problem.

Indeed they announced nothing was wrong even though we had proved the river was grossly polluted by Formaldehyde and that all the fish had gone down stream of the factory.

Everybody in authority lied and are still doing so. By the year 2000 the angling tourism business was dead. No fish means no anglers. They all voted with their feet and went to Holland and Denmark and in the main are still doing so.

As for Masonite's promises of 700 jobs! They never employed more than 380 and now employ less than 90....most employees are there on a part time basis. Do you get my point? If the Authorities allow Masonite to get away with what they do and turn a blind eye to all that takes place there, what will they allow Tricky Dicky Moorman and his gang to get away with. After all Masonite compared to Tamboran are just small potatoes.

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**A NEW WEBSITE** - [Fracking Ireland](http://www.frackingireland.com).

Charlie Williams [charlie2williams@gmail.com](mailto:charlie2williams@gmail.com)

Did set up a new website with articles and his comments/press-media releases

He also runs the fracking-ireland google groups: a platform for debates, sharing info etc.

If you wish to become a member: please contact [charlie2williams@gmail.com](mailto:charlie2williams@gmail.com)

Thanks Charlie for this initiative !(Ineke)

## Fracking Ireland

Home

The 'fracking' firm claimed soon in Letterkenny, early December began an on fracking

Leitrim has \$55bn gas reserves, Tamboran claims

Leitrim, Tamboran, gas

Leitrim, Tamboran, gas</

to waste management, pr360 covers these sectors and more, driving thought-leadership and strategic public relations campaigns across all media channels.

Our two partners, Dan Pender and Bernard Mallee, are former Government press and policy advisers across the Departments of Environment, Community and Local Government; Transport, Tourism and Sport; Education and Skills; and Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation.

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Natural Gas Find for Tamboran in Ireland (Update)



Australian-based [Tamboran Resources](#) has confirmed a massive natural gas find in north County Leitrim, Republic of Ireland, and in Co. Fermanagh in Northern Ireland, with the potential for ultimate production of up to 4.4 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas. The gas potential is split between Northern and the Republic of Ireland, with an estimated 2.2 tcf reserves of gas in each.

### Natural Gas find for Tamboran in Ireland

<http://www.naturalgaseurope.com/tamboran-roi-and-ni-gas-find-could-create-1200-jobs-and-ensure-supply-security-4700>

(Web FFI – Irish Press)

[/2012/0201/1224311046794.html](#)

(Web FFI – Irish Press)

Charlie Williams:

'I just sent the following **comment to the editor of the Irish Times** as well as to their newsdesk addresses. The comment is also published on the new website, [Fracking Ireland](#).

(<https://sites.google.com/site/frack/>)'

Comment:

<https://sites.google.com/site/frackingireland/leitrim-has-55bn-gas-reserves-tamboran-claims>



### Green party: Claims of Leitrim gasfield should be taken with a massive dose of salt

<http://www.greenparty.ie/news.html?n=27>

business » sectors » energy & resources »

Print Text Size: A -

The Irish Times - Wednesday, February 1, 2012

### Leitrim has \$55bn gas reserves, firm claims



Richard Moorman, chief executive officer of Tamboran Resources, speaks to anti-fracking protesters following his presentation to Leitrim County

#### In this section »

- Eircom parent seeking buyer
- IL&P High Court case over State cash opens
- Nama performing loans down to 21%

BARRY O'HALLORAN

INITIAL INDICATIONS from exploration drilling in the northwest show that the

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IRISHTIMES.COM Wednesday, February 1, 2012

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Print Text Size: A -

irishtimes.com - Last Updated: Tuesday, January 31, 2012, 18:08

### No need for 'fracking' legislation - study

LORNA SIGGINS, Western Correspondent

A European Commission consultancy study on licensing hydraulic fracturing or "fracking" for shale gas in EU member states says there is no need for specific new legislation governing the controversial activity.

#### Related

- Call for public consultation on gas extraction by 'fracking' | 03/08/2011
- Fracking blamed for UK quake |

### Leitrim ha 55bn gas reserves, firm claims

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/finance>

(Re. To the Oettinger report, see newsletter

**Ireland has one of the most attractive tax rates for fracking companies in the world**

Author: Donagh of Dublin Opinion  
Published: February 1st, 2012  
Section: Best of the Web  
Discussion: No comments so far ( )  
Possibly Related: Environment, EU, Fracking, Irish Politics, Natural Resources

**Ireland has one of the most attractive tax rates for fracking companies in the world**

Very important point made by Natural Gas Europe [here](#) (posted on Shell to Sea) about the licencing agreement around Shale Gas (Fracking) and needs to be understood in the context of the [news today](#) that Tamboran Resources initial exploration in north Leitrim has found that they could ultimately reach 2.2 trillion cubic feet of gas, worth \$55 billion at today's prices. Meanwhile Pat Rabbitte has asked the EPA do an environmental study, but this is very, very unlikely to veer from the assessment of the European Commission consultancy study on licencing hydraulic fracturing which found that there is **no need** for specific new legislation governing the mining activity.

*Besides the environmental impact, the financial cost of both that gas line and the potential shale gas excavation has caused consternation. Currently, Ireland has one of the most attractive tax rates for companies in the world. Companies in Ireland are, in most cases, required to pay only 25 per cent corporation tax, a much lower rate than most other countries with possible shale gas reserves; Ireland also does not require companies to pay any royalties to the government on saleable gas. Tamboran, Lough Allen Natural Gas and Enegi may be required to pay between five and fifteen per cent over this rate, but, even at a higher rate, the gain for the government will be lower than for most other countries in comparable situations. Pandits and protestors alike say that the government is effectively giving away a valuable resource, owned by the Irish people, to outside companies, for very little in return.*

**Ireland has one of the most attractive tax rates for fracking companies in the world.**

Ireland has one of the most attractive tax rates for fracking companies in the world  
Very important point made by Natural Gas Europe here (posted on Shell to Sea) about the licencing agreement around Shale Gas (Fracking) and needs to be understood in the context of the news today that Tamboran Resources initial exploration in north Leitrim [...]

[http://www.irishleftreview.org/2012/02/01/ireland-attractive-tax-rates-fracking-companies-world/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+irishleftreview%2Ffeed+%28Irish+Left+Review%29](http://www.irishleftreview.org/2012/02/01/ireland-attractive-tax-rates-fracking-companies-world/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+irishleftreview%2Ffeed+%28Irish+Left+Review%29)

**COMMENTS / STATEMENTS**

**Greenparty NI**

Issued on behalf of the Green Party in Northern Ireland  
Issued on January 31, 2011  
GREEN PARTY IN NORTHERN IRELAND HIGHLY CRITICAL OF FRACKING COMPANY'S LATEST CLAIMS  
The Green Party in Northern Ireland today challenged Australian mining company Tamboran's new claims that its plans for Fracking in County Fermanagh will be beneficial for Northern Ireland.

Green Party Leader Steven Agnew MLA said:  
"Tamboran claims it will create hundreds of jobs in Northern Ireland through Fracking.  
"It is hard to understand these new figures when only very recently Tamboran said it would create 800 jobs across the whole of Ireland – now they are saying 600 jobs in Northern Ireland alone.  
"If they can't even get their figures straight at this stage, can we really trust them to bore hundreds of wells into our land?  
"The process of Fracking puts at risk both our tourism and farming industries - two key sectors of the Northern Ireland economy.  
"So while Tamboran are making bold claims about job creation – the more important question is how many jobs will be lost if Fracking goes ahead?  
"Currently, one in five jobs in Fermanagh is dependent on the environment and hundreds of gas wells will not only have a destructive visual impact on a unique landscape but will also put our water supplies and community health at risk due to the threat of contamination of the air and water table.  
"The Green Party of course supports job creation but not if it is going to cost jobs in other sectors and put our health, environment and key indigenous industries at risk.  
"More jobs, which will be sustainable for longer, could be created through investment in the renewable energy sector by harnessing clean, green energy sources such wind, wave and tidal.  
"Tamboran seems to be ignoring the will of the Northern Ireland Assembly and Fermanagh District Council both of which recently voted against proposals for Fracking in County Fermanagh.  
"It is arrogant in the extreme of Tamboran to think that it can ride roughshod over not only the political process in Northern Ireland but also the will of many of the people in Fermanagh.  
"We have been duped before by the promises of outside companies to bring jobs and billions of pounds into our economy.  
"While we want Northern Ireland to be open for business, we don't want it to be wide open to the exploitation of multinational companies.  
"We need policies that our good for the economy, good for people and good for the environment."  
ENDS

**Lough Allen Conservation Association – press release to The Leitrim Observer**

Reporter: Sean Wynne

[seanwynne100@eircom.net](mailto:seanwynne100@eircom.net)  
[info@allen.ie](mailto:info@allen.ie)

Lough Allen Conservation Association in a press release to The Leitrim Observer on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> of February 2012 expressed concern that the proposed extraction of gas will have serious implications for the region and the country. During the information meetings held by Tamboran and in their address to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment, they stated that they would only proceed with the project if the community was behind them. The impression of being one of the community, not finding gas, only of job creation was the groups objective. There are a number of facts which this organisation, which is not even registered in this jurisdiction need to address and understand before making judgement on those who are questioning the project for the following reasons.

1. There is no current legislation in place to address Hydraulic Fracturing either at government level or at EU level. Given that the gas is in the ground for millions of years, no one will steal it. If we slow down and put some ground rules in place our fragile environment may benefit . Remember the phrase of the Irish banker when interviewed for RTE said "we need regulation but light touch regulation" and you can see where that got us. Generations will be paying for the tunnel vision of our leaders, is this to continue with the Leitrim/Fermanagh gas fields. We badly need employment in this county but not at any cost. How many jobs will this cost the region should also be discussed and investigated. For a group that employs only between eight/thirty people worldwide to give the impression of large scale employment is at the least disingenuous. Without providing a breakdown of when and where those jobs will be realised and if they are contract jobs.
2. Is there a danger the project will be sold on to the big oil company's and new conditions attached to the extraction of our natural resource, politicians are our guardians of the community and have to take responsibility for the project .
3. The current phase of publicity is about the launch of the project on the Australian stock market in July 2012

and the need to get a test hole to support the view that there is a substantial amount of gas in Leitrim/Fermanagh.

It is the right of this group to exploit this resource for their own personal/company gain given that the licence is open tender, but it is also the right of the citizens of this community to attempt to hold on to the environment that we all enjoy. Remember most things are only appreciated when they are no longer with us.

4. Our governments past and present should have a duty to all citizens of the state not the rich and powerful who have influence in the corridors of power and our public assets used for private gain of a few in another country. Take for example the Kinsale Gas Field, exploration rights to all of the land mass and the territorial waters were sold in 1958 for £500. The Minister involved at the time said it would take fifteen minutes to answer the question of what was given away or signed away . Yet in 1977 the Irish Government paid £700 million to buy back the gas they sold for £500 . How much did it cost Galway County Council to clean up after mining in East Galway - £8.5 million. Will the same happen again in Leitrim in the next few years?

The secretary Sean Wynne concluded.

087 6312708

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EU

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### **How to sell shale gas development to a skeptical public**

Article:

From The Tyee (an alternative, on-line news magazine from the Canadian province of British Columbia), 31 January 2012.

Tyee refers to a kind of salmon and is also a nickname for a chief or elder spokesman.

Conservatives axe popular energy-saving

program. **Former AB premier Stelmach advises Ukraine on shale gas: report**  
By Geoff Dembicki January 30, 2012 01:55 p

**Former Alberta premier Ed Stelmach has been giving tips to the Ukrainian government on how to sell controversial shale gas development to a skeptical public, according to a story in the English-language Kyiv Post.**

Stelmach, whose Ukrainian grandfather emigrated to Canada in 1898, was in the country's capital, Kiev, last week to attend an energy conference hosted by the Massachusetts-based Cambridge Energy Research Associates.

The former premier reportedly declared that Ukraine could help end its dependence on Russian natural gas by tapping into its own vast shale gas reserves, just one of which is estimated at 170 billion cubic meters.

"I am positive that we're going to see significant investment in exploration," he told Ukrainian media.

Development has apparently been stymied to date by low foreign investment, complex regulations and environmental concerns.

Stelmach reportedly has advised the Ukrainian government to follow the Alberta model of public relations, whereby scientists and other third parties are enlisted to explain the extraction process to a potentially wary public.

Shale gas extraction, particularly "fracking" technology, has been under intense scrutiny across North America.

The Tye's Andrew Nikiforuk reported last week on a landowner's group in Alberta which is calling for a provincial moratorium on the process, arguing it contaminates groundwater and leaks poisonous hydrogen sulphide.

Stelmach apparently told the Kiev conference that shale gas development in Alberta relies on some of the world's most modern technology.

Stelmach is not alone in promoting either the shale gas industry or championing Canada's poor energy regulations abroad.

George Eynon, a member of Alberta's Energy Resources Conservation Board, for example, made presentations on shale gas regulation in Warsaw Poland in 2010 and Paris 2011. Yet the ERCB has been heavily criticized for its management of shallow and deep hydraulic fracking and deregulation of well density in Alberta.

Members of the Canadian Embassy in Poland have also promoted shale gas development. In addition Alex Ferguson, former commissioner of the BC's Oil and Gas Commission also offered advice on unconventional shale gas production to European audiences. Yet the BC industry has caused earthquakes and water controversies in northern BC. (Ferguson is now a senior advisor to Apache Canada).

Talisman and EnCana, two major shale gas developers, have extensive unconventional gas interests in Europe.

Despite the lobbying and presentations, no jurisdiction in Canada has comprehensive regulations on unconventional shale gas that clearly protects groundwater. Noted one 2011 Toronto legal briefing on shale gas:

"The rush to stake a claim in the shale gas development across Canada by some of the biggest players in the natural gas industry has left federal and provincial regulators playing catch-up and produced a patchwork of regulations and policies to govern the industry."

With files from Andrew Nikiforuk.

Geoff Dembicki reports on energy and climate issues for The Tye.

## EU – news

### Poland

#### Polish Shale Gas Estimates Likely to be Recalculated



National Gas Europe recently interviewed Pawel Poprawa, Chief Specialist & Head of Petroleum Geology Laboratory at the Polish Geological Institute.

Mr. Poprawa recapped shale gas exploration efforts in Poland to-date and suggested that an upcoming Polish-American report will include a more conservative evaluation of technically recoverable shale gas resources in Poland, than the 5.3 TCM (187 TCF) estimated by EIA last

#### Polish Shale gas estimates likely to be recalculated

Report will include more conservative evaluation of technically recoverable shale gas resources in Poland

<http://www.naturalgaseurope.com/polish-shale-gas-estimates-likely-to-drop>

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### Exxon Shale Failure in Poland May Lengthen Gazprom's Shadow

By Joe Carroll - Feb 1, 2012 9:42 PM GMT

Exxon Mobil Corp. (XOM)'s failed shale-gas wells in Poland may hobble the nation's effort to become one of the world's major energy sources and dismantle Russian dominance of Eastern European natural-gas markets.

Exxon, the world's largest energy company by market value, said two exploratory wells drilled in a Polish shale formation last year weren't commercially viable. The gas discovered in the wells, Exxon's first in Poland, failed to flow in sufficient quantities to justify bringing them into production, David Rosenthal, vice president for investor relations, said during a conference call yesterday.

**Exxon shale failure -**  
<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-01-31/exxon-says-two-polish-shale-wells-were-not-commercially-viable.html>



#### Europe

##### Poland wakes up...

Although it may have taken a visit from José Bové (the French Asterix lookalike Green MEP and local hero) to get the ball rolling, it looks as if the anti-shale gas movement in Poland is finally gaining traction. Although over 90 licences have already been issued by the Polish Government and a handful of wells have now been drilled (including the first

Other things to  
• Good article abt  
of shale gas in  
Reference doc  
• Very informative  
the economics of  
gas  
Important  
All opinions and is

#### Poland wakes up ...

[http://fracastrophe.com/?page\\_id=37](http://fracastrophe.com/?page_id=37)

### GERMANY

#### Reporter:

**Jörn Krüger** - [jkrueger@unkonventionelle-gasfoerderung.de](mailto:jkrueger@unkonventionelle-gasfoerderung.de)

Today the german environment ministry announced a new law initiative which will be discussed in the next weeks:

"Fracking in unconventional gas fields with water hazardous chemicals should be only allowed after an environmental impact analysis and never in water extraction areas"

This sounds good in the first, but environmental impact analysis had never stopped a project in the past. Fracking in conventional gas fields is excluded. Nobody really knows which chemicals may be dangerous in the future. ExxonMobil has used Octylphenol which will be regulated under REACH in the future. Octylphenol is mutagenic in minimal dose.

The good new is, that the environment ministry is in talks with the ministry of economics about a moratorium on fracking in unconventional gas fields, which gave us some more time.

Source: <http://www.ruhrnachrichten.de/nachrichten/politik/inland/Bundesumweltministerium-will-Fracking-regulieren;art29862,1544415>

#### Comment by Antoine:

Also, if I understand well the Google translation of the article you added with your message, Exxon has announced they would dispense with the use of any toxic chemicals in their fracking fluid within the next two years, which confirms (after Austria and France) what

the next big step taken by the gas industries is going to be....

and

this is also a funny article that could be used to Oetty's attention to show that, despite the fact that the study only takes 4 national examples (amongst the 27 European member states' legislations), one of these 4 countries already consider the possibility to regulate fracking...

and more info about conventional gas drilling and transportation problems and cancer etc...

Dear all,

Please find attached an english translation from the german news magazin "Report München". It is about conventional gas drilling and the problem with the transportation and disposal of formation water. It is not mainly about fracking, but the formation water could contain fracking chemicals as well. Some of the conventional gas fields in northern germany are fracked for years.

The german version and a video are available at:

<http://www.br.de/fernsehen/das-erste/sendungen/report-muenchen/videos-und-manuskripte/umweltskandal-durch-erdgasfoerderung100.html>

Main Points:

Woman: "My Father in law has become sick of cancer, I've become sick of cancer, my mother in law has become sick of cancer... Three people in one year!"

"We are showing the measured values which exceed thousandfold to an acknowledged toxicologist in Niedersachsen named Dr. Hermann Kruse"

Prof. Sybille Planitz-Penno: "If you pump benzene through this, the benzene will slowly accumulate on this surface and slowly diffuse into this material. It will slowly go through and someday reach the surface after weeks, years."

The full Text Clean... environment friendly... This is how the so called "Coal Seam Gas Mining" is described as It almost sounds like "healthy" And it is more than convenient for big energy corporations to be able to mine lots of it in a town called "Niedersachsen" This is

where the biggest mining area is located in Germany. But strangely this is exactly the place where lots of people have come down with cancer. Hendrik Loven and Gabriella Balassa reporting about contaminated lands and concerned residents: The small place Allerdorf in Niedersachsen. In the midst of the largest gas mining zone of germany. Here are only few houses, but many cases of cancer. Woman: "My Father in law has become sick of cancer, I've become sick of cancer, my mother in law has become sick of cancer... Three people in one year!" Man: "We now have so many cases of cancer here, so many different types of cancer, for me its no coincidence anymore." Renate Köther is meeting up with other affected people. They thought, they would live in a rural idylle. Now they are wondering about the many cancer diseases in their village. Affected One: How can it be, that there are 10 cancer cases in 9 houses, we only have 27 houses around here, thats a third! Why here?" In this region around Allerdorf, hydraulic Frackturing has been going on since the 90s. Sounds harmless? But what many don't know: Through fracking, poisonous drain water is created. The so called reservoir water. It is pumped through pipelines below ground in order to dispose of the waste. Containing cancerogenic material like mercury and the highly toxic Benzene. These pipes are also going across the place Völkersen below the pasture owned by farmer Heinrich Clüver. Heinrich Clüver: "And there is the spot where the first sample has been taken at the beginning of December 2011 and here, directly above the pipeline in 1,20 m depth concentrations of about 4000 micrograms of benzene were found. And that is a whole lot when an amount of 5 micrograms already becomes dangerous to one's health. We are showing the measured values which exceed thousandfold to an acknowledged toxicologist in Niedersachsen named Dr. Hermann Kruse Dr. Hermann Kruse: "Benzene belongs to the very few working substances of which we know, absolutely know, that it can cause cancer to humans. And these substances naturally count among the most alarming chemicals we can imagine and which we have to do with in the environment. On many spots, supervisors have measured Benzene in the soil. And yet the Corporation in charge, RWE Dea does not want to see a connection to the cancer cases. Facts would be missing. The entire Region is like a spiderweb with pipeless going across. Subterranean Pipes are guiding the benzene containing reservoir water from the drilling sites to the dumping spot.

Somehow along this way, benzene must have gotten into the soil in and around Völkersen. The Population is horrified, the owner of RWE Dea conciliates in public: Uwe-Stephan Lagies, Speaker RWE Dea, 1/16/2011, NDR, Regional News: Firstly we will look and examine these pipelines accurately regarding how much benzene was found. Secondly, we don't have an indication for a leakage at the moment. In this sense, it is too early to determine a more precise cause there. This would be speculation." We want to know, how do get values exceeding thousandfold, one of the most toxic and cancerogenic substances into the groundwater and the soil? Through these pipes the reservoir water from RWE Dea is pumped through the region. These are PE 100 plastic pipes. They don't get rusty and hold most material back. And what about the cancerogenic benzene? We are asking a plastic- and chemistry expert. Prof. Sybille Planitz-Penno who has been working with plastic pipes for many years Prof. Sybille Planitz-Penno: "If you pump benzene through this, the benzene will slowly accumulate on this surface and slowly diffuse into this material. It will slowly go through and someday reach the surface after weeks, years." Report Munich: "And since when do we know that?" Prof. Sybille Planitz-Penno: "There are publications from the 60s. There are bigger investigations from the 80s related to the sealing of dumps." This knowledge doesnt seem to have reached RWE Dea yet. There "haven't been any conspicuousnesses" so far, they write to us. But it must have been long known to the Industry. There were also problems with the Oil and Gas Corporation Exxon Mobil since 2007 in Niedersachsen: There was also benzene leaking through PE-Pipelines. 2500 tons of soil had to be disposed of. The remediation almost lasted four years. Exxon Mobil writes to us regarding benzene: "At this point in time it was unknown, that higher hydrocarbons are able to diffuse through PE Pipes in smaller amounts This has only become known at the end of 2007." We are turning to the approved and controlling agency for gas mining in Niedersachsen. The regional authority for mining, energy and geology. The write, that the permeance had been unknown damage till 2007. Really? Couldn't they know it earlier? With just a few clicks on the internet you find clues by the manufacturers themselves, that PE Pipes are inappropriate for the pumping of benzene-containing liquids like reservoir water. Well it's exactly what happens with coal seam gas mining. Then how could the agency approve

these pipes? Elke Twesten herself is affected in her own constituency and sees severe failings. Elke Twesten, deputy, Green Party: "Then we have to talk about, whether it was and is negligent to a certain degree. Because a plastic pipe or examanining the effect of chemicals on plastic pipes, doesnt belong to the high-scientific methods, i think. It would have been an obvious action." Besides there are alternatives: So called composite pipes: a PE-Layer, surrounded by aluminium and other resistant fabrics. But they are much more expensive. Even the residents cannot believe, that agencies and the Industry knew nothing about the dangers and the alternatives: Renate Köther: "An informed corporation, they have people, who have studied, those are experts. And yet they are proceeding so unprofessionally, profit is placed before security and yes, makes one speechless." Moreover, until recently, the country Niedersachsen has funded gas mining despite the fact that those energy corporations are earning millions of profit. And even in other nations gas is intended to be mined. The pieces of land are already marked. The Goal: More independece on foreign gas. But then the agencies must take a closer look. The residents in Niedersachsen already demand a complete remediation for all affected areas. Jörn Krüger  
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## US NEWS

The screenshot shows a Bloomberg News article. The main headline is "Fracking Boom Could Finally Cap Myth of Peak Oil: Peter Orszag". The author is Peter Orszag, dated Feb 1, 2012 12:00 AM GMT. The article text reads: "The U.S. oil market could be on the verge of its own fracking revolution, similar to what the natural-gas market is already experiencing. As a result, domestic production is now projected to rise significantly over the coming decades, reducing the relative share of imports in U.S. oil consumption." There are social media sharing options (Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Print, Email) and a "More" dropdown menu. A sidebar on the right contains "FOLLOW VIEW" and "JUST AT" sections with various news snippets.

## Fracking Could Finally Cap Myth of Peak Oil

The U.S. oil market could be on the verge of its own fracking revolution, similar to what the natural-gas market is already experiencing. As a result, domestic production is now projected to

rise significantly over the coming decades, reducing the relative share of imports in U.S. oil consumption.

<http://bloom.bg/wBpQLT>

## TAMBORAN STATEMENT NI and Summary

£6bn gas investment could create 600 full time jobs and deliver security of energy supply in Northern Ireland for up to 50 years

Tamboran announces completion of first analysis phase

Tamboran references US President Obama and former US President Clinton's supportive comments about natural gas from shale

Energy company Tamboran Resources Pty Ltd ("Tamboran") is pleased to announce that initial studies have confirmed that a substantial natural gas field is present in southwest County Fermanagh in Northern Ireland. A gas exploration project for Northern Ireland could create 600 full time jobs, up to 2,400 indirect jobs and deliver natural gas energy security for the next 50 years.

The company, which proposes to invest £6 billion in Northern Ireland, was commenting following completion of the first part of its analysis to determine the feasibility of shale gas exploration in Northern Ireland. Tamboran's technical team of over 20 professionals have been involved in substantial natural projects worldwide and have very high confidence that they can commercially develop this project in Northern Ireland. The full analysis will be published by the end of this year.

Tamboran, who last year was granted an Exploration Licence by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, is focusing its Northern Ireland operations in the southwest area of County Fermanagh. The Company has been granted a Licensing Option in an adjacent area in the Republic of Ireland where it is focusing in north County Leitrim.

The north-west region of Ireland is the only part of the island which is not currently connected to the gas network.

Outlining its initial analysis, which was based on its own and other recent studies, Tamboran identified a range of economic and energy benefits for Northern Ireland from the project, including:

Potential for ultimate production of up to 2.2 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of shale gas. This equates to 50 years of the current daily consumption of gas in Northern Ireland;

Full natural gas security of supply in Northern Ireland for at least 20 years and a substantial reduction in imports for over 30 years leading to removal of Northern Ireland's 100% dependency on imported gas;

Excess gas supply at peak production, enabling Northern Ireland to become a significant net exporter of natural gas;

The creation of 600 direct jobs and an estimated 2,400 indirect jobs in County Fermanagh;

Tax revenues of up to £6.9 billion (including royalties, corporation tax, Vat, employment taxes

and exploration tax); and

A community investment fund directed entirely within County Fermanagh, estimated to lead to additional local benefits in excess of £2 million per year once the project reaches expected commerciality in 2015.

Describing the project as 'an energy and economic game changer for Northern Ireland', Richard Moorman, Chief Executive of Tamboran said:

'Our initial analysis suggests very substantial shale gas reserves in the southwest Fermanagh area. Allowing for even modest rates of recovery, the energy and economic benefits would be tremendous.'

'Security of energy supply is a primary concern for all governments. Our analysis indicates that the island of Ireland is in the fortunate position to have substantial gas reserves under its feet. In southwest Fermanagh alone, we believe that there is up to 50 years of the present daily gas consumption of Northern Ireland. Realising these reserves would secure gas supply for decades, protect consumers and businesses from market uncertainty and negate the risks associated with being over dependent on unpredictable external supplies. County Fermanagh would be able to attract additional businesses that would benefit directly from a secure local natural gas supply.'

Natural gas from shale has made a substantial positive impact in North America already. In his State of the Union address on the 25th of January, US President Barack Obama stated: "We have a supply of natural gas that can last America nearly one hundred years, and my Administration will take every possible action to safely develop this energy. Experts believe this will support more than 600,000 jobs by the end of the decade. And I'm requiring all companies that drill for gas on public lands to disclose the chemicals they use. America will develop this resource without putting the health and safety of our citizens at risk."

President Obama's comments are similar to statements by former US President Bill Clinton in his recently published book "Back to Work: Why we need smart government for a strong economy", in which he wrote: "With proper care, I think we can extract the gas. We need it, and it can make us both more energy independent and contribute to job creation and growth."

Mr Moorman further stated 'Our projections of the economic gains for Northern Ireland from this proposed £6 billion investment includes up to £6.9 billion in tax revenues over the lifetime of the project, 600 full-time, long-term direct jobs by 2025 (with up to 2,400 indirect jobs), for a total of about 14,000 direct person-years of employment through to the year 2050. Tamboran expects to provide comprehensive and continuous training to all of its local employees to ensure they can commercially succeed within Tamboran.'

Tamboran is proceeding with its agreed work programme of analysis, required under its existing licences, and will publish an update later this year. Additionally, the company will undertake a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment which will include a 12 month baseline study of all aspects of the environment, including soil, groundwater, air quality, noise levels, and seismic activity. The company will publish these findings upon completion in early 2013 and will then outline its intentions as to how it will request permission to proceed to the next stage of the licensing and planning processes.

Concluding, Mr Moorman said 'In recent months we have met with and listened to a wide range of stakeholders at community, business, regulatory and political levels. We will continue with this approach, outlining the reality of our proposal while acknowledging that a project of this scale will attract requests for clarity and support.'

'Tamboran will not utilise any chemicals in its hydraulic fracturing process in Northern Ireland, and we will be bringing together the best technologies developed worldwide into this one project to ensure the safe and responsible development of a tremendous resource for Northern Ireland.'

'We are undertaking a full Environmental Impact Assessment, which will set out the specific

criteria under which the company must safely and responsibly conduct its operations to the very highest standards.'

'Additionally, we will establish a substantial community investment fund to ensure all benefits are shared at local as well as national levels. We consider it essential to deliver a direct benefit for local residents. Tamboran undertakes to operate safely and our commitment to openness and transparency will remain every step of the way.'

International studies worldwide have shown that natural gas has low carbon content relative to other fossil fuels, which would also allow it to play a significant role in reducing CO2 emissions, acting as a bridge to a low-carbon future (see editors' notes).

Tamboran invites all stakeholders, especially local residents, to engage with the company and work closely with us to ensure that the project is conducted responsibly to meet the essential economic needs of the community and Northern Ireland.

ENDS

For media queries in Northern Ireland contact:

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Interviews are available on request through Weber Shandwick. Substantial information is also available on Tamboran's website at <http://www.facebook.com/l/QAQQG-gxxAQGCKsBM7utVnV2BsQ9QU0gBbTphddCN5DQPwA/www.tamboran.com>.

Editors' notes:

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) study, June 2011 [http://www.facebook.com/l/xAQHA6xNIAQGVqrj8204TcKTPBk5Eog2xRoEkDIv\\_4L3k6A/web.mit.edu/mitej/research/studies/natural-gas-2011.shtml](http://www.facebook.com/l/xAQHA6xNIAQGVqrj8204TcKTPBk5Eog2xRoEkDIv_4L3k6A/web.mit.edu/mitej/research/studies/natural-gas-2011.shtml)

\*\*\*\*\***Summary -**\*\*\*\*\*

These are the salient points in the Tamboran press release

- 1) gas exploration in south west Fermanagh will create 600 full-time jobs, 2,400 indirect jobs and 50 years of the current daily consumption of gas in NI
- 2) tax revenues of up to £6.9b
- 3) a community investment fund (for people like yourselves), estimated at £2m-plus 'once the project reaches commerciality in 2015'
- 4) the press release refers to Obama's State of the Union address and stating that the US had a supply of natural gas to last it for 100 years, creating 600,000 jobs  
b) and the President's insistence that all gas drilling companies would have to disclose what chemicals they use
- 5) Tamboran say it will include a 12 month baseline study of all aspects of the environment, including soil, groundwater, air quality, noise levels, and seismic activity. It will publish these findings upon completion in early 2013 and will then outline its intentions as to how it will request permission to proceed to the next stage of the licensing and planning processes.

6) `Tamboran will not utilise any chemicals in its hydraulic fracturing process in Northern Ireland - direct quotes

7) It says it is undertaking a full Environmental Impact Assessment which will set out the specific criteria under which the company must safely and responsibly conduct its operations to the very highest standards.

8) (Finally) - Tamboran invites all stakeholders, especially local residents, to engage with the company and work closely with them to ensure that the project is conducted responsibly to meet the essential economic needs of the community and Northern Ireland.

#### **Comment: Fermanagh Fracking Awareness Network**

In general everything in this statement is vague and nothing definite. The only thing that is definite is that this company will make profit using our resources and will leave the people to clean up the mess.

**Following Tamborans announcement that they now plan to proceed with the drilling part of their business plan, Fermanagh Fracking Awareness Network [FFAN] ask the Government, again, to listen to the voices & votes of both our Local Council & the Stormont Assembly and place an immediate moratorium on this controversial Shale-gas extraction technique.**

**In summary don't let the Shale Gas Industry "facts" lull us into a false sense of security; for in all other places they have been, their hype does not turn out to be true. We ask the people of Fermanagh to insist on a moratorium of this exploration & extraction**