



Information letter for those to whom fracking matters and (some) updates on the website [www.frackingfreeireland.org](http://www.frackingfreeireland.org), with links to other (Irish) fracking websites

NOTICE: I am away Monday 28 NOV – MONDAY 5 DEC. We, Benjamin and Ineke, are on the Crafts and Design Fair in Dublin. **Meg and Magda will do the newsletter that week. You can still send your contribution to the same address: [ineke@frackingfreeireland.org](mailto:ineke@frackingfreeireland.org)**

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## COUNTY CLARE NEWS

### County Clare contact details:

West and East Clare:

- [clarefrack@gmail.com](mailto:clarefrack@gmail.com)

- Veronica Miriam Quilligan:

[90035950@umail.ucc.ie](mailto:90035950@umail.ucc.ie);

East Clare [alisrob@eircom.net](mailto:alisrob@eircom.net)

### Request for training Aedin's Power Point Presentation

Via the contact form from the FFI Web, we received the following request from a campaigner in the Clare basin

'I was at your presentation last week at Cliffony and would really like to learn more about it so I will be able to articulate as clearly as possible to people about fracking. I would love to give a presentation to people in the south east as I spend a lot of time around Kilkenny and think people would really be interested to know what's potentially going to happen in this country. Do you train people in these presentations?' Fiona [fionamcgeown@hotmail.com](mailto:fionamcgeown@hotmail.com)

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### DUBLIN CONTACT - Tommy Foster

[tommy.j.foster@gmail.com](mailto:tommy.j.foster@gmail.com)

**The following emails were received,** (via contact form Web FFI)

'I may be at the march in Dublin on Saturday. Could I meet you and take some flyers to distribute around my estate in Finglas? Or if you haven't got enough maybe we could organise getting more printed. I'd like to help spread the word in Dublin.'

In any case it'd be good to speak to ye and see how I can help on this end of the country. I haven't got a tremendous amount of free time over the next while but I'd like to do what I can.'

And later:

Hi folks,

I'll try to meet up with ye on Saturday for a chat and maybe get a few flyers from ye.

However I think it'd be good to put together a new one that could impress upon people in Dublin that this is a national issue and to show them how urgent it is that we make some noise about it.

I spoke to Terry (didn't catch his second name) at Dame St. yesterday and he mentioned that gas has been promised by the end of 2012. I hadn't realised how close they were to beginning with the process. I think a lot of people here remain fairly ignorant of the issue or at least don't fully appreciate the gravity of it. I believe that a strong leafleting campaign, either thru letterboxes or on the streets, would be more effective than writing to papers.

Sure anyway, we can discuss it more on Saturday, see what we can come up with.

Talk to ye then,  
Tommy

**Question:** I (Ineke) had to give a workshop. Did someone meet Tommy? Any impression of the march...?

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Received via contact from Web FFI

## **Public platform for Fracking Free Ireland**

To whom it may concern

My name is Lee and I am one of the co-ordinators of the Outreach team here at Dame street. We are planning an outreach open day for **Fri Dec 2nd** in recognition of the fact that you guys have been doing a lot of work on the fracking issue. We would like to offer you a public platform to discuss your group / ideas / campaigns as we believe all the work you have done is extremely important for the society we need to work towards. We will provide PA system, refreshment and also some music (very special guest soon to be announced). We will also provide some goodies and facepainting for kids so feel free to bring yours along.

We think this could be a great day for networking for all concerned and would like to offer our assistance in anyway possible in the hope that we can all help each other in the future. If anybody would like to come along or has any questions please feel free to ask

Lee Page

MSc Sustainable Development

0872814093

[leepage100@gmail.com](mailto:leepage100@gmail.com)

NOTE: I (Ineke) asked Meg to contact Lee

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### **Upcoming events**

#### **Ardcarne Community Against Fracking -**

Contact: Leah Doherty [doherty.lea@gmail.com](mailto:doherty.lea@gmail.com)

The **Water Summit on Dec 1st** is a must show for anti-frackers imo, there is a bus being organised from carrick hopefully people will see the importance of this and other buses will be organised etc...

**Carrick-Against Fracking** - Contact: John Cronogue [jcronogue@gmail.com](mailto:jcronogue@gmail.com)

#### **National Water Framework in Crokepark in Dublin on Thursday Dec 1st.**

A bus will be organised to this meeting from Carrick-on-Shannon

Contact **087 9093909** (this is the correct number) to book a place. Approx. 13 Euro p.p.

### **All upcoming events on:**

<http://frackingfreeireland.org/upcoming-events/>

visit also: <http://what-the-frack.org/events/>

### **PLEASE ADD TO YOUR EMAIL LIST**

Fiona [fionamcgeown@hotmail.com](mailto:fionamcgeown@hotmail.com)

Evelyn Doherty [evelyn.doherty@gmail.com](mailto:evelyn.doherty@gmail.com)

Gearoid [gearoidnealon@yahoo.com](mailto:gearoidnealon@yahoo.com)

DUBLIN: Lee Page [leepage100@gmail.com](mailto:leepage100@gmail.com)

DUBLIN :Tommy Foster

[tommy.j.foster@gmail.com](mailto:tommy.j.foster@gmail.com)

### **PLEASE REMOVE FROM EMAIL LIST**

[marydaly200@gmail.com](mailto:marydaly200@gmail.com)

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### **QUESTION – who is willing to respond?**

I have a question about the licensing process. Perhaps one of you can answer it. If not I could you put in in the next Newsletter please?

I know that there is a Phase 1 licence which allows exploration but no fracking and lasts for 2 years. I know that there is a Phase 2 licence which allows further exploration, that includes fracking and I understand that this licence cannot be applied for until Phase 1 is complete. My question is: What constitutes completion of Phase 1. Is it the expiration of the 2 year period or are there other criteria which, if fulfilled, could reduce the two years and if so, what are they?

Thank you.

Margaret Dillane [magweb@eircom.net](mailto:magweb@eircom.net)

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### **Tamboran UK**

<http://www.companiesintheuk.co.uk/lt/tamboran-resources-%28uk%29> (Web FFI useful links)

Here you will find people connected with Tamboran, and DAVID ALAN FALVEY appointed as director on 3 Dec 2010

### **Australia – movie**

Excellent speech by Australian broadcaster

[Alan Jones MUST SEE speech on CSG Part 1](#)

From: [RescueOurFuture](#) | 25 Oct 2011 | 7,820 views

(Part 1) In his National Press Club address, Alan Jones delivers the speech that every man, woman and child in Australia needs to hear at this crucial junction in our history. Are we going to sit back and allow mining companies and the Governments that support them to destroy our water, our food, our health, our land, our communities and everything we hold dear about

Australian life?

<http://www.youtube.com/user/RescueOurFuture#p/u/5/ebP43RIZW3Q> (Web FFI movies)

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## MAKE -YOU-VERY CRY- NEWS

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**From:** Press Office DCENR

[mailto:Press.Office@dcentr.gov.ie]

**Sent:** 24 November 2011 12:36

**To:** Press Office DCENR

**Subject:** Press Release: "Winning Community Acceptance of Energy Infrastructure Biggest Challenge for European Energy Policy" - Minister Rabbitte.

### "Winning Community Acceptance of Energy Infrastructure Biggest Challenge for European Energy Policy" - Minister Rabbitte.

<http://www.dcentr.gov.ie/Press+Releases/Winning+Community+Acceptance+of+Energy+Infrastructure+Biggest+Challenge+for+European+Energy+Policy+s.htm>

(Web FFI Irish News and EU parliament)

**Brussels, Thursday 24 November 2011.**

**Minister for Energy Pat Rabbitte** today identified community acceptance of energy infrastructure as the biggest challenge facing energy policy makers across Europe.

Addressing a meeting of European Energy Ministers in Brussels on the subject of Energy Infrastructure he said "At the heart of the question is how do we deliver the scale of the urgent investment needed in as short a time as possible and as cost efficiently as possible? And above all how do we bring our citizens and communities with us? Community acceptance of energy infrastructure is frankly the biggest challenge we all face.

"I am more confident in our ability to incentivise the private and public investment in energy infrastructure than in our current ability to convince our citizens that such investment is essential for their wellbeing, their jobs and their future. Everyone wants, and deserves, cheaper, environmentally sustainable and secure energy supply at home and at work.

"From the remote West of Ireland to the Eastern edge of the Union that fundamental need means wires, transmission lines, pylons, wind turbines, power-plants, gas storage and gas pipelines.

"Our challenge is to connect with citizens and communities and all stakeholders and to instill

confidence in the planning and permitting systems' capability to address environmental, health, safety and amenity concerns. Where there are genuine concerns, our systems must be seen to meet them. Where better education and understanding on meeting our energy needs is required, we must give the necessary leadership.

"That will be among the biggest challenges we face in delivering the goals of Europe's Energy Infrastructure Package."

At today's Energy Council meeting Minister Rabbitte also presented EU Energy Commissioner Oettinger with a copy of the "Isles" report on the Irish-Scottish offshore renewable energy grid which demonstrates that a Subsea grid connecting Scottish, Irish and Northern Irish offshore renewable sites is feasible. The report was launched yesterday in Glasgow by Minister Rabbitte together with Ministers Arlene Foster and Fergus Ewing.

Press Office,  
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Natural Resources,  
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Dublin 2.  
+3531 6782442

[Press.office@dcentr.gov.ie](mailto:Press.office@dcentr.gov.ie)  
[www.dcentr.gov.ie](http://www.dcentr.gov.ie)

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## NORTHERN IRELAND MAKE-YOU-CRY AND MAKE-YOU-PROUD-NEWS

(Web FFI Irish news/Fermanagh/Ni news)



<http://ubuntuone.com/21AgtZM7y7qX4xZpeh7H47> (Newsletter 27)

**An article from the Belfast telegraph.**

# Foster: I'd no role in gas licence for husband's land

BY JOHN McGHEE

**background**

Earlier this week it was revealed that the Prime Minister's husband owned land awarded a gas exploration licence. Mr Foster said she had no direct involvement with the decision which would involve fracking – a process of drilling down and creating small explosions. There are concerns the operation could affect drinking water supplies.

Speaking yesterday, Mr Foster said: "I personally developed her in the early 1990s on a number of occasions and she did not declare her personal interests. I believe she had a moral duty to declare her husband's interests."

Mr Foster also faced criticism from opposition coalition member Sinn Féin who said the licence has been done to the minute and her department.

The Sinn Féin minister denied the controversy over awarding the licence was a personal issue between himself and Mr Foster.

It is understood the coalition minister will seek to discuss his family's links to gas exploration in the coming weeks.

Mr Robinson stated by his party colleague and said she had "never" supported anybody having that kind of licence granted for that purpose.

Mr Robinson stated by his party colleague and said she had "never" supported anybody having that kind of licence granted for that purpose.

<http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/ArleneHusbandDeal.jpg>

Received from Michael Cairns.

Anti Frackers out in Belfast spreading the word. We raised this banner on a very busy road at rush hour outside queens Uni today.

Lots of people came over enquiring. Many DVDs have been given out. There was a journalist who came out from THE IRISH NEWS.

FIGHT THE FRACK  
Michael Cairns [nautical\\_9@hotmail.com](mailto:nautical_9@hotmail.com)



<http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Queens11.jpg>



<http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Queens31.jpg>



<http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/QueensProtest.jpg>

## CALL FOR PROTEST

Dear all

A Motion calling for a Moratorium on Fracking (Hydraulic Fracturing) is being debated in Stormont on December 6th. Lets show the Assembly how many of us are opposed to this dreadful, destructive extraction process coming anywhere NEAR us!! Those who oppose Fracking have been labelled as "Scaremongers" by Arlene Foster the current DETI Minister who just so happens to be married to a man who owns 54 acres of land in a prime location for Fracking! \*Derrygonnelly, Co Fermanagh, very close to the border\*

We call on everyone regardless of where your from to join and support **this Protest on Tuesday the 6th of December!**

Some of us are coming from North Sligo/North Leitrim (near Bundoran) Ballyshannon way, anyone interested in car sharing, or chipping in on a minibus if we get a good quote, please please email us.  
peace,  
meg Rybicki  
North West Network against Fracking

Contact details: Meg Rybicki  
[youthmardingo@gmail.com](mailto:youthmardingo@gmail.com) 0863840254

im all up for the 6th protest.

Banners, Signs, TShirts, Loud Speakers included....

lets rock the boat....  
FIGHT THE FRACK  
Michael Cairns [nautical\\_9@hotmail.com](mailto:nautical_9@hotmail.com)

Great to hear you are coming. Will see you then.  
Majella (Belfast) Mccarron  
[majella.mccarron@gmail.com](mailto:majella.mccarron@gmail.com)

**ARTICLE FROM OUR OWN CAMPAIGNERS**  
(Web FFI: Irish Press/Fermanagh NI news)

**An environmental disaster in the making**

NEWS BEACON – article written by **TRACY Murray** [freefringefest@gmail.com](mailto:freefringefest@gmail.com) and AIDIN Killian, a well known comedian.  
[aidan@laughoutloud.ie](mailto:aidan@laughoutloud.ie)

[www.news-beacon-ireland.info](http://www.news-beacon-ireland.info) its the first article called environmetal disaster in the making  
<http://news-beacon-ireland.info/?p=191>

Gasland is findable and watchable on this link  
<http://www.novamov.com/video/4d0ae17d13f6b>

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ARTICLE IN THE ECONOMIST

**The Economist on fracking, carbon and pricing to cover environmental costs -**  
received from + comment by: [Lisette van Vliet](#), Ph.D. *Toxics Policy Advisor* (Belgium)

Hi All,  
See below article. Clear conservative slant, but that's predictable from The Economist magazine:

But that [water contamination] risk could be greatly reduced by tighter regulation, leading to better industry practice: it is not an argument for banning the procedure altogether.

And once we've got the environmental [and health] damage internalized into the cost, what do we do when it becomes clear that not every payable 'repair' is ecologically doable, or even socially desirable? I don't want more asthma etc, even if you're willing to pay for the meds!

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**Shale gas**

**Frack on**

**People should worry less about fracking, and more about carbon**

Nov 26th 2011 | from the print edition

AT A recent shindig in London of the shale-gas industry, energy firms gave a rosy view of the fuel's prospects in Europe. Like America, Europe has vast beds of shale rock, in which

innumerable bubbles of natural gas are trapped. By cannoning water, sand and chemicals at them, a process known as hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking", the bubbles can be released. This, the firms said, could bring Europe the same bonanza of cheap gas and new jobs in the industry that America is now enjoying (see [article](#)). It would also lessen Europe's irksome dependence on Russian gas.

Outside the venue, meanwhile, protesters chanted, "Flaming water from our tap, we don't want this fracking crap." They referred to fears that fracking can cause contamination of aquifers by the methane and naturally occurring radioactive material it displaces, or by the chemicals it uses. Another worry is that fracking may cause earthquakes. A recent British study suggested that 50 tiny quakes in Lancashire were the result of fracking nearby.

Such issues have been raised in America, too, but energy firms there have been able to ignore them because they are exempt from many environmental rules. An intervention in 2005 by Dick Cheney, then vice-president, wrested an armful of exemptions specifically for fracking. That has helped the industry grow spectacularly. In 2000 shale beds provided 1% of America's natural-gas supply; they now produce around 25%. But it has also allowed reckless American frackers to do environmental damage. Some are alleged to have pumped toxic chemicals into the ground with impunity.

In Europe, where environmentalists are stronger, energy companies have a tougher time. In response to anti-fracking protests, France has slapped a moratorium on the practice; in Britain, activists for Frack Off, a pressure group, have shut down drill sites.

**Reasons to worry, and not to**

Environmentalists are probably worrying too much about the immediate consequences of fracking. The technique has been in regular use in the conventional oil and gas industry since the 1940s; and in all that time no aquifer is known to have been contaminated by fracking. Fluids used in fracking and methane regurgitated from gas-wells may occasionally have got into groundwater: an energy company in Pennsylvania has been forced to deliver clean water to householders because of this. But that risk could be greatly reduced by tighter regulation, leading to better industry practice: it is not an argument for banning the procedure altogether.

It does appear that fracking can cause earthquakes. But so can geothermal energy production and other parts of the oil and gas production process. Wherever fluids are injected into deep wells, that is a risk. It warrants strict regulation and further study. It is not, however, a reason to shut down a promising industry.

But the industry's promise should not obscure its dangers, especially when it comes to the fuel it provides. Energy firms often call gas a clean fuel: burning it releases roughly half as much carbon dioxide into the atmosphere as burning coal does. So if gas-fired power stations are built instead of coal-fired ones, the cheap gas bonanza will help control global warming. Unfortunately, though, they probably will not be. Few new coal-fired power stations are planned in America or Europe anyway. And China, which also has lots of unexploited shale gas, has few scruples about burning cheap coal. Either way, gas-fired power stations are more likely to substitute for solar panels, wind turbines and nuclear power stations.

The only way of ensuring that does not happen is to price fossil fuels to cover the cost of the environmental damage they do. Power generated from coal would carry a high carbon-price-tag; power generated from gas a smaller one; power generated from renewables none at all. Thanks to recession and a lack of political will, governments have found this politically impossible to do adequately or at all, as the latest UN climate summit, which begins in Durban on November 28th, will make clear. But the effort should not be abandoned; and cheap gas does not give governments an excuse to stop trying.

Lisette van Vliet, Ph.D.  
*Toxics Policy Advisor*

## Health & Environment Alliance

28 Boulevard Charlemagne  
B-1000 Brussels BELGIUM  
Tel: +32 2 234 3645 (direct) Fax : +32 2 234 3649  
E-mail: [lisette@env-health.org](mailto:lisette@env-health.org)  
Website: [www.chemicalshealthmonitor.org](http://www.chemicalshealthmonitor.org)

## Other interesting links :

Queensland and waste fluid

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-11-24/chinchilla-toxic-waste-discharge-approved/3677838?section=qld>

Bulgaria, drilling started already? (in secret?)  
[http://www.novinite.com/view\\_news.php?id=134218](http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=134218)

Politicians do wish to have a ban...  
[http://www.novinite.com/view\\_news.php?id=134208](http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=134208)

[http://www.novinite.com/view\\_news.php?id=134242](http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=134242)

**Article New York Times :influence of gas extraction on insurances and mortgages.**  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/25/us/officials-push-for-clarity-on-oil-and-gas-leases.html?pagewanted=1&r=1>  
(Web FFI: official reports/research)

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please contact:  
[ineke@frackingfreeireland.org](mailto:ineke@frackingfreeireland.org)

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## OVERVIEW OF GROUPS/NETWORKS

### Carrick Against Fracking

Meetings every week (Thursday) in Burke's Bar, Bridge street  
Contact: John Cronogue [jcronogue@gmail.com](mailto:jcronogue@gmail.com) tel: 086 8127536

### West Cavan: Shannon-Erne Protection-Alliance

Contact: Tom Hyde [toseitheachain1@eircom.net](mailto:toseitheachain1@eircom.net)

### Ardcarne Against Fracking

Meetings every Monday in a pub in Cootehall  
Contact: Leah Doherty ( [doherty.lea@gmail.com](mailto:doherty.lea@gmail.com) ) 087 7409102 / 071 966 7360

### Love Leitrim - Manorhamilton -

Weekly meetings on a Thursday at the Bee Park, Manorhamilton, 8pm.  
chair: Bernie Meehan [bernziemeehan77@gmail.com](mailto:bernziemeehan77@gmail.com)

Contact: Dervilla Keegan ( [dervybird@hotmail.com](mailto:dervybird@hotmail.com)) 086 165 7424

**Kiltibrid Antifracking Action Group** - [julieanngale@eircom.net](mailto:julieanngale@eircom.net)

### **Sligo/Glean**

Contact: Kate Wilson [tulipsandoysters@eircom.net](mailto:tulipsandoysters@eircom.net)

**North West Network against Fracking** -group on facebook (Sligo North)

by Meg Rybicki [youthmardingo@gmail.com](mailto:youthmardingo@gmail.com) 0863840254

Ursula Shweiger [islandview12@yahoo.ie](mailto:islandview12@yahoo.ie)

Magdalena Jozwiak [gajesia@gmail.com](mailto:gajesia@gmail.com) 0863255986

Paul Soffe [psoffe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:psoffe@yahoo.co.uk)

Brian Sweeney [sweeneymusic@yahoo.com](mailto:sweeneymusic@yahoo.com)

Przemek Jozwiak [josphik@gmail.com](mailto:josphik@gmail.com) 0861927909

Lucy Cooke [lucyman123@googlemail.com](mailto:lucyman123@googlemail.com)

and many others

### **Cliffoney**

Meetings on Thursdays at 9 pm in O'Donnell's pub, main street

contact: Meg Rybicki [youthmardingo@gmail.com](mailto:youthmardingo@gmail.com) 086 3840254

### **Kinlough**

Meetings Wed at 8 pm Community Centre

contact Meg Rybicki [youthmardingo@gmail.com](mailto:youthmardingo@gmail.com) 086 3840254

**Talamh task group** - research/legal group

contact:

**Telephone information/tree service** is available.

- contact John and Val Bailey: **071 9643989**

[bailey.john45@gmail.com](mailto:bailey.john45@gmail.com)

contact Brigit Beemster: **071-9163669** [brigitbeemster@hotmail.com](mailto:brigitbeemster@hotmail.com)

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### **Power Point Presentations**

Fracking : Aedín McLoughlin Ph.D.

Glenwood Research- [glenwood.research@gmail.com](mailto:glenwood.research@gmail.com)

Fracking: Rob Doyle -

SAC/Environment: Sonya O'Dwyer - [andraiocht@hotmail.com](mailto:andraiocht@hotmail.com)

### **Websites:**

<http://nofrackingireland.wordpress.com>

tel: 087 7409102/ 0862575784

<http://frackingfreeireland.org>

tel: 0719181916

<http://what-the-frack.org/>

tel?

<http://www.frackaware.com/wordpress/>

tel? (Fermanagh website)

### **Blogs:**

<http://www.facebook.com/nofrackingcavan>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Carrick-Against-Fracking/246513672047924>

<http://www.facebook.com/WhatTheFrack>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Stop-Fracking-Fermanagh/133710973389744>