



BAN FRACKING IN IRELAND!

WEB FFI: www.frackingfreeireland.org contact: ineke@frackingfreeireland.org

FACEBOOK : [NO FRACKING IRELAND](#)
TWITTER: [@Notofracking](#)

[No Fracking Northern Ireland](#)
[@BANfrackingNI](#)

WEB GEAI: <http://goodenergiesalliance.com/>
LOVE LEITRIM: www.loveleitrim.org

FFAN: <http://www.frackaware.com/wordpress/>
Not for \$Shale: <http://www.notforshale.com/>

FACEBOOK BRUSSELS: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fracking-Free-Ireland-Brussels/164779630344250?fref=ts>

For an overview of **all groups/networks, websites and contact details** visit:
<http://frackingfreeireland.org/contact/contact-local-group>

UPCOMING EVENTS - National

ALL upcoming national events on: <http://frackingfreeireland.org/upcoming-events/>

JUNE

Fracking In Fermanagh ; what could it mean?

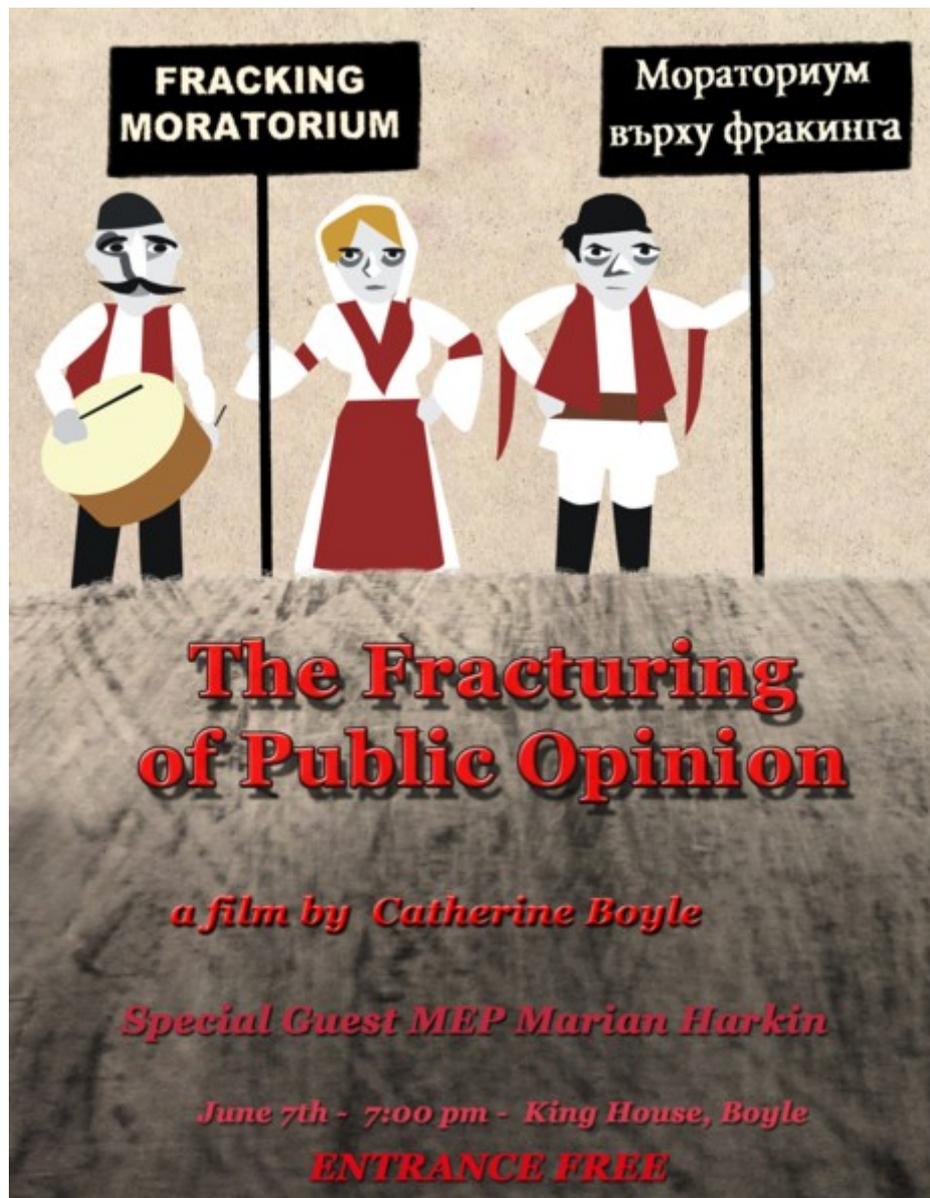
A stunning new **documentary film**, produced by communities in Fermanagh, investigating what 'fracking' could mean for the county will have its premiere screening at the Ardhowen Theatre on Tuesday, **June 4, at 8pm**

<http://www.impartialreporter.com/news/roundup/articles/2013/05/16/400954-documentary-film-examines-what-fracking-could-mean/>

An 80 minute documentary film is being screened at The Ardhowen Theatre, Enniskillen on **June 4th**, 8pm. Tickets, £2, are available to book online now at ardhowentheatre.com

Further details are on our Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/pages/Development-Media-Workshop/134664386640827



Invitation to Documentary Film Screening - 7 June

the screening of "**The Fracturing of Public Opinion: Bulgaria's Fracking Controversy**", which will be held at King House in Boyle, Co. Roscommon on June 7th at 7:00 pm.

Catherine Boyle

www.catherinefilms.net

ENERGY IRELAND CONFERENCE – Croke Park Dublin 19 – 20 June 2013

<http://www.energyireland.ie/events/energyireland2013/programme.php>

Dublin Climate Gathering 17th – 19th June 2013

<http://us6.campaign-archive2.com/?u=8ecdfeb8a5abde75654182c9c&id=8b3cc92f9a&e=fd8819cbec>

We will be bringing together leading thinkers from politics, science, technology, business and culture to work on how we plan a new economy.

If you would like to join us next month, then please answer our open call below by June 3rd. Any questions or if you would like to get in touch, just email us at info@climategathering.org

Looking forward to hearing you answer our call,

The Climate Gathering project team

info@climategathering.org

dublin.climategathering.org @ClimateGather

G8

Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland is organising the creation of a massive “frack pipe” to form a crucial part of mass demonstrations against the G8 summit in Northern Ireland, which is taking place in June.

We intend to make a massive prop out of hula hoops, fabric and broom handles, which will look like a huge gas pipe that will run down the spine of protest marches that will take place in **Belfast on Saturday 15 June, and in Enniskillen on Monday 17 June.**

I’ve posted up a few proposed meetings about the “frack pipe” action during the G8. Please join the main event, and see if any of the meetings suit you.

Please join the Facebook event for details on how you can make your own length of “frack pipe” with the name of your community on it, and how to connect it up to the rest of the pipe on the day.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/list#!/events/361690237280461/>

Deadline to send your contribution: 13th of June.

(SEE UPCOMING EVENTS ON WEB FFI)

HAPPY CAMPAIGN NEWS – NATIONAL



Fracking Free Clare- Becky reports LOOPHEAD, - targeted fracking zone - winner of the Irish Times Top Tourism Destination Competition

Loophead, County Clare has been named as the winner of The Irish Times Top Tourism Destination Competition. Loophead is in the targeted fracking zone. We have written some letters to papers re: fracking impact on tourism for this region prompted by the competition a How could they justify fracking Ireland's Top Tourism Destination???

Article <http://www.irishtimes.com/news/loop-head-takes-the-holiday-crown-in-irish-times-competition-1.1406995>



Kevin Heap, pure camping and involved in the Clare anti fracking campaign.

Received from a campaigner
Some good news! Spotted via a tweet from Philip Boucher Hayes on 24 May

"If you go down to the woods today . . . the big surprise is you still own them. Sell off plans to be shelved."

Read more in his blog post here:
<http://philipboucher-hayes.com/2013/05/23/if-you-go-down-to-the-woods-today/>

UPCOMING EVENTS – INTERNATIONAL

ALL international upcoming events on:
<http://frackingfreeireland.org/upcoming-events/global-conferencesmeetings/>

CAMPAIGN NEWS INTERNATIONAL

ROMANIA

Thousands of Romanians protested on Monday against plans by the US company Chevron to explore for shale gas in eastern Romania. This the seventh large protest in Barlad area.
a short movie

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bL6zNI9YkOE&feature=youtu.be>
pictures

[https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.475667212502629.1073741833.303463706389648&type=1)

[set=a.475667212502629.1073741833.303463706389648&type=1](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.475667212502629.1073741833.303463706389648&type=1)

and an article in english

<http://www.rawstory.com/rs/2013/05/27/thousands-of-romanians-protest-chevron-fracking/>
Georgeta Ionescu

31 May 2013

Press release

Fracking: Not essential for the "Energiewende"

The German Advisory Council on the Environment (SRU), in its statement published today "Fracking for shale gas production – A contribution to its appraisal in the context of energy and environment policy", advocates a more rational approach to the opportunities and risks associated with fracking. Shale gas is not essential for transforming the energy system. For the moment the fracking technology should not be used for commercial production of shale gas, in view of serious gaps in our knowledge about its environmental impacts. Fracking will not be justifiable until pilot projects have yielded favourable results.

Production of shale gas in Germany will not reduce energy prices, neither will it make any appreciable contribution to the security of energy supply. From the point of view of German energy policy, there can therefore be no interest in such production. Present knowledge indicates that the domestic potential for economically profitable extraction subject to appropriate environmental conditions is far too small to have any appreciable influence on gas prices in Germany. It would be misguided to revise our energy and climate policy in the light of cheap shale gas from the USA. Its impact on the industry's competitiveness is often exaggerated.

As regards the environmental risks of fracking, the SRU notes that there are still considerable uncertainties and gaps in our knowledge. The following aspects in particular have yet to be clarified:

- environmentally sound disposal of the resulting waste water,
- the safety of boreholes and production systems, especially as regards groundwater conservation,
- the long-term impacts of such operations and
- the climate balance of shale gas.

For precautionary reasons, fracking must not on any account be used within the catchment area of existing or potential drinking water protection areas. The SRU furthermore recommends a step-by-step approach to clarifying outstanding questions, in which initially only pilot projects will be permitted.

Fresh information should be obtained above all from such demonstration projects accompanied by close scientific monitoring. The process of planning and implementing these pilot projects should be transparent, and should involve participation by the public. In accordance with the polluter pays principle, the resulting costs should be borne by the extraction industry.

"Energiewende" means the German [Energy Transition](#)

JASON ANDERSON | Head of Climate Change and Energy Policy | WWF European Policy Office | 168 Avenue de Tervuren, Box 20, 1150 Brussels, Belgium | Email: janderson@wwfepo.org | Mobile: +32 (0) 474 83 76 03 | Fax: +32 2 7438819 | skype: jandersonWWF | www.wwf.eu | <http://twitter.com/WWFEU>

Full info on <http://frackingfreeireland.org/fracking-free-europe/statements-press-releases/>

WHAT YOU CAN /MUST DO

- Send an e card to our politicians



visit www.frackingfreeireland.org for all details (and/or FMN 17-13 (107))

- Sign the **Korbach** petition - <https://www.openpetition.de/petition/online/korbacher-erklaerung-der-buergerinitiativen-gegen-fracking-deutschland>

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

SWEDEN COMPENSATION FOR LANDOWNERS

Regarding production, the swedish rule is 1,5 permille (0,15%) of the production value to the landowner and 0,5 permille (0,05%) to the swedish state.

OETTINGER

The Baden-Württemberg CDU thought they could get rid of that right-winger Oettinger by sending him to Brussels. According to the [Peter Principle](#) this is a typical case of [Lateral Arabesque](#)

- Oettinger says: "English is the working language... Every skilled worker has to learn English..." **but listen how he's speaking English himself =>**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bGKfvBG9sM>

EU – NEWSLETTER

All the EU climate & energy news in one place!

<http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Hotspot68-May2013-FINAL1.pdf>

ITALY HAS A NO FRACKING MOVEMENT

Dear,

this message is to inform you that a short time ago we have set the No Fracking Italy movement up.

To say No to Fracking.

To put together the greatest number of as Italian as European activists, and to work to a National and European Law Draft in order to protecting territories, making Oil&Gas companies engineering plans public, and to ban fracking technique and all those extraction ones harmful to the environment and detrimental to our own health, assuring information stated as per

Aarhus Convention.

We are collecting support in Italy. And, at the same time, we would be glad and join your network, being active for a longer time.

You are welcome here too. We will debate, exchange info and synergy actions as well for local as for global issues.

Hereunder, you can find website, campaign and contact persons links:

<http://www.nofracking.it/>

<http://www.nofracking.it/campagna-italia/>

contact@nofracking.it

LETTERS - CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from FRACKING FREE CLARE to the minister



Dear Minister,

Loop Head Peninsula, County Clare has just been awarded as "The Best Place To Holiday in Ireland" in a national competition (with over 1400 entries) run by The Irish Times newspaper (27th May 2013).

Loop Head Peninsula is located in the Clare Basin which is part of the 498km² area targeted by Enegi Oil Plc for fracking/unconventional gas development.

How can tourism based on natural beauty and natural resources thrive alongside the fracking/unconventional gas development industry?

Will people choose to holiday in Loop Head if the view is spoiled by wells, concrete pads, fences, industrial signs, heavy trucks and fracking waste water ponds?

Will people choose to holiday in Loop Head if the fields that used to be full of cattle and signs of rural farming life are instead replaced by this destructive industry?

Will people choose to holiday in Loop Head if they're worried about drinking and bathing in the local water?

Will people choose to holiday in Loop Head if they're concerned about the air that they breathe may be contaminated by fracking chemicals?

The Loop Head Tourism Group have worked tirelessly to generate a buzz about the region by growing new initiatives which cherish and champion what is uniquely Loop Head (walking

tours, eco – camping, whale and dolphin watching, bird watching, wildflower and herb courses, water based activities and tours etc). In addition to these initiatives the Minister for transport, tourism and sport, Michael Ring recently unveiled plans for the Wild Atlantic Route which will encompass this region. These people’s efforts will all be for nothing if fracking/unconventional gas development is allowed to take hold in this area.

PLEASE think of this community and the livelihoods of these people and the sustainability of the region when you are considering whether or not fracking/unconventional gas development is suitable for The Clare Basin.

FRACKING AND TOURISM CAN NOT CO - EXIST,

Open letter to all members of the Irish Parliament - Loop Head wins Ireland's Top Tourism Destination Competition, but Enegi wants to FRACK there

28 May 2013 Dear Taoiseach,

Dear Tanaiste,
Dear Ministers,
Dear TDs.
Dear Senators,

Yesterday we could read in the Irish press that out of 1,400 entries to a competition

Loop Head peninsula in Co Clare has been named the “Best Place to Holiday in Ireland”.

Read full letter, plenty of info about fracking

Thanks to Charlie Williams!

<https://sites.google.com/site/frackingireland/open-letter-to-all-members-of-the-irish-parliament---loophead-wins-ireland-s-top-tourism-destination-competition-but-enegi-wants-to-frack-there>



Here is that tourism vs fracking pic on facebook with the links for comments and a suggestion to use www.contact.ie to email the pic to politicians - <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10151459703953030&set=a.10151459229468030.1073741827.559913029&type=1&theater>

Well done to Mark from **Fracking Free Clare, whose letter appeared in the IT today:**

<http://www.irishtimes.com/debate/letters/letters-to-the-editor-loop-head-tourism-award-and-fracking-threat-1.1407957>

Sarah

comment under IT article: (by a campaigner)

"I have been informed that this whole area - no less than 495 square kilometres - is licenced for unconventional gas development. As someone who works in the tourism industry and holidays in this scenic area, it beggars belief how the Irish government could even contemplate granting licences to such a destructive industry that practices the spatially intense practice of unconventional gas development. If this industry gets a foot in the door anywhere in Ireland, it will surely spell the end for its tourism industry. After all, who on earth would want to visit a landscape blighted by thousands of concrete well pads, noisy compressor stations running 24/7, country roads with non-stop heavy traffic, transporting the millions of gallons of water needed to frack the wells, man camps, etc.

In my role for the Irish tourist board abroad, I am working hard every day to spread the word about this bad news to tourists wishing to visit our Emerald Isle - a name that shortly may no longer be fitting."

Subject: AIE requests

Your Ref: PPL17213
PPLB17213
PPLC17213

Dear Ms ...

I refer to the three requests you have made under the provisions of EU Directive 2003/4/EC Access to Information on the Environment and S.I. 133/2007 European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 seeking information concerning the authorisations held/made by Tamboran Resources PTY Ltd, Lough Allen Natural Gas Company and Enegi Oil Plc. I apologise for the delay in responding and attach the records sought.

In relation to the Petroleum Prospecting Licences, the Department considered that due to the desktop study nature of the work programmes carried out under the three onshore licensing options the need for a Petroleum Prospecting Licence was not necessary. The Minister has recently announced that any applications for exploration licenses received in the Department will be put on hold, pending publication of the EPA study, commissioned to identify best practice in respect of environmental protection for the use of hydraulic fracturing techniques.

Should you wish to appeal this decision, a copy of the appeals provisions extracted from S.I. 133 of 2007 is attached for ease of reference.

Yours sincerely,

Nuala Free
Petroleum Affairs Division
Department Communications Energy & Natural Resources
29/31 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2
+353 1 678 2720

Application - <http://ubuntuone.com/42CyX21jn99qZ2op4Cr00e>
Schedule of records- [Schedule of records](#)
Appeal procedure AEI - [Microsoft Word - AIE Appeals proceedings](#)

MORE INFO RE. LICENSES and the reply to the letter of Thom White

<http://frackingfreeireland.org/fracking-in-ireland-update/>



THOUGHTS – OPINION - BLOGS



EU energy pathways and 2030 emissions targets: No surprises

<http://www.carbonbrief.org/blog/2013/05/eu-energy-pathways-and-2030-emissions-targets-no-surprises>

Is the European renewables industry facing unforeseen new obstacles? Newspapers have reported an EU "U-turn" away from renewables in favour of shale gas, while the UK has refused to back a 2030 Europe-wide renewables target. But experts suggest neither development is unexpected.

Shale gas: full steam ahead?

MOVIES- SONGS- VIDEO'S - PRESENTATIONS



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mf6i54znf6s>

Excerpt of Dr. Mariann Lloyd Smith's talk in Dublin May 24th - organised by No Fracking Ireland

Dr. Mariann Lloyd Smith from Australia who has worked with UN Expert Group on Climate Change and Chemicals, is Senior Advisor to Australia's National Toxics Network and to IPEN (The International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) is a global network of more than 700 public interest non-governmental organizations working together for the elimination of persistent organic pollutants).

She currently serves on the Technical Advisory Group of the national industrial chemical regulator. She was a member of Australia's National Advisory Body on Scheduled Waste and an author of Australia's national management plans for POPs (persistent organic pollutants) waste.

She co-authored a report for the U.N - 'Climate Change and POPs; Predicting the Impact'. She also recently co-authored NTN's report on the chemical impacts of hydraulic fracturing in the Australian shale and coal seam gas industry.

She spoke at Buswells Hotel in Dublin yesterday on why 'fracking' cannot be allowed to go ahead in Ireland and why the Irish EPA must stand up and protect Irish citizens and our environment against this industry.



US region bans oil and gas drilling (Al Jazeera) -

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SuqpSzNxLDE>

To read more about this story and other Al Jazeera stories, please click here:

<http://aje.me/ZpmHk2>

A rural New Mexico region has banned oil and gas extraction, including hydraulic fracturing for gas, or fracking.

Mora County has also blocked energy companies from exploring for valuable resources within its boundaries in its attempt to protect its supply.

The commission that introduced the ban has said that 95 percent of people in the county support the decision, but opponents are expected to fight it in the courts.

Al Jazeera's Alan Fisher reports from New Mexico.



Oettinger says: "English is the working language... Every skilled worker has to learn English..." **but listen how he's speaking English himself =>**
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bGKfvBG9sM>

Please find linked **Jessica Ernst's presentation in Dublin**, organised by No Fracking Ireland, No Fracking Dublin, Friends of The Earth and Afri. Presented by Oisín Coughlan of Friends of The Earth.

Incl. **UPDATE** by Meg, NO FRACKING IRELAND about the campaign

Part 1 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCSbUXo-pYI>

Part 2 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THExWAfjTCM>

We have a **feature on Jessica Ernst** on our tv site www.studionorthwest.tv

The Secret Life of the Shannon

Colin Stafford-Johnson explores the wildlife of Ireland's great river, camping on its banks, wandering its islands and paddling its many tributaries in his canoe.

- 20 days remaining
- Duration: 50mins

<http://www.rte.ie/player/ie/show/10151804/>

SPECIAL TOPIC – FRACKING AND BEER (continued)

FRACKING AND BEER – ALL IN ONE, thanks to Jessica

<http://www.ernstversusencana.ca/fracking-threatens-purity-of-beer-say-german-brewers-purity-concerns-german-beer-brewers-foaming-over-fracking-beer-industry-asks-for-halt-to-legislation-on-controversial-gas-extraction>

Fracking and German mineral water companies (sorry in German only, but use Google translate if you need to):

<http://www.finanznachrichten.de/nachrichten-2013-05/26924822-rheinische-post-mineralwasserfirmen-sehen-fracking-als-existenzbedrohend-007.htm>



(see also FMN 108)

FRACKING RELATED

Received from Meg

Please take a minute to read this email, act on it, and share with everyone you think would be interested in stopping the forced fluoridation of our water. Why is this pertinent to fracking? Because Veolia water are working for both sligo and leitrim county councils, and are responsible worldwide for helping israel divert water from the citizens of the west bank, privatising then depriving people of water in some of the poorest parts of the world, and recycling produced frack water in australia.the fact that they are embedded in leitrim should cause alarm bells to ring VERY loudly.
Please share

You may have read or heard that Skibbereen Town Council voted unanimously last month (7th April 2013) to end the mandatory policy of water fluoridation that has been in place in Ireland for almost 50 years. Although our local Councillors' hands may very well be tied when it comes to enacting and repealing laws in Ireland, their collective voices may certainly have some sway when representing the opinions and wishes of their constituents.

We kindly ask each of you to take two minutes of your time to log onto the following website: <http://www.endirishwaterfluoridation.com> and scroll down to where it says: "SUPPORT THIS MOTION". All that will be required of you is to choose your relevant County/Constituency and fill out THREE simple forms, each containing three text fields. The first form is numbered **1**, this will generate an e-mail to your local **Water Services Department**. The second is numbered **2**, this will generate an e-mail to all your **local Councillors**. Finally when you submit this form, please ensure you scroll down to the third and final form, numbered **3**, where an e-mail to all the relevant **Ministers** will also be generated automatically.

The e-mail message that will be sent to your Water Services Department, local Councillors and relevant Ministers can be viewed alongside the text fields that require your NAME and E-MAIL address. The e-mail text that will be sent to these individuals will be generated automatically so you need not worry about having to copy/paste any of the text yourself.

When you have completed this, you will receive a confirmation e-mail for your records.

Please pass this on and share with as many people as you can!

Many thanks & regards,

Aisling & The Team

The Girl Against Fluoride" info@thegirlagainstfluoride.com

POLITICAL NEWS – EU/IRELAND

NI

Strategic Environmental Assessment of Petroleum Licensing in the Internal Waters of Northern Ireland (Belfast Lough and Larne Lough)

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) is currently developing a criteria for Petroleum Licensing in the Internal Waters of Northern Ireland (the Plan). The plan will provide a framework for how petroleum licensing will be undertaken in the internal waters of Northern Ireland.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

<http://www.sealoughs.co.uk/public-consultation/>

Public Consultation

The public consultation on the Scoping Report began on the 24th April 2013 and will continue until 14th June 2013.

The consultation on the Scoping Report seeks comments on:

- The appropriateness of the proposed scope of the SEA (this will help ensure that all issues of potential concern are considered);
- The appropriateness of the proposed assessment methodology; and
- Any additional sources of relevant information that could be used to inform the assessment.

Email comments should be submitted to minerals@detini.gov.uk and written submissions should be sent to:

Minerals and Petroleum Branch
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment
Colby House
Stranmillis Court
Stranmillis Road
Belfast, BT9 5BJ

The deadline for comments will be the 14th June 2013.

EU

Please find below a link to an article on Shale Gas, which was discussed in the European Parliament last week and which may be of interest to you.

Cheap shale gas bubble 'will burst within 2-4 years': Expert

<http://m.euractiv.com/details.php?aid=519931>

BUSINESS shale gas (lobby) report

<http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/20130524-BUSINESSEUROPE-position-paper-on-the-exploitation-of-shale-gas-in-Europe.pdf>

Dear ITRE, INTA and ENVI members,

The large scale **development of shale gas and oil in the US** is significantly reshaping energy markets worldwide, with huge impacts on the competitiveness of many industrial sectors in Europe.

Europe too must take advantage of **technological game-changers** like shale gas to improve its competitive position relative to its key trading partners. Shale gas has the potential to be a **positive addition to Europe's energy** and feedstock mix and to **contribute to the competitiveness of European industry**.

The EU needs to adopt a **constructive strategy to exploit shale gas in a sustainable way** to benefit from economic advantages. European companies call for a **science and fact-based debate** including all stakeholders to outline the benefits of shale gas for the economy, for security of energy supply and for the climate.

Christian Feustel

Senior EP Adviser

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www.businessseurope.eu

EU Transparency register: 3978240953-79

COMMENT - a quick rebuttal to BusinessEurope's position on shale gas

JASON ANDERSON | Head of European Climate and Energy Policy | WWF European Policy Office | 168 Avenue de Tervurenlaan, Box 20, 1150 Brussels, Belgium | Email: janderson@wwf.eu | Mobile: +32 474 83 76 03 | skype: jandersonwwf | www.wwf.eu/climate | <http://twitter.com/climatepanda> | blog.wwf.eu

IRISH NEWS

LOOPHEAD

Loophead takes the holiday crown in irish times competition

Article <http://www.irishtimes.com/news/loop-head-takes-the-holiday-crown-in-irish-times-competition-1.1406995>

<http://www.irishtimes.com/debate/letters/letters-to-the-editor-loop-head-tourism-award-and-fracking-threat-1.1407957>

COILLTE

"If you go down to the woods today . . . the big surprise is you still own them. Sell off plans to be shelved."

Read more in his blog post here:

<http://philipboucher-hayes.com/2013/05/23/if-you-go-down-to-the-woods-today/>

COMMENT: it is the sell off of the harvesting rights, not the land...

From the 21/6/2012 ETI Committee Briefing Geological Survey of Northern Ireland -

<http://ubuntuone.com/2rQqLbp69KEYSNbDySAWKI>

1.5 Tamboran's proposed work plan

Tamboran's outline work programme is summarised in their Licence, **Appendix B**.

The specific details are not yet developed although **it is thought that they will shortly apply to DETI to drill a vertical stratigraphic borehole for rock sampling right through the section, perhaps to a depth of 1200 m.**

N. Ireland - shale gas regulators forum minutes of 1st meeting 18-10-12

http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-energy-index/minerals-and-petroleum/petroleum_licensing_2.htm



EU -NEWS



EU Energy Policy: Why We Must Fight Oettinger

The European Council on May 22 focused on European energy policy. While its conclusions were not as exclusively concerned with cheap energy as some lobbies and observers wanted to make us believe, the discussion clearly shows how strong conservative lobbies push to bring coal, shale gas and nuclear technologies back into the game, EGP Co-Chair Reinhard Bütikofer says.

<http://europeangreens.eu/news/reinhard-b%C3%BCtikofer-comments-eu-energy-policy>

EU Leaders Back Shale Revolution, Roll Back Climate Policy

<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/55422>

Europe's heads of State and government want to promote shale gas and to reduce energy prices. They would rather promote competition than stop global warming.—Christopher Ziedler, Der Tagesspiegel, 22 May 2013

For the first time, rising energy costs and the declining competitiveness of the European economy will be rated higher than obviously unenforceable global climate change ambitions

COMMENT BY CHARLIE

Note that the first link ([Der Tagesspiegel](#)) in the article directs to the website of the [Global Warming Policy Foundation](#) (GWPF), an organisation promoting [climate change denial](#).

UK

NYT, 24 May 2013: **British Village Residents Protest Plan for Shale Gas Drilling**

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/25/business/global/british-village-protests-plan-for-shale-gas-drilling.html>

BALCOMBE, England — Despite the stakes, there was almost a festival spirit in this wealthy little village nestled in the hills of West Sussex. Children buzzed around an open-sided tent by the street and families spread blankets on the tiny village green.

Enlarge This Image

Andrew Testa for The International Herald Tribune

Residents gathered for a picnic to oppose hydraulic fracturing, known as fracking.

What brought them together on Thursday evening, though, was not a spring fair but deep worry. Cuadrilla Resources, a British energy company, is on the verge of drilling an exploratory oil well just down the road.

COMMENT BY

[Frack Free Sussex](#)

[about an hour ago](#)

At Cuadrilla's cosy, condescending plactate-the-community-and-hope-they-don't-notice-the-discrepancies-contradictions-and-blatant-lies drop-in session in Balcombe yesterday, one of the PR stooges said:

"I know that everything I say sounds like utter f*ing bulls*it."**

Q.E.D.



"He also told us that Cuadrilla don't need to seek permission to drill under people's houses and that they would be flaring during the exploration phase.

Crucially, he admitted that fracking won't bring down energy prices – contrary to the line George Osborne has been peddling."

<http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/blog/climate/balcombe-or-bullshit-20130524>

Hear it for yourself:

<http://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/1428831/utter-fucking-bullshit-2.mp3>

More images by artist Vanessa

https://www.facebook.com/britainandirelandfrackfree/photos_stream

GERMANY

Received from Andy:

Fresh news from Germany: As somehow expected, the cabinet decision concerning the so-called German "fracking-law" was once again suspended.

The government of NRW has announced today on its homepage that the Prime Minister of NRW (Germany), Hannelore Kraft (SPD), is more sceptical concerning fracking after her Canada journey.

But of course "we have to hear more experts before we can decide anything". Well, well, we can serve with this, if the lady wants to hear us ;-).

Ministerpräsidentin Kraft sieht Fracking in Nordrhein-Westfalen

skeptisch

Reise nach Kanada und in die USA, 26.05.-02.06.2013 Teil 2

Calgary (dpa) - Ministerpräsidentin Hannelore Kraft ist skeptisch, ob das sogenannte Fracking für Nordrhein-Westfalen geeignet ist. «Ich kann mir das im Moment schwer vorstellen, weil die Eingriffe in die Natur doch erheblich sind», sagte Kraft am Mittwoch (Ortszeit) der Deutsche Presse-Agentur im kanadischen Calgary.

<http://www.nrw.de/landesregierung/reise-kanada-usa/>

POLAND

Development bank to boost support for Polish power sector -

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/05/27/poland-energy-funding-idUSL5N0E81DL20130527>

Comment by a campaigner:

This is probably the clearest expression of interest to date for shale gas financing from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development - even going as far as to say that the bank's new energy policy (currently being revised) +will+ permit shale gas financing in the future.

Poland is the focus of this article, and there have also been some EBRD comments re Ukraine's shale resources.

GLOBAL NEWS

SHALE GAS and ENERGY PRICES

Received from Antoine (FOEE)

New findings from the International Energy Agency (IEA) that basically announced yesterday that since October 2012, the famous US low gas price has been constantly rising from \$2 mmBtu to now \$4.30 mmBtu. This is not a big surprise for us considering how artificially low this price has been and how unsustainable and unprofitable it has been for operators (you can read more about it in the factsheets we published last week [here](#)).

However, what's new is that the IEA is now saying that this increase will continue and if it exceeds \$5 mmBtu (and it will), gas might become less interesting and profitable than... coal....!

Of course, it isn't that good news considering the massive environmental and climate impacts that coal production also generates but it shows that the shale gas economy simply doesn't work. Extracting shale gas is not cheap, that's notably one of the reasons why it wasn't extracted earlier, and as a consequence its price won't be cheap either.

You can read more about it in this Reuters article:

IEA says U.S. gas prices of \$5 could spur return to coal

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/05/27/iea-us-gas-idUKL3N0E81DV20130527>

I thought you would find that kind of article interesting, especially as it was published yesterday in **the Financial Times** which doesn't so often publish information criticizing shale gas.

At an OPEC meeting that took place yesterday in Vienna, a renowned oil investor confirmed that the US boom wouldn't be long-lived and that energy price would soon increase significantly, which confirms most of what we've been recently saying: Shale gas is not a solution to improve our energy security and to lower the price of energy.

The article can be found below. (full articles)

And if you're interested in this kind of information, you can find loads of data on the shalebubble.org website or in the two factsheets we recently published:

<http://www.foeeurope.org/shale-gas-economic-myths-210513>

All the best,
Antoine
Friends of the Earth Europe

Oil guru says US shale revolution is 'temporary'

By Ajay Makan and Javier Blas in Vienna

The oil trader known by rivals as “God” predicts the US shale revolution will only “temporarily” boost production and oil prices will remain high, siding with Saudi Arabia and the Opec cartel in a debate gripping the energy market.

Andy Hall, whose lucrative bets on oil prices earned him a \$100m salary at **Citigroup** in the 2000s, told investors that the rapid decline in output suffered by shale wells is “likely [to] mean that the bounty afforded by shale resources is temporary”.

Full article at the end of the newsletter

The fight for North Dakota 's fracking water market - <http://news.yahoo.com/insight-fight-north-dakotas-fracking-water-market-040332078.html> 20 May 2013

Los Angeles Times

Fracking: How risky for us? -

Fracking might taint groundwater and pollute the air. California has two additional worries: water consumed and the potential for earthquakes.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/editorials/la-ed-fracking-legislation-california-20130526,0,1971612.story>

Scientists warn that Earth faces severe water shortages within a generation

<http://www.rawstory.com/rs/2013/05/24/scientists-warn-that-earth-faces-severe-water-shortages-within-a-generation/>



New Mexico county first in nation to ban fracking to safeguard water

- <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-fracking-ban-20130529,0,4631146.story>

EARTHQUAKES: EPA keeping seismic report on drilling under wraps -

<http://www.eenews.net/stories/1059981840>

Environmental Disaster Poses Threat to Public Health!

<http://dirtywaterwv.com/>

REPORTS- RESEARCH

FULL ARTICLES

[Loop Head takes the holiday crown in 'Irish Times' competition](#)

The Loop Head peninsula in Co Clare has been named the "Best Place to Holiday in Ireland" in an Irish Times competition. The competition reflects the fact that Irish people have holidayed at home in large numbers in recent years. In 2011, 57 per cent of Irish holidays were taken domestically.

Visitors to Loop Head can take part in a range of water-based activities, including kayaking, paddle boarding and windsurfing. In 2010, the area won an Eden award, which recognises sustainable tourism in Europe, for its aquatic activities. Since then, a number of new tourism businesses, including walking and cycling companies, eco-camping, and driving tours have

been established, and most are members of the Loop Head Tourism business network.

The gateway to the area is the seaside town of Kilkee, popular with generations of beachgoers from Limerick. The town's handsome Victorian seafront, Blue flag beach, Pollock holes natural swimming pools, cliff walks and golf course compensate for some overdevelopment around Kilkee.

The Loop Head peninsula

The Irish Times 'Best Place to Holiday in Ireland' competition - shortlist - Loop Head peninsula

"Derry is a rugged working city, but what it lacks in hanging baskets it more than makes up for in heritage, culture and artistic activity. From its famous walls to its thriving nightlife and music scene, Derry has something for everyone. It is a deserving current holder of the title of City of Culture. For a small city Derry fits in a lot, but retains a personal feel that bigger cities often lack. It is also an ideal base for exploring both Donegal and Northern Ireland." Read the original nomination at <http://iti.ms/181btTV> Best place to holiday in Ireland: judges choose the final five

The Loop Head cycleway starts and ends in Kilkee. Cycling around the Loop of love

The Irish Times takes no responsibility for the content or availability of other websites.

In addition to B&Bs and self-catering houses, visitors to Loop Head can stay in a range of characterful accommodation, such as the old lighthouse keeper's cottage at the peninsula's most westerly point, and the ecological campsite, Pure Camping.

"The motorway coming to Ennis four or five years ago made a big difference to Loop Head," says Mary Redmond, who wrote the initial entry for the competition on irishtimes.com. "I think prior to that it was seen as inaccessible, but we're trying to promote the place now. There's a great community thing going on. A really good feeling."

And if the tour buses now arrive as a result? "Well there's a plan for that. We want to protect the peninsula itself, but Kilkee is built for mass tourism. Buses can stop there, and we'll bring the visitors round the peninsula in small minibuses, driven by local guides. That way it remains a community initiative and visitors still get that authentic, unspoilt experience."

The 1,400 entries to the competition indicated certain preferences among Irish holiday makers, notably a desire to holiday by the sea, to visit the west of Ireland, and to find value.

Eurostat figures show that home holidays tend to be shorter, three days on average versus nine for foreign holidays, and to result in less expenditure than trips abroad. In 2011, Irish tourists spent €1.3 billion on 6.2 million home holidays, and €5.1 billion on 4.7 million foreign ones.

Loop Head was the judges' unanimous choice. Tour guide Steve McPhilemy described it as a "new and radical" tourist destination, and Margaret Jeffares of the Good Food Ireland organisation said it was a beautiful destination, loved by Limerick and Clare people for generations, that deserved to be brought to a wider audience.

Rosita Boland, Irish Times journalist and a judge in the competition, said: "This competition was partly about finding lesser-known places, and also acknowledging what's being done in areas to make the best of what they have. Loop Head does that really well, has a diversely beautiful landscape, is remote, and has great tourism initiatives."

Eamon Ryan, leader of the Green Party and a judge in the competition, said: "For me this is bottom-up tourism. I had heard in the ether, about a buzz, an optimism around Loop Head tourism.

"I hadn't been there before but was struck by how stunningly beautiful it is," said Ryan. "The cliffs around Loop Head are as good as any in Ireland. I had a seaweed bath, had a lovely

dinner, and I thought, No wonder the Victorians chose to come here all those years ago.

"I met four or five businesses that had set up in recent years. It's small local businesses like this that can bring people back from Western Australia and other far-flung destinations. Tourism is one of the ways we can fight depopulation and emigration," said Ryan. "Now I'm looking forward to a break there myself with my family, cycling out to the lighthouse, going dolphin-watching, and swimming the Pollock Holes."

Financial Times, May 27, 2013 5:56 pm

Energy suppliers urge UK to back gas-fired power

By Guy Chazan

The Big Six energy suppliers are pressing the government to support gas-fired power, warning that without it the [UK](#) could face a shortfall in generating capacity.

EnergyUK, which represents the big power companies such as [Centrica](#), EDF Energy and RWE npower, said ministers should move faster on plans for a capacity market to encourage investment in new gas-fired power stations.

In a letter to Ed Davey, energy secretary, Angela Knight, head of EnergyUK, said a decision on a capacity mechanism was "urgently needed" to avoid further uncertainty and risk. "It is essential that market participants are given clarity on future market arrangements," she said. The rules defining them "should be agreed as quickly as possible".

About one-fifth of UK generating capacity is due to close over the next decade, much of it old coal plants that do not conform to tough EU environmental standards. Plans to replace them with new nuclear reactors and offshore wind farms have been delayed because of uncertainty over government policy and fallout from the economic crisis.

Gas plants are not being built either, largely because of the low "spark spread" – the difference between the cost of gas and the price of electricity generated from it. Tougher rules on carbon emissions have also helped to undermine the economic argument for gas.

Ofgem, the electricity regulator, has warned that the "reserve margin" of spare generating capacity could get uncomfortably tight as a result, dropping from 15 per cent now to a wafer-thin 5 per cent in three years' time.

Some of the policy uncertainty should be removed when the coalition government's energy bill, which is designed to attract £110bn of investment in low-carbon generation, finally becomes law later this year.

The bill incentivises new gas plants, seen as essential back-up for intermittent wind farms, by creating a market for gas-fired power. This involves auctions for power capacity that oblige winners to deliver [energy](#) at times of peak demand. It is hoped that capacity payments will provide the kind of reliable income stream that energy companies need to make investments in new plants.

But the first capacity auction is not expected to take place before 2015 and with plants taking at least two years to build, few expect any new ones to be up and running before 2017.

Both Centrica and [SSE](#), two of the Big Six, have said they would not take final investment decisions on building gas-fired power stations until after the first capacity auctions. Ian Marchant, SSE's chief executive, said in March that the government was "significantly underestimating the scale of the capacity crunch facing the UK in the next three years" and warned there was a "very real risk of the [lights going out](#) as a result".

The Department of Energy and Climate Change said the energy bill would "set the conditions for the investment needed to keep Britain's lights on in the long term".

DECC has already said it is minded to run a capacity market in 2014 for additional capacity for 2018-19 and plans to publish more details on capacity market design shortly. The confirmed timing of the first auction will be given "in due course".

Oil guru says US shale revolution is 'temporary'

By Ajay Makan and Javier Blas in Vienna

The oil trader known by rivals as "God" predicts the US shale revolution will only "temporarily" boost production and oil prices will remain high, siding with Saudi Arabia and the Opec cartel in a debate gripping the energy market.

Andy Hall, whose lucrative bets on oil prices earned him a \$100m salary at [Citigroup](#) in the 2000s, told investors that the rapid decline in output suffered by shale wells is "likely [to] mean that the bounty afforded by shale resources is temporary".

Surging US oil production is casting a long shadow as Opec ministers gather in Vienna for their twice yearly meeting this week. The International Energy Agency forecasts that North America, long Opec's largest customer, will become a net exporter of oil by 2030, thanks to the flood of new [shale production](#).

The consensus in the industry is that shale resources could push long-term oil prices down, threatening Opec. Dennis Gartman, a pundit followed by many investors, told CNBC this week: "If there were a way to sell Opec short, I would try to find a way to sell Opec short."

But [Saudi Arabia](#) has taken the view that the shale revolution does not endanger the kingdom or Opec. And Mr Hall, who made a fortune betting that long-term oil prices would rise from \$18 to \$100 during the 2000s, has become the most senior industry executive to agree.

The trader told investors in his \$4.5bn Astenbeck hedge fund, which he runs alongside the Phibro commodity trading house, that while output from shale oil wells is initially prolific, production declines rapidly because each well only taps a single pool of rock-trapped oil, rather than an entire reservoir.

In a letter to investors seen by the Financial Times, Mr Hall said that makes it "impossible to maintain production... without constant new wells being drilled [which would] require high oil prices".

"We read almost daily of new oil discoveries and perhaps this leads to complacency among the lay public," he added.

Mr Hall also revealed a bullish bet on Brent December 2015 oil futures, currently trading at \$94.60. "We continue to hold our longer dated [oil] position with conviction," he said.

"Shale [oil and gas](#) boom has been an incredible phenomenon and it would be ridiculous to argue that it is not having a transformational impact on the oil and gas industry," Mr Hall said. But he immediately warned: "We feel that some of the wilder claims regarding its future prospects need to be tempered."

Opec ministers are set to devote a large portion of [their Vienna meeting](#) on Friday to the impact of the US shale boom. While the rise in shale production is not hurting Saudi Arabia and its fellow Gulf states, other Opec members such as Nigeria and Angola have seen sharp declines in exports to the US.

The cartel is nonetheless set to keep its production target level unchanged at 30m b/d, Opec delegates said on Wednesday. With oil prices hovering above \$100 a barrel, even the most hawkish members of the group, which pumps roughly 40 per cent of the world's oil, have so far refrained from calling for output cuts.

"As long as demand continues to grow fast enough to absorb shale output and prices stay around \$100 a barrel, Opec does not need to worry," one delegate said.

TAKE ACTION

[EMAIL ADDRESSES TO COPY AND PASTE](#) [scroll down for the copy and paste list](#)

For 'Bulk' actions: www.contact.ie

Disclaimer

This newsletter aims to be an open, international information platform about unconventional shale gas extraction. I see my role as a facilitator for all concerned people, to inform them and post their comments (like a letter to the editor in a newspaper).

