



PRESS RELEASE

French, British, Italian, German, Polish, Swiss, Colombian and Californian groups and organizations against shale & coal oil and gas

<http://www.nongazdeschiste.fr/>

august 24, 2013

International solidarity with the anti-fracking protesters in Balcombe, Sussex, United-Kingdom

British citizens have been showing peaceful but determined opposition against hydraulic fracturing (non-conventional oil & gas drilling) activities in Balcombe, Sussex, for over a month.

Following the first arrests made on July 26th 2013, French groups against fracking "*Non aux pétrole et gaz de schiste et de houille*" wrote a letter to all MEPs expressing their concerns about the increasingly widespread custom of forcing through industrial projects which pose a known danger to the environment, to people's health and safety and to local economy, going as far as using violence from the police in order to achieve it.

Last week on Wednesday, August 14th the Magistrates Court in Crawley dismissed the police bail that had been placed on that first lot of arrestees of the Balcombe protest (arrested on July 26th and following days).

Yet 30 more arrests were made during the demonstration that took place at the site last Monday, 19th of August 2013. Over a thousand people had come to Balcombe to show their opposition to the drilling. They were met by 400 police force who had not come to defend the rights of the citizens but the interests of private corporation Cuadrilla. Under the protection of the police, Cuadrilla started the incriminated drilling in Balcombe a fortnight ago. Please note that the only Green Party representative in Parliament Caroline Lucas was also arrested on that day.

French, British, Italian, German, Polish, Swiss, Colombians & Californian groups and organizations against shale and coal oil and gas hereby reiterate their support to the people of United Kingdom, who are defending their environment and their quality of life.

We unite our voices to say NO to unconventional drilling anywhere in the world.

Press Contact:

Françoise Lienhard ; France : 0033 954 14 53 26

(1) <http://bastagazales.wordpress.com/2013/08/04/lettre-a-mmes-et-mm-les-eurodeputes-au-sujet-du-forage-dexploration-de-gaz-de-schiste-a-balcombe-dans-le-sussex-en-angleterre/>

(2) Violent police arrests in Balcombe, on August 19, 2013 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-23755891>

We would like to bring back to attention that based on numerous scientific reports unconventional energy sources are aggravating causes to climate change when the whole of their chain of production, from

* Collectifs citoyens opposés à l'exploration et à l'exploitation des hydrocarbures « non conventionnels », à la fracturation du sous-sol, aux forages extrêmes et appelant à une véritable transition énergétique pérenne.

PRESS RELEASE

extraction to distribution, is looked at. They cannot be considered as an alternative to conventional hydrocarbons in a transition towards sustainable energy.

From the point of view of the economy, several studies show that the figures for natural gas have all the makings of a market bubble. They demonstrate, too, that as a solution to joblessness this industry is illusory because of the temporary and precarious nature of the jobs offered, doubled with the fact that the workforce in use is sourced far away and boarded in poor condition housing. Besides, the low-grade positions offered by the drilling industry cannot make up for the loss of pre-existing local jobs such as in agriculture, trade and tourism.

We would like to ask all leaders of member states of the European Union, with respect to their right to each choose their own mix of energy sources, to put in place all necessary measures for the decrease of energy consumption, helping communities to tend towards sobriety of energy use. And with that to work in partnership with the industries in order to develop local sources of renewable energy in order to maintain a sustainable economy (instead of the interests of private corporations), the quality and security of water supplies, the salubrity of the air, the beauty of landscapes and the quality of life of European citizens.

Supported by FRANCE

Carmen (02), Gazpart (02), Touche pas à mon schiste ! (07), Collectif 07 (07), Citoyens du Narbonnais Non Gaz et Pétrole de Schiste (11), Non au gaz de schiste Montélimar /Drôme Sud (26), Romans Nord Drôme des Collines (26), FRAPNA 26 (26), Roynac 26 (26), Gard Rhodanien (30), Cigalois (30), Les Mages AJC (30), Garrigue Vaunage (30), Roquedur-Le Vigan (30), Anduze (30), Gardonnenque - Petite Camargue (30), Viganais Non aux gaz et pétrole de schiste (30), Basta ! Gaz Alès (30), Nîmes anti schiste (30), Piémont cévenol (30), Gers Non au gaz de schiste (32), Bassin de Thau (34), Sète (34), Non aux gaz de schiste Canal-Lirou (34), Montpellier littoral Contre les gaz et pétrole de schiste (34), Ceressou (34), Orb-Jaur Non au gaz de schiste (34), Eco/lectif Dégaze Gignac et environs (34), Lodévois (34), Grand Montpellier (34), Pézenas (34), Clapiers (34), Inter-collectif Plaines du Languedoc Non au gaz de schiste (LR), Isère Stop aux GHRM (38), Haut-Jura (39), Martel Non au gaz de schiste et de Houille (46), Lot-et-Garonne Non au gaz de schiste (47), Association Stop au gaz de schiste-Non al gas d'esquist 47 (47), Causse Méjean - Gaz de schiste NON ! (48), Florac Non gaz de schiste (48), La Canourgue (48), Houille ouille ouille (59 / 62), Pays fertois (77), Pays de Coulommiers (77), Briard (77), Bocage gâtinais (77), CRI – Nonville (77), Association Nature-Environnement 77 (77), Union PNR de la Brie et des deux Morins (77), Collectif Marne-Ourcq-Multien (77), Stop pétrole de schiste 77 (77), Entrecasteaux (83), Collectif 83 (83), Essonne Non aux gaz et pétrole de schiste (91), Ile-de-France Non aux gaz et pétrole de schiste (IDF), Collectif ALDEAH / France et Amérique Latine, Association Gaïa – SOS planète en danger, Association nationale No Gazaran !

UNITED KINGDOM

Frack Off

POLAND

Occupy Chevron Żurawlów

GERMANY

Interessengemeinschaft Schönes Lünne, IG Rees gegen Gasbohren e.V., Bürgerinitiative Fracking freies Hessen

SWITZERLAND

Val-de-Travers Non aux forages d'hydrocarbures, Canton de Neuchâtel

ITALY

Accademia della Venticina (Scerni, Vasto), Active Citizen (Roma), Animalisti Italiani Onlus (Roma), Associazione Ambiente e Salute di Correggio e San Martino (Reggio Emilia), Associazione Apnea Pantelleria Onlus (Trapani), Associazione Civica Porta Nuova (Vasto, Chieti), Associazione Ernesto Ragazzoni, Associazione per la Tutela della Salute e dell'Ambiente di Basilicata (Potenza), Associazioni Ambientaliste FOLGORE e DEMETRA (Trani), CARP Novara Onlus - Coordinamento Ambientalista Rifiuti Piemonte (Novara), Centro Internazionale Crocevia (Roma), Centro Studi Giuseppe Martella (Peschici, Foggia), Comitati Cittadini per l'Ambiente (Sulmona, L'Aquila), Comitato 5 Giugno (Lecco), Comitato Abruzzese del Paesaggio (Pescara), Comitato Abruzzese Difesa Beni Comuni (Teramo), Comitato ambientalisti Lombardia (Cremona), Comitato Ambiente e Sottosuolo (Modena), Comitato Carpignano Sesia, Comitato Difesa Nostro Territorio (Carpignano Sesia, Novara), Comitato No Petrolio (tollo CH), Emergenza Petrolio Abruzzo (Pescara), Fondo Ambiente Italia - Delegazione di Vasto (Vasto, Chieti), Gruppo d'Intervento Giuridico Onlus (Cagliari), Gruppo No Triv Cento (Ferrara), Libero Comitato Centroemilia (Ferrara), Mediterraneo No Triv (Policoro, Matera), Movimento Ambientalista BAT Puglia (Trani), No al progetto Eleonora (Arborea, Oristano), No Megacentrale (Guspini, Medio Campiano, Sardegna), No petrolio alta Irpinia (Avellino), No Scorie Trisaia (Rotondella, Matera), Nuovo Senso Civico (Lanciano, Chieti), Rete di Cittadini Liberi (Foggia), Terra che ci appartiene (Gonnosfanadiga, Medio Campiano, Sardegna), Terrambiente e sottosuolo (Modena), WWF Basilicata (Potenza), WWF Zona Frentana e Costa Teatina (Lanciano, Chieti)

COLOMBIA

Ambiental Doima – Piedras, Ambiental en Defensa de la Vida (Ibagué), Ambiental y Campesino Provincia de los Nevados, Ambiental Sur del Tolima, Ambiental y Campesino de Anaime y Cajamarca

UNITED STATES of AMERICA

Stop Fracking California State (Los Angeles)