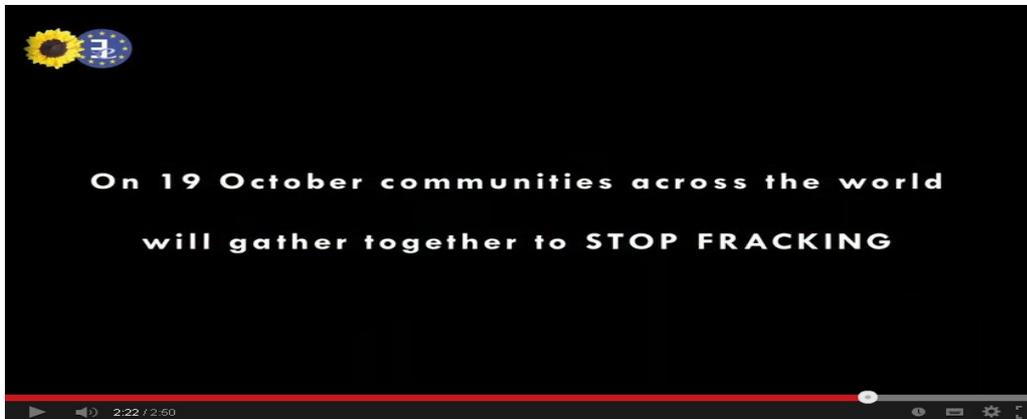


Fracking Matters Newsletter 35-13 (125) -17 October 2013

Contact details: [Web Fracking Free Ireland](#) and [Fracking Matters Newsletter](#)



Ban Fracking on the Island of Ireland



[Global Frack Down film - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDH9ghBtV3I&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDH9ghBtV3I&feature=youtu.be)



Warming up for the global frack down day by Antoine, Geert, Gabrielle



First Nation Fracking Protest Escalates in New Brunswick, part of Global Frackdown - <http://350.org/about/blogs/first-nation-fracking-protest-escalates-new-brunswick-part-global-frackdown>



Vote for the pinocchio awards - www.prix-pinocchio.org/en

UPCOMING EVENTS - National

GLOBAL FRACK DOWN DAY

9 events in Ireland.

Carrick-on-Shannon, Walk and Talk Mount Allen, Clonmel and [more](#) (scroll down to view all events)

NI

On Saturday, over 60 Friends of the Earth local groups and others from across England, Wales & Northern Ireland will be holding events and street stalls highlighting the risks of fracking and the potential spread of fracking nationwide. We will be asking people to sign postcards to local authority leaders saying

'The **F**racking **W**ord is a **Dirty Word**' calling on them to say no to fracking in their area.

Good luck to everyone for their actions and events on Saturday

United Farmers Association Public Information Meeting.

Important notice to all residents of south & west Clare.

Farming not Fracking is the future.

**Saturday 9th November 2013 At 8:30pm
Kilmihil Hall.**

A Cara,

The future survival and well-being of all residents of west and south County Clare is about to be decided on how the two single most important issues of our time are decided. (1) The internal divisions of the Cap Reform Payments in Ireland as a result of the 2013 CAP reform recently agreed in Brussels. Failure to achieve a fair and equitable division of these subsidies will result in the disappearance of at least 30% of the existing farming community and the elimination of many business in the rural towns and villages of Co.Clare. The UFA National Officers will present at this public information meeting the options for a fair and equitable distributions of the new payments facts and figures. Be aware the future of family farming as we know it is at stake here.

Fracking for shale gas deposits poses possibly one of the most lethal challenges to the health and welfare of human and animal health in living memory in Co. Clare. Just a small sample list of the facts about this industry that you should and must become aware of

(1) Fracking is largely unregulated either by National or EU law.

(2) 2 to 8 million gallons of water and 10,000 to 40,000 gallons of chemicals are required to bore one well.

(3) 88 different chemicals of which 80 are harmful to varying degrees ranging from toxic to irritant-contaminant [Federal German Scientific report].

(4) Unmeasurable but substantial methane gas emissions from the fracking wells. Methane gas is a greenhouse gas at least 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide.[EU scientific investigation].

(5) 20 to 35% of this fracking fluid remains in the ground; nobody knows what's going to happen to it long term and nobody knows the location and depth of our artifice which supply our ground water.

(6) Of that which is brought back to the surface the only method of disposal of this lethal mixture is by spreading or dumping it on the surface or in storage ponds.

(7) Food Companies – Milk Cooperatives etc. in certain parts of the world where fracking is taking place are now refusing to purchase food products-milk etc. from areas where fracking fluid is spread on the land or stored.

(8) More information on the night.

Every citizen has a duty of care to make sure that they are fully informed on the above issues, as they will have life changing consequences for many.

Bertie Wall President.

UPCOMING EVENTS – INTERNATIONAL

11-14 May 2014 Basel

Fracking, seismics and spills: Environmental risk assessment of oil and gas exploration and production

Full program: http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Risk_assessment_all_sessions.pdf

October 21 - Webinar on Community Strategies against Fracking

As Part of its new Human Right to Water Webinar series, the Blue Planet Project is collaborating with the Alianza Mexicana contra el Fracking, Food & Water Watch and the Observatorio Petrolero Sur to host the following webinar:

The Human Right to Water and Resistance: A Webinar on community strategies to protect water against fracking

Around the world, communities are fighting back against the takeover of water supplies by hydraulic fracturing (fracking) projects that pose a threat to the human right to water. Find out firsthand from activists in Canada, the United States, Europe and Latin America about strategies of resistance against fracking in their communities.

WHEN: **October 21st** at 15:00 UTC-time, 11 am EST, 5 pm in Paris, 8 am San Francisco, 12 pm Buenos Aires.

Speakers include:

Caleb Behn: a law graduate with a concentration in environmental law and sustainability from West Moberly First Nation and subject of upcoming documentary film focused on the impact of hydraulic fracturing in Canada and Aotearoa, New Zealand.

Sam Bernhardt: Pennsylvania organizer for Food & Water Watch

Diego di Risio: co-founder of OPSur, political scientist (UBA). Based in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Geert de Cock: Policy Officer for Food & Water Europe in Brussels - the European programme of the American consumer advocacy NGO - on a campaign to ban fracking in Europe.

The webinar will be facilitated by **Meera Karunanathan**, Blue Planet Project.

HOW: Please join the virtual meeting at: <http://canadians.adobeconnect.com/r1g5duucana/>
Space is limited. Please RSVP to: meera@canadians.org

This event is being organized in collaboration with the Global Frackdown

CAMPAIGN NEWS INTERNATIONAL

We have been warming up for the Global Frackdown day of action on Saturday.

Antoine, Gabriella and I took some time yesterday to deliver our Global Frackdown message to the doorstep of the most active fracking Member States in the EU. We rode our bikes to several of the Member States' Permanent Representations. We also delivered our message to BusinessEurope, the Parliament and the European Commission.

You can find the results below and on the [Food & Water Europe Twitter page](#). Enjoy. Please retweet at your respective governments!

Friends, - just twodays to go until the **Global Frackdown**. Are you ready?

Just a short update today with some details on social media, leading up to the Global Frackdown. Make sure to be ready to promote the Frackdown on facebook and twitter to build up to the 19th. Here are three things you can do:

New Video: Our friends in Europe have produced this really incredible video with members of parliament calling for a ban on fracking and supporting the Global Frackdown. Check it out and share it to help spread the word. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDH9ghBtV3I&feature=youtu.be>

October 17 - Social Media Storm: We have set up a page on Thunderclap, which allows people to schedule a post about the Global Frackdown to have them all go up at the same time to maximize our impact on the 17th. Here is a link to it:

<https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/5490-global-frackdown>. Other ideas for posts on facebook and twitter can be found on www.globalfrackdown.org/social-media

Invite People to the Facebook Event: Invite your friends and continue posting pictures, images, and flyers to the page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/190213177814583/>

Mark Schlosberg mschlosberg@fwwatch.org

TAKE ACTION



Who are we ? | About the Prix Pinocchio | Nominees | Winners | Act now !

»» Thanks for your vote to the Pinocchio Awards 2013 ! The results will be online on November 19th, 2013.

In partnership with



www.prix-pinocchio.org/en

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Where is the stink coming from?

50 May 2013 **POLITYKA** WARSAW



Protesters behind a banner at a protest against hydraulic fracturing in Bucharest, April 4, 2013

Presseurope: is a website (as far as I heard) funded by the European Commission. It supposedly tailors news from different Eu newspapers.

With regards to fracking, it seems to select those pro-fracking news and those identifying opponents as not well informed people

<http://www.presseurop.eu/en/content/article/3821861-where-stink-coming>

Mercy International Association, through Mercy Global Action, is inviting all Mercy Sisters and Colleagues to participate in or organise events for Global Frackdown Day on 19 October 2013. <http://frackingfreeireland.org/upcoming-events/>

http://www.mercyworld.org/news_centre/view_article.cfm?id=759

http://www.mercyworld.org/news_centre/view_article.cfm?loadref=1&id=775

http://www.mercyworld.org/news_centre/landing.cfm?loadref=196

GOOD VIDEO: FRACKING EXPLAINED, opportunity or danger-

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uti2niW2BRA> (3 sept 2013)



THOUGHTS – OPINION



Shale is a pipedream sold to greater fools -

<http://theautomaticearth.com/Energy/shale-is-a-pipedream-sold-to-greater-fools.html>

London Is Fracking, And I Live By The River -

<http://theautomaticearth.com/Energy/london-is-fracking-and-i-live-by-the-river.html>

MOVIES- SONGS- VIDEO'S - PRESENTATIONS



Paul Murphy: Defend the Environment - No to Fracking!

EIA Directive plenary vote - <http://www.youtube.com/watchv=HE9iEINjByU>

<http://youtu.be/HE9iEINjByU>

GLOBAL FRACK DOWN DAY

New Video: Our friends in Europe have produced this really incredible video with members of parliament calling for a ban on fracking and supporting the Global Frackdown. Check it out and share it to help spread the word. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDH9ghBtV3I&feature=youtu.be>



POLITICAL NEWS – EU/IRELAND

European Union Votes for mandatory fracking impact studies-

<http://ecowatch.com/news/europe-votes-for-mandatory-fracking-impact-studies/>

(...)Opposition to fracking has been growing across Europe. France and Bulgaria have banned fracking, according to Keep Tap Water Safe, and Romania and Ireland are considering moratoriums while research continues into the alleged safety of the process. Over the summer, multiple peaceful protests broke out at exploratory drill sites in Balcombe, Sussex, south of London. Anti-fracking activists and community members in the UK have continued courageous displays of direct action, strengthening a collective voice rejecting the process. (...)

MEP Anderson disappointed at EU Fracking vote result

<http://www.sinnfein.ie/contents/27676#.UIW70xmQSaZ.twitter>

=====
Campaigner: Positive result overall - not perfect because early stages of exploration exempt but fracking stage covered. May be enough to deter the frackers! We'll see!
=====

Reporter: Facebook Fracking Free Brussels

Did your MEP vote '**Frack Baby Frack**' or '**Frack is Whack**' at Wednesday's crucial EU Parliament vote on Environmental Impact Assessments?

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/fracking-free-ireland-brussels/meet-the-frackers-meps-who-voted-no-to-mandatory-eias/239081409580738>

Amendment 79 - which covered mandatory EIAs for **all stages of exploration** - was rejected by a majority of MEPs (30 votes short of a majority) so a compromise amendment - **Amendment 126** - **which excludes the early stages of exploration** such as seismic testing and well pad construction - was then voted on. The MEPs who voted against AM 79 are not listed below, only those who voted against AM 126]

Jim Nicholson UUP MEP & Diane Dodds DUP MEP both voted against implementing regulations that would call for oil & gas companies to undergo Environmental Impact Assessments when planning to develop heavily industrialised exploratory wells. They consistently ignored the wishes of their constituents to sit and talk through this. These two are deeply involved in agricultural and rural affairs, seems strange that they appear to support the poisoning and industrialisation of the rural and agricultural lands of N Ireland that they are supposed to protect.



Baddy no. 1 is **Séan Kelly** - who even voted against the amendment to give the rapporteur a mandate to negotiate with Council (how bad is that!). The other three are **Mairead McGuinness, Gay Mitchell and Jim Higgins**. I should add that the same four voted against a moratorium in the Parliament last year.

But IT SEEMS THAT **HIGGINS AND MITCHELL** DID VOTE IN FAVOUR OF THE AMENDMENT 126

But: It would seem that corrected votes don't change the result. "Corrections of votes MEPs are allowed to report a correction of a vote. Corrections of votes are reported at the European Parliament website in the minutes for the corresponding meeting. Corrections of votes does not have any effect on the overall results and are thus not taken into account in the calculations at" itsyourparliament.eu. <http://www.itsyourparliament.eu/faq/>

Full **NAME & SHAME** on the website [here](#)

UPDATE all IRISH MEP'S position on fracking [here](#)

Paul Murphy (SP):

I voted in favour of mandatory Environmental Impact Assessments, to be carried out both for the exploration and production phases of all unconventional fossil fuel projects. I also voted in favour of the report as a whole and voted to maintain and strengthen the ability of the public to access information regarding EIAs.

The fact that the right-wing in the Parliament wanted to remove even such a limited provision, demonstrates that the fight against fracking must continue. It is positive to see such good work being done by campaigners on this issue - it clearly has had an effect. We need to push now for a full ban on fracking and for public investment in green technology as an environmentally friendly alternative.

Below is a link to my speech in the Parliament on the matter which you may find of interest.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HE9iEINjByU>

If you would like to discuss this further with me or if there is anything that I can do to assist with the campaign against fracking, please feel free to get in touch.

Best wishes,

Paul Murphy
Member of the European Parliament
www.paulmurphymep.eu <<http://www.paulmurphymep.eu/>>
Ph: +32 2 28 47836

Brian Crowley (FF)

Thank you for your email of 7th October last. Yours is one of many I received in relation to this issue. As you may be aware, the European Parliament proposed that exploration and hydraulic fracturing activities for non-conventional hydrocarbons should be subject to environmental impact studies, in adopting an amendment to existing EU legislation and further, suggested measures to prevent conflicts of interest and to ensure that the public is informed and consulted. My Fianna Fail colleagues and I also voted to bring in environmental impact assessments for pylons but unfortunately this measure was not passed. The final vote has been referred back to committee.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me.

Kind regards

Is mise le meas

Brian

Brian Crowley MEP

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Facebook www.facebook.com/briancrowleymep <<http://www.facebook.com/briancrowleymep>>

IRISH NEWS

SHALE GAS BULLETIN IRELAND – issue 18

Court ruling a setback for a project which has overrun on costs and time

EPA and Shell studying the decision latest setback for Corrib gas terminal

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/court-ruling-a-setback-for-a-project-which-has-overrun-on-costs-and-time-1.1561962>

NI

Stormont row on the cards - 16 Oct. 2013

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/debateni/blogs/noel-mcadam/stormont-row-on-the-cards-over-fracking-in-northern-ireland-29663226.html>



Minister says fracking is a matter for the Executive-

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/democracylive/northern-ireland-24535960>

Speaking in Question Time, Arlene Foster, said she regarded fracking as a novel and controversial issue and, in the light of Mr Justice Treacy's recent ruling on blood donations, it would need to be dealt with by the whole Executive.

Nothern Ireland Executive - <http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/debateni/blogs/liam-clarke/northern-ireland-executive-fractured-over-fracking-debate-29667299.html>

EU -NEWS

EU

European Union Votes for mandatory fracking impact studies-

<http://ecowatch.com/news/europe-votes-for-mandatory-fracking-impact-studies/>

Shale gas firms face EU methane emissions regulation

<http://www.euractiv.com/energy/shale-gas-firms-face-methane-emi-news-530893>

(...)Shale gas companies operating in Europe will soon have to monitor, log and account for methane emissions at drill sites or else face regulation, the EU's top climate officer has said.

(...)

SPAIN

Arizona solar farm ready to power 70,000 homes -

<http://ecowatch.com/business/renewable-business/arizona-solar-farm-power-70000-homes/>

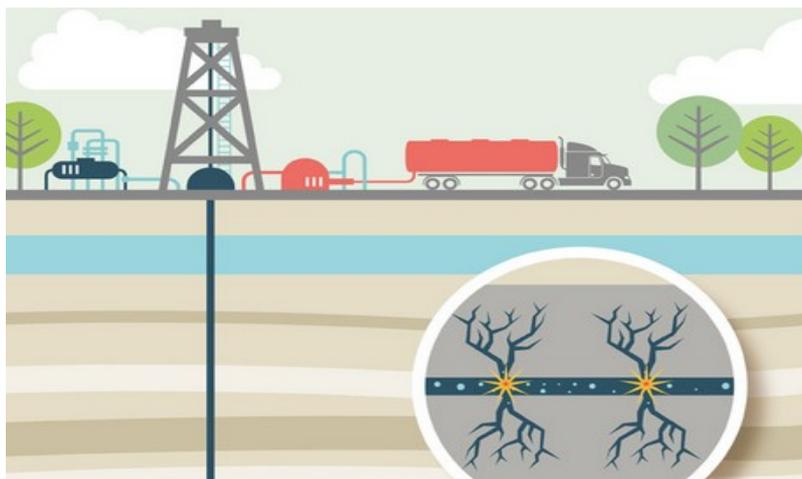
UK

Group wants anti fracking commitment -

http://www.guardian-series.co.uk/news/10731875.Group_wants_anti_fracking_commitment/

Could This Kill off UK Fracking? <http://www.frackingdigest.co.uk/horizontals.htm>

It is now clearly established by high court judgement that if the drillers go under somebody's land without permission they are committing a trespass. They can be taken to court, and unless the law changes if the facts are proven regarding the route of the underground drilling the landowner is pretty sure of a victory. But the compensation (unless of course it is also the case that damage has been done to the property) for the trespass will be small, maybe £1,000.



It turns out the French aren't interested in lighting their water faucets on fire. The French Constitutional Council upheld the government's ban on hydraulic fracturing, also known as fracking. This came after a legal challenge by Schuepbach, a Texan energy company.

Fracking in Britain could create just a THIRD of the jobs Cameron predicted, energy experts warn ministers

- Prime Minister has claimed shale gas industry could create 74,000 jobs
- **Experts working for energy department warn real figure could be 24,000**
- 'New jobs might only last 4-9 years with few opportunities for local people'
- Environmental campaigners are strongly opposed to fracking

<http://www.mailonsunday.co.uk/news/article-2462625/Fracking-Britain-create-just-THIRD-jobs-Cameron-predicted-according-energy-experts-advising-ministers.html>

FRANCE - France: <http://connexionfrance.com/Fracking-hydraulic-fracturing-shale-gas-Conseil-Constitutionnel-Schuepbach-15120-view-article.html>
<http://www.tradethenewsroom.com/france-moves-keep-fracking-bay-3422>

France upholds ban on HF -

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/12/business/international/france-upholds-fracking-ban.html?emc=edit_tnt_20131011&tntemail0=y&r=0 (11 October 2013)

(...) The Constitutional Council ruled against a challenge by Schuepbach Energy, an American company, whose exploration permits were revoked after the French Parliament banned the practice. (...)

In addition to France, Bulgaria has banned fracking. Britain has allowed modest experiments, though those have met with public discontent. Industry hopes that Germany, which decided to end its atomic power after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in Japan, would be receptive to fracking have also met with disappointment.

On Wednesday, the European Parliament [voted to tighten the rules on fracking](#), giving initial approval to a measure to require in-depth environmental impact studies on all such projects.

GLOBAL NEWS

Montana Towns Struggle With Oil Boom Cost as Dollars Flee

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-10-10/montana-towns-struggle-with-oil-boom-cost-as-dollars-flee.html>

Tractor-trailer trucks carrying oil, water and sand to drilling sites are lined up at one of two stoplights in Fairview, Montana, as the mayor tries to figure out how to squeeze more people into his town.

(...) Fairview is one of a half-dozen bucolic farming towns in eastern [Montana](#) transformed over the past 18 months into bedroom communities for workers toiling in the [Bakken](#) oil patch.

REPORTS- RESEARCH

New report: **Barnet shale -Rawlins**

<http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Barnett-Shale-Rawlins.pdf>

Reporter: Sarah

This is interesting (in French):

<http://petrole.blog.lemonde.fr/2013/10/08/le-court-avenir-du-petrole-de-schiste-vu-par-goldman-sachs/>

It seems that Goldman Sachs, who are pretty heavily involved in shale oil, especially its rail transport (English, Reuters scoop august: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/08/20/us-goldman-oil-usd-idUSBRE97J0FD20130820>)

, say that all is well in the North Dakota shale oil plays, but that still a lot more wells are going to have to be drilled to keep production going...optimistically until a peak in around 2020. This assumes, by the way, increasing the well pad density to one per 65 hectares, or 1 per .65 km². Except that apparently when the pads get so close to each other, competing and adjacent operators steal from each other..

David Hughes, on the other hand, argues that this intensive drilling is going to make the ND plays peak by 2017 and then decline pretty rapidly thereafter.

There are good graphics in English.

The Climate Risks of an Overreliance on Natural Gas for Electricity -

http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_energy/our-energy-choices/coal-and-other-fossil-fuels/natural-gas-climate-change.html

Report: <http://frackingfreeireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/climate-risks-natural-gas.pdf>

Irish Times:

[Court ruling a setback for a project which has overrun on costs and time](#)

EPA and Shell studying the decision latest setback for Corrib gas terminal

[Wed, Oct 16, 2013, 06:50](#)

First published: Wed, Oct 16, 2013, 01:00

[Shell](#) E&P Ireland Ltd (SEPI) has played down the significance of yesterday's Commercial Court decision quashing an emissions licence for the Corrib gas terminal, but the ruling is a setback for the €3 billion project.

Were the project not at least nine years behind schedule, the setback would be far more significant.

However, the lead developer has already conceded that it could be early 2015 before gas is flowing commercially from the field - and that was before last month's (sept) fatality during work on the final stages, when a German sub-contractor, Lars Wagner (26), lost his life.

Work remains suspended on tunnelling this final section of pipeline route under Sruwadacon estuary - a special area of conservation (SAC) - which links the landfall for gas at Glengad to the terminal already built at Ballinaboy. A Health and Safety Authority (HSA) investigation has been in train since the fatal incident involving a valve on the tunnel boring machine.

The EPA licence which was the subject of yesterday's (tues) ruling is a vital piece in the jigsaw of statutory authorisations for the project, and was first applied for back in 2004.

Residents objected to the licence on the basis that it posed a risk to the local public drinking water supply at Carrowmore lake, and that it could allow for controversial practices like cold venting and "flaring" of gas to relieve pressure.

The integrated pollution prevention control (IPPC) licence was given preliminary approval by the EPA in January 2007, and granted with conditions in November 2007, after an oral hearing in Belmullet which was notable for its heavy Garda presence.

The Erris Inshore Fishermen's Association forced a review of the EPA licence, following its campaign to ensure that emissions to the marine environment in Broadhaven Bay were mitigated. Shell required the fishermen's co-operation for its offshore pipelaying operations, and, as part of a deal, the developer promised that it would use an "alternative method" of discharge for "treated produced water" or contaminated run-off.

It is this revised licence which is the subject of yesterday's (tues) ruling. An EPA spokeswoman said it was studying the wording, but believed at this stage that the licence was quashed from the outset - rather than from a "proposed decision" or preliminary stage - and that the company would have to apply for a new licence entirely.

"The EPA accepts the decision made by the Commercial Court to quash the licence granted to Shell E&P Ireland Ltd and will now consider the court's verdict," it said in a short statement.

Shell said it noted that the EPA had "conceded the case brought by Mr Martin Harrington".

"The legal challenge related to the process followed by the EPA during their determination of a review application of an IPPC Licence granted to SEPIL in 2007," it said.

"The review application was for minor changes to the licensed activity," it said, namely operation of the Ballinaboy gas terminal. The court developments would be "examined by SEPIL and, following consultation with the relevant bodies, SEPIL fully anticipates that the required licences will be in place for first gas," it said.

TAKE ACTION

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

For 'Bulk' actions: www.contact.ie

CONTACT

FACEBOOK : [NO FRACKING IRELAND](#)

[No Fracking Northern Ireland](#)

TWITTER: [@Notofracking](#)

[@BANfrackingNI](#)

WEB: FRACKING IRELAND: <https://sites.google.com/site/frackingireland/>

WEB GEAI: <http://goodenergiesalliance.com/>

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

WEB: LOVE LEITRIM: www.loveleitrim.org

NOT for \$HALE: <http://www.notforshale.com/>

NO TO FRACKING: <http://notofracking.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/campaign-news/contact-local-groups/>

Use the [sitemap](#) for an overview of all topics on the web

