

Spiking the aquifer. Thursday 19th March 2015.

We were joined by many concerned residents from far and wide as we waited outside the Planning Offices in Helmsley. Our cheeky placard stating Gas Junkies don't spike our Park. As the Extreme Energy question is still fresh to Local Media we were joined by Look North Yorkshire and Daisy a small dog.

The hearing was to be held here for planning permission for water re-injection at Eberston Moor.

[NYM/2014/0587/EIA](#) - Natural gas production and water re-injection at the existing borehole at Eberston Moor South Well Site, the drilling of a second borehole for water production and re-injection, the construction of a 13.9 km long 12" diameter underground pipeline from the Eberston Moor South Well to the Knapton Generating Station (KGS) East Knapton, Malton and construction of ancillary works at the Generating Station, Eberston Moor South Well Site, Eberston Common Lane, Snainton to Knapton Generating Station, East Knapton.

Let us first look at these amazing wonders of the National Park.

- **Great diversity of landscape** Sudden dramatic contrasts associated with this
- **Wide sweeps of open heather moorland** Distinctive dales, valley and inland headlands
- **An abundance of forest and woodland** Ancient trees and woodland rich in wildlife
- **Special landforms from the Ice Age** Exceptional coastal geology
- **Majestic coastal cliffs and sheltered harbours** Distinctive coastal headlands
- **A special mix of upland, lowland and coastal habitats** A wide variety of wildlife dependent on these
- **Settlements which reflect their agricultural, fishing or mining past** Locally distinctive buildings and building materials
- **A long imprint of human activity** A wealth of archaeology from prehistory to the 20th Century
- **A rich and diverse countryside for recreation** An extensive network of public paths and tracks
- **Strong religious past and present** Ruined abbeys and ancient churches
- **Strong feeling of remoteness** A place for spiritual refreshment
- **Tranquillity** Dark starry skies at night and clear unpolluted air
- **Distinctive skills, dialects, songs and customs** Strong sense of community and friendly people
- **A place of artistic, scientific and literary inspiration** A heritage of authors, artists, scientists and explorers

These are included in the ethos of the National park. The Planning committee is to protect and maintain the points above.

When the members of the National Park Planning Committee are donning their posh work clothes as they ready themselves for their planning meeting. Maybe they should take a quick look at what is expected of them in their capacity of NYNP custodians. Maybe, they should sit cross legged on the floor in a circle and empathize with the earth. Short sighted views on fossil fuel dependency can be a result of putting bottoms on chairs in stuffy board rooms discussing applications from extreme energy companies which have only profit in mind.

It may be an oversight but nowhere do I see the erection of gas wells in the outline of National Park jurisdiction. The members of these committees are as fossilized as the places they are meant to protect. Most born into an age which was abundant in cheap gas and oil. Vulnerable and open to persuasion when gaps in energy provision are mentioned to ensure the erection of gas wells. A mention of renewable and sustainable technology sadly passed over like a draught through an energy inefficient window pane.

A lack of vision in Divestment and a diversion of the extreme energy finances piled into companies like Third Energy to prop them up even when energy parity is being reached.

A bunch of hippies seated in a circle could see that by implementing financial incentives into renewables and Transition on our North Yorkshire Moors would be much more viable.

After 2 hours of debate it was decided that the decision should be deferred. If the Committee was to stick to its morals it would have thrown this application out on its ear.

12 members voted to delay the decision 2 against ,

So, come on you planners you are nearly there.

Take some deep breaths look around at this majestic, unique place of unrivalled beauty. Stand up for what you once believed in. You allowed Fylingdales as they eroded away at your sense of National pride but in doing so only made the National Park a target for attack. You know it makes sense to say no to these money sucking energy companies who only want to drain the last drops of oil for financial gain whilst burning the fossil fuels we cannot even burn if our planet is to survive.

One of the members said they required more training in Extreme Energy issues I second that and can they include a lesson in fossil fuels and leaving in the ground where they belong.

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