

Roseacre Wood Community Liaison Group

Meeting: Sixth meeting Wednesday 3 September 2014

Venue: Boys Brigade Hall, Carr Lane, Treales, PR4 3SS

Time: 7.00 – 9.30 pm.

Attendees:

Heather Speak (HS)	Chair
Joyce Stuart (JS)	
Nigel Smith (NS)	
Angela Livesley (AL)	
Liz Oades (LO)	
Paul Hayhurst (PH)	
Mark Reed (MR)	
Elizabeth Warner (EW)	
Sam Schofield (SS)	Cuadrilla's Lancashire Comms & Public Affairs Manager
James Adam (JA)	Cuadrilla's Bowland Project Delivery Manager
Simon Greenhalgh (SG)	Secretariat, PPS Group

In attendance:

Steve Molyneux (SM)	Environment Agency
---------------------	--------------------

Item	Action
<p>1.0 Welcome and introductions:</p> <p>HS reported apologies from Jane Barnes, Gordon Smith, Peter Marquis, Barbara Richardson and Bob Haresceugh.</p> <p>2.0 Pre-cursor to discussion:</p> <p>In relation to Matters Arising on page 7 of the minutes of last months' meeting, PH reminded CLG he would need to leave the meeting if someone starts talking about the planning application.</p> <p>On matter of donations, PH told the CLG he personally had never received any money from Cuadrilla and so had no interests to declare. But pointed out that he was a member of Elswick Parish Council, which had received a £500 donation from Cuadrilla in 2011. He added that the (Elswick) Village Hall committee has got nothing to do with Elswick Parish Council</p> <p>PH reminded the group that, as a member of Lancashire County Council's Development Control Committee, on matters of planning he is required to have an 'open mind'. For that the reason he has to leave the meeting if the planning application is discussed.</p> <p>JA asked if PH would to leave if the potential transport route at HMS Inskip was being discussed. PH said he thought he probably would, he said he'd to check with LCC but this was his understanding and that's what he would be doing this evening.</p> <p>JS agreed with PH on this. She said it was her understanding that technically 'anywhere that the route runs' will become part of the planning application.</p>	

In response to a question from HS on matter of donations, PH told the CLG he personally had never received any money from Cuadrilla and so had no interests to declare. But pointed out that he was a member of Elswick Parish Council, which had received a £500 donation from Cuadrilla in 2011 towards the wildlife meadow/garden in Elswick. He added that the (Elswick) Village Hall committee has got nothing to do with Elswick Parish Council.

HS told PH there were people who thought he was pro (shale), hence the issue being raised. PH said he thought he was better placed keeping his views to himself at this stage, and declined to confirm whether he was pro or against.

3. Steve Molyneux presentation (slides follow minutes):

SM began by introducing himself to the group and explained that he had 19 years' experience working for the Environment Agency (EA) and for the last three years he has worked in the North West.

[SM's presentation can be viewed in the slides that follow these minutes.]

During SM's presentation he took questions from the CLG members.

PH asked SM what about the existing well at Elswick and whether the EA had much involvement at Elswick. SM said they'd had minimal involvement principally because the regulation is relatively new. He explained that the Mining Waste Directive now covers fracking fluid and waste extraction. PH suggested that Elswick had been operating for over 20 years without any regulation and asked if there had been any incidents that SM was aware of. SM said there hadn't been any incidents.

HS said she was getting very annoyed that people are going to Elswick believing it was the same exploration process and it was not. SM agreed this was the case. EW added to be fair to Steve Molyneux he'd been unequivocal in explaining the difference.

SS said Elswick was referred to because comparisons could be drawn as both were onshore gas wells. He added that the main difference between Elswick and the current exploration proposals) was the depth and type of reservoirs. He commented that the industry had developed slick water hydraulic fracturing.

SM explained that regulatory control had moved on since 1993. He said that risk was assessed on a site by site basis and that this included a great deal of public consultation. He updated the CLG that the first stage of the EA's consultation had ended in August.

SM said that the EA was agnostic. If permits are required the EA's role was to ensure companies complied with the appropriate regulations and that there was a suite of regulatory controls available to the regulator.

The presentation moved onto slides about naturally occurring radioactive material. HS asked how the EA identified the gases being emitted and asked if it was just methane?

SM explained that you could get wet or dry gases. Wet gas could contain moisture but this formed part of the review undertaken by the EA

which was based on 20 years' experience of onshore drilling for oil and gas.

PH asked why regulations in the UK were less stringent citing France and Germany, while the UK government has clearly committed to shale gas.

SM did not agree that this was the case in France where the Government had decided on a moratorium. SM pointed out to the CLG that essentially the UK was using EU directives and legislation. He added that the biggest learning point for the UK was probably what had happening in the US, where there had been examples of poor boreholes for example.

EW asked how shale operators were caught out, using the example of regulation not working with child protection in Rotherham. NS added the problem was that people were cynical and asked what made the EA different, and why were the regulations and controls not working. JS said she had always been sceptical because at the end of the day the EA is a government agency, but recognised that SM was referring to EU legislation.

SM agreed and confirmed that if the UK government didn't implement a EU directive then it was at the risk of fines.

EW asked how the EA gained access to sites. SM confirmed it went through the front gate and asked what the concern was. EW said the only people who can allow access are the people running the site. SM explained to the CLG that inspections could be unannounced and that there was no requirement to forewarn the company of an EA inspection.

In response to a question from NS, SM explained that the EA had a Lancashire office in Preston with 70 staff. He added that the EA had 20 years' experience of regulating some of the highest risk industries in the UK and that shale gas did not pose any additional problems. He explained that the EA was funded in a number of ways with industry, not the tax payer, paying for the regulation. Consequently if a sector is developing, more money was generated for the Government.

SM added that 15 years ago in East Lancashire there had been a lot of textile manufacturers and the EA had a lot of inspectors focused on that industry but that was not the case today. He explained in terms of regulating an industry, industry pays for the regulators so this funding is ring-fenced. SM explained if the planning applications are given the go-ahead then it will be about bringing an expert, specialist team together to include the following:

- Environment Officer – to regulate mining waste permit conditions. Make sure any mining waste produced during the borehole drilling and hydraulic fracturing was treated and disposed of appropriately
- Groundwater Officer – to protect water resources, including groundwater. Assess and approve the use of chemicals during the exploration and development of oil and gas
- Radioactive Substances Inspector – to make sure any naturally occurring radioactive materials were treated and managed suitably
- Installations Officer – to control any emissions from flaring

LO commented so 'it's in your interest, to provide employment'. LW asked if the EA had the same range of experts at Preece Hall. SM said the EA probably didn't have the same range, because there was increased regulation now.

MR asked how well integrity was checked and SM confirmed this was the responsibility of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

SM said in conclusion that the EA understand that the UK's onshore shale gas industry was still in its very early stages but added that the EA had the necessary regulatory controls in place.

HS asked how the EA would link with the community. SM said that if permits were granted and the work goes ahead the EA would look at how it could best resource any community requests.

All agreed with SM's request to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

4. Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes from the fifth RW CLG meeting on July 23 were approved.

5. Matters arising:

- **Item 2.0: Community Foundation for Lancashire (CFL) -**

HS highlighted that at the last CLG meeting SS had stated that no decisions had yet been taken on the process for distributing the community benefit monies and had asked for alternative suggestions. HS asked if anyone had anything further to add?

SS told the CLG 'we've heard your feedback'. He added that how the money would be spent needed to be framed on as local an area as possible. He explained that the implementation model was under discussion, and any outcome needed to be discussed at future CLG meetings.

LO queried whether the community fund could still be administered by the CFL adding that she did not think this was the view of the CLG.

JS asked what process determined who handled the community benefit funds? SS used the example of wind farms where elections determined who sat on the panel that decided how community benefit monies were used.

AL considered that the CFL model did not bring distribution down to a local enough level, namely Roseacre, Wharles and Treales.

HS requested and it was agreed that a future CLG meeting is devoted to discussing the potential options for the implementation of the potential community benefit fund.

PH requested examples of precedents for managing community benefit monies.

EW welcomed the fact that the CFL proposal was being reviewed.

The CLG asked for a document to be circulated summarising the potential community benefit on offer and case studies of existing schemes. It was agreed to circulate a briefing document on the community fund.

Secretariat to ensure that a future meeting is devoted to discussion about Community Benefit

Secretariat to circulate a note on Community Benefit

Carried forward to next meeting.

Item 5.0: Noise: HS reminded the CLG that it had been agreed that a noise assessment would be undertaken by Arup at the locations suggested by HS with the results reported to the CLG when available.

SS confirmed that a noise assessment has been undertaken by Arup at the locations suggested by HS. The CLG requested the results are sent to them.

Risk management: HS reminded the CLG that at the last meeting SS had explained that Arup were working up a paper on the points raised at the previous meeting. The findings were shared with the group.

HS asked who is responsible for implementing the emergency plan? JA explained that the emergency plan has a series of scenarios and emergency procedures. If it impacts off site that's a county matter.

HS said one of her biggest concerns was that Cuadrilla's proposals for Roseacre Wood were located near to the main (National Grid) pipeline.

PH & LO advised the CLG members that they had previously attended an LCC presentation on emergency planning. The CLG requested getting a speaker from LCC to explain the County's 'emergency plan' at a future CLG meeting.

Community donations: HS reminded the group that SS had identified that the sums involved were not comparable with the £100k per well community benefit for drilling each well but agreed to provide some clarity on the types of causes and the criteria used by Cuadrilla in deciding which causes to support.

SS updated the CLG that Cuadrilla were in the process of signing off a new paper on community donations. He confirmed this would be available for distribution before the next CLG meeting.

6. Programme update:

Inskip: JA updated the CLG that Cuadrilla had met again with the MOD about the proposed transport route running through HMS Inskip.

Following a question from HS, JA confirmed that if the transport route was granted it would be two-way traffic and that the proposals put to the MOD included passing bays on the site.

HS asked about the possible impact on grass verges in Roseacre. LO & JS both advised that this would be a matter for LCC, adding that there needed to be some liaison with LCC.

SS confirmed his clear understanding of the CLG's opinion which would be minuted and an opinion sought from Cuadrilla's senior management.

Planning application responses: JA confirmed that Cuadrilla was continuing to review responses sent to LCC by statutory consultees and others. He commented that a number of responses were outstanding.

HS confirmed that the response from Treales, Roseacre and Wharles Parish Council was on its way.

7. Community Update:

Methane: MR highlighted concerns from residents about methane and its

Secretariat to invite an LCC emergency planning representative to a future meeting.

Secretariat to circulate Cuadrilla's community donations paper.

environmental impact, he thought the questions were based on information in a leaflet circulated in the local area.

SM informed the CLG that the EA would not allow Cuadrilla to 'vent' methane into the atmosphere. He said this would only be permitted in exceptional circumstances to prevent an accident. SS added that the leaflet MR was referring to portrayed this happening as a matter of course which was not the case.

EW confirmed she had read Cuadrilla's rebuttal in the latest edition of the community 'In Focus' newsletter.

JA

8. AOB:

Traffic: AL asked about abnormal loads and traffic and if there's a determination for the route. JA said he'll check and let the CLG know.

Water: AL added that she had also been asked about water capacity and where the supply is coming from. JA confirmed it would be from an existing United Utilities (UU) mains source and EW added that she was aware that UU had agreed to this.

Secretariat to provide the ES link.

AL requested that members were sent the link to the relevant section in the ES where this was detailed.

SS

Security: HS said that she'd had received several observations and complaints about heavy handed security and the actions of the security guards. LW added that security during the Reclaim The Power protest had been horrible.

SS promised to feedback their observations to Cuadrilla's head of security.

LW commented that during the protest cameras had been erected on the posts and queried what had happened to the film footage. AL added that two unmarked cars, with their headlights on, had caused an obstruction on Roseacre Road. HS commented that the security had sometimes been thought to have been excessive and residents felt like they were being invaded.

SS thanked the CLG members for raising these points, he said he would check them out and report back. He reminded the CLG that following the recent High Court injunction, there was no need for security on either site (Roseacre Wood or Preston New Road). He added this was an interim judgment until October.

Secretariat to approach NCPC

Clifton village representation on the CLG: HS noted that it had been agreed to invite a member of Newton with Clifton parish council onto the CLG. This should happen in time for the next meeting of the CLG.

9. Date of next meeting:

7.00 pm on Wednesday 15th October

Venue: Boys Brigade Hall, Carr Lane, Treales, PR4 3SS

Appendix 1: EA presentation



Managing the Environmental Risks from Shale gas Exploitation

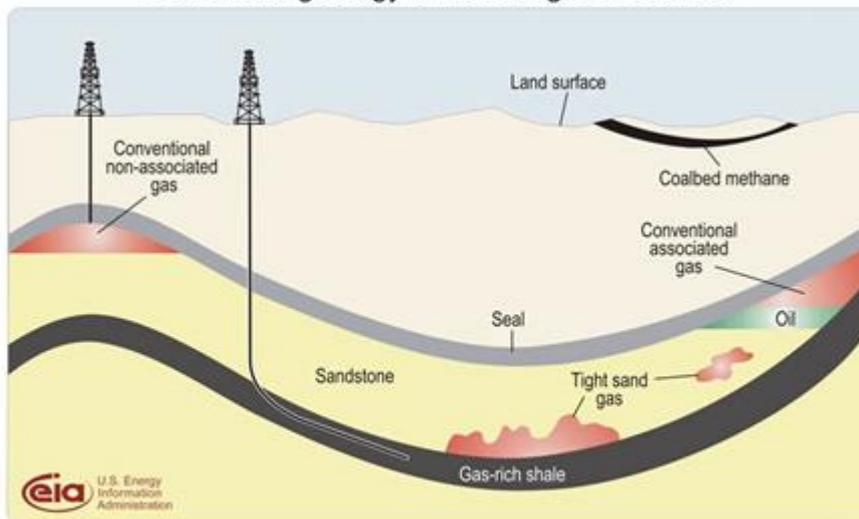
Steve Molyneux, Environment Manager, Lancashire
September 2014

Overview

- The Environment Agency and our role
- What are the risks to or Environment from Hydraulic Fracturing, Air, land and water?
- What is current regulation and are permits required?
- The Importance of the location, geological setting and well construction in protecting groundwater.



Schematic geology of natural gas resources



- Over-abstraction
- Leakage/spills
- Poor well design or failure
- Gas or fracking fluid migrating through fractures
- Mobilisation of pollutants
- Inappropriate disposal of fracking fluids

Risks to atmosphere

- Fugitive emissions of methane
- Emissions of hydrocarbons/combustion products

Risks to land

- Contamination of soil due to spills
- Inappropriate disposal of solid or liquid wastes

Seismic activity could increase risks

Open and transparent regulation

- ⇒ Principal Environmental Regulator (England)
- ⇒ Environmental permits are needed before drilling
- ⇒ Risk based & Site specific – one size doesn't fit all
- ⇒ Permits are consulted upon and public interest may be important
- ⇒ Inspection and check monitoring in line with national standards & open to scrutiny

Applying regulation

- ⇒ Approval of components of fracturing fluids
- ⇒ Permit requirements where a groundwater resource is at risk
- ⇒ Management of drilling waste, flow back water and flared gases require agreed waste management plan.
- ⇒ Management plans required where dissolved Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material in Flow back
- ⇒ Flaring standards and methods set out under the Industrial Emissions Directive



Groundwater:

Groundwater investigation consent; Notice of mining operations; Licence for abstracting water; Control of 'groundwater activities'; Groundwater activity notices; Environmental permit conditions

Surface water and land:

Control of waste fracking water discharge/disposal activities using an Environmental Permit; Residual contamination: anti-pollution works notice under the Water Resources Act 1991.

Also note that no EIA will be needed for individual exploratory wells but will be needed for larger scale exploitation. Also flood risk, habitats / biodiversity, surface water issues can be addressed here

Air:

The operator will need an environmental permit to burn gas to generate electricity and/or heat on site, if the engine capacity exceeds 20MW thermal input. Also for treatment of gas before injection into the Grid.

Applying Regulation

- ➔ Site conditioning and permit surrender
- ➔ Use of water: abstraction licence needed if take in excess of 20m³ per day.
- ➔ Planning advice and flood Risk assessment



Water Abstraction:

Groundwater:

Groundwater investigation consent; Notice of mining operations; Licence for abstracting water; Control of 'groundwater activities'; Groundwater activity notices; Environmental permit conditions

Permit compliance & inspection

- ➔ On site inspection throughout operations

Focus on

site set up

drilling & well construction

mini frack

fracking

and flow back





- ➔ Joint inspection with HSE
- ➔ Compliance records open to the public
- ➔ Powers to prosecute & enforce suspension of operations

 Environment Agency

Groundwater:

Groundwater investigation consent; Notice of mining operations; Licence for abstracting water; Control of 'groundwater activities'; Groundwater activity notices; Environmental permit conditions

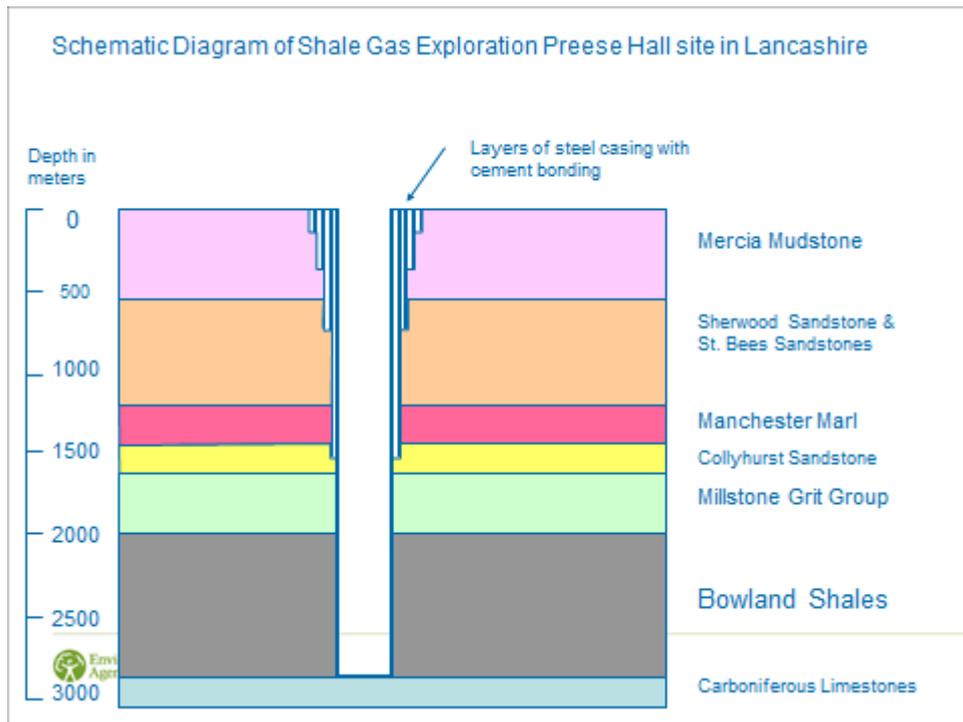
Surface water and land:

Control of waste fracking water discharge/disposal activities using an Environmental Permit; Residual contamination: anti-pollution works notice under the Water Resources Act 1991.

Also note that no EIA will be needed for individual exploratory wells but will be needed for larger scale exploitation. Also flood risk, habitats / biodiversity, surface water issues can be addressed here

Air:

The operator will need an environmental permit to burn gas to generate electricity and/or heat on site, if the engine capacity exceeds 20MW thermal input. Also for treatment of gas before injection into the Grid.



Notes on Geology

Mercia Mudstone and Manchester Marl are impermeable non- aquifer units which prevent upward and downward migration of water or contaminants

Caravan – grey water Wyre

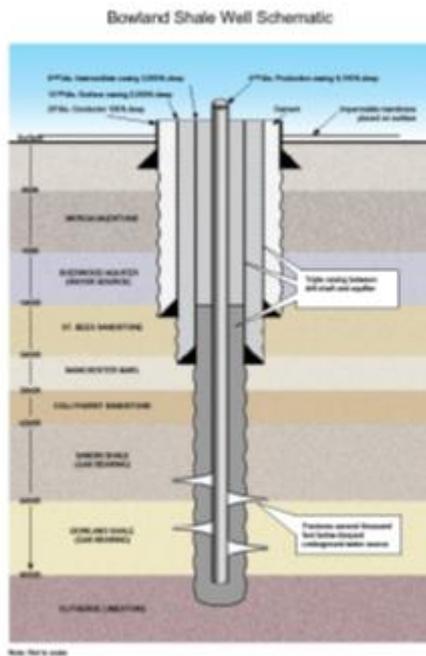
Nursery – use for plants

Not in connection

Formation water in and out

X2 casing layers at sandstone

X5 at top of BH



Well Bore Integrity

- All significant aquifers within the well bore are cased out to prevent the potential for cross contamination.
- Casing runs are cemented to UK industry standards.
- Cement bonding is pressure tested, during well bore construction.

Environment Agency Position

- ⇒ Shale gas in the UK is at a the early stage of development
- ⇒ The environmental risks are taken seriously and they can be managed effectively
- ⇒ All shale gas operations will require environmental permits
- ⇒ We have the necessary regulatory controls in place for this exploration stage with a robust inspection regime.
- ⇒ We continue to work closely with the Government, other regulators and the new Office of Unconventional Gas and Oil (OUGO)
- ⇒ Examining best practice in environmental regulation in Europe (via EU technical working group)

Permit consultations

- Initial consultations on applications closed in August.
- New information to be published online and at local libraries tomorrow
- Second consultation stage

You can view the consultation documents and consultation questions online at

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/portal/>



The aim of the consultation is to ask members of the public whether they have any comments relevant to the permit application.

We want to make the best decision when permitting. Listening to the views of others helps us to take account of concerns, or local environmental factors, that we may not be otherwise aware of