

Preston New Road Exploration Works | Community Liaison Group

Date:

Monday, 1st October 2018

Venue:

Wrea Green Institute, Station Road, Wrea Green, Preston, PR4 2PH

Attending:

Councillor Julie Brickles, member for Warton and Westby ward on Fylde Borough Council
Councillor John Kirkham, member for Warton and Westby ward on Fylde Borough Council
Councillor Dawn Ansell, Weeton-with-Preese Parish Council
Councillor Miranda Cox, Kirkham Town Council
David Kirkham, Westby-with-Plumpton Parish Council
Mary Finn, Local Community Representative
Christopher Holliday, Local Community Representative
Jan Gregson, Local Community Representative
Jonathan Haine, Lancashire County Council
Tony Almond, Health & Safety Executive
Steve Molyneux, Environment Agency
Sergeant Mick Pritchard, Lancashire Police
Sergeant Ged Halliwell, Lancashire Police
Mark Lappin, Cuadrilla
Laura Hughes, Cuadrilla
Jackie Dobson, Lexington Communications

Apologies:

Councillor Paul Hayhurst, member for Fylde West division on Lancashire County Council
Councillor Stuart Harrison, Medlar-with-Wesham Town Council
Sergeant Anthony Alves, Lancashire Constabulary
Liz Cheadle, Local Community Representative
Diane Dibley, Local Community Representative

Item		Action
1.	Welcome and apologies Councillor Brickles welcomed attendees and Jackie Dobson noted the apologies received.	
2.	Agree meeting report of 10th September 2018 Councillor Brickles requested that suggested amendments to the minutes drafted by the secretariat are raised at the CLG meeting for discussion, rather	

	<p>than amended and recirculated in advance. Members agreed with this approach.</p> <p>Following a review of the actions arising from the previous meeting, Councillor Brickles requested an amendment to the minutes relating to the discussion had regarding hydrogen sulphide (H₂S). Jackie Dobson agreed to amend the minutes.</p> <p>Members approved the meeting report as an accurate record.</p>	<p>Jackie Dobson to amend</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Review actions arising from previous meeting</p> <p><i>Action 1. Andrew Mullaney to provide feedback from the LRF</i> – Referring to discussions had with the Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF), Jonathan Haine advised that Cuadrilla’s operation is categorised as a medium risk site. Elaborating on this, he explained that existing generic planning is used by the LRF to prepare responses to incidents, such as evacuation procedures or transportation for displaced people.</p> <p>Referring to her action to inform Andrew Mullaney of the specific concerns raised by local people to ensure these are included in the list of risks being produced by the LRF, Councillor Cox asked whether the LRF could also provide a summary of the response plans it would use. She noted that this had been suggested at the previous meeting and Councillor Ansell emphasised that this would be useful to reassure the public.</p> <p>Steve Molyneux advised that 50 tonnes of gas storage capacities would require the site to be regulated under COMAH Regulations (The Control of Major Accident and Hazard Regulations) and suggested this is included in the briefing document. Councillor Ansell asked how much gas storage capacity Cuadrilla is proposing at the Preston New Road site. Mark Lappin confirmed this would be less than 50 tonnes, but would need confirm the specific details.</p> <p>Referring to the specific briefing document for CLG members, Jan Gregson asked where the document will be publicised and suggested that it should be available for local people to view. Jonathan Haine suggested that it could be published on Lancashire County Council’s website and David Kirkham stated that it could be displayed on Westby-with-Plumpton’s Parish Council’s notice board.</p> <p><i>Action 2. Sergeant Alves to liaise further to Highways England</i> – It was confirmed that the anti-fracking based graffiti on the M55 had been removed.</p> <p><i>Action 3. Mark Lappin to investigate</i> – Referring to an alleged incident where a member of staff took a photograph of a protestor eating her dinner, Mark</p>	<p>Mark Lappin to check storage capacity</p>

	<p><i>Action 12. Councillor Ansell to circulate photographs & Action 13. Mark Lappin to investigate</i> – Mark Lappin explained that the member of the security team had been smoking a cigarette in the designated smoking area. However, he acknowledged the photographs that had been provided and noted that the no smoking sign, in place for where cabin was previously situated had been removed.</p> <p><i>Action 14. Jackie Dobson to add to agenda</i> – It was agreed that the discussion regarding ongoing fees and charges would be had during the industry regulator update [Agenda Item. 8].</p> <p><i>Action 15. Jackie Dobson to circulate link</i> – It was confirmed that the link providing further information regarding the investigation by CBS, the US Chemical Safety Board, into the incident in Oklahoma in January had been circulated to members.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Question & Answer session</p> <p>Several questions were raised by attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Why has Cuadrilla’s security team erected barriers across the bellmouth? Elaborating on this, Councillor Cox advised that women participating in the <i>Call for Calm</i> demonstration had noticed a change in dynamics since the reaction of the barriers. Echoing these views, Councillor Brickles advised that that the <i>Women in White</i> protestors had previously danced in the bellmouth, but are now unable to do so. Mark Lappin explained that the barriers indicate the division between private and public land to address previous issues of protestors stating that they are breaching the injunction. However, he acknowledged the feedback received. – What heavy metals are Cuadrilla going to burn off? Mark Lappin confirmed that there will be no burning of heavy metals and a discussion followed regarding the presence of trace metals in the flowback water. Steve Molyneux explained that any heavy metals associated with the flowback water will be tested as part of the Environmental Permit. – Referring to the delivery of the stimulation equipment in the early hours of Monday, 24th September, Councillor Cox questioned whether this constitutes one convoy or two. She went onto advise attendees that 23 vehicles arrived at site and were followed by five additional vehicles. Jonathan Haine explained that the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) allows up to nine ‘occurrences’ of HGV deliveries outside of the working hours of 7.30am to 6.30pm and that an occurrence constitutes a maximum of 30 	

	<p>vehicles within these hours. Against this background, Jonathan Haine confirmed the delivery constitutes one convoy, rather than two.</p> <p>Several members questioned the justification for the delivery outside operational hours and the level of police presence, with Councillor Ansell also questioning the route taken by the convoy. Elaborating on this, she questioned why the convoy had driven by residential areas, rather than using the motorway to minimise potential disruption.</p> <p>Mark Lappin advised that the approach sought to minimise disruption to local people during normal working hours against the background of rising tensions regarding the delivery of the stimulation equipment. He advised that there are population centres in both directions of the site from the motorway so avoiding driving by residential areas was unavoidable.</p> <p>– Are further convoys outside of operation hours expected over the next few weeks? Mark Lappin advised that he would have to confirm.</p>	<p>Mark Lappin to confirm</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Lancashire Police update</p> <p>Referring to an incident of a police officer having been hit by a vehicle and pushed between a protestor and the heras fencing, Sergeant Pritchard advised that this had been investigated. He informed attendees that the police officer had not reported the incident and described it as a “<i>slightly brush</i>” against their arm. However, it was noted that the incident has now been reported as a near miss.</p> <p>With regard to an incident regarding a member of Cuadrilla’s security staff holding up traffic on the A583 to allow vehicles to enter the Preston New Road site, Sergeant Pritchard informed attendees that Chief Inspector Keith Ogle has spoken to Cuadrilla’s security regarding this.</p> <p>Councillor Ansell asked whether Sergeant Alves had looked into concerns being raised regarding the safety and necessity of police officers allowing vehicle convoys to overtake cars, including using the opposite side of the road. Sergeant Pritchard confirmed that the log had been checked, but suggested Sergeant Alves provide a detailed response at the next meeting.</p> <p>Referring to a leaflet recently delivered to his property, Christopher Holliday asked why drones are being used at the site. Sergeant Pritchard explained that the drones are being used to capture a birdseye view of the bellmouth to assist the policing operation and are operated by trained pilots.</p> <p>Councillor Ansell referred to recent video footage that captured a motorbike which had to swerve to avoid a collision with a vehicle leaving the site due to a</p>	<p>Sergeant</p>

	<p>Police OSU van parked on the opposite side of the road. Sergeant Pritchard confirmed Inspector Keith Ogle is aware of the incident. Councillor Ansell requested a response from Sergeant Alves at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Alves to provide a response</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Site update</p> <p>Mark Lappin provided an overview of operational activity, advising that Cuadrilla is preparing for the hydraulic fracturing stage. He advised that most of the stimulation equipment is on site and noted that an inspection by the regulators, specifically the Environment Agency and Health & Safety Executive, will be required before activity can commence.</p> <p>Reiterating previous comments made that Cuadrilla will start operations when everything is ready rather than prioritising a schedule and, therefore, exact timings could not be provided, Mark Lappin did advise attendees that a letter will be issued to local residents to inform them when hydraulic fracturing is imminent.</p> <p>Mary Finn questioned how much notice residents will be given and suggested that local people should be informed a few days in advance. Mark Lappin explained the difficulties associated with advising people in advance as timescales could change.</p> <p>Councillor Cox questioned whether Cuadrilla representatives are concerned that the Company's shareholders will hold the Company to account if local people are informed when hydraulic fracturing will commence. Mark Lappin stated that this was not the case.</p> <p>Jan Gregson asked how many properties will be notified. Later in the meeting, Mark Lappin confirmed all residential properties within approximately a 3KM radius of the site will be informed by letter.</p> <p>Councillor Brickles requested that members of the CLG are informed first about activity at the site. Elaborating on this, she noted that the local press, citing BBC Radio Lancashire, are issued with releases ahead of CLG members. She requested that members of the CLG receive embargoed releases in advance of them being issued or, at the very least, at the same time as they are issued to the press. Mark Lappin made a commitment to resolve this moving forward agreeing that it is a reasonable request.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Lancashire County Council Update</p> <p>Providing an update from Lancashire County Council, Jonathan Haine noted one complaint had been received regarding seismic activity in the area because of Cuadrilla's activity. He explained that as Cuadrilla had yet to commence</p>	

	<p>hydraulic fracturing at Preston New Road, seismic activity could not be attributed to the operation. He advised that Lancashire County Council would liaise with the British Geological Survey to ascertain any records of seismic activity reported in the area.</p> <p>Jonathan Haine informed attendees that Lancashire County Council had approved the lighting scheme that had been submitted for the hydraulic fracturing stage. A discussion followed regarding the height of the rig at 28 metres, with Christopher Holliday advising that Cuadrilla had informed attendees at the CLG meeting in December 2017 that the rig would be 20 metres. Mark Lappin said he recalled the previous conversation and advised that he would investigate.</p> <p>In response, Councillor Cox suggested that discrepancies and inconsistencies regarding Cuadrilla’s operation creates mistrust within the community. She advised that local people are concerned what other changes will be made and approvals granted. Echoing these concerns, Councillor Brickles cited an incident where she was attacked for explaining that a right-turn was no longer considered a breach.</p> <p>Mark Lappin explained that a right-turn can be considered a breach if it does not accord with the Traffic Management Plan (TMP). He explained that the TMP allows a right-turn to be undertaken following a risk assessment conducted by Cuadrilla’s site team in consultation with the Police or when Police request Cuadrilla to turn right for safety reasons. However, he noted that a right-turn is a breach if a driver ignores the TMP and instruction from Cuadrilla staff, such as using Sat Nav to calculate a quicker route.</p>	<p>Mark Lappin to investigate</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Industry regulators update</p> <p>Tony Almond informed attendees that the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) will be undertaking an inspection of the equipment at Cuadrilla’s site ahead of hydraulic fracturing commencing.</p> <p>Referring to issues raised during the meeting, Tony Almond advised that the HSE had responded to complaints received regarding the no smoking sign and the erection of the barriers at the bellmouth. He noted that a Freedom of Information Request was also being processed.</p> <p>In response to the request at the last meeting to discuss ongoing fees and charges made to the Environment Agency by Cuadrilla, Tony Almond advised that he had provided Councillor Brickles (as Chair of the meeting) with information regarding funding of the HSE.</p>	

<p>Mary Finn requested members be informed of the funding arrangements. Tony Almond explained that the HSE is funded by Central Government and cost recovery from several industries that it undertakes work for. Citing the example of the offshore oil and gas industry, he noted that the HSE will claim back the cost of any inspections undertaken.</p> <p>Mary Finn questioned whether this represents a conflict of interests. She cited a recent article in the Financial Times that highlighted conflicts of interest and a lack of independence relating to auditing procedures of four large accountancy firms. She questioned whether similarities could be drawn.</p> <p>Mark Lappin emphasised that the example cited was not a comparable scenario. Elaborating on this, he explained that Cuadrilla does not have a choice who undertakes the inspections and the costs are not negotiable so HSE are not incentivised to favour a Cuadrilla position.</p> <p>At this juncture, Steve Molyneux circulated a handout to attendees providing an overview of the regulation of shale gas charges. He advised that the legal basis for regulation arises from European Directives, specifically the Industrial Emissions Directive, Mining Wastes Directive, Groundwater Directive and Radioactive Substances Directive, and referred to the Environmental Permitting Regulations (2016) (amended).</p> <p>Regarding cost recovery, Steve Molyneux advised of the Polluter Pays Principle, as well as Treasury Rules on Spending Public Money and Guidance set out in the Environment Agency (Environmental Permitting) (England) Charging Scheme 2018. He went on to explain the EA recovers costs for pre-application discussions, inspections and compliance work.</p> <p>Steve Molyneux advised that charges do not cover enforcement or prosecutions and noted that the additional monitoring being undertaken at Preston New Road is using grant in aid (GiA) funding. Concluding, he advised the Environment Agency receives £28,000 fees a year for work relating to the Preston New Road operation.</p> <p>Furthermore, Steve Molyneux informed attendees that the monies received by his team are distributed proportionally based on the number of sites regulated and cover a range of activities, e.g. such as Human Resources and infrastructure.</p> <p>Councillor Brickles asked whether the Environment Agency assists applicants to obtain permits. Steve Molyneux advised that the Environment Agency's expert staff guide applicants as to what is required and expected.</p>	
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	<p>Referring to an earlier comment regarding the HSE’s inspections relating to off shore oil and gas industry, Councillor Cox asked whether the HSE charges for inspectors of onshore rigs. He informed attendees that the HSE does not charge for inspections, but noted that charges do apply for notifications.</p> <p>Councillor Cox asked whether the UK’s withdrawal from the European Union will have implications regarding the current legislation relating to regulatory activity. Steve Molyneux advised that existing legislation will transfer on the first day of the UK’s official withdrawal from the European Union and the Government will be responsible for updating legislation relating to regulatory activity.</p> <p>In terms of his regulatory update, Steve Molyneux informed attendees that since the last meeting, the EA has undertaken an inspection of the decommissioned Grange Hill shale gas exploration site and advised of no immediate concerns. He advised that a joint inspection had been undertaken on Monday, 20th August regarding well integrity.</p> <p>Steve Molyneux went onto advise of the forthcoming joint inspection of the equipment at Cuadrilla’s site, alongside the HSE, ahead of hydraulic fracturing commencing. Furthermore, he informed attendees that officers will be deployed to the area to monitor any potential odours, as well as referred to ongoing liaison with the Oil & Gas Authority regarding the traffic light system.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Agreed date of next meeting</p> <p>It was agreed that the next meeting should take place at:</p> <p>7pm on Monday, 29th October at Wrea Green Institute, Station Road, Wrea Green, Preston, PR4 2PH.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Councillor Brickles asked when had Cuadrilla become part of the Northern Powerhouse. She noted that the Northern Powerhouse logo is now being used by Cuadrilla. Mark Lappin advised he would ascertain the date when Cuadrilla joined the partnership.</p>	<p>Mark Lappin to ascertain</p>

Questions & Answers

Please find below responses to additional questions raised by residents following the Community Liaison Group meeting on Monday, 1st October 2018.

9th October 2018

I am making an enquiry on behalf of a resident who saw activity on the tower last night after 10pm. They reported what looked like a pipe being removed.

Are you able to provide some information for me to pass on, please?

They are aware that you are currently awaiting the outcome of the injunction against LCC before you can commence fracking and so were naturally curious when they spotted activity.

The activity you refer to relates to preparing the site for hydraulic fracturing. There were no Court restrictions against this preparation whilst we awaited the outcome of the injunction.

12th October 2018

I have had reports of vibration and noise coming from the Preston New Road Site in the early hours of Thursday 11th October. Please can you confirm what work was taking place.

No significant noise or vibration was picked up by our monitors in the early hours of Thursday 11th October. However, if you could provide more specific details we can investigate this further.

18th October 2018

I've recently been talking to residents at Carr Bridge who have no internet access and they have expressed concerns that they have no idea what's happening at the site. They only have the news on TV and it tends to be about protest with no feedback from the CLG. I've had an idea how we could solve this problem for them. Westby PC run a bus every Tuesday from Carr bridge and I go along most Tuesdays to help, I was wondering if you could bring a dozen or so copies of our minutes to the CLG and then once they are approved I could hand them out on the Tuesday? Residents would then have monthly updates.

We appreciate the suggestion and will be sure to bring along copies of the minutes for distribution to the next CLG.

19th October 2018

At what magnitude would seismic events appear on the ePortal and there is nothing apparent on there for yesterday's events.

If no data appears for any given day this is because no seismicity great than 0ML was recorded whilst pumping operations were taking place. Data for trailing events (events outside the time we are pumping) will not be shown if smaller than 0.5ML in line with the traffic light system.

23rd October 2018

I would like the following questions asked:

1) A message on the e-portal states that seismic events will not be reported on if they occur outside of the times Cuadrilla are fracking. Simple question - why not when clearly the micro-seismic events of last week were caused by the fracking operations. Traffic light system requires you to monitor seismic events before fracking - so unless Cuadrilla have done all the fracks they are going to do then all seismic events at the moment are relevant.

2) Cuadrilla spokesman said they had seen other micro-siesmic events while they had been monitoring prior to fracking. Where is the data to support this statement as the BGS site doesn't appear to have registered them.

3) if Cuadrilla is only publishing data relevant to the times they are fracking, then they should make the times that they are fracking known - why not publish that on the e-portal.

4) If Cuadrilla are cherry-picking the seismic data that is displayed on the e-portal, then can we have clarification on which other measures on the e-portal have been cherry-picked.

We are displaying all seismicity for our operational area above 0ML during pumping, and all seismicity above 0.5ML if it occurs after pumping has finished (a trailing event). This is to reflect the levels of seismicity for which action is required under the Traffic Light System flowchart which forms part of our approved hydraulic fracturing plan. This approach to reporting on our ePortal does not constitute cherry picking.

The BGS website defines microseismicity as any event below 2.0ML. In the regional area, this year our seismic monitoring has picked up 0.8ML in Knutsford (24th February), 2.0ML in the Forest of Bowland (5th June), and 1.3ML off the coast of Blackpool (30th August). This data is displayed in the eportal when selecting the background regional seismicity tab. These three events were also reported by BGS on their

website. You can find them by searching at <https://earthquakes.bgs.ac.uk/earthquakes/dataSearch.html> using date parameters.

Since 15th October, pumping operations have been conducted nearly every day except for Sundays, within the hours permitted under our consents. At this time, more specific data on precise times of pumping is commercially sensitive, however The Traffic Light System is being followed with daily engagement with all relevant regulators. All of our data on seismicity is reviewed by the BGS.

23rd October 2018

What the blue tower is for?

The blue tower you referred to is the coiled tubing tower. It feeds the pipe (coiled tubing) into the well to open and close frac sleeves where we wish to pump water. The coiled tubing is on the ground on a large blue spool. Mark Lappin would be happy to share pictures or discuss this at the next CLG meeting if that would be of interest.

29th October 2018

I am not sure when the next CLG is so thought I would drop you a line today with concerns.

Fracking: Residents are extremely concerned about the number and level of tremors (no surprises there then!). It is NOT reassuring for Cuadrilla and the Fracking Tsar Natascha Engel to keep saying that this "shows

the system is working" or that as some don't happen when fracking is not being done "they are not red events". This is just a test phase at the moment. If drilling proceeds after the test phase there could be up to 20 wells - what will happen then about any tremors. Logic dictates they will increase in numbers and intensity. What will happen then and do Cuadrilla know whether increases in activity will or will not happen. They must have experience of other fracking sites.

I was wondering if, to help the local community, Cuadrilla might consider a monthly update on progress by way of a letter drop - not many people here have access to the internet. Whatever happens residents need a lot more than what we feel as being "fobbed off".

The camp: The Saturday of the big protest march I saw someone on the site throwing liquid into the brook. I could not see what it was and was too far away to take a photo. Doesn't matter what it was they should NOT be emptying anything into the brook. In addition last Tuesday I saw someone burning goodness knows what just the other side of the brook 10 feet away from a house on CBP and next to

an abandoned car. I contacted Sgt Alves who sent someone to deal with it, but what is going on? These people are supposed to be environmentalists. As far as I am concerned this just goes to prove they don't give a damn about the local community or area, they are only interested in disrupting the fracking. We and the environment they live in are just collateral damage.

I and my near neighbours would be grateful for an update on what is happening with this camp. I understand there is no planning application so why are they still there?

Additional Enquiry

I have actually logged on to contact you again over the latest news reports this lunchtime of a 1.1 tremor at 11.30 this morning. This compounds mine and others fears but the head of Cuadrilla is again saying that there is nothing to worry about. He MUST understand that residents are very worried and need more than mere words from him for us to have some reassurance.

Regarding your concerns relating to earth tremors and the impact of an increased number of wells being hydraulically fractured at this site, the regulations in place, specifically the traffic light system, are designed to prevent micro-seismic events triggering larger tremors that could cause damage.

As part of the application to hydraulically fracture, all operators are required to submit a Hydraulic Fracture Plan (HFP) to the Oil and Gas Authority (OGA) which maps the geology of the ground surrounding our site. The OGA is continuously monitoring and ensuring that we're operating in accordance with the HFP. Following seismic events of 0.5 or greater, the OGA compares the location, magnitude and ground motion of these minor seismic events to Cuadrilla's HFP. To date, the OGA has been satisfied that these events have all been in line with the geological understanding set out in the HFP and that the risk of induced seismicity is being appropriately managed.

If the number of wells at our Preston New Road site were to be increased above the currently permitted four wells, this would be subject to a new HFP and the ongoing scrutiny from the OGA.

With regard to keeping local residents informed, we currently send postal updates to all nearby households at significant junctures and distribute a quarterly newsletter to all residents in the Fylde. Furthermore, the Community Liaison Group provides a forum for two-way dialogue between Cuadrilla and the local community every month. At this stage, we feel this is a high level of engagement with the community.

Cuadrilla has always respected the right to peaceful and lawful protest, however we continue to condemn unlawful, irresponsible and reckless behaviour that impacts law abiding local residents and businesses. The Police have sole authority in being able to take action concerning activist behaviour, including offences such as that which you observed recently. However, Cuadrilla is committed to working closely with Lancashire Police to reduce anti-social behaviour.

29th October

Could I request a full list of dates and times for all fracking operations since work commenced?

Since 15th October, pumping operations have been conducted on every day except for Saturday afternoons and Sundays, within the hours permitted under our consents.

5th November

I didn't ask for pumping operations, I asked for dates and times of actual fracks, could you include mini fracks in this information. I'm sure it's formatted somewhere, as other agencies will have had to be informed. Can you confirm why pumps ran from 9.45 to 12.03 last night, Sunday 4th ?

We are unable to disclose the exact times of hydraulic fracturing operations as this is commercially sensitive information. The noise witnessed is likely to have been caused by pump engines, as both can be run at once and this did not breach the noise levels stipulated in planning conditions.

29th October

I was hoping that you would be able to let CLG members have a schedule that lists fracking times and dates of all fracks that have occurred so far and those that are to come. I have received a number of concerned calls about the process and the related seismicity. People are not reassured by the traffic light system and are not at all reassured by comments from Cuadrilla downplaying the severity of the tremors. Whilst they may not be felt at the surface there are concerns about the effects below ground.

I have also received a message about pumps running last night out of operating hours. Can you clarify what activity was taking place between 11 pm and midnight on Sunday October 28th?

Since 15th October, pumping operations have been conducted on every day except for Saturday afternoons and Sundays in line with the hours permitted under our consents.

With regards to the activity you described on the evening of Sunday 28th October, during that time we were running coiled tubing into the first well as permitted under our working hours conditions.

29th October

I have to challenge this statement [Cuadrilla's statement regarding micro seismic activity] according to the oil and gas authority a micro seismic event is below 0.0 anything above that is seismic and not expected as part of the fracking process!

The British Geological Survey [determines](#) anything below 2.0ML as micro seismicity.

2nd November

I have a question in relation to the press release given out today. It was my understanding at the last CLG that the fracking process would start at the furthest away point on the horizontal, and that the process would be Perforate/frack/plug then move and repeat the process until the full horizontal had been fracked. Then after a settling period that was pivotal to the process, drill through the plugs to release the fluid and gas. So my question is, how have you got any gas?

You are correct, the broad plan outlined to the CLG was to begin at the toe and then move up the well. For clarity, we use remote-operated sleeve systems rather than the perforate/plug model you describe which provides greater flexibility to frack along the length of the horizontal well in a different order.

To answer your question, the shale is in fact producing natural gas earlier than typical shale gas formations and, therefore, has produced a small amount during the flowback of fracturing fluid from individual stages to date.

To ensure that we were fully prepared for this eventuality, equipment has been in place since before fracking began to ensure we could handle early gas production.

5th November

Questions:

- 1) when did you last frack prior to this event.**
- 2) if last frack was on Sunday how was this permitted?**
- 3) why were pumps heard running on Sunday at 2.45pm and 9.45pm?**
- 4) are you using acid in the well and if so why?**

We can confirm that no hydraulic fracturing took place on Sunday, 4th November, in-line with permitted working hours. The noise witnessed is likely to have been caused by pump engines as both can be run at once and this did not breach the noise levels stipulated in planning conditions.

Cuadrilla is not using acid in the well, however relatively small doses of dilute hydrochloric acid are permitted to clean-up the area around the well-bore sleeve. This is done as required and is fairly common practice.

5th November

Are you please able to clarify the fracking process for me. If pumps are running is this classed as part of the actual frack? I have heard pumps start, change volume and pitch and wondered what this signifies.

Additional Enquiry

I have had reports of pumps Late at night on Sunday evening. Reports have been received of pumps firing up around 10.20 pm. As operational hours do not permit fracking at these hours I would like you to clarify what occurred.

The pump engines can be run at any time and we do so for a number of different reasons. We always ensure that any noise generated by these pumps or any others site activity is within the permitted noise levels.

6th November

Please can you confirm that a Lubbers delivery arrived at 8.10 am on 6th November. I have received a report it was carrying a crate labelled with "BOP". This is I believe a Blow out Preventer. Is there a problem with the existing components? As you will understand, there is a lot of anxiety surrounding the operation on PNR , and so it would be helpful to have clarification about this delivery.

Our records show that a vehicle matching this description entered the Preston New Road site at that time, but it came simply to pick up equipment no longer required. To confirm, a Blow-Out Preventer was not delivered to site.