

WHAT IS TIGHT/SHALE OIL?

For communities living in the Weald, the tight/shale oil threat is similar to that posed by other forms of fracking. All unconventional fossil fuels require much greater amounts of extraction effort, with massively increased environmental and social impacts. Tight/shale oil is trapped within low permeability rocks through which it cannot easily flow, so densely packed horizontal wells & stimulation (e.g. hydraulic fracturing) are required to extract the oil. Tight oil areas like the Bakken & Eagle Ford Shale in the US have been industrialised in a few short years by the drilling of thousands of wells, HGV's, new pipelines and waste sites.

WHY IS EXPLORATORY DRILLING SUCH A THREAT?

The problem with onshore exploration is that it paves the way for further industrialisation when energy prices inevitably rise again. Companies like UK Oil & Gas (UKOG) are aiming to create a "speculative scenario" in which they can make money, not from selling oil, but from selling shares and later by selling their data and/or company to a larger operator, who can afford to drill "back to back" on 100's of sites.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

This threat is uniting communities across the South East to fight for their future. There are sites with activity and new planning applications at: Horse Hill, Leith Hill, Brockham, Markwells Wood, Broadford Bridge & Balcombe. Find out more at: frack-off.org/weald

Putting a stop to this extreme energy threat will inevitably open up many alternatives. We can and must beat fracking in the UK...



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