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From: [Frack Questions](#)
To: [UGEE Consultation](#)
Cc: frackquestions@gmail.com
Subject: Public consultation re:UGEE Multiple submissions
Date: 07 March 2013 15:28:48
Attachments: [EPA130307_030.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_021.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_022.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_023.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_024.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_025.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_026.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_027.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_028.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_029.pdf](#)

Regarding the proposed terms of reference for the EPA/DCENR/NIEA Research Programme on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration & Extraction (UGEE)

Dear Sir / Madam,

We had a meeting in our village to discuss the public consultation process that the EPA have organised with regard to UGEE. The broadband service in this area is intermittent and there were some concerns voiced about people who do not have access to email facilities being unable to participate in the consultation; As this is the only official method to submit to the EPA we agreed to collect signed submissions from people and to send scanned copies of these in to the EPA through the UGEE consultation email address. Therefore please find attached several of these scanned documents. On behalf of the submitters, I would ask that the EPA consider carefully each of the points in these documents within the final terms of reference for the research programme on environmental impacts of UGEE.

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Submission from a sheep and cattle farmer in north Leitrim

Following the proposal for fracking in the North West of Ireland, there is still a huge amount of information that has not been made available to the public as regards the chemicals used in the process, the process itself and associated health effects and hazards. An important part of the process that people will need to be aware of is questions, including how will the chemicals be stored, transported, treated and how will toxic wastes be disposed of?" Also do these companies acknowledge that exploiting a short-term, finite supply of shale gas will spoil and contaminate large areas of the Ireland with devastating consequences?

There have been huge efforts both at National and European levels to protect drinking water leading to many different sections of legislation, regulations and directives.

Do all processes involved in hydraulic fracturing adhere to these regulations?

Do these companies carrying out the drilling have to adhered to and abide by these rules, if there is a deviation from procedures, what action will be taken against them?

Can they guarantee the non pollution of surrounding environments and waterways?

Will the EPA complete a full Environmental Impact Assessment for the process and will this be done at each fracking site?

Will the EPA complete a full human, animal and wildlife health assessment in the area before fracking could take place?



If contamination of water supplies occurs, who will ensure they are returned to their previous state and how will this be done?

Will all our SAC's continue to be protected from the process of fracking?

We as farmers, work continually with nature to protect nature trough the REPS and AEOI schemes. With the continued support of the National Parks and Wildlife agency along with the EPA the farming community as guardians of land will continue to preserve and protect the countryside.

I hope that the EPA and other people in charge will take my concerns on board.

Yours faithfully Frank Mc Dermott



Co. Leitrim

Submission re the Proposed terms of reference for EPA/DCENR/NIEA Research Programme on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE)

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a resident of _____ my main areas of concern about hydraulic fracturing (fracking) are;

- The potentially deleterious effects on human health
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Yours sincerely

Sheila O'Keeffe

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a resident in the heart of the fracking project area, I would like to express my concern about the health aspects of fracking. I would like to be assured that health problems linked with fracking such as exposure to the chemicals used and accidents that may occur at the sites or on the roads will be looked into very carefully and that our lives and those of our families will not be put at risk.

Sincerely,

Pat Walsh

[Redacted]

Submission re the Proposed terms of reference for EPA/DCENR/NIEA Research Programme on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE)

Dear Sir/Madam,

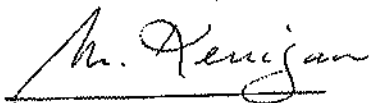
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Yours sincerely

Emenna Kerrigan

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to your request for submissions in relation to your public consultation on the proposed terms of reference on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration & Extraction, I would ask you to carefully consider the following,

- How will waste water be treated / disposed of?
- Where will the fracking water be drawn from?
- What steps will be put in place to prevent any contamination while the water is being drawn?
- Who will be appointed to protect the unique species of flora and fauna in the fracking area?
- What plans will be recommended to ensure the protection of the many special areas of conservation (SACs) that are within or adjacent to the fracking project area?
- What proposals will be recommended to monitor the quality of the air for negative impacts (generators, pumps, trucks and potential gas leaks) from the industry?
- What are the contingency plans for an emergency response in the case of a spillage / contamination?
- Please outline the EPA's intentions regarding consulting with the public during the study.
- Please examine the fact that the steering group does not seem to contain a public health representative.

Yours sincerely

Juanita Ferraz

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to your request for submissions in relation to your public consultation on the proposed terms of reference on Environmental impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration & Extraction, I would ask you to carefully consider the following,

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Gay A. Marshall

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Shane Kerrigan

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Sincerely,

Cian Mc Glin 

Dear Sir/Madam,

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Eamon Mc Glin

[REDACTED]

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Yours sincerely

Pauline Murray

Anthony Murray

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Lo. Cavan.

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Yours sincerely

Joy Cox

John Cox

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

G. Cavan.

Submission from a local farmer in Leitrim

As a farmer in north county Leitrim I was shocked to learn of the proposal to carry out hydraulic fracking in unspoiled countryside. With the damage that this process has already done in other countries such as Canada it is hard to believe that our own government would even consider such a process in Ireland. The controls that are in place for farmers are very stringent and we have many directives to adhere to. I fully agree with all these controls for the protection of our countryside, our animals and all our wildlife.

I live and farm in a rural area where the countryside has hardly changed in the past 100 years or more. I as a guardian of the land intend to preserve and protect my land for future generations to come. Permitting hydraulic fracturing to go forward will ensure that thousands will be exposed to dangerous toxins, and many will suffer severe health problems as a result. Ireland will suffer permanent, irreparable environmental harm, and our economic base - tourism, agriculture, real estate, recreation and business investment will be devastated.

The farmers in this community do not want flow back ponds filled with contaminated water and toxic chemicals which could leak and contaminate our soil and water. I hope that the EPA will take the same view as myself and carry out a very detailed study on the problems associated with this industry.

I am writing to urge you to take strong, decisive action to ban hydraulic fracturing in Ireland. The growing body of evidence on health impacts from hydraulic fracturing in many areas demonstrate its direct threat to public health involving exposures to toxic chemicals, air and water pollutants.

I look forward to hearing an announcement of a complete ban on hydraulic fracturing in Ireland.

Signed; Pádraig Milhenny

Application For a Licence Not to Frack Leitrim

Minister Pat Rabbitte Petroleum Affairs Division,
Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources
29 - 31 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2

Cc Minister Fergus O'Dowd

Feb 2013

Dear Minister Rabbitte,

We, the residents of County Leitrim hereby apply to Petroleum Affairs Division for a license not to carry out hydraulic fracturing in Leitrim. Due to economic necessity, human and animal health and future happiness of communities we feel it is imperative that our wishes are carried out. The pending deadline of Feb 28th for application's by gas companies for exploration licenses is, for us a deadline for our futures. The reasons we need a license granted for Leitrim not to be fracked are:

- Our right to exist in a rural area, not an industrial zone
- Our right to live and work in an area without 24 hour noise and light pollution
- Our right to clean uncontaminated water
- Our right to continue to live in our own community
- Our right to carry out our indigenous businesses of tourism, food production, farming and agri-food unhindered
- Our right to have our elected representatives carry out our wishes
- Our right not to have our natural resources used for the benefit of others
- Our right not to have our reputation as a clean environment abroad spoiled
- Our right not to have our health damaged for the good of multinational companies

Signed

Shela O'Keefe

Place of residence

[Redacted] Co. Leitrim

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Yours sincerely

Nani Cocoon [REDACTED]

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Marie Cosca [Redacted]
[Redacted]

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Yours sincerely

Laura Mc Dermott

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Co-habitation

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Signed; Patricia Mc Dermott



Co Leitrim

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Dear Sir / Madam,

Please take into consideration the impact of increased noise and light pollution on communities in the vicinity of Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction sites. From your own reports the noise levels in North Leirim are low and I have heard that these sites can be extremely noisy. The light from these sites can interfere with wildlife as well as communities and I would like to see some measure of restriction recommended.

Yours Sincerely,

Patricia Mc Dermott

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Co. Leitrim

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Sincerely,

Geord Feely [REDACTED]

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Patrick Feely 

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Sincerely,

Aisling Feely [Redacted]

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Sincerely,

Declan Feely



A Chara,

I am writing to express my concern at the proposed plan for hydraulic fracturing in the North Leitrim area. I would like to urge you to closely examine all areas of this process to ensure the protection of our Families, animals, plants, land and waterways.

Yours sincerely

Maureen McFadden

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Geraldine Mackey

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Geraldine M'Loughlin

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Brandon McPartlan

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To: UGEE Consultation
Cc: frackquestions@gmail.com
Subject: Public consultation re:UGEE Multiple submissions
Date: 07 March 2013 15:30:30
Attachments: [EPA130307_010.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_001.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_002.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_003.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_004.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_005.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_006.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_007.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_008.pdf](#)
[EPA130307_009.pdf](#)

Regarding the proposed terms of reference for the EPA/DCENR/NIEA Research Programme on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration & Extraction (UGEE)

Dear Sir / Madam,

We had a meeting in our village to discuss the public consultation process that the EPA have organised with regard to UGEE. The broadband service in this area is intermittent and there were some concerns voiced about people who do not have access to email facilities being unable to participate in the consultation; As this is the only official method to submit to the EPA we agreed to collect signed submissions from people and to send scanned copies of these in to the EPA through the UGEE consultation email address. Therefore please find attached several of these scanned documents. On behalf of the submitters, I would ask that the EPA consider carefully each of the points in these documents within the final terms of reference for the research programme on environmental impacts of UGEE.

Thank you for your time.

Should the EPA have any problem regarding the name of the submitters or their location, please let us know and we will furnish the relevant details as requested.

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

Submission re the Proposed terms of reference for EPA/DCENR/NIEA Research Programme on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE)

As a resident in the heart of the fracking project area, I would like to express my deep concern about the long-term effects of fracking. I would like to be assured that problems linked with fracking i.e the effects on human health; the potential contamination of water, soil and air in this area; the effects on infrastructure and the visual impact of the industry on the landscape will be considered very carefully and that we will not be put at risk in any way.

As an Environmental Protection Agency you should give clear guidelines how you want to fully protect the environment and human health as you state on page 2. How do you expect to be able to do this when important points are only mentioned but not specified for further research, such as all aspects of impact of UGEE on human health?

What effect has contamination of drinking, ground and surface water on human (and animal) health? Are expert in this field (e.g. chief Medical Officer) asked to research and report? Essential for any decision-making is a Human health assessment and health status studies. None of these are mentioned in your terms of reference.

I note that the following effects of the whole process of unconventional gas exploration do not appear to have been taken into consideration for further research, such as;

What are the impacts on human and animal health through, light pollution, noise pollution, gas emissions, radiation, socio-economic changes through heavy industrialisation?

What is the impact of all of the above on communities and individuals with regard to mental health?

What and how will you research into protection of human health and environment: water, soil, air and food? What are your criteria? What measurements will you put in place?

When you ask for monitoring UGEE what measurements can you put in place to prevent or deal with the worst-case scenario?

What safeguards and protections are you able to provide through technological and organizational measures, planning and regulations? Can you guarantee that there is no risk to human health and the environment?

What directives will you give for necessary legislation regards UGEE practice?

Please define clearly your policy priorities:

Already there are missing important aspects, such as the mentioned research in impact on human health, environmental protection, and impact on ecosystem.

There is no risk assessment on well casing and cementing, pipes, chemical tanks transport, accidents leakages, unplanned fracturing, global warming, unfavourable conditions and sustainability.

There is no mention of existing economic structures and livelihoods (farming and fishing), residential structures (structural integrity of buildings), Protected areas (e.g. Geopark) and species (such as the red grouse in Glenfarne area) and conservation of landscape for recreational health for locals and tourists.

Outline please how you want to inform the public about an on-going and long-term risk assessment and associated recommendations.

What further research will you do, as there are still information deficits in UGEE worldwide?

All in all I don't see that the research is conducted under the precautionary principle and public health ethic, which requires that research is conducted under the duty of care for human health.

Instead there are too many indications in the terms of reference of how the research will be structured, that it seems the EPA may be inclined to give the green light to a highly dangerous process, ignoring or down playing the serious implication on human health and environment as has been seen in other countries and outlined in various studies.

I have strong reservations about the intent of the EPA to carry out its functions and provide for their obligations arising under the European Convention on Human rights.

Even more so as under section 15 of the EPA Act 1992 the EPA is immune from prosecution.

Yours sincerely,



(R. DUNNE)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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TVAR

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Shila O'Keeffe.

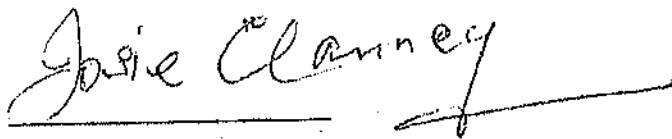
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Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to your request for submissions in relation to your public consultation on the proposed terms of reference on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration & Extraction, I would ask you to carefully consider the following,

- How will waste water be treated / disposed of?
- Where will the fracking water be drawn from?
- What steps will be put in place to prevent any contamination while the water is being drawn?
- Who will be appointed to protect the unique species of flora and fauna in the fracking area?
- What plans will be recommended to ensure the protection of the many special areas of conservation (SACs) that are within or adjacent to the fracking project area?
- What proposals will be recommended to monitor the quality of the air for negative impacts (generators, pumps, trucks and potential gas leaks) from the industry?
- What are the contingency plans for an emergency response in the case of a spillage / contamination?
- Please outline the EPA's intentions regarding consulting with the public during the study.
- Please examine the fact that the steering group does not seem to contain a public health representative.

Yours sincerely


A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Joie Clanney', followed by a horizontal line.

Submission from a local farmer in Leitrim

As a farmer in north county Leitrim I was shocked to learn of the proposal to carry out hydraulic fracking in unspoiled countryside. With the damage that this process has already done in other countries such as Canada it is hard to believe that our own government would even consider such a process in Ireland. The controls that are in place for farmers are very stringent and we have many directives to adhere to. I fully agree with all these controls for the protection of our countryside, our animals and all our wildlife.

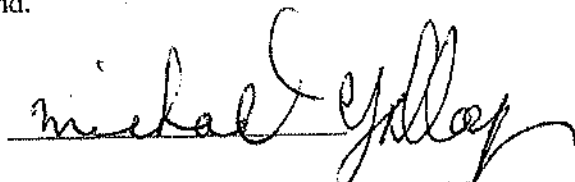
I live and farm in a rural area where the countryside has hardly changed in the past 100 years or more. I as a guardian of the land intend to preserve and protect my land for future generations to come. Permitting hydraulic fracturing to go forward will ensure that thousands will be exposed to dangerous toxins, and many will suffer severe health problems as a result. Ireland will suffer permanent, irreparable environmental harm, and our economic base - tourism, agriculture, real estate, recreation and business investment will be devastated.

The farmers in this community do not want flow back ponds filled with contaminated water and toxic chemicals which could leak and contaminate our soil and water. I hope that the EPA will take the same view as myself and carry out a very detailed study on the problems associated with this industry.

I am writing to urge you to take strong, decisive action to ban hydraulic fracturing in Ireland. The growing body of evidence on health impacts from hydraulic fracturing in many areas demonstrate its direct threat to public health involving exposures to toxic chemicals, air and water pollutants.

I look forward to hearing an announcement of a complete ban on hydraulic fracturing in Ireland.

Signed;





LEITRIM

Submission re the Proposed terms of reference for EPA/DCENR/NIEA Research Programme on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE)

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a resident of _____ my main areas of concern about hydraulic fracturing (fracking) are;

- The potentially deleterious effects on human health
- The potential contamination of water, soil and air in this area
- The effects on the infrastructure
- The visual impact of the industry on the landscape
- The on-going effects of any of the above in the years after the gas extraction industry has finished here.

For these reasons I would like to have the following issues considered in the proposed research;

1. The inclusion of a representative from Public Health on the team who could ensure a rigorous, strategic human and animal health impact assessment and on-going monitoring of human and animal health in order to detect negative impacts.
2. A monitoring programme for water, soil and air quality, including comprehensive responses to the following;
 - a. What are the plans if the pre-defined safety limits are exceeded?
 - b. What are the contingency plans to deal with negative impacts of the above?
 - c. How will the water, soil and air be restored to their pre-fracking state?
 - d. Who is liable for this?
3. How the roads will be monitored, maintained and kept safe for local drivers and residents.
4. What will be done to address the visual impact of the industrial fields, given that interventions such as painting fencing green is insufficient to disguise the change from a highly natural rural landscape to an industrial zone.

Yours sincerely

Pauline Morgan



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Yours sincerely

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Pauline Morgan

[Redacted signature block]

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Dear Sir/Madam,

As a resident in the proposed fracking project area, I would like to express my concern about the environmental risks associated with fracking. I would like to be assured that problems linked with fracking such as chemical spill, water contamination and air pollution will be looked into very carefully and that we will not be put at risk.

Yours sincerely

Pauline Morgan

[Redacted signature]

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Yours sincerely

Máirín Clancy