

KEEP Kirdford and Wisborough 'Green'

**KKWG submission to
Waverley Borough Council/Surrey County Council concerning
Planning Application: Reference SCC Ref 2019/0072
Application number: WA/2019/0796 made by KOGL/UKOG
Objection: Part 3 to comment on the Planning Officer report**

Loxley Well Site - Land South of Dunsfold Road and East of High Loxley Road, Dunsfold,
Surrey

Consultation on a county matter; the Construction, Operation and Decommissioning of a well site for the Exploration and Appraisal of hydrocarbon minerals from one Exploratory Borehole (Loxley-1) and one side-track borehole (Loxley – 1z) for a TEMPORARY THREE YEAR CONSENT for the construction, operation, decommissioning, retention or restoration of a well site to include plant and equipment, the construction of a new access track, a new highway junction within High Loxley Road, highway improvements at the junction of High Loxley road and Dunsfold road and the erection of a boundary fence and entrance gates followed by the drilling, appraisal, initial well testing and extended well testing of hydrocarbon minerals from one exploratory bore-hole (Loxley-1) and one sidetrack borehole (Loxley-1z).

Consultation closing date: July 8th, 2019,
Decision meeting: Virtual SCC June 29th, 2020

Ward:	Chiddingfold and Dunsfold
Parish:	Dunsfold
Application Type:	Consultation
Case Officer:	Stuart Corbey

Dedicated to the late Professor Stephen Hawking
'We Are Close to Tipping Point Where Global Warming Becomes Irreversible'

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*"It falls on every one of us to make a stand
It may sound frightening, but the scientific evidence is that if we have not taken dramatic
action within the next decade, we could face irreversible damage to the natural world and
the collapse of our societies."*

Sir David Attenborough

Climate change

1. Following the impact of the Corona Virus pandemic, the politicians have "followed the science" and have had both the Chief Medical Officer and Environment Scientist alongside them.
2. What are the scientists saying? The world's leading climate scientists have warned there is only 10 years for global warming to be kept to a maximum of 1.5C, beyond which even half a degree will significantly worsen the risks of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people.
3. The authors of the landmark report by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) say urgent and unprecedented changes are needed to reach the target, which they say is affordable and feasible although it lies at the most ambitious end of the Paris agreement pledge to keep temperatures between 1.5C and 2C.

Chief scientific advisors

4. Prof. Sir David King said he's been scared by the number of extreme events related to climate change, and he called for the UK to advance its climate targets by 10 years.
5. In his role as scientific advisor to the UK government King was outspoken on the subject saying "*I see climate change as the greatest challenge facing Britain and the world in the 21st century*" and "*climate change is the most severe problem we are facing today – more serious even than the threat of terrorism*".
6. In 2000, Sir Bob Watson stated: *The overwhelming majority of scientific experts, whilst recognising that scientific uncertainties exist, nonetheless believe that human-induced climate change is inevitable.*

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Climate Change scientists

7. Prof. Kevin Anderson, Universities of Manchester and Uppsala, Sweden: Actions on Climate change and the reduction of emissions are *incompatible* with Onshore Oil & Gas developments.
8. Prof. Corinne Le Quere, “*Despite the critical importance of CO₂ emissions for understanding global climate change, systems are not in place to monitor global emissions in real time. University of East Anglia*”, nor, for that matter is methane being measured which is a more dangerous gas to climate change than carbon dioxide.

Independent Climate Change Committee, Chris Stark, Chair

Independent advice to government on building a low-carbon economy and preparing for climate change

9. 6 resilience principles concerning Climate Change and building back after the C-Virus have been sent in a letter to the Prime Minister by the CCC. These are:
 - Use climate investments to **support economic recovery and jobs**. The CCC has previously identified a detailed set of investments to reduce emissions and manage the social, environmental and economic impacts of climate change. Many are labour-intensive, spread across the UK and ready to roll out as part of a targeted and timely stimulus package.
 - Lead a shift towards **positive, long-term behaviours**. The Government can lead the way to new social norms that benefit wellbeing, improve productivity and reduce emissions. This includes actions to support home-working, remote medical consultations and improve safety for cyclists.
 - **Tackle the wider ‘resilience deficit’ on climate change**. Strong policies are needed to reduce the UK’s vulnerability to the destructive risks of climate change and to avoid a disorderly transition to Net Zero. They must be implemented alongside the response to COVID-19 and will bring benefits to health, well-being and national security.
 - **Embed fairness** as a core principle. The benefits of acting on climate change must be shared widely, and the costs must not burden those who are least able to pay, or whose livelihoods are most at risk as the economy changes. Lost or threatened jobs of today should be replaced by those created by the new, resilient economy.

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- Ensure the recovery **does not lock-in greenhouse gas emissions or increased risk**. As it kick-starts the economy, the Government should avoid locking-in higher emissions or increased vulnerability to climate change in the longer-term. Support for carbon-intensive sectors should be contingent on them taking real and lasting action on climate change, and all new investments need to be resilient to future climate risks.
- Strengthen incentives to **reduce emissions** when considering tax changes. Revenue could be raised by setting or raising carbon prices for sectors of the economy which do not bear the full costs of emitting greenhouse gases. Low global oil prices provide an opportunity to increase carbon taxes without hurting consumers.

Criteria for decision making:

6 “stress tests” were discussed by the All Party Parliamentary Group, Oil and Gas in Parliament, APPG on which a decision on Onshore Oil&Gas development should logically be based drawn up by Professors Peter Strachan and Alex Russell, Heriot Watt University

- **social licence or public support** – very low, Public Tracker Results of the Wave 33 survey for the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) May 2020, Opposition to fracking has reached a record high of **45%**, according to a quarterly government survey of public attitudes. Support for fracking fell to a new record low of 8%. Just **1%** of those surveyed strongly supported fracking.

- **economic benefits** – none and less in the current situation as the price of oil has fallen and currently UKOG shares are valued at less than 1p. In the US, fracking is proving to be a boom and bust industry. At a recent Oil and Gas UK Business Breakfast, Martin Gilbert the Chief Executive of Aberdeen Asset Management also said that fracking is a debt-laden industry.

We can expect the same to happen here if we allow fracking. Last month's KPMG *'Economic Impact Assessment and Scenario Development of Unconventional Oil and Gas'* report, written for the Scottish Government, revealed: *"If oil and gas prices were to remain at historically low levels, it would be unlikely that Unconventional Oil and Gas resources could be developed economically."*

- **indirect economic effects** – none and it damages other industries such as tourism, the agricultural, food and drink sectors, and even the banking sector.

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- **public health and environmental impacts**, it is too early to report on these in the UK but US Compendium 6th edition drawn up by Concerned Health Professionals contain over 1500 research papers showing the harm done. For the sake of brevity the results are:

84% of the literature on health revealed public health hazards, elevated risks, or health impacts;

69% of the literature indicated positive associations or actual evidence of water contamination; and,

87% found elevated air pollutants and atmospheric concentrations of pollutants.

- **climate impact** – clear and irrefutable from gas escaping and burning of the fuels – oil or gas.

- **energy security** – DBEIS report on *The Clean Growth Strategy Leading the way to a low carbon future*, April 2018 contains no reference to Onshore Oil & Gas ie they don't contribute to it

Profs Peter Strachan and Alex Russell

Regulator – Environment Agency

10. *“So, we know the problem. We also know the basic solution. We need to mitigate the damage from climate change, by reducing or stopping the human activities which are causing it. We can do that in particular by **cutting our emissions of greenhouse gases**”.*

Sir James Bevan, CEO, Environment Agency
October 24th, 2019

Principle of Sustainable Development, NPPF

11. Due to the location of the application site, in the countryside, and its inadequate accessibility to services and facilities, the proposal is *not* considered to constitute sustainable development, nor would the proposal contribute to the achievement of sustainable development which lies at the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework, NPPF, 2019.

In view of the evidence and the declarations of the Climate Emergency internationally, nationally and locally, Sussex County Council Regulatory and Planning Committee should turn down this application

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