



R.A.G.

Roseacre Awareness Group

.....encouraging awareness and knowledge of hydraulic fracturing in our community

BUSINESS, AGRICULTURE AND EMPLOYER SPECIAL ISSUE

EMPLOYMENT CLAIMS DISCREDITED.

Cuadrilla have continued to quote the analysis of employment potential in shale gas which the company itself funded! This is despite the fact that a new report halved the original figures. Even the Daily Telegraph (*January 2014*) had a leader on the Government's "over-hyping" and the damage this did to the economic case for shale gas.

**“Government accused of overhyping shale gas benefits.
The Prime Minister uses fracking industry estimates
.....failing to mention independent government
commissioned research...”**

LANCASHIRE EMPLOYERS SEE THE THREAT

Cuadrilla had a strong hold on business and employers, wining, dining and conferencing them after the 2011 Blackpool earthquakes. They even fund a self-styled “North West Industry Task Force” to “independently” speak up for shale. **But now the mood is one of scepticism. Getting on for 300 Lancashire Employers have already signed up to oppose fracking because they realise the threat it poses to existing employers and jobs.** National giants like LUSH are backing the campaign against fracking and joining local firms from Accrington to Blackpool and everywhere in between. From travel firms to bespoke glass makers, hi-tech to homecare, hospitality to health and fitness the range is vast and the numbers significant. (*see www. RAGfrack for list*)

Cuadrilla can only claim to require 11 full time equivalent posts at the proposed fracking site at Roseacre Wood: *there are pubs in the area who can top that!*

**In contrast, the Accommodation and Food Services Sector
employs 40,000**

(2013 figs Lancashire.gov.uk)

PROTECTING INVESTMENT AND JOBS.

The big danger in bringing industry and urbanisation to rural areas west of the A6 is the impact on what we have now, and have had for decades. Agriculture is changing its original attitude which saw no real harm in shale gas development. **Now, both the CLA (Countryside and Landowners' Association) and the NFU (National Farmers Union) are warning their members of the possible medium and long term dangers in letting fracking in.**

CLA President Harry Robinson warned against “**a quick route to profit for private companies**”. He criticised the government’s attitude to other employers stating that the only consideration appeared to be “**what the operators want rather than the implications of fracking for landowners and others.**” (*Farmers’ Guardian May 2014*)



- Many, many businesses "sit on the back of the cow", supplying to farms; equipping, transporting, building, maintaining our dairy industry.

- Clothing, boots, tools, trailers, tractors, slurry tanks, quad bikes , grain merchants, veterinary practices.....the list goes on and on. Someone makes and sells everything

needed to keep farmers farming. If farming takes any kind of dip (see evidence from areas with fracking experience) an economic network will shake, maybe break.

DEFRA 2013 Food and Farming in Lancashire has a workforce of 10,000.
National income from farming: £5.6 billion.

Agriculture shapes our landscape and provides the amenity backcloth, economic potential and property and land value.

FRACKING ROUND EVERY CORNER?

Cuadrilla have modelled their future plans: 20 sites is low, 40 is medium, 80 is high.....

(See Cuadrilla website) **That's sites not wells!! Separate sites.**

Each site can have several wells: drilling 24/7, high decibel fracking, flaring stacks, drilling rigs, four metre high security fences plus the convoys of HGVs and hazardous waste tankers to serve these sites. And check out Cuadrilla's Planning Applications for 184 mini sites (monitoring sites) already submitted to LCC. Each 20x20m site seeks permission for a drill, hard standing, car park, welfare facilities, fencing.....

Is mini to maxi a risk? Do you want to take it?

West Sussex Council decided the risks were too high: councillors refused permission to drill and fracking firm Celtique has decided not to contest the decision!!!

**How will the amenity value of our area survive fracking sites?
Will you see ads like this in holiday brochures in future?**

“ Blackpool is a British favourite. For that special weekend away, family holiday, or simply a breath of fresh air, Lytham St Annes never fails to delight visitors.....Take some time out and explore the wonderful countryside.....Largely unspoilt and dotted around the Fylde , you'll find hamlets, small villages and market towns each with their own special attractions.”

(Great British Holidays and Breaks 2015)



**The visitor economy currently represents 9.3%
of total employment in Lancashire.**

(2013 figures)

WHAT WILL BE THE IMPACT ON THE VISITOR ECONOMY?

ARE CUADRILLA'S INTERESTS YOUR INTERESTS??

“I DON’T THINK FRACKING CAN BENEFIT THE UK AT ALL”.

It is a dangerous source of “extreme energy” which will (and already has) very negative impacts on people’s livelihoods.The energy industry has a bad track record of producing a range of what economists call “externalities” which are essentially costs not internalised by the industry ... [ie. costs borne by others]”

(Prof Steffen Boehm –Professor in Management and Sustainability, Essex Business School Sept. 2013)

Costs of damage to roads will be borne by Council Tax payers. **Costs** to businesses, agriculture and other employment will be borne by individuals or individual companies. **Costs** of monitoring Cuadrilla will be borne by Council Tax Payers, tax Payers, residents. **Costs** of prosecution for breaches will be borne by LCC/Council Tax Payers. **Costs** of land and property devaluation will be borne by land and home owners. **Costs** of climate change -flooding- will be borne by farmers and tax payers"

STOP PRESS

Manchester Evening News March 2015 :

**“BARTON MOSS FRACKING:
HIGH LEVELS OF CONTAMINATION FOUND AT SITE, EXPERT
TELLS COURT”**

“An environmental expert has found “dangerously high” levels of contamination in the earth just outside the fracking test drilling site at Barton Moss a court has heard.The environmental scientist also said he found what he believes could have been drilling mud left at the back of the site. The mud is used in the drilling process.....and it must be disposed of in a controlled way because it is considered potentially hazardous..” **A request to access the site to take more samples had been made but the drilling company and landowners “had so far blocked the move.”**

CONTACT YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR, YOUR TRADE ORGANISATION, YOUR SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES.

" Free range fracking is a threat to Lancashire's beating heart. Don't wait until the heart has been stopped."

www.ragfrack.co.uk

Email: ragfrack@gmail.com

Find us on
 Facebook