

FRACKING & FARMING

Can we have both in Co Fermanagh?



What does farming mean to Fermanagh?

- Sustainable jobs in rural communities
- Vibrant markets
- Excellent reputation for quality livestock & dairy
- Expanding organic sector
- Expanding local food production with much potential
- Family businesses

Tamboran's 'most likely ("expected") development scenario':

- Up to 60 multi-wellpads will be needed with up to 24 wells per pad.
- Each multi-well pad would be 2.6 hectares (6.5 acres)
- Maximum total of land surfaced needed in western corner of Co.
- Fermanagh about 150 hectares (420 acres)
- 40,000 acres of underground development.

(Source:- Tamboran presentation to DETI 28/6/12)

What is the economic value of agriculture to Northern Ireland?

- The food processing sector in NI has an estimate gross turnover of £3.7 billion per year
- It includes almost 25,000 farms and provides work for almost 47,000 people - farmers/farm families & employees
- It is our only currently growing economic sector (more than 3% per year) (source: DARD)



What impact has fracking had on farming around the world?

Fracking affects **LIVESTOCK**

- Livestock exposed to fracking fluids are reported to have become ill and died causing lost productivity and expensive vet bills
- There are reports of reproductive problems for livestock - stillborn and malformed offspring
- Landscapes are no longer able to support viable farming

Fracking affects **CROPS**

- Chemicals in polluted water can cause soil to become acidic and unproductive
- Gases released - such as ozone - can hamper crop growth

Fracking contaminates **AIR, SOIL and WATER** (above and below ground)

- Valves and pipes break down through corrosion and other processes, causing leakages
- Cement casings break down over time causing leaks of toxic chemicals into the environment
- Even if chemicals are not used in fracking, the water that comes back up (flowback) will contain dangerous substances. These may include lead, mercury, arsenic, benzene and radioactive elements which can leak into soil, water and air

Other risks to farming in 'fracked' areas

- Compulsory purchase of land/enforced access for pipeline etc
- Rural farming landscape replaced with heavy industry
- Destruction of farm-related businesses
- Decrease in the value of agricultural land

One incident of benzene in our meat or milk would be sufficient to destroy our clean and green image. Even the perception of contamination would have a huge detrimental impact on the agri-food industry

BE FRACK AWARE - LOOK BEHIND THE HEADLINES

For further information visit www.frackaware.com, e-mail us at info@frackaware.com and/or come along to a public information meeting.

LET'S NOT JEOPARDISE FARMING FOR A BOOM AND BUST INDUSTRY!

Last updated July 2012