A Word To The Government From The Battle Against The Frack
Helping to Raise Awareness of the Dangers from Shale Gas Fracking

This document contains the testimonies of local people who will be affected by the Hydraulic Fracturing Process proposed in Roseacre, Lancashire. They are people who have researched and educated themselves to a high level of understanding regarding the permanent damage and dangers that “Fracking” poses to the environment, to human health, to housing, to the economy and to the quality of their lives. And they are most certainly aware of the on-going destruction of their democratic right to say “No!”

This is what they have to say:

Not The Queens Speech

Barbara delivers a Christmas Day message about fracking in 2015: A MUST WATCH.
Merry Christmas from www.ragfrack.co.uk.
https://youtu.be/vYo5tuDyo0s
We've Got to Look at this as a National Issue

Jim speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hi, I live approximately 500 metres from the proposed Cuadrilla site at Roseacre Wood that means that we'll not only see it, we'll hear it, we'll smell it. There'll be no way we can avoid Cuadrilla... day in, day out, 24/7. So when the flare’s on, we'll see the flare... we'll probably be prone to having the particulates fall onto our property. We tried to sell our house. My wife suffers from certain illnesses which means that she has to avoid stress, so we thought we'd try and sell our house. We had ten people come around to our home. 80% of those people didn't want to live so close to a fracking site. So we took our property off the market... we took our home off the market. We don't really want to move but we feel we've got no choice. Our agent said that had it not been for fracking we would have sold our house very quickly. This is one of the impacts that companies like Cuadrilla don't want to hear about. They don't think it's an issue, and if it is an issue then it only impacts on a handful of people so what does it matter. That's very easy for them, they've got a lot of money. We're trying to fight Cuadrilla through the appeals process and many people (or some people) in this community have put their own hand in their pocket to try and fund that. If we lose the appeal, we lose the money... we won't get the money back anyway. It's ok for Cuadrilla, they've got 40 million invested in them by Centrica.
They can hire very eloquent QC’s to address the appeals inspector, and of course the Government having “called-in” the appeal, so Greg Clark will make that decision, does make us feel extremely vulnerable because they want to push for this, and it’s not just here at Roseacre, we’ve got to look at this as a national issue. We get accused of being NIMBY’s but I would love to speak with those who support this when it’s not going to be in their back yard and ask them “Ok, you come and see where we live. Would you want this as close to you?” and the chances are that they’d say no. So don’t call us NIMBY’s… not until it lands on your doorstep and see what impact it has on your life, your ability to go about your daily life, unencumbered, and you’re able to move home if you choose to. Market forces impacts on property prices I’m quite happy to accept because that means it hits everybody, but when you have a third party, like Cuadrilla, who want to come in and set up an industrial process 500 metres from your home and the property value will drop (and we know it will drop, that’s already evident) then what can you do?

https://youtu.be/qe6m-dOdPEU

We're Just Not Going To Lie Down

Jane speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hi, I’m with all my friends here and I’m supporting the anti-fracking group because I live in this area and it’s a beautiful place to be in, and, really,
it’s just such a shame the way that companies feel that they can come in and just walk all over us, and think that we will just put our hands up and say “welcome… come on in… you can do it!” They tell us lies, because we know that what they say is not true about jobs, lots of issues that you can talk about… that companies talk about… they’re just not true. It’s just going to ruin this beautiful landscape that we’ve got and for us as residents here… we’re just not going to lie down.

https://youtu.be/sZ47iNXuD7I

The Amount of Stress it's Putting on Local People

Diane speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hi there, my name’s Diane. I’m here today supporting the Roseacre community who had all their signs stolen last week. We’re replacing the signs and painting as many as we can to put up as a protest in our local area. It’s the communities I’m worried most about in all of this. What we’re finding (fighting Cuadrilla) is that we’re having to enter into their arena (if you like), they have very deep pockets… we don’t. We’ve had to raise thousands and thousands of pounds to legally fight this fracking battle in the courts, in their area on their terms, and I just worry what it’s doing to the local community. I feel like it’s splitting the community. Some people don’t understand what will happen in the future, if fracking goes ahead, and those people that do understand are trying to explain it
to them, and I just feel like communities are being torn one from another. People are falling out. It just concerns me the amount of stress that it’s putting on the local area and local people. We have still got to find so much money to fight this and I just don’t know where it’s all going to come from.

https://youtu.be/y63QNvlKyCw

This is an Unsafe Process

Elaine speaks about fracking in Lancashire:

Basically, what’s being proposed here is an unsafe process. The government are very aware of that because they commissioned the Royal Society to draw up safety recommendations, which they did, and they haven’t been augmented or validated. Our own Lancashire County Council Director of Health drew-up sixty-odd safety recommendations and they haven’t been implemented or validated either. This is an unsafe process, and those in power know that, and yet they are prepared to try push this upon us. This site is actually under 300 metres from some people’s houses and that is not ok. It is an unsafe place. It’s impossible to get there safely on narrow country lanes. It is absolutely not ok. So… that’s why I’m here.

https://youtu.be/T1h0cpigAf8
I Care And I Worry About The Farmers

Heather speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
I am worried that if fracking got the green light that eventually the supermarkets might say “You know what… the public dont want milk or beef or lamb from fracking areas” because of the pollution, water, the fear of the unknown… and, you know, it’s such good fertile agricultural land and they want to cover a massive area in hard core, taking away all that grass and good soil and put this massive industrial site where, at the moment, there are cows that produce milk, that make cheese and your butter. I just cant get my head around how David Cameron can think that’s alright… and George Osbourne. It’s not alright at all and I worry about the farmers. The farmers might think that I’m a NIMBY but I’m not. I care about the farmers… I’m passionate about the farmers… I’m a farmers daughter; and fracking will be the ruin of farmers if the land got polluted, if the water courses got polluted, if the air that we’re breathing shows that, actually, we’re all being poisoned. And do you know what else I worry about: Where are all these thousands of jobs coming from? Cuadrilla have said that there will be 11 jobs per site. The engineers will be specialised. We might have some security men, but all these thousands of jobs that George Osbourne and David Cameron talk about - Where are they? I cant get an answer off of anybody. I’ve asked the Chief Executive of Flydeborough and to ask for me. Do you know what, I
think we're in for a bumpy ride if this goes ahead because I'll be constantly worrying about the noise and those earth tremors. They seem to think that having this traffic light system in place, so that if there's a tiny, tiny, tiny tremor we'll get an amber light or a green light, and if there's an amber light we're going to have to stop doing everything. It'll be too late. They would have introduced thousands and thousands of gallons of high pressured water down there (full of toxic chemicals) and it comes back up. It comes back up full of chemicals. So anyway, I'm not happy, I'm worried. I'm more frightened of what you can't see. I'll be frightened to death of the damage it's doing to the earth. I'm frightened to death of the damage it's doing to the water course. I'm very worried about what it does to mental health. And, financially, I'll be very worried that you'll never be able to sell your property around here... if fracking goes ahead.

[https://youtu.be/LR1VxpkpjSw](https://youtu.be/LR1VxpkpjSw)

Houses Have Sunk

Jean speaks about fracking in Lancashire:

Ok, my name's Jean and I live in Freckleton. I'm on the outskirts of the fracking in Roseacre and Little Plumpton, if it comes, which it's not going to do because we're going to fight very hard (to the bitter end) and I for one am not leaving a sinking ship. I am very fearful of fracking and I am
thinking, in my mind, where can I go if this filthy industry comes to the Fylde and I can't think of many places that I can go to... except, perhaps, Cornwall... Scotland, if the ban comes. Yes, I am very frightened and a lot of other people are frightened too, that I speak to. I've researched it, for a long time now, and it's very close to home some of the devastation. Holland, for instance, the Gronogon Gas Field in Holland has sunk. The house's have sunk with it. The government are having to instruct the gas industry to compensate householders, thousands of householders, for their property and the damage it has done. So, it's quite close to home, don't think it's just America and Australia, and we will have the same problems. The problems follow fracking and that's what happens... devastation... and all I ask, really, is for people to research it.

https://youtu.be/-cpQtZ7vdT8

**We Are Going to Suffer Serious Negative Health Impacts**

Gillian speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Fracking, to me, is a three year battle to save our community from what is yet (within the geology of Great Britain) an untried, untested, unsafe process. We are being the guinea pigs in this area for this. It means the loss of the countryside. It means the loss of our amenities and leisure. It will also mean a huge devaluation of our homes. More than that it means that we are going to suffer serious negative health impacts because of
the stress and anxiety in living next to an industrial area that is unregulated and is unsafe. It's very, very worrying.

https://youtu.be/M7oit01Q754

It's Stupid and It'll Just Kill Everything

Taylor speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hi, I'm Taylor. I'm from the local area of the supposed fracking site and these are just my opinions on fracking. So, I personally absolutely hate it. I think it will kill the community, it'll kill the tourist attractions, it'll just kill everything. Farmers will go, because no-one will want to buy food from the farmers, so the farmers wont make any money and that will mean that they wont be able to do anything, really, and it will pollute the air and it will destroy everything. It may not happen instantly, but after a few years it will just get worse and worse and worse. It will just kill everything. And we cant really do anything because once they've done it, it's done. We cant stop it, we cant block it, it's just there. I think the Government is just mindless for what they're doing. They're just selling it, they're just giving it away (the land) and they're just being mindless. They're not really caring because all they want is the money and it's just stupid. That's what I think. It will kill all the people and there's other things that people can do to create extra sources of energy - Wind Farms, Solar Panels - but of course they had to choose the worst out of
all of them and, again (I keep on saying this), but it's just stupid… how and what they think… they don’t care about anybody else but their money. They don’t want to think about other people, they don’t want to think about what’ll happen to the tourist attractions, they just want more and more money. So, what I just think is that it’s just… stupid.

https://youtu.be/rZQAq3dy9Y8

It’s Really Important That We Get This Fracking Abolished

Sylvia speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hello, my name’s Sylvia and with my daughter we run an eventing yard. They’re hare horse’s and they have to be kept really fit for the season (which starts in March) and to do this we use the country lanes; which I don’t think we’ll be able to do when we’ve got great big lorries going down there. There’re barely wide enough for cars, so with the lorries it will just be impossible and really dangerous. Also, we have dogs and we walk our dogs down there (as do many other people), so it’s really important that we get this fracking abolished.

https://youtu.be/pPq5dWFypQA
A Grotesque Parody of Democracy

Nick speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hi there, I’m Nick. I live in Inskip which is about two miles (as the crow fly’s) from the proposed fracking site at Roseacre. I’ve got lots and lots and lots of issues with fracking but I’d like to concentrate on one in particular which is the issue of fairness. We’re local people trying to raise money to fight an appeal. We’ve got to pay for Queen’s Council and Expert Witnesses; they cost thousands and thousands and thousands of pounds. We’re up against a company with a lot more resources than we’ve got and even if we win (even if Roseacre win and Cuadrilla’s appeal is thrown out) there’s still the danger that Her Majesty’s Government (which is 100% behind fracking) is going to over-rule any decision which is made. To me that is a grotesque parody of democracy… outrageous. All the money we’ve spent could be just poured down the drain and that is not fair. That is not democracy and I feel very strongly that that’s wrong.

https://youtu.be/QGXfJjVLkf0
Nieve speaks about fracking in Lancashire:

Hi, I’m Nieve and I live near the Inskip site. These are my views on fracking. I’m a mum of two young girls and I’m absolutely devastated about what the future may bring to them (regarding fracking). There’s a lot of implications (about fracking) but my main concern, as a mum, is the health of my children with obviously what’s going into the flaring – with the carcinogenic chemicals what are going in – which is going to bring (for the future) possibly still born babies; cancer; things like that… and I’m worried about my children’s health as well as ours. Another thing that really worries me is the water… the water course. If these fluids get into the water course and then we’ve got cows that eat the grass from the field, then we slaughter the cattle to eat on our plates - obviously we are fighting for British farmers, but what happens if we cant eat their meat anymore due to it being contaminated? It’s a vicious circle we’ve got here. I would also like anybody – the government or local MP’s – we’d love to talk to. To come, and sit, and talk to those people and explain it. We are more worried about the regulations, and the tightness of those regulations, before we allow it to go onto our land and onto our people. So, my big thing, as a mum, and to all those mum’s and dad’s out there; this is not my fight, this is the future fight of our children’s
We're Hostages To Corporate Greed

Jackie speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hello, I'm Jackie, and... next year... well, this year actually now... I would have been living here for 48 years and I've never wanted to live anywhere else because it's so peaceful. Everyone got along, like a big family here, with everyone looking out for each other. But now my heart is so heavy, so worried about what's going to happen. When I go to bed at night my room has got two windows, one at the front of the house and one at the back of the house, and at the back of the house is where they're going to do the fracking. In fact we're only 200 metres from the site and as I close my curtains I look at the stars, and, I think that I'm not going to be seeing those anymore. When they put all those lights... when they light a fracking site - an industrial fracking site - in the country it will just wipe out the night sky; and it makes me feel sad... really, really sad. There are things in life that you can't put a price on; and one of them is the peace and quiet you get in the countryside; the other one is the night sky that you can see in the countryside; and it's just going to be
wiped out by… corporate greed. They’re making us… we’re hostages to corporate greed.

https://youtu.be/ch4-kRomRhM

Sound Travels A Long Way

Eileen speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
My name’s Eileen, I live in Inskip. It’s about a mile from Roseacre - which is the site where they may frack… which we hope they aren’t going to - and I chose to come and live in Inskip. I talked about it in 2000, I actually came here in 2002, and what appealed to me was how quiet it is. It's a beautiful area to live, it’s safe, we have safe roads and I was walking down the lane (where I walk my dog – it’s called School Lane because it’s the old lane that the children used to access across the field to the old Victorian School) and I stopped because it was so quiet and peaceful. Actually, there wasn’t a bird singing, there wasn’t a sound, just the blue sky, and the fluffy clouds, and the lovely summer colours. It was a beautiful evening and the thought flicking through my mind - if they start fracking at Roseacre this will be shattered. I will not get this again (if they frack at Roseacre). We will hear every sound because it’s such a quiet place to live and sound travels a long way. Also, I often stand on my landing window and look out to the beautiful view (that way which is looking to the west) which is over the fields
towards Roseacre. I would see, on the sky line, the chimneys, the buildings, the flames, from the horrible burning-off. We would get the fumes, we would get the noise and that beautiful view would be ruined. It’s such a lovely area to live. If fracking comes here this area would be ruined, not only for the quietness and the peacefulness, but the dangers on the roads with the heavy traffic. It would be a terrible time to live here. I don’t want that to come.

https://youtu.be/GHIaYvaVYos

Issues with Well Integrity Failure

Dennis speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hello, my name’s Dennis and I’m here to give my thoughts. Well, some of them; there’s a lot more thoughts to be had, in a lot more detail, but I’m just going to try to keep it really compressed. Originally my initial concerns were for not fracking anywhere - specifically here - but anywhere in England or really the world. In essence, I live in Inskip and a kilometre away from the proposed site, and if they do flare there have been cases in America where the flare has had adverse effects on people; particularly on pregnant women and birth problems. That’s one concern I’ve got and the other concern is that when they frack, the water - although they say that they are going through the water table and it’s all going to be sealed - there is going to be issues with well integrity
failure. Although they are going down (potentially) a kilometre they still
don’t know what will happen with the waste frack-fluid. They can’t
guarantee that it’s not going to get into the water course and once it gets
into the water course it won’t go away. We’re not talking two years, we’re
not talking ten years, we’re talking millennia and I think we’re messing
around with things that we shouldn’t be messing with. I think it’s beyond
just playing a game and I think it needs to be stopped. There’s loads
more I can say, but I think that’s a real short talk about what my thoughts
are. Thank you.

https://youtu.be/QNZ_moTpMrQ

The Geologist

Muriel (the geologist) speaks about fracking in Lancashire:
Hiya, my name’s Muriel and I’m here on the edge of the Bowland. I was
a (way back) a graduate Geologist in Geography and then I taught for a
few years, the same subject’s right through Sixth Form, and then while I
was doing that… (I think I was working in East Lancashire)… while I was
doing that I was in the North-East Lancs Geologists Association and I
met my husband there. He was a farmer, and a very keen amateur
geologist, and he knew this area, around Bowland, very well indeed. So I
came up here, and we got married, and he really taught me a lot about
the local area. I got to know the rocks quite well because the Bowland
Shale is well known (in this area) and in fact it gets its name because it was first explored in this region (in Victorian times). So the next I heard about shale gas fracking was really on TV. I saw a tiny snip on North-West TV showing a well somewhere near Blackpool and I thought “Oh yes, I know… if you go down to the Bowland Shale!” They showed how they were going to do it - go down through the bed - and that’s one thing how you know to diagnose Bowland Shale; you break it up and you sometimes get a gasey smell from it. I thought “Oh yes, right… you’ll probably get a bit” and I didn’t think any more at the time. It seemed to me to be just one of those things, a bit of an experiment and they might do that. Anyway, I didn’t think anymore until I had a relative visit me (from America), and he was working as an engineer, and he said “For goodness sake… have you not heard about fracking?” I said “Well, I sort of have” and he said “You’ve got to get your head screwed on. You’ve done some geology… you must learn about this and tell people about it” and he explained to me about a family in Pennsylvania, a farming family, who were very distressed indeed because their water supply for their house and for their farm had been poisoned with effluent from the frac wells. They were more or less bust, really, and they just couldn’t carry on. He said “You must learn… you’ve got springs on the farm here… you must learn about this. Those springs supply (y)our farm stock and then it goes down into fishing rivers. What on Earth are you doing? You must get your head into it.” And so from then on, I’ve never stopped, and that was all of four years ago – September 2011 – and the first thing I did was write to the MP and I’ve never stopped since then.

https://youtu.be/7wwKmqnuCMc
I Want Everyone Else to Stand-Up

Jane speaks (again) about fracking in Lancashire:
Hi, my name’s Jane and I am a local resident of Treales. I am protesting against fracking in our area because fracking would be dreadful for the environment. And what I want is that I want everyone else to stand-up if you feel that you’re against fracking, to stand-up for us, because we don’t want our environment ruined and we know that drinking dirty water is going to follow if this industry gets a hold, and a grip, in our environment. So we’d like the action to come now and for people to write into their local MP’s so that they understand the anger that we feel about this issue.

https://youtu.be/BxomN5JJ0Ms

How Where Why – What Can You Do?

Lee explains the intentions of his walk (along the Leeds Liverpool Canal) from the ruins of Barking Abbey:
Right, we’re in Barking (on my manor) and I just want to say a few words about this walk I’m doing along the Leeds Liverpool Canal, starting on 30th January, in Leeds, 2016. Well, first of all the reason why I’m doing it is because I care. I care so much and that’s the motivation; you know, at the moment the country is under the greatest threat since the Battle of Britain, I mean, there’s no two ways about it. It’s about… people need to be aware of this and stand-up. Part of what I’m doing is hoping to raise the awareness of that leading up to the appeal in Blackpool on 9th February; where Lancashire County Council made a decision that they’re not having fracking, and it’s being appealed against, and there’s a strong possibility that that democratic decision could be over-turned… and it’s a disgrace. But what it does highlight is the State we’re living in and the times we’re living in, and that’s what this walk is also about. So, basically, I’m not organising an event… I’m just having a wander. So I’m going to walk down the Leeds Liverpool Canal, with these intentions in mind, and I’m going to do my best to highlight this issue; and as I go along I’m just going to let you know about it. So, that’s what the deal is. And the thing is, if that resonates with people - if that means something to people as well – and they want to come and walk with me… in peace and in the same direction… then that would be lovely… but if not I’m doing it because I care. That’s what really matters; and what really matters is that anyone that joins me cares. You know, that’s all that matters. So, it’s not something that you have to sign up to. It’s not something that’s going to be systematic. It’s just something that’s very human and very organic, and if people do join then it’s really just going to be people to people. That’s what this is about, you know, it’s about people from their hearts uniting; Standing-up for what’s right; Standing-up for our land, for our way of life, for our decency. Standing-up for
honesty and integrity. That’s where I’m coming from. So I’m just going to walk in peace… and see who joins me. Before I go I just want to say one more thing: God Bless the people of Lancashire for standing-up for our country and for our democracy. My name’s Lee Miller, I’m from Essex and I’m going to stand with you. Lots of Love x

https://youtu.be/NtRW5BBRckU

No Faith In Fracking

Prayer at Pendle Hill on Easter Sunday

"Fear them not therefore; For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; And hid, that shall not be known." Matthew 10:26

https://youtu.be/JfUh3Rh8mAw