Frack Free Nottinghamshire Statement on Tinker Lane Decision – due 21.03.17

Nottinghamshire County Council's planning committee will yet again be ruling on an application for exploratory drilling in the Nottinghamshire area – this time at Tinker Lane, near Barnby Moor in Bassetlaw. This ruling is due to take place on Tuesday 21st March 2017 at County Hall in Nottingham.

Frack Free Notts urges the planning committee to REJECT the application on the following grounds:

- The local area will be subjected to an excessive amount of air pollution from the site, including pollution from ozone, hydrocarbons, methane and dust.

The local area will be subjected to excessive noise pollution coming from a 24 hour operational site in what is currently a quiet part of the countryside.
The local area will also be subjected to excessive light pollution coming from the lighting required to run a 24 hour operational site.
The drill rig will be a blight on the local landscape.
Due to the HGV access route chosen by Dart energy and iGas, lorry loads of toxic waste will be travelling directly past Blyth Primary School, subjecting our youngest members of society to heath risks.
The proposed drilling site is exceptionally close to an aquifer, running the risk that local groundwater reserves will become contaminated and no guarantee can be given that this will not happen.
Taking into account all of the above points, Dart Energy have already breached their licence conditions in their site at Daneshill so they cannot guarantee that they will not do the same at the Tinker Lane site.
This planning application has been marked for approval as long as Dart Energy comply with 50 conditions yet as we have seen, they have been unable to stick to the conditions they have been set at Daneshill, which number far less than 50!
Shale gas will contribute to our increased CO2 emissions at a time when we should be looking at renewable energy sources rather than putting our eggs into the shale gas basket.

- Finally, there is **no social licence for fracking in Nottinghamshire** or in the UK – it is simply not wanted – not here in Bassetlaw, not in Nottinghamshire and not in the UK.

Many will point out that this is an application for exploratory drilling and not for shale gas extraction (aka fracking) but this drilling is the first step of that process. Energy companies such as Dart Energy, iGas, INEOS and so on would not be wasting the expenditure on exploratory drilling if there was no expectation to recoup that expenditure later on in the process. Frack Free Notts believes that such a distinction between exploratory drilling and extraction is disingenous at best. To give the go ahead for this application is to pave the way for full scale fracking in the future.

Frack Free Notts call upon the planning committee to reject this application and we urge everyone who feels the same way as we do to make your feelings known to the planning committee before the decision date!