



Stop Climate Chaos Scotland consultation response

February 2017

Proposed Prohibition of Fracking etc. (Scotland) Bill

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland (SCCS) is a civil society coalition campaigning for action on climate change. Members include environment and international development organisations, student unions and trade unionists, community groups and faith groups. We believe that the Scottish Government should take bold action to tackle climate change here at home and play its part in supporting climate justice around the world. We are grateful for the opportunity to share the views of the coalition on the proposed prohibition of fracking etc. (Scotland) bill.

The Stop Climate Chaos Scotland coalition supports the proposal to ban fracking and other onshore unconventional oil and gas extraction in Scotland.

Scotland should play its part in making efforts under the Paris Agreement to keep any increase in world temperatures to below 1.5°. As part of that effort Scotland, and the international community, should make the fastest possible transition **away from fossil fuels**. Most of the world's remaining fossil fuel resources cannot be extracted and burnt if we are to avoid ever worsening climate change. Allowing a new form of fossil fuel extraction runs counter to the objective of transition.

Scotland, and the world community, should make the fastest possible transition **to clean, sustainable, renewable energy**. The introduction of a further source of fossil fuels in competition with renewables will be likely to hinder that transition.

Unconventional gas extraction can produce significantly higher greenhouse gas emissions than ordinary natural gas. Methane leakage from the industry has led some scientists to assert that the carbon impact of fracked gas can be worse than coal.

Besides the climate change implications of opening up a new frontier of fossil fuels there is a growing body of evidence to suggest that fracking can pose serious public health risks and disturbance for local communities, pollute the local environment and damage ecosystems. Scotland, and the world community, should adopt the **precautionary principle** and say no to this industry.

The gravity of the climate crisis merits legislation to ban fracking and other onshore unconventional oil and gas extraction; such legislation would send a clear signal on Scotland's commitment to tackling climate change.

For more information, please contact:

Caroline Rance - Campaigns Manager, Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

caroline@stopclimatechaosscotland.org

Tel: 0131 243 2701