

So what's all this fuss about fracking?

the periodic re-working (i.e. re-fracking) of each well to contend with. It's on an entirely different scale. Oh, and by the way, that's what they're saying now. What if they find there's more gas there and they could make more money by having more sites? And what about Moorland Energy in the north of Ryedale? What if they decide this fracking business might work for them too? On top of this if it goes ahead, there will be 1000's of HGV journeys on our local roads and heavy-duty diesel compressors and generators running 24 hours a day causing air, light and noise pollution. Millions of gallons of clean drinking water will be used in every frack – water that then has to be tankered out for specialist waste treatment and is lost from the natural water system. This all adds up to the industrialisation of our countryside.

But there's no point trying to stop the Government – if they want to do it, they'll just go ahead anyway. What can we do?

Certainly if we sit back and do nothing, fracking will go ahead with the minimum of safeguards and inadequate regulation. In other countries where fracking has taken place, thousands of people have shown their concern and have objected. Strong public opposition has had an impact. This has led to fracking being banned or severely limited in many places. Progress has been slowed and regulations have been made stricter. Politicians have been made to listen in many countries, including Australia, America, Canada and Africa. There's an election coming up. Ask the candidates what their views on fracking are, and then decide who you want to be making the decisions.

For more information, visit the following web sites:

www.isfrackingsafe.com

www.frackfreeryedale.org