

**Consultation on High Level Design of Petroleum Safety Framework
Respondent Meeting
Liam Breslin
Wednesday, October 12th 2011**

Location: CER Offices
Time: 11:00

Attended by: Liam Breslin
Eamonn Murtagh CER
Róisín Cullinan CER
Theresa Reddy CER Consultant, GL Noble Denton

Minutes:

1. Introduction & Presentation

- The meeting was opened by CER and all attendees were introduced.
- The CER outlined the process by which the Consultation Response Paper and Draft Decision Paper would be published. Consultation Responses and minutes of Consultation Response Meetings will be published in early November. Consultation Response Paper and Draft Decision Paper expected to be published before Christmas 2011.

2. Discussion on Liam Breslin response to Consultation Paper:

A number of key specific points highlighted in the Liam Breslin submission were clarified by the CER:

- It would be beneficial for the CER to elaborate on how Unconventional Exploration is dealt with under the PSF in future Papers.
- The CER noted that it is in contact with the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland.

A number of key specific points in his submission were highlighted by Liam Breslin:

- Fracking is a new technology and should be assessed under the PSF as such.
- Economic pressures on petroleum companies may lead to short cuts which affect safety and the environment. Petroleum companies need to be monitored for ongoing 'non accidental' incidents such as illegal disposal waste.
- The definition of safety in the PSF is too narrow. It should cover long term health impacts, property and the environment. The CER, with other regulators, must aim to make the public feel safe. This can be gained through confidence in the combined regulators that they are carrying out their functions effectively and in the public interest.
- The CER should ensure that where gaps are identified in the safety regulatory system, it can take a lead role in ensuring that gap is filled.

- There needs to be acknowledgment and recognition across the statutory authorities and government departments of the cross impacts of fracking as it can potentially effect tourism, food/water supply and farming, etc.
- There needs to be a coordinated approach to the regulation of fracking amongst the regulators. The regulators should have the required knowledge on the process to make educated assessments.