

Tina Graham

Subject: CER/13/015 - Hydraulic Fracturing - Response from Helen Birtwistle

I am writing to express my concerns about this paper in reference to the proposed Hydraulic Fracturing and other possible methods of extracting unconventional gas in Ireland.

This paper does not directly reference Hydraulic Fracturing and I am concerned that using a blanket paper will not adequately protect my environment or my family. I feel strongly that if unconventional gas extraction is to take place in Ireland a specialist document should directly address the risks involved with this process.

As the total budget cost of the CER up to 2016 to establish a regulatory framework is only 6 million euros with no extra budget to cover the costs of regulating fracking I feel that sufficient funds are not available to ensure that my environment and the health of my family will be protected by your regulations.

Researching environmental and health effects caused by Fracking from around the world and reading the many scientific papers written on this process I believe that CER would be failing in its duties to protect myself and my family by allowing the extraction of unconventional gas in Ireland without properly establishing a specific regulatory framework. This is a direct threat to my health and that of my family and Ireland's environment who will be accountable if CER fails.

Helen Birtwistle

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