

# BISCATHORPE CONVENTIONAL OIL WELL SITE

AN UPDATE



As you may know there is an existing oil exploration well site on land off High Street in Biscathorpe, Louth which is operated by Egdon Resources.

In early 2019 an exploratory oil well was drilled from the site and the results from this operation showed that the targeted, oil-bearing sandstone was not present at the depths expected at this location. However, a further detailed evaluation showed potential for commercially-viable hydrocarbons in the Westphalian Sandstone and Carboniferous Limestone formations in the vicinity of the well.

## **We are therefore applying for planning permission for the following:**

- ◆ To drill a 'side track' well which is a wellbore drilled from the existing well, to target these formations
- ◆ To undertake flow testing if oil is present
- ◆ If successful, to then develop the site into an oil production facility

Normally we would be holding a community drop-in session to tell you about these plans and answer any questions but, given the COVID pandemic, we are having to do things a little differently.

We are therefore planning an online consultation where you can read all about the plans and give us your feedback. You can access our virtual consultation room at [biscathorpe.virtualconsultation.co.uk](https://biscathorpe.virtualconsultation.co.uk) from **Monday 25th January until Sunday 7th February**.

We also have hard copies of these materials should you not be able to access the internet. Hard copies will be available once the consultation launches and can be requested by emailing [rachel@egdon-community.com](mailto:rachel@egdon-community.com) or calling our office on 01256 702 292.

In the meantime, we appreciate that local people might have questions or concerns about this application, so we have set out some common questions and answers on the following page.

# YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



## Are you fracking at this site?

---

No, we are not fracking at this site either now or in the future. In fact, the geology in this area is not suitable as there are no shale oil or gas formations here.

## How will you keep the community updated?

---

We have established a community liaison group which is made up of councillors from both county and parish level alongside members of the community and regulators such as the Environment Agency and Lincolnshire County Council. The group meets regularly throughout any operational phases and members are encouraged to share information from those meetings. You can also see updates at our website [www.egdon-community.com](http://www.egdon-community.com)

## How will you protect the environment?

---

As part of the planning application we will be undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which fully assess the potential impacts of the development. The site has already been constructed with very high levels of environmental protection built in and all operations and activities will be undertaken in compliance with the Environmental Permit and Egdon's own Environmental Management System.

## How will water courses be protected?

---

The site has been built with the installation of a high-performance impermeable membrane which, together with the surface bunds, prevents any escape of fluids (including rainwater) from the site. If we are granted planning permission and the well testing proves positive, then there will be a small programme of works to install longer-term facilities including storage tank bunds and a surface water interceptor to manage clean surface water. All aspects of the development will have to be approved by the Environment Agency.

## Who monitors your operations?

---

The UK has one of the most stringent regulatory regimes in the world which drives responsible and effective management of both the drilling operation and protection of the environment. We are regulated by the Oil and Gas Authority and the Health and Safety Executive and all activities are subject to scrutiny by both the Local Planning Authority, the Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive.

## How long will the drilling operation take?

---

The drilling operations should take around eight weeks, including mobilisation and demobilisation.

## How long will you be in production?

---

The planning application would be for a period of around 15 years though it is likely to be less. The exact period will depend on oil flow.

## What will be there for the long term?

---

If the well is successful and the site is developed into a longer-term production facility, equipment would include storage tanks, a beam pump (known as a nodding donkey), flowlines, some containerised cabins and a possibly a generator for electricity. On a production site there is a surprisingly small amount of equipment needed.

## Will you be flaring?

---

If there is associated gas then a small, enclosed ground flare would be needed and if gas volumes are sufficient, we would look to use this to generate electricity for site use and export surplus back to the electricity distribution network.

**For further information see our online consultation event at: [Biscathorpe.virtualconsultation.co.uk](http://Biscathorpe.virtualconsultation.co.uk)**