

Green Party “bitterly disappointed” by High Court’s decision on Cuadrilla injunction



11 July 2018

The Green Party of England and Wales have today expressed their disappointment at the decision by the High Court to maintain the injunction through to 2020 on protesting outside Cuadrilla’s proposed fracking site at Preston New Road, Lancashire [1].

Green Party co-leader Jonathan Bartley, who visited the site last month to put questions from local residents to the bosses at Cuadrilla, made it clear that the party would continue to stand behind the local community in their struggle against the company. He was previously forcibly removed from a fracking site last year and is committed to supporting the right to peaceful protest and non-violent direct action.

Bartley said:

“This is an incredibly sad day for the right to protest peacefully. We’re bitterly disappointed by this result, but the fight will continue and we will stand together with all those resisting this destructive industry.

“Fracking has no place in our energy mix and we will fight it tooth and nail.”

[1]

<https://drillordrop.com/2018/07/11/breaking-judge-grants-cuadrilla-injunction-over-lancs-fracking-site-to-2020/>

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Womack: Tidal Lagoon's clear and

transparent audit further proof that Westminster must back the plan



10 July 2018

Green Party deputy leader Amelia Womack has welcomed the decision from Tidal Lagoon Power to respond to the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy with the release of a full audit of their finances [1].

Womack, who visited the proposed site of the Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon yesterday [2], felt that the audit was a clear sign that the company were willing to conduct their business transparently and proof that the project made financial sense.

Womack said:

“This project makes complete financial sense, especially compared to the nuclear plant on Anglesey and it is great to see Tidal Lagoon Power making that case. It continues to baffle that the Westminster Government are seemingly fully behind the Wyfla plant despite all the questions surrounding it.

“It’s not too late to scrap the Wyfla plant and back a cleaner and cheaper solution to Wales’ energy future.”

[1] <http://www.tidallagoonpower.com/news/2018/07/10/beis-statement-tidal-lagoons-designed-mislead/>

[2] <https://www.greenparty.org.uk/news/2018/07/09/womack-westminster-must-back-the-tidal-lagoon/>

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Womack: Westminster must back the Tidal Lagoon



9 July 2018

Following a meeting with Tidal Lagoon Power, the company behind the Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon, Green Party of England and Wales deputy leader Amelia Womack has called on the Westminster Government to reverse their decision not to support the project.

Womack, who's from South Wales, met with the company earlier to survey their plans and learn more about their proposals. She believes that the Tidal Lagoon would be a huge point of pride for South-West Wales.

Womack said:

"The Tidal Lagoon must go ahead. Not only will it produce clean, renewable energy for the country, it will also give this community a fantastic local amenity and the pride of being a global leader in a new technology.

"Since the mines were closed, Wales energy potential has not been considered. This would represent our energy future and the Westminster Government need to fund it."

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Green Party co-leader supports oil injunction campaigners in court



3 July 2018

*** Jonathan Bartley: 'The right to peaceful protest is under threat'**

Jonathan Bartley, co-leader of the Green Party, will today be at the High Court [1] to stand in solidarity with six women [2] challenging an injunction application by UK Oil and Gas [3].

Bartley said the application is part of a nationwide rollout which has put "the right to peaceful protest under threat".

The Green Party has also supported campaigners fighting an injunction by Chris Grayling to curb anti-HS2 action [4], as well as activists given suspended sentences for breaking the Sheffield tree injunction [5], among others.

Jonathan Bartley, co-leader of the Green Party, said:

"The right to peaceful protest is under threat. This draconian application is part of a nationwide rollout of injunctions which seeks to stamp out peaceful dissent wherever it is found. I stand in full solidarity with the brave activists standing up to the fossil fuel industry in court today. UK Oil and Gas' risky methods of oil and gas exploration are a threat to our environment and jeopardise our climate targets."

Notes:

1. Bartley will join activists outside the High Court on Tuesday 3 July 2018.

2. A picture of the six women challenging the injunction is here: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/yfrttdm96mxsgzf/UKOGInjunctionDefendants.JPG?dl=0> Left to right of defendants in photo: Constance Whiston; Vicki Elcoate; Ann Stewart; Sue Jameson; Jacqui Hamlin; Natasha Doane

3. UK Oil and Gas has drilling sites across the South East including Broadford Bridge in West Sussex and Horse Hill in Surrey, both mentioned in the injunction. It also has a significant stake in the proposed drilling site at Leith Hill in Surrey and a planned new site on the Isle of Wight.

4. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/feb/19/transport-secretary-injunction-stop-hs2-protesters-chris-grayling-london>

5. <https://www.greenparty.org.uk/news/2018/06/08/green-party-responds-to-suspended-sentences-for-sheffield-tree-campaigners/>

Diary note: Green Party co-leader supports oil injunction campaigners in court

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