

'It's no place for borehole'

ANTI-fracking campaigners are urging people living in the boundaries of the North York Moors National Park to object to a proposed injection well inside the park.

Third Energy Ltd and Moorland Energy Ltd, who both have drilling permissions in Ryedale, have submitted an application to make changes at the existing borehole at Ebberston Moor South well site.

The two companies have applied for permission to drill a second borehole for water production and re-injection, which would mean a 13.9km long 12in diameter underground pipe is laid from the south site to the Knapton Generating Station, East Knapton.

Russell Scott, of Frack Free North Yorkshire, said: "The radioactive waste water, which contains hazardous chemicals such as mercury, benzene, ammonia and other known carcinogens, will remain in the injection well potentially forever - therefore what will happen to this toxic liquid when the well casing deteriorates and its integrity is compromised? The casing is only a thin layer of cement and over time this will crumble and fail."

The application comes following the news that the North York Moors National Park could be a prime area for fracking because it is said to be rich in shale gas.

Mr Scott said: "North York Moors National Park sustains a healthy tourism and agriculture industry which would be jeopardised by the large-scale industrialisation required to support a fracking industry.

"We urge all residents living within the National Park boundary to strongly oppose any fracking related activities starting with the seismic surveys currently being conducted by Third Energy in Ryedale and the proposed waste water injection well in Ebberston."

To view the application visit planning.northyorkmoors.org.uk and enter reference NYM/2014/0587/