

Tamarind development drilling applications

Submission Reference no: 77

Peter John Wheeler

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

Do you have the authority to make this submission on behalf of the person named on this form?

Position

Yes

Notes

Clause

Do you intend to have a spokesperson who will act on your behalf (e.g. a lawyer or professional advisor)?

Position

No

Notes

Clause

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the hearing?

Position

No I/we do not wish to speak to my/our submission at the hearing

Notes

Clause

Do you wish to receive regular updates from the EPA about the progress of this application?

Position

Yes I/we wish to receive all communications relating to this application.

Notes

Clause

What decision do you want the Board to make and why? Provide reasons in the box below.

Position

Refuse

Notes

I am opposed to further oil drilling off the Taranaki coast by Tamarind in the Tui Field, 20 kms off coast. This is a precious and fragile environment and home to threatened marine species, such as whales, dolphins and penguins. We cannot allow further destruction, degradation of our environment and our climate by profit-driven companies. The fossil fuel industry and its workers require strong incentives to transition to renewable, sustainable, clean energy initiatives and development. Global action needs to be taken urgently for the sake of our planetary health due to the inevitable and severe climate change consequences of fossil fuel use, now occurring with increasing frequency - extreme temperatures; flooding and coastal erosion; drought; cyclones and bush fires. Those most at risk include our Pacific Island neighbours and other indigenous peoples; those living with socio-economic deprivation; women, children and elderly people; those with chronic health conditions; those living in countries with weak health systems and those communities dependent on agriculture for food and economic viability. In 2012, the International Energy Agency reported 'Only a third of the carbon contained in proven reserves of fossil fuels can be released into the atmosphere by 2050 if the world is to keep below the 2°C target', agreed in December 2009 at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This warning was repeated in a scientific paper published in Nature (January 2015; McGlade C and Ekins P; 517:187-190): 'To have at least a 50% chance of keeping below the agreed 2°C target, it is estimated that a third of known global oil reserves, half of gas reserves and over 80 per cent of coal reserves should remain unused from 2010 to 2050'. ie. fossil fuels need to stay in the ground. I support Climate Justice Taranaki and other groups who are taking a stand against this application. It is our obligation to protect our coastline and marine environment for future generations. An oil spill here could reach far beyond Taranaki, causing devastating impacts on kaimoana, on our ability to enjoy the beaches and

the ocean as an ecosystem. I urge the Environmental Protection Authority to do its job and protect the environment from this company.