

Adam McCutcheon

From: brianmargaret.tegg@xtra.co.nz
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2014 06:25 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Oil and Gas Exploration off Dunedin coast

I am in favour of this exploration

Adam McCutcheon

From: STEPHEN JORY <sjory@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2014 07:31 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: oil and gas exploration

TO HOME IT MAY CONCERN

I am a 54 year old businessman running a small building company and employ 2/3 other full time employees. I believe that the D C C should support the oil and gas exploration of the coast of Dunedin. The reasons for supporting this exploration are many ,firstly growth in dunedin and New Zealand's economy during the exploration and the growth should there be a commercial find of oil or gas would benefit Dunedin . We would see an increase in our population due to an increase of jobs both in the exploration sector and the flow on to other sectors.It may mean our children do not need to leave Dunedin to find meaningful employment. Dunedins growth has been below the growth around the rest of the country only minimal population growth and an ageing population we need more younger people and families to come to our city and fully utilizes the schools and other facilities..It is hard to run a business in a city with an ageing population we need more of a balance demographic to the makeup of Dunedin. When a city like Dunedin losses some top end job we also lose jobs at the bottom of the job market an these people are the people how find it harder to find meaningful jobs so more high paying job will have a flow on and also benefit people seeking employment across many employment sectors .A community with high employment should have less crime and be in a position to give it people a better quality of life. I support oil and gas exploration not only for myself but for my children and their children and the future of Dunedin ,should you wish to contact me regarding my views feel free to contact me.
Cheers

Stephen Jory
Jory Builders Ltd
26 Patrick St
Mornington
Dunedin
03 4530577
0274316703
www.jorybuilders.co.nz

Adam McCutcheon

From: Trevor Johnson
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2014 10:33 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block offer

As a resident of Dunedin I am 100% behind the proposed oil exploration off Otago.
I am hopeful that oil is located in vast quantities which will provide jobs and a decent income to residents it may even bring some of our brightest children back to Dunedin.
I am sick of some councillors giving out their personal views against any sort of exploration only because they are being lobbied by the noisy minority who object every time.
Council should get real and speak with the average citizen who is too busy working to have time to put in submissions on every little bit of council policy.
Obviously council will continue with its policy of being against anything to do with oil exploration and I don't personally think they want to hear anything against this policy however Dunedin is going backwards . I am all for oil exploration.

Trevor Johnson
55 Ellesmere street
Ravensbourne
Dunedin

Adam McCutcheon

From: Jason Hosking <jason@jasonhosking.com>
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2014 11:14 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

I feel very strongly against this and hope DCC will stand in opposition to fossil fuel exploration off the Otago coastline.

Regards

Jason Hosking

Adam McCutcheon

From: richard ferguson <rjsferguson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2014 11:21 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum Block Offer

Dear Dunedin City Council,

I strongly urge you to reject the Petroleum Block Offer.

It is a fact that the burning of fossil fuels has an extremely harmful effect on the environment, namely by contributing to global warming, which we can no longer ignore.

There are also the risks of oil spillage with the resulting pollution.

Of course, oil is a source of needed fuel, but there are now alternatives. Technology has advanced to the point that wind and solar power for example, are both affordable and practical.

Instead of selling drilling rights to foreign corporations, NZ should be focusing on developing green energy and the benefits that this would directly bring to NZer's, as opposed to polluting our nation.

So when we have two ways to make energy, both reliable and affordable, but one has significantly worse externalities, why would we choose that one? We can have our cake and eat it too! Go green! Isn't that what NZ is renowned for? Well, stand up and prove it!

Again, I strongly urge you to reject the Petroleum Block Offer. This is a chance for Dunedin to be a leader on this matter of utmost importance to NZ and its people.

Sincerely,

Richard Ferguson.

Adam McCutcheon

From: Chloe Abigail Weavers <chloeweavers@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 17 November 2014 11:25 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum Block Offer

Dear Dunedin City Council,

I strongly urge you to reject the Petroleum Block Offer.

It is a fact that the burning of fossil fuels has an extremely harmful effect on the environment, namely by contributing to global warming, which we can no longer ignore.

There are also the risks of oil spillage with the resulting pollution.

Of course, oil is a source of needed fuel, but there are now alternatives. Technology has advanced to the point that wind and solar power for example, are both affordable and practical.

Instead of selling drilling rights to foreign corporations, NZ should be focusing on developing green energy and the benefits that this would directly bring to NZers, as opposed to polluting our nation.

So when we have two ways to make energy, both reliable and affordable, but one has significantly worse externalities, why would we choose that one? We can have our cake and eat it too! Go green! Isn't that what NZ is renowned for? Well, stand up and prove it!

Again, I strongly urge you to reject the Petroleum Block Offer. This is a chance for Dunedin to be a leader on this matter of utmost importance to NZ and its people.

I look forward to hearing that you have taken the above comments on board and decided to reject the Petroleum Block Offer.

Sincerely,
Chloe Weavers

Adam McCutcheon

From: Stèfan Murison <samurison@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2014 06:07 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

To whom it may concern,

I am very apposed to exploration for oil and gas off the Otago coast.
It puts risk on our beautiful beaches, marine life, and tourist industry.

Also fossil fuels are one of the leading causes of greenhouse gases, affecting climate change. For Otago, and New Zealand as a whole to maintain our green clean image, we should prevent the exploration for oil and gas off the Otago coast.

Sincerely,
Stèfan Murison.

Adam McCutcheon

From: richard elworthy <richardelworthy@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2014 07:24 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Oil drilling

I'll keep it short.

Off coast oil drilling is a terrible idea for so many reasons. Not to mention the returns on the local economy are always under what is promised.

Stop the drilling, it's not in our best interests.

Adam McCutcheon

From: Mark Hubbard <hubbabuba@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2014 07:25 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: oil exploration

To whom it may concern,

As a former resident of Dunedin for 6 years, currently living in Northland.

I strongly oppose oil exploration on the Otago coast and don't see how the Dunedin people are to benefit from this.

Not to mention the risk of destroying the pristine habitat around Stewart Island, Catlins and the Otago region.

Regards,

Mark

Adam McCutcheon

From: mpmenzies@hotmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2014 08:06 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum block offer 2015

To whom it may concern,

For too long now Dunedin has been slowly decaying with those with the power to do something about it seemingly more concerned about appeasing the noisy minority than supporting the investment into and the development of Dunedin that could turn this decade around.

I whole heartedly support the exploration and extraction of natural gas off the Dunedin coast and hope those with the power to influence this will finally pull their heads out of the proverbial sand and make what may be considered a difficult decision to get this city back on track.

Matt Menzies
Sent from my LG Mobile

Adam McCutcheon

From: Lydie Tournier <lylirose.tou@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2014 01:30 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer 2014

Thanks for giving us the opportunity to express our opinion on oil drilling esp. around beautiful Aotearoa's coast lines.

I have chosen New Zealand as my country of residency for its incredible environmental/ecological potentials.

I believe New Zealand can be THE world leader on "resource-based economies".

It needs to stand-up again against the over-controlling Oligarchy in power-to-decline like it has done against Nuclear Power.

Petroleum-based economies are obsolete now and their results don't justify their costs and consequences any longer.

I do not wish to see any oil drilling around Aotearoa and I would appreciate from John Key a real numbers chart publicly exposed on costs vs gains , should he choose to go ahead and allow further oil drilling around his country's coasts. and beaches.

I hope that Kiwis and yet-to-be kiwis will stand strong against Anadarko's invasive projects.

Lydie Tournier



Anne Thomson, Thomas Chapman, Alisa Boock and 4 others like this.

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Anne Thomson There is no logical reason to continue risky oil and gas exploration - 80% of the fossil fuels already found needs to stay unturned if we are to avoid disastrous climate consequences. Oil companies need to redirect their efforts and their investment into other sustainable energy sources, for the sake of us all and our future.

16 hours ago



Thomas Chapman dont let the big oil companys ruin your part of world
17 hours ago

Adam McCutcheon

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2014 08:07 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer - feedback

I am a resident of NZ and live in Canterbury. An oil disaster off Otago shores will potentially affect the entire east coast of the South Island.

I think it is ludicrous to consider exploration for oil and gas off the Otago coast for the following reasons.

- We all know NZ weather – and therefore sea conditions – are some of the most extreme and changeable on the planet. So that immediately makes this high risk.
- The depth being considered is many times deeper than currently drilled in NZ. Apparently the rig is like a matchbox at the top of a 2 storey building - reaching down a hairline pipe to the ground below. It even sounds ridiculous. But adds to the risk.
- We are at the bottom and end of the world. It took weeks / months to shut down deep water horizon and they had all the kit there. We have nothing. It may take a year or more. By which time Otago will be a toilet hole. No more investment. No more tourists. No more fish. Nada. More risk.
- There will be a breach or spill. It is a fact. Especially in the discovery drilling phase. More risk.
- Sure you might generate some work and jobs. But other tourist ventures will close. The reputation of “Pure Otago NZ” will diminish and exports will suffer. The overall balance might be a net gain of zero jobs - or even a loss.
- We have one of the lowest royalty rates in the world. So nearly all the profit goes into offshore bank accounts – for a select few business people who will benefit. At the cost to our environment.
- Sure a few local business men, maybe even councillors, may get a new car or bach or boat out of it. But you can't take that to the after-life, so its only a short term gain, and a bit selfish putting oneself before the rate and tax payers.
- Risk is exponential. As an IT Project Manager, I wouldn't touch it with a barge pole. Not even for a bach.

However, the Government is obsessed with 20th Century fossil fuels so will probably ram road this through irregardless of local views. I suspect you have a few councillors with oil backgrounds slowly infiltrating too (if you are like Taranaki) to sway the council. If you haven't – watch out for that!

All the best

[REDACTED]

Adam McCutcheon

From: Hamish M. Muir <hamish.muir@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2014 08:16 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: BLOCK OFFER/ Oil Exploration off the Otago coast

Oil Exploration off the Otago coast

-WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR!?

Go For It!

dunedin could be the Aberdeen of the South

The potential benefits are h u g e and wide reaching

Environmental risks can and will be suitably managed

I support Oil Exploration off the Otago coast

(Please let me know if any other details are required to further support this?)

Thanks for the opportunity

Hamish M. Muir

/Sent from iPad

Adam McCutcheon

From: mathew Rusher <mrrusher@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2014 09:56 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Change

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Alternative Fuel source's thanks

Sent from Windows Mail

Adam McCutcheon

From: Christine Phippen <xtineph@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2014 09:42 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Sir/Madam

I writing writing in response to your request for feedback regarding the oil and gas exploration of the Otago Coast. Whilst I am currently living in Auckland I still feel very much a part of this area, as it is my family homeland from way back (my great grandfather broke in new land in 1893).

I am very concerned and non-supportive of the explorations of the Otago coast. An oil spill would have a devastating effect on one of the most precious and beautiful pieces of coastline in NZ. There are so many treasures in this area that would be directly at risk of damage from an oil spill. I understand that these drillings are at a much, much greater depth than the terrible accident that happened in Mexico and that the deeper the drilling the more risky due, to intense water pressures.

I also understand should or when an oil spill does happen we do not have any equipment apart from a few tiny boats to deal with the spill. And it would be weeks before support would come from overseas. Also while major spills happen less often, minor spills seem to be a more regular thing and these too have a very damaging effect on our seas and coastlines. We have already had a small taste of oil damage from the Rena example and I think there is a lot to feel from that incident. It cost New Zealanders financially, - in clean up, in loss of tourism, in loss of income - and it cost the environment and our homeland.

There is so much to lose, our precious and unique wildlife, our tourism income, our beautiful beaches, our fishing industry - all that to be put at risk for some overseas company that takes profit, while New Zealand takes the risk. It does not makes sense financially, it does not make sense ecologically, it does not make sense morally or humanly.

So I am against such exploration and I am very concerned that it is going ahead. I just pray that the oil companies don't find anything and that they go away and don't come back. Any influence that the local council could have in protecting this area would be fantastic and greatly appreciated.

Thank you so much for asking our opinions. I really appreciate the opportunity to be heard.

All the best
Christine Phippen

Adam McCutcheon

From: Amee P <ameekathryn@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2014 10:51 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

Dear DCC Corporate Policy Team Leader,

I wish to express my concerns regarding the 2015 Petroleum Block Offer.

I am a resident of Waitati, a post-grad student at Otago uni, a volunteer at the Orokonui Eco Sanctuary and a host to international travellers. Perhaps I associate only with a certain "type" of person, however, everyone I communicate with regarding oil exploration in New Zealand seems to share the same sentiment - PLEASE NO!

To continue to explore for fossil fuels in the face of local and international scientists and leaders heeding clear warnings against such activity is preposterous. It not only is foolish - but it makes NZ look foolish. Tourism is one of our greatest earners and we are risking this industry for the sake of another (soon to be redundant one). The travellers I meet feel that they are sold a lie regarding NZ - the "clean green, 100% pure" images just don't add up in the face of deep sea oil/gas drilling. These travellers are asking me - "why are there protest flags about Anadarko outside people's houses?" and I need to explain and the facade is broken.

There is a general global shift away from fossil fuels - the trend is obvious enough. This is a backwards step for this country to take. I only hope Dunedin can help take us forward somewhat with it's upcoming divestment (from fossil fuels etc.) - great job you guys!

Kia kaha!

Amee

Adam McCutcheon

From: Darren Holgate <sheep@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2014 11:31 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

What an exciting and wonderful opportunity Dunedin has having the offshore industry just off our coast.

Dunedin desperately needs a boost and the offshore industry can be that boost. Providing much needed jobs and revenue to the local community, we can be the Taranaki of the south.

New Zealand has had a fantastic environmental record for nearly 50 years when it comes to offshore exploration & drilling and there is very minimal risk to our coast.. Especially since it's natural gas they're expecting to find with no expectations of oil.

We need oil & gas in our everyday lives from transport to medicines, from clothes to kayaks and everything else in between, it's an integral part of who we are.

Natural Gas is globally regarded as the transition we need to move to a low carbon economy, why shouldn't we take full advantage of it? It's the gift that Dunedin needs and we should fully embrace it with open arms.

Darren Holgate

Adam McCutcheon

From: Daryl Adam <adam.daryl@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2014 11:38 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum Block Offer 2015

I wish to support oil exploration of the coast of Otago.

Dunedin is in need of an economic boost, this boost could come in the form of oil exploration.

In my view I see oil exploration off the Otago Coast being inevitable. At some time now or in the future oil exploration and drilling for production will commence in this area.

Yes, drilling for oil does put the environment at risk, however the level of risk is extremely low. the likelihood of an oil spill occurring and doing any notable or long term damage to the environment is far lower than than the likelihood of other causes environmental damage,for example bush fires and flooding.

If Dunedin supports this now it will receive the economic, commercial and industrial benefits of the exploration and drilling, and to learn and benefit through research and development.

Dunedin will also be in the perfect position to have some control over what happens when,

Regards

Daryl Adam

Adam McCutcheon

From: Jono <jonomagson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2014 01:18 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

As a studying Biologist and somebody who has grown up with the ocean and experiences it's raw beauty every day I am shocked that the New Zealand government even allows these boats in our waters. With the evolution of solar power and other natural means of clean energy there is absolutely no reason we should allow giant foreign corporations to rape our precious oceans and put an entire ecosystem at risk. These companies care nothing about our environment that we depend on, as long as their pockets keep getting fatter, the people who own these companies are evil humans with no morals, they are fraudsters, destroyers and murderers of our oceans. There is no infrastructure in the world let alone in a small country like New Zealand capable of cleaning up a large scale oil spill, a spill will be disastrous. Thousands of leading scientists around the world have stated our obsession with fossil fuels will be the end of us. It about time the fat cats up in parliament start listening to the facts instead of the bribes.

THERE IS NO PLACE FOR OIL DRILLING IN CLEAN GREEN NEW ZEALAND.

Adam McCutcheon

From: caroline davies <seedavies@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2014 03:01 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear DCC,

My view on exploration for oil and gas off the Otago coast is that it is utterly insane at this timing with what we, along with other concerned citizens and majority of scientists in the global community understand about climate change.

If these companies (the people who run them and their stockholders that is) were as intelligent as they are selfish and greedy, they would be taking their vast profits and investing in clean renewable energy sources (the real ones such as solar, wind, thermal, and wave energy). They would still be able to make vast amounts of profits for themselves and satiate their appetites for money and power, and also be doing themselves and the rest of the world, as well as future generations a favour. That would be called a win-win for all.

This beautiful area can say goodbye to tourism and associated industries, the local (and small sustainable fisheries), and pretty much the rest of the beautiful wildlife along the coast, an already fragile place. All extraction companies uglify and ruin environments and create health hazards to communities. Evidence of that is easy to find if you go look in other countries, including America.

Sincerely,
Caroline Davies
3 Kaka Rd
Dunedin

Adam McCutcheon

From: Sarah Davis <s.davis@ags.school.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 November 2014 11:58 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: DO not allow exploration for oil off our coastline!!!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Please, do all you can to legally block this madness.
It is unnecessary and an expensive mistake to allow this.
Kindest regards,



Sarah Davis
Head of Department - Art

Phone: +64 9 623 5400

Stay Connected. Follow Grammar



Adam McCutcheon

From: bsscolly@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2014 07:01 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Attention: Maria Ioannou

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Re: Petroleum Block Offer 2015 consultation.

Dears Ms. Ioannou, I wish to submit my opposition to the governments intention to allow Anadarko continued access to our coastline for further oil exploration.

Having followed the proposal closely over the last few years I am not satisfied that in the event of a disaster, the likes of which occur all too frequently, the time taken and methods deployed in arresting the flow of oil into the ocean would mean environmental catastrophe for our beautiful coastline.

It is argued that these events happen rarely and there is very little chance of such an occurrence. My view is that if there is any chance whatsoever of an oil spill of any kind, then the risk is simply to great. This is quite a simple example of the Americans' hunger for fossil fuels and John Keys' fervour for pleasing them, overriding all consideration for the fragile and already at risk coastal environment we, the people of Otago, all love and enjoy.

It is my opinion that we have no right as a species to put at risk the diverse flora and fauna of our oceans, whatever the gain.

I thank you for the opportunity to have my say, and extend kindest regards,

Bryan Searle,
Oamaru

Adam McCutcheon

From: David and Lynne <hogmouse@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Saturday, 22 November 2014 10:27 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I urge the Dunedin City Council to welcome and support the Government's 2015 Petroleum Block Offer. From a local perspective, Dunedin's economy is in the doldrums. It would be a crime against our working population to reject ventures that offer the real prospect of economic stimulus- and an even bigger crime against those in our population who would like meaningful employment and cannot get it. Similarly, it would be an act of stupidity to reject activity likely to help people into jobs and, thus, to pay rates at a time when the Stadium is becoming an ever increasing burden on the ratepayer. From a wider perspective, the world needs gas – the very commodity most likely to be found through exploration off our east coast – and the very commodity most immediately useful in lessening the world's dirtier use of coal. The idea that the world's climate can be steered, by human action now, towards a humanly-predicated condition by the end of the present century is a fantasy, tinged with human arrogance. Climates change because that is what climates do, and always have done, with or without human permission. The variables involved always will overreach the scope of human modelling and human control. This in no way negates the immediate desirability of lessening the use of coal. For coal miners, working conditions are sometimes appalling and the safety risks huge. For consumers, the resulting pollution is a health hazard. Gas offers an inestimably preferable alternative – and the risks of an environmental accident from gas exploration and extraction off our coasts are minuscule compared with the immediate and real dangers attendant on the use of coal. In the longer term, the answer to the world's energy needs is likely to be nuclear fusion. It is a reasonable guess that the technology to allow this will be in place by 2050. Gas is likely to be crucial to the world's well-being in the interim, through the coming thirty years. Therefore, again I urge the Council to welcome and support the Government's Block Offer.

David Keen

David and Lynne Keen
36 Driver Street
Long Beach
RD1 Port Chalmers
Otago 9081
New Zealand

0064 3 4822306
hogmouse@xtra.co.nz

Adam McCutcheon

From: Mark Cameron <mark@action.net.nz>
Sent: Monday, 24 November 2014 01:11 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum Block Offer 2015 consultation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Natural Gas Extraction

With the possibility of New Zealand moving to a multi-basin extraction model for Natural Gas, the Civic leaders of Otago should be excited at the potential the Caravel prospect could offer our region in terms of economic and social development.

With at least four exploration companies committed to further work in this area, there is every reason to offer united support for the prospect of Dunedin becoming a centre of excellence for the support of the offshore industry.

Recent deep water drilling work in New Zealand waters by the vessel Noble Bob Douglas should provide our citizens with reassurance that modern deep water drilling technology is very safe, and I have every confidence that comprehensive safety plans will reduce any threat of risk to our environment to the absolute minimum.

Dunedin is the closest major city to the Caravel prospect and has excellent port facilities, top class hospital and rescue helicopter services, a thriving hospitality industry, and is the proud home of a leading university.

The existing engineering industry is well resourced, and is acknowledged as being capable of supporting the immediate requirements of the offshore industry.

These factors are critical in the decision as to where a southern base may be located, along with strong signals of support from civic, community and business leaders.

I welcome the opportunities that the offshore natural gas industry may present to Dunedin, and I strongly urge the Dunedin City Council to show their support to the vision of Dunedin City as the leading candidate for a Southern Support Base for the offshore industry.

Mark Cameron

Port Chalmers

Adam McCutcheon

From: Lynda McEwen <lyndamcewen@hotmail.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, 24 November 2014 01:15 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

As a citizen of this country I strongly disagree with all oil exploration and oil drilling in and around New Zealand. New Zealand needs to remain clean and green. There are other options to burning fossil fuels. There is no future for generations to come if we continue down this road. Don't close your eyes and ears to all the pollution that already surrounds us all.

Regards Graeme McEwen.

Adam McCutcheon

From: Rose Mackinnon <rosemack100@gmail.com> on behalf of Rose Mackinnon <rosemack@xnet.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, 24 November 2014 06:53 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block offer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To whom it may concern.

Which in effect, applies to every living thing on and in the entire planet since the subject matter is regarding oil and gas exploration and drilling.

I am totally opposed to any permission/consent being given out for further oil or gas exploration.

The information available about how fossil fuels are impacting climate change is irrefutable.

The stockpiled fuels are already more than can be safely used without catastrophic and irreparable climate change effects.

The local marine life is experiencing problems already. Tourism and marine related activities are much more beneficial for Dunedin and its surrounds than fossil fuel related industries and in order to maximize those activities it is imperative no additional stress is put on the wildlife/ marine environment which oil exploration/drilling would do.

Many more job opportunities are available via environmental, sustainable endeavors than would ever eventuate from oil and gas.

I believe it is time to act with integrity and attend to the welfare of the majority rather than the elite few who may benefit from further oil and gas development.

Thank you for your invitation for public submissions. I applauded DCC for divesting from fossil fuel related funds and hope you can continue to show a progressive, sustainable approach in the work you do.

Warm regards

Rose Mackinnon



Nathan Parker There will be nothing for Dunedin - no cheap fuel, no extra jobs just a probability that our pristine coastline and already threatened wildlife will be destroyed by risky deep sea drilling and seismic surveying. Oil and gas needs to stay in the ground if we are to avert the tipping point of runaway climate change. Clean renewable energy is what our city and planet needs to be promoting!

November 21 at 5:00pm

Adam McCutcheon

From: Maureen Howard <mo4planet@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 30 November 2014 02:42 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum Block Offer 2015

Hi there

I have submitted previously on the issue of proposed deep sea oil drilling (including exploration activities) off Dunedin's coast. Thank you for the opportunity to do so again.

I OPPOSE all deep sea oil drilling for several reasons

1. climate change - there are already enough known reserves of oil and gas to take us well over the 2degree C limit that has been recommended. We do not need to search for more. We should be facilitating and supporting renewable generation and energy conservation instead. Refer to the latest IPCC's report no 5 for convincing evidence.
2. Seismic testing - the acoustic activity generated by testing for the possible presence of oil/gas is intrusive to the marine world and may have negative effects on our rare Hector's dolphin and other marine mammals. A precautionary approach would indicate we should immediately stop all exploratory activity.
3. I do not believe there will be economic benefits to our community that improve the livability of our community. Benefits of creating an oil industry off Dunedin are likely to be unequal to groups within the community thereby increasing the inequality of wealth that we see happening. Inequality of wealth across a community is associated with many social ills (refer to The Spirit Level). In addition the companies seeking oil/gas extraction are not NZ owned and therefore much of the wealth will go offshore. We are better to focus on industry that is wide and varied eg eco tourism, education, IT, high end industry and manufacturing, sustainable farming.

Although there are many reasons to oppose deep sea oil drilling, climate change remains the most important and far reaching one that affects humanity's survival. On its own it is enough.

Thank you for your time in considering this submission.

Maureen Howard
4 Blundell St
Liberton 9010

Adam McCutcheon

From: peter.m@compassnet.co.nz
Sent: Monday, 1 December 2014 03:21 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: block offer

Dear Colleagues,

I am profoundly grateful that the Council is preparing a response to the 2015 Petroleum Block Offer.

There are a multitude of arguments against such an offer being made.

I would briefly itemise the main ones:

1. There is the political issue. It is effectively a derogation of our political sovereignty to a foreign company. The area contemplated is unbelievably vast.
2. There is the environmental issue. The scientific consensus is that irremediable damage will be done to the environment if action is not taken to limit the use of oil and gas reserves currently known. It beggars imagination that oil companies are continuing to explore new areas on this sort of scale.
3. There are the well-known scientific problems about the danger to marine life posed by deep sea oil drilling.
4. Still more important, though generally ignored, are the moral and religious arguments. Briefly they focus on the greed and presumption involved in assessing and deciding on such issues from a short term economic perspective. It is a particularly dangerous form of blinkered fundamentalism. it sweeps aside our responsibility to future generations.

In my view, as a historian and a theologian, as well as a citizen the stakes could not be higher. This is a quite outrageous proposal.

When

we fail to respect the integrity of creation we cease to be human.

It is imperative, therefore, that we turn with all urgency to renewal sources of energy.

Time is running out on us. The magnitude of this Block Offer is staggering and points to a total failure to look in a sober and responsible way at how we are to move forward in the future.

Thank you again for soliciting our views and every good wish as you seek to influence the decision of the Government.

Yours sincerely,

(Rev Dr) Peter Matheson.

From: Marvin Hubbard <marvinh@orcon.net.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 3 December 2014 10:15 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum Block Offer 2015 Submission
Attachments: Petroleum Block 2015 Sub.doc

Importance: High

Petroleum Block Offer 2015 Submission

We believe that the environmental and ethical risks of ocean oil and gas exploration and drilling far out weigh the possible economic benefits to Dunedin and Otago. Simply having oil drilling off the coast of Otago would discourage the clean green tourist industry. It will put at risk the yellow eyed penguin and the Hooker's Sea Lion feeding grounds off the Otago Peninsula. We think that the petroleum industry is downplaying and underestimating the risks of a blow-out at such deep levels beneath the sea. If a major emergency happened in the graphically isolated great South Sea basin the nearest cleanup equipment would probably be Singapore and would take weeks to arrive. The Otago wildlife and tourists industry would never recover.

Hopes for short-term economic gain will put our intermediate and long-term economic future at risk. Remember Solid Energy !

Christiana Figueres, the UN Climate chief has called on investors to pull their money out of fossil fuel linked funds. Ms Figueres argues that investment decisions need to reflect science. Climate change, if left unchecked, could devastate the lives, livelihoods and savings of billions of people into the future.

The Council has recently made wise and courageous statements on ethical investment. The DCC, in order to live up to those statements and to protect the environment of Dunedin and Otago needs to strongly recommend opposition to the Petroleum Block Offer 2015 !

We live in Dunedin and own our own property and would be quite willing to pay higher rates, if that is the cost of having an ethical investment policy that disinvests in carbon creating products, such as oil and coal.

Marvin and Terisha Hubbard,

248 Hillingdon Street,

Normanby,

Dunedin, 9010.

Adam McCutcheon

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 3 December 2014 11:26 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum block offer

Hello Maria

I'm writing to inform you that I strongly oppose the exploration for oil off the Otago coast. We already have enough oil reserves to fry our planet beyond recognition; the desperate and search for more is unscrupulous and economically backward.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

Adam McCutcheon

From: Jocelyn Harris <jocelyn.harris@otago.ac.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 4 December 2014 09:55 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: block offer

To whom it may concern.

I strongly oppose deep sea drilling off the Otago coast for these reasons:

1. It will adversely affect the marine environment.
2. Because of the obvious dangers of global warming caused by CO2 emissions, we should leave fossil fuels where they are. Instead, we need to encourage investment in renewables.

Yours sincerely,

Jocelyn Harris.

Professor emerita Jocelyn Harris
28 City Rd.
Dunedin, New Zealand, 9010.
+6434777187
+64212357089

English Department,
University of Otago,
Box 56,
Dunedin, New Zealand.

jocelyn.harris@otago.ac.nz
website: <http://www.jocelynharris.co.nz/>

Adam McCutcheon

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 4 December 2014 10:08 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

To whom it may concern

Submission to DCC in opposition of oil and gas exploration off the Otago Coast

I am a resident of Waitati, Blueskin Bay. One of the main reasons I choose to live here is to enjoy the natural beauty of this place – the land, the sea, the wildlife and the fruits of the ocean.

Any harm, damage or destruction to this environment would greatly impact on my happiness, harmony & quality of life. No amount of money could compensate me and future generations for the loss of such riches.

If such a proposal was to proceed I would like to see put in place before drilling commenced Risk and Harm Reduction measures that could be put into immediate action (within 24hours) to reduce and contain a spill. These measures will be maintained throughout the process of drilling. I would like to see all coastal communities of the region equipped with the necessary equipment to protect their areas and any costs incurred in the process of preventing, protecting or cleaning up after an event to be fully covered (all volunteer man hours to be paid at the NZ minimum wage) along with compensation for any losses incurred by all affected. The cost of bringing the environment back to its natural state before the spill occurred should also be accounted for.

As far as I am concerned the risks in this case far outweigh the benefits and therefore drilling should not proceed.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Viv Kerr <vmkerrdentist@actrix.co.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 4 December 2014 12:46 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

04/12/2014 Submission from Vivienne Kerr to DCC in response to the request for community input on the Council's submission on the 2015 petroleum block offer.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In making a submission on the petroleum block offer, the Council should state that petroleum products are fossil fuels, of which the world's oil companies already have enough in proven reserves, to cause several degrees of global temperature rise. With the IPCC currently saying with 95% confidence that humans are the main cause of global warming, it is reckless to add to the problem by opening up more areas for oil and gas exploitation.

I note that in response to the DCC's submission to the 2013 Petroleum Block offer, the General Manager of New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals^[i], David Binnie responded to comments about the costs of climate change with the following comment "*the Government's principal policy response to climate change is the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). The intention of the ETS is to encourage development opportunities while managing the associated emissions.*" This response does not adequately deal the issue of CO2 emissions from oil, or gas, that would result from oil and gas extraction in the petroleum blocks currently under offer. The Emissions Trading Scheme in its current form is not an effective method for dealing with carbon emissions resulting from off-shore drilling. New Zealand's CO2 emissions are continuing to rise under the present ETS.

Off-shore oil and gas drilling is risky and can cause catastrophic damage to the ocean and coastline, if problems, such as blow outs or spills, occur. If drilling is successful, and there are no leaks, then damage to seas around New Zealand is guaranteed because burning that oil and gas will release millions of tonnes of CO2, some of which will dissolve into the ocean and cause ocean acidification. An acidic shift in the pH of the oceans affects the ability of marine organisms with shells to survive and will have a massive effect on the marine food web.

To suggest that a few hundred jobs here in Dunedin justifies changing the world's climate or damaging the oceans is unjust and selfish. Taxpayer and ratepayer funds should not be spent on new fossil fuel ventures. Dunedin is well placed to survive as a 21st century city running on renewable energy.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Vivienne Kerr
RD 1 Waikouaiti
Otago 9471

^[i] http://dcc.squiz.co.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/347669/NZP-and-M-response-on-DCC-submission-2013.pdf

Adam McCutcheon

From: Chris Ford <cj.ford@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 4 December 2014 02:13 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

To Whom It May Concern,

This is a personal submission.

I wish to say that I am resolutely opposed to the Block Offer being made to petroleum companies.

The DCC should oppose this on the following grounds:

- 1.) Environmental impact of oil and gas on climate change.
- 2.) Possible environmental consequences of an oil spill or explosion – although only a relatively small threat exists of this, the consequences of any drilling accident can be economically and ecologically damaging as attested by the Gulf of Mexico disaster in 2010 and reports of many other explosions around the world.
- 3.) Oil is a very volatile commodity economically in that its price can wildly fluctuate. At the moment, oil is going down in price but that price will rise as we approach peak oil. However, why should oil companies profit at the time of peak oil from endless global drilling and fracking exercises? Ultimately, the excess profits of oil companies made at the time of peak oil will harm the environment more than anything else.

It's time to start leaving the oil we have left in the ground. It's time to promote cleaner, greener, smarter alternative energy solutions in terms of electric cars, better transport system and urban design, etc.

That's why the DCC should tell MBIE a big no to granting any further offshore concessions off the Otago coast.

Kind Regards,
Chris Ford
Kaikorai Valley

Chris Ford
Kaituitui – Disabled Persons Assembly (DPA) Dunedin
Owner – Fordwrite
84A Kaikorai Valley Road
Glenross
Dunedin 9011
New Zealand
Landline: +64 3 476 7579
Mobile: +64 027 696 0872
Skype: chris.ford600



BRCT submission on 2015 Petroleum Block Offer

4 December 2014

Maria Iannou

Dunedin City Council, PO Box 5045, Moray Place, Dunedin 9058, Attention: Petroleum Block Offer 2014

Submitters' Names: Blueskin Resilient Communities Trust (attention: Scott Willis)

Address: 31 Hill Street, RD2 Waitati, 9085 Dunedin District

Phone (day): 03 4822048

Phone (evening): 03 4822249

Email: office@brct.org.nz

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Executive Summary

BRCT appreciates the opportunity to submit on the **2015 Petroleum Block Offer** and the opportunity provided by council for a community perspective to be included in its submission. BRCT is a registered charitable trust formed in 2008 to support local sustainability and transition initiatives in a planned and structured way. Our current core activity is supporting the development of a resilient energy system in Blueskin Bay and we provide services for people and community groups in our area and in Dunedin. Jeanette Fitzsimons is our patron.

We understand that Climate Change is presenting as a huge responsibility and burden for local government. We have already contributed our perspective on the 2014 Petroleum Block Offer and we stand by that appraisal of the issues.

In addition, we recognise that local government around New Zealand is currently bearing the brunt of managing Climate Change and we are deeply concerned both at the issue of equity and the apparent lack of national strategy.

Since the 2014 Petroleum Block Offer consultation, the world has moved. The 5th IPCC Report has been released, itemizing with the most succinct detail yet, the current state of knowledge on Climate Change. The UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon has urged leaders to take meaningful action on Climate Change. China and the US, both the world's largest carbon emitters, have taken action. New Zealand now appears to be a laggard, back-tracking on earlier commitments and looking to miss earlier unconditional emissions targets by an astonishingly large margin. It is in this context that opinion on the exploration of oil and gas off the Otago Coast is sought.

Meanwhile, in the Blueskin settlements, many residents are understandably concerned about Climate Change, sea-level rise, flooding, and new hazard mapping and risk management plans. We now know that stable coast lines are a thing of the past, and that we must adapt to a more dynamic environment and landscape, but we don't yet know the extent of adaptation required, or the full extent of sea-level rise. We only know that if we continue to emit carbon from fossil fuels, the future will be very bleak.

We require local and national government strategy and action to rapidly reduce (not increase) carbon emissions, and point us towards a low carbon pathway. We are doing our best at a community level (and with some success) to promote low carbon development, but we cannot do it all alone.

The monumental risks we face need to be shared by all, and decisions need to be made in such a way as to safeguard our environment and society for future generations.

There is still a chance to make sure "Dunedin is one of the world's great small cities", but we risk losing that opportunity if we do not turn our focus fully towards low carbon development. We request you consider Climate Change, Economic Cost, Social Wellbeing, as well as all the other issues we raised in our submission on the 2014 Petroleum Block Offer, in your response to New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals, within the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE).

We conclude our submission with FIVE recommendations (FOUR of which come from our previous submission) that we hope Council will take on board as it makes it's submission to MBIE on the **2015 Petroleum Block Offer**.

1. New Zealand's commitment to tackling Climate Change

The US and China agreed a long term policy to reduce carbon emissions in international climate negotiations, just prior to the G20 meeting in Australia in November 2014. The Chinese agreement to cap its emissions in 2030 is the first time the country, which has low per capita emissions, has committed to anything more to lowering the carbon intensity of its emissions, and the US is aiming to cut emissions by 26-28% on 2005 levels by 2025, which is up from its current target of 17% by 2020.

This commitment from the world's two biggest carbon emitters now requires action from all other countries. *"Emissions in New Zealand have increased since 1990 and continue to rise. New Zealand has gazetted an emissions reduction target of 50% below 1990 levels by 2050. However, we are off track in transitioning to a low carbon future, and there is increasing international pressure to reduce emissions"*¹. This quote comes from the government's own 'Natural Resources Sector 2014 Briefing to the Incoming Ministers'. New Zealand is already way off track to delivering a low carbon future, and the enabling of petroleum companies to bid for exploration rights to New Zealand's oil and gas resources is further sign of the inconsistency between words and actions.

The fifth IPCC report clearly sets out the existential risks to our society and civilisation of continuing down a carbon intensive pathway. Enabling Petroleum companies to explore for new desposits of fossil fuels, when the IPCC has warned of the danger of even using the already discovered fossil fuels, is grossly irresponsible. Under current policy settings, New Zealand's emissions are set to rise rapidly – probably increasing more than 50% above 1990 levels. Already we know that we will experience at least a 30cm sea-level rise by 2050². Can we continue to ignore the solid evidence of the results of our carbon intensive actions and fossil fuel support packages?

New Zealand cannot afford to be considered a rogue member of the international community. A carbon intensive pathway has negative implications for our 'brand', for our economy, for our cities and communities. A responsible action for Government to take would be to create a fossil fuel reserve in all territorial waters, which explicitly bans exploration and exploitation of fossil fuels within it, with an exception for existing production fields only.

2. Economic Cost

BRCT is a member of the Otago Chamber of Commerce. We are active proponents of 'Green Growth' within the Chamber and in our community where we have catalysed jobs in the low carbon economy. Transition to a low carbon economy is an exciting

¹ <http://nrs.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/nrs-bim-final.pdf>, pp.9

² <http://www.pce.parliament.nz/assets/Uploads/Changing-Climate-and-Rising-Seas-Web.pdf>

challenge, and one we engage in with enthusiasm. However our work is made much more difficult when economic and government resource is directed, not at low carbon development, but at carbon intensive development. The resources of government (in particular, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment) could be spent productively developing a low carbon pathway, however at present they appear to be a heavy cost to the taxpayer. Firstly, attention is directed at useless activity (exploration for fossil fuels that cannot in all conscience be burnt). Secondly, resources that could be made available to promote low carbon development are instead aimed at carbon intensive development. Thirdly, business and community participation is wasted in participating in discussion about and contributions to redundant activity – the exploration for what will soon be stranded assets. Fourthly, if resources continue to be spent on enabling petroleum companies to explore our territorial waters for fossil fuels, our brand will suffer further. It goes without saying, that any resource spent enabling or promoting the use of fossil fuels is resource NOT spent in productive activity to build up low carbon activity.

There is another cost that is worth highlighting here. Our community is already facing the challenge of a managed retreat from low-lying, flood prone land that is also very susceptible to any change in sea-levels. As a community, we have no resource to manage this at present, even at the small scale we face now. In 35 years, the problem will be even more severe, and it will be a case of serious mismanagement by our government, and failure of public duty if, instead of caring for its citizens, the government actively contributes to increasing public deprivation through increasing carbon emissions leading to more extreme climate change effects.

The enabling of oil and gas exploration presents an enormous, long-term and irreversible economic cost to New Zealand, rather than any benefit.

3. Social Wellbeing

Proponents of enabling oil and gas exploration often talk of potential jobs. Proponents of low carbon economic development are able to refer to real jobs, clean technology, and positive environmental outcomes, leading to greater social wellbeing.

The 5th IPCC Report is explicit that our social wellbeing will be seriously reduced as climate change impacts become more pronounced. The exploration for oil and gas off the Otago Coast is for the express purpose of exploiting fossil fuels, and intensifying carbon emissions.

For this reason (decrease in social wellbeing due to increase in carbon emissions), we cannot support enabling the exploration for oil and gas off the Otago coast.

4. Other Issues

Our 2013 submission on the 2014 Petroleum Block Offer additionally talks of:

- The Importance of Engaging the Community
- Economic Potential
- Social Wellbeing
- Green Growth
- Risk and Disaster Management and our outstanding natural environment.

We stand by and refer you to this earlier submission as well.

6. Recommendations

We make the following FIVE recommendations:

1. Council requests a policy change, from enabling exploration for oil and gas off the Otago Coast to banning exploration for oil and gas off the Otago Coast and establishment of a fossil fuel reserve, where fossil fuel reserves are assumed to exist (even without evidence) and are therefore protected as preserved, unburnable carbon assets.
2. Council requests a thorough NZ Risk Assessment³ to take into account the links between climate change, fossil fuel exploitation and use, the economy and our life support systems, before enabling exploration for oil and gas off the Otago Coast.
3. Council suggests to NZP&M that it is inappropriate to seek to attract companies to prospect for, explore and mine petroleum without first undertaking a full, comprehensive public process of community engagement in this area of significant community interest with a timetable that provides for increased democratic input.
4. Council proposes additional conditions to be attached to any offer, namely “Permit holders are required to report on their community engagement activity”; and “Permit holders are required to hold comprehensive insurance providing extensive cover against worst case scenarios⁴”
5. Council recommends that if any invitation of bids for petroleum exploration permits in the New Zealand Petroleum Exploration Permit Round 2015 (**Block Offer 2015**) are made, then a Carbon Tax⁵ is applied to all prospecting, exploration and mining activity.

³ See the ‘Wise Response’ appeal for example: wiseresponse.org.nz/ Accessed 23/10/2013 at 5.07pm.

⁴ See, for example and for lack of any other comprehensive risk assessment, the NZ Oil Spill Report (<http://www.greenpeace.org/new-zealand/en/reports/New-Zealand-Oil-Spill-Report/> Accessed at 2.40pm, on the 23/10/2013.)

⁵ For further information and detail on the Carbon Tax proposal and existing legislation, see A). <http://www.carbontax.org/who-supports/scientists-and-economists/> Accessed 24/10/13 at 10.26am; and B). <http://www.worldwatch.org/node/5962> Accessed 24/10/13 at 10.30am. We agree with Council that revenue from fossil fuel prospecting, exploration and mining should support efforts to adapt to, and



Doctors Point cut off by flood-waters in 2006

mitigate climate change and can be accessed by local authorities and their partners, and whose communities face challenging impacts (i.e. Dunedin and its climate change 'hot-spots' of South Dunedin, Waitati, Long Beach, etc.).

Adam McCutcheon

From: Patricia Scott <patscott_2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, 4 December 2014 09:45 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Community feedback on Petroleum Block Offer 2015

Patricia Scott
55 Riccarton Road East
Mosgiel 9024

Who I am.

1. I have lived in Dunedin/Mosgiel since 1958 and my identity is strongly bound up with this beautiful city and its environs.
2. I have 10 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren so I care passionately about their future.
3. I have a B.Sc in Biology and a B.Theol. I taught Biology at The Taieri High School for many years with a break for further study. I have a clear understanding of the nature of ecosystems and human dependence on natural systems.
4. **I am very concerned at the proposal to explore for oil and gas in deep water off the East Coast of the South Island and strongly oppose it.**

Climate Change- the biggest threat facing human kind

5. My first concern is that climate scientists are agreed that the climate is warming and that greenhouse gas emissions from human activity is the major cause.
6. Before discussing whether Dunedin will benefit from this industry we have to be clear we have a moral authority to reduce our carbon emissions. The scientists are agreed that if the climate warms more than 2 degrees Celsius the effects on the planet would be devastating in terms of sea level rise, extreme weather events - floods, droughts, forest fires, famine, acidification of oceans, disappearance of Pacific Islands, extinction of species, and much more. A more than 2 degree rise will probably create a tipping point with rapid release of methane from frozen hydrates. To keep the temperature increase to less than 2 degrees requires the international community to agree to stop burning fossil fuels, including a considerable fraction of reserves so it makes no sense to explore for more oil and gas. This industry is no longer seen as a good investment. Large organisations like the Rockefeller family, the European Utility E.ON, and major Churches are joining the movement to divest from the fossil fuel industry.
7. As a result of the carbon already emitted we will experience the effects of climate change anyway and central government has decided that local government will bear the cost of adaptation and mitigation. We cannot consider future exploration for oil and gas without failing to address the likely consequences of climate change and the costs which ratepayers will have to bear. These cost have not been included in the cost/benefit analysis for this proposal.

The Local Economy

8. Dunedin has a rich wildlife especially along its coasts and eco-tourism is an important part of the local economy with a considerable number of jobs. Eco-tourism does not fit well with a fossil fuel industry. If we do not want a fossil fuel industry there is no point in carrying out an exploration programme.
9. The economic benefits to our local economy are not obvious. It seems that gas is the most likely find. The gas industry has plans to have giant factory ships which will store the gas and pump it on to transport ships out in the ocean. The crew will mostly come ashore for rest and recreation only, providing relatively low-skilled jobs.
10. Local people are not likely to have the technical skills needed for this industry, it is more likely the qualified workers will come from overseas.

Environmental risks

11. The area of the ocean where the gas is likely to be found and extracted is in very deep water subject to extreme weather, huge swells and winds. The oil and gas industry does not have a lot of experience in this kind of water. This increases the risk of blow outs and oil spills.

12. The company is not required to have a back up ship nearby and in the event of an emergency where oil spills into the ocean it could take 2 or more weeks for a back up ship to arrive. This could mean millions of litres of oil escape into the ocean.

13. The contamination of Dunedin's coastline by oil as a result of a blow out, would be disastrous for the wildlife and those whose jobs depend on eco-tourism. Penguins and other marine species could suffer starvation from the damage to the marine food chain.

14. The development of a substantial oil/gas industry off the coasts of New Zealand could damage our clean/green image which attracts international tourists, and reduce the income of many who depend on that image for their livelihood.

Patricia Scott

Adam McCutcheon

From: Nancy Earth <urearth7nz@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 4 December 2014 10:23 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Re: Block Offer

Dear Dunedin City Council,

Concerning the 2015 Block Offer, **I absolutely do not approve of it in any area including my home area, Dunedin.** It is utter madness to put New Zealand's natural resources on offer when it only hastens the destruction of those areas and thus our one and only planet. The gas and oil industry promotes global warming and climate change. These activities are totally unnecessary and should be stopped immediately. We have abundant sources of natural renewable energy and making money from these block offers for any year is highly unethical. It should cease immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Nancy Earth

PETROLEUM BLOCK OFFER

I am currently away from Dunedin on business but feel strongly about the oil and gas exploration issue so am making a brief comment on the Block Offer. I wish to draw the DCC's attention to my personal submission to the DCC earlier this year on the 2014/5 Draft Annual Plan, in which I referred to the issues of oil exploration and the urgency for Council to take a moral position on fossil fuel extraction, recognising the forecasts of the effects of climate change on coastal cities like Dunedin. The relevant points from that submission are repeated here as the basis for a message to Government from our Council:

Climate change – sea level rises predicted. IPCC reports

This is now clearly like having a gun held to our kids' and grandkids' heads ... it's no longer roulette with a chance of all being well as some would argue ... the magazine is full – the predictions are about probability now And it doesn't look good for low-lying coastal cities like ours. Some predictions give humans a reasonable chance of survival on a planet that's several degrees hotter, but only for two billion people at most! (we're headed for 8 billion now) And it's unclear where populations would survive – if here, there's no room for complacency as we would be a favoured destination Every one of our councillors has a duty now to read and digest the real science and the action recommendations of the IPCC. This government says it's up to you and regional government, not them (Climate Change Minister, T Groser, March 2014).

The latest report of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change provides guidance and direction on mitigation measures. The Guardian makes the following observations in a 12/4/2014 article "IPCC report: world must urgently switch to clean sources of energy"
<http://gu.com/p/3zc9b/tw>

Clean energy will have to at least treble in output and dominate world energy supplies by 2050 in order to avoid catastrophic climate change.

The report produced by hundreds of experts and backed by almost 200 world governments, details the dramatic transformation required of the entire globe's power system, including ending centuries of coal, oil and gas supremacy.

Currently fossil fuels provide more than 80% of all energy but the urgent need to cut planet-warming carbon emissions means this must fall to as little as a third of present levels in coming decades...

There is heavy emphasis on renewable energy, such as wind and solar power, and cutting energy waste, which together need hundreds of billions of dollars of investment a year.

But despite the scale of the challenge, the draft report is upbeat: "Since [2007], many renewable energy technologies have substantially advanced in terms of performance and cost and a growing number have achieved technical and economic maturity, making renewable energy a fast growing category in energy supply," the report says.

It also highlights that the benefits of clean energy, particularly in reducing deadly air pollution and providing secure energy supplies, "outweigh the adverse side effects". The IPCC report is the last part of a trilogy compiled by thousands of the world's most eminent scientists which gives the most definitive account of climate change to date.

The actions urged by the UN's IPCC mean that the sensible market choice now for any investor and entrepreneur is in the clean energy sector. Anyone wanting to base the future

of our community on the remote chance that fossil fuel extraction (from as yet unproven deep sea sites) will be feasible or acceptable in the medium term, is offering Dunedin a stark future. That future would be constrained by the cost of lost opportunities and the high cost of risk management and amelioration of possible social and environmental damage. This city has opportunities to benefit from the technologies and employment associated with a more hopeful future, but only if our city leaders make the important decisions now.

The predictions are now even more serious than earlier in the year, and closer to home. The report of the Commissioner for the Environment released last week (*Changing climate and rising seas: Understanding the science*) states that sea levels have risen by about 20 centimetres over the last hundred years and warns that a rise of a further 30 centimetres or so by 2050 is now inevitable. This assumes adequate and effective action by governments now to mitigate the effects of climate change, otherwise NZ faces sea level rises of around 1 metre in that time. Dunedin cannot be complacent and must protest in the strongest possible terms this government's obsession with oil and gas exploration off our shores. Opening up an area of ocean floor for exploration that is twice the size of New Zealand's land area is sheer stupidity and potentially locks the country and our regions into arrangements with the fossil fuels lobby that are untenable now and catastrophic for the future.

There are sensible alternatives, as I presented in my Annual Plan submission:

Support for renewable energy projects

I urge the DCC to plan for renewable clean energy production in this city, providing real jobs, actual incomes and wellbeing for the people of Otago and elsewhere in NZ. We need sustainable plans that help address rather than exacerbate the climate change threats – which include potential massive losses of low-lying city areas and coastal erosion from storm events that will disrupt our roading and homes in many areas - forever.

These are matters this council MUST consider ... now. They are very real (albeit seemingly distant) threats that can only be mitigated by widespread actions starting NOW ... not later. Expecting others to take the initiative is cowardly and unethical; Dunedin stands to lose heavily and must therefore be part of the solution. Pandering to the greed and self-interest of those who would sacrifice our prized assets (eg our beaches, wildlife, tourist attractions) for a few more barrels of oil or some tanker-loads of gas is no longer acceptable.

Encouragement of offshore oil/gas exploration is now clearly an amoral choice, and talk of gas being a "transitional" fuel is industry "spin" that simply helps delay acknowledgement of the urgency for us to make the transition to clean renewable energy.

Thank you to the Dunedin City Council for taking a stand on this issue in the past. I would encourage and support even stronger critical comment of the Government plans on this occasion as time is fast running out to stop this stupidity for the sake on the city, the country and humanity.

Brian Dixon
December 2014

Appendix: [Otago is not comparable to Taranaki](#)

Brian Dixon 07/10/2013

The Dunedin "myth-making machine" is hard at work claiming that through oil/gas exploration, Dunedin can emulate the good fortune of New Plymouth. However, the conditions have changed dramatically since the 80's and 90's when Taranaki received huge windfalls from the projects that were based there.

At the time that the Taranaki fields were being developed, royalties were set considerably higher than they are now (they were reduced to attract the unwilling oil companies to NZ's difficult prospects). Royalties (by definition) go to the Government, not the region, but the governments of those years were generous in their spending where the energy projects were based - to attract and retain people. We do not enjoy such largesse from governments these days as they have quite different social priorities (like the promise of billions of dollars of expenditure where their vote is concentrated).

The wealth of Taranaki and New Plymouth is predicated on the substantial ongoing community development and community amenity levies imposed on those projects, whereby developers of the petrochemical industries were obliged to pay into trusts and to contribute to the community infrastructure of the region. With current proposals here, there is no expectation of the kind of economically dubious "Think Big" downstream projects we saw created around the Taranaki fields. But nor are there any remaining requirements for community development and amenity funds to be established. Those were abolished as "unfair imposts on development".

Furthermore, the current government's attitude towards the Resource Management Act makes it highly unlikely that communities will have any say on the social and environmental impacts of drilling or production programmes, let alone any claims on the profits generated.

Comparing Otago to Taranaki is therefore extremely misleading. We would be naive to expect those returns here and the engineering and environmental risks are exponentially greater than anything in the Taranaki fields. We have too much at stake to invite BigOil into our environment and neighbourhood. Far better to put our faith in the new energy technologies that will be here long after the oil industry goes under.

It seems the oil industry and the Minister are gleefully spreading myths about gas exploration being "safe" compared with oil. They claim the concerns about deepwater exploration risks based on catastrophic events such as those in the Gulf of Mexico are irrelevant.

Unfortunately, it is not so convenient as the "spin doctors" would have it. Firstly, the permits granted are for "oil and gas" exploration and the deep southern fields are believed to contain both. Even gas production alone is accompanied by oil condensates in varying quantities (10% or more) which for the size of the southern fields is very substantial. Exploration for oil/gas is not a "clean" tech business; drilling fluids and contaminants are commonly discharged from rigs and from service vessels with no regard to their environmental effects. Gas comprises high levels of methane which is prone to significant leakage and, as a fuel, produces more damaging greenhouse effects than carbon alone.

Whether the intended product is oil or gas, the global impact is more carbon in the atmosphere, which we know must be curbed dramatically if we are to avoid a "tipping point" for uncontrolled planetary decline due to climate change. Recognising that we have accessible reserves already that are five-fold what the earth can tolerate being burned before the limit is reached, we have a moral obligation to oppose further expansion of those reserves.

And, despite what the industry, the Minister claims, gas exploration is *not safe*. [The statement referenced below is from a worker](#) on the Elgin gas production platform on the North Sea where gas "blow-outs", allowed by the company resulted in near-catastrophe, placing hundreds of lives at risk as well as a number of other operations.

<http://libcom.org/news/gas-blowout-total%E2%80%99s-elgin-field-letter-north-sea-oil-worker-reclaim-power-15082013>

Adam McCutcheon

From: Leonie Rousselot <swiwi@xnet.co.nz>
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2014 08:27 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

Thank you for the opportunity to give feedback on such an important issue for NZ.

We are absolutely against any exploratory drilling or any form of exploration for oil and gas in our waters.

The seismic mapping with sonar equipment disturbs and disorients the underwater inhabitants, effectively blinding the sea mammals which migrate along this stretch of ocean and our native dolphins. This can seriously harm their ability to find food and communicate with each other and lead to permanent damage.

Also, the drilling at these depths are far too risky and should an accident happen, NZ is not capable to deal with it. It would destroy everything we hold dear and that is important for NZ.

People come here for NZ's natural beauty, amazing wildlife and unspoilt beaches (and friendly people) and we would lose all that!

We need to divest from fossil fuel technology, be more focussed on pushing sustainable energy solutions and use our innovative approach and creative thinking to aim for a better future.

With kind regards

Leonie Rousselot & Hank Rebmann
2 Thornicroft Rd
Waitati

03 4822 508

Adam McCutcheon

From: OilFree Otago <oilfreeotago@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2014 11:39 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: BLOCK OFFER 2015

Submission on Petroleum Block Offer 2015 consultation

To the Dunedin City Council

policy@dcc.govt.nz

5 December 2014

From: OIL FREE OTAGO

Email contact details: oilfreeotago@gmail.com

Kia ora

Oil Free Otago are pleased to accept the mana whenua's important role as Kaitiaki of the coast and ocean on behalf of us all. However, we do not accept that the government's so-called commitment to consult with iwi and hapu about Block Offer 2015 and previous Block Offers is genuine consultation. Neither do we accept the reality that other residents will not be consulted. Even local authorities are not being consulted, but only "*notified to ensure an informed and robust process*". This is unacceptable.

The risks to Dunedin (and in the wider context to all New Zealanders and to the world) of deep sea drilling off the Otago coast and anywhere in our exclusive economic zone are so serious that ***we recommend that all deep sea exploration and drilling in NZ should cease***. The two major risks are local, to the **environment and the economy** and global, to **climate change**.

Climate Change

New Zealand, along with many other countries, has agreed to limit global warming to two degrees, yet its policies contradict this agreement. In order to meet its obligation to the world community and to future generations, 80% of already discovered burnable carbon (oil, gas and coal) must stay in the ground. To stay below the two degree limit there must be no more drilling for polar or deep sea (marginal) oil and gas, all coal must be phased out by 2030, and the remaining conventional oil and gas must be used to urgently build up the infrastructure needed for a low carbon future. (ref: Professor Bob Lloyd, University of Otago, September 2013) It is therefore irresponsible at this time to drill for more, marginal, deep sea oil or gas in dangerous frontier regions such as our southern ocean.

DCC's submission to last year's 2014 Petroleum Block Offer recognized the cost to communities of adaptation and mitigation of effects of climate change, and recognised oil and gas's contribution to climate

change but did not appear to join the dots. Governments and local authorities have a duty of care to their citizens. To endorse deep sea drilling off our coast is to disregard this duty. We are running out of time.

Environment and economy

1. A major gas blowout or oil spill has the potential to ruin Dunedin's environment and economy, due to its effect on:

- Our Otago coast's clean **unspoilt beauty**, its **unique wildlife** and the special lifestyle it affords (surfing, diving, boating etc) – and on the importance of NZ's 100% pure clean green brand.
- Dunedin's **ecotourism** which brings around \$100 million annually into our local **economy**. Wildlife that would be affected includes:
 - yellow eyed penguins
 - Northern royal albatross (more albatross species breed in our exclusive economic zone than anywhere else in the world)
 - world's rarest sea lion, the NZ sea lion
 - 38 of the world's 80 whale and dolphin species breed here. Whales are returning to the Otago coast after many years' absence.
- The **fishing industry** - commercial, recreational and customary. Fishing is New Zealand's fifth largest industry, generating \$1.2 – 1.5 billion per year. The fishing industry in the Gulf of Mexico may take 50 years to recover from the Deepwater Horizon disaster – if ever. (John Wathen <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yduv3APYawA>)

2. Rather than being an economic boon as many suggest or believe, the industry is an economic and social burden.

- The oil and gas industry has already cost taxpayers \$46 million this year. (http://awsassets.wwfnz.panda.org/downloads/wwf_fossil_fuel_finance_nz_subsidies_report.pdf)
- We **could not afford a disaster**. The Deepwater Horizon disaster cost Americans \$42.2 billion. (wikipedia)
- **Jobs will not be for local people** – they will be specialist positions for foreign or out of town experts (<http://www.med.govt.nz/sectors-industries/natural-resources/pdf-docs-library/oil-and-gas/economic-contribution-of-oil-and-gas-industry/BERL%20report.pdf>)
- **Infrastructure costs**, for example improving Dunedin airport for larger industry traffic, would likely fall upon the ratepayer and taxpayer with no regional royalties from the industry.
- Concern of the **social impact** of a large extractive industry offshore – what effects will fly-in fly-out workers have on our safe Dunedin social fabric?
- It is economically naive to invest money and energy in exploring for and producing a product that must not be used due to climate change (see below). For our local community to depend on oil or gas for its wellbeing makes no economic or social sense whatsoever (eg: Environmental Debt, Amy Larkin, 2013 p150)
- Anadarko were a 25% co-owner of the Deepwater Horizon disaster and received daily reports of events leading up to that disaster. They were not a passive investor as asserted by NZ's Anadarko CEO on Campbell Live 8 October 2013. This assertion and other incidents, such as a US class actions against them, the Anadarko NZ companies being registered in the Cayman Islands (why, if not to avoid paying income tax?), their lack of transparency whilst visiting Dunedin and their use of military counterinsurgency tactics against US citizen industry activists (<http://dfw.cbslocal.com/2011/11/11/gas-companies-caught-using-military-strategies-to-overcome-drilling-concerns/>) do not paint Anadarko as a trustworthy corporate citizen yet we are being asked to trust them with our ocean and livelihoods. Is this the type of company we should invite to Dunedin?

3 The risky nature of deep sea drilling in the New Zealand context

- The **treacherous southern ocean** environment – weather extremes, ocean currents from the Antarctic, huge swells as high as six story buildings. (<http://www.greenpeace.org/new-zealand/en/reports/Out-Of-Our-Depth-Deep-sea-oil-exploration-in-New-Zealand/>)
- The **distance from help**. Relief rigs, if available at all, could be months away and capping devices, the closest of which may be in Singapore, would take at least two weeks to get here. (evidence presented by Shell at August 2013 consultation meeting)
- The **inadequacy of our Maritime NZ** response unit – three “tinnies” with no subsea response capacity.
- The government’s use of **Corexit**. The government has not ruled out using Corexit in the event of a disaster. It used Corexit for two weeks after the Rena oil spill. Corexit is a known carcinogen that has been banned in European countries. It must be banned here and not used again as an oil spill response tool.
- **Risk data** put forward by companies such as Anadarko is historical and not relevant to the untried conditions of our southern ocean.

Alternatives

Climate change mitigation and adaptation measures must match the seriousness of the issue. National and local leaders no longer have the luxury of ignorance nor of failing to join the dots. If we are to take the climate change experts at their word, a ‘wartime response’ to climate change will be needed to keep global warming to a level that will allow for the survival of future Dunedin citizens.

Fortunately, we have the ability to make the changes needed in Dunedin and with courage from our leaders could achieve it. Changes are already being made, as proposed in much of the DCC Energy plan, such as making Dunedin a more cycle-friendly city. We have the know-how for an electric car conversion industry to begin immediately to convert Dunedin’s transport fleet. Some local residents have approached the DCC regarding the importation of rooftop photovoltaic panels. Imported in bulk for maximum cost effectiveness, pv panels could cover many Dunedin rooftops, help eliminate fuel poverty and combat inequality in our city.

We must encourage local food and low carbon industries such as the electric tram, trains and make public transport affordable and attractive to use.

The Council *must vote decisively to divest the Waipori Fund from fossil fuel extraction.*

We must stop burning dirty, polluting lignite and coal in our boilers and homes. And again, **we recommend that all deep sea exploration and drilling in NZ should cease.** There is no time to waste.

Adam McCutcheon

From: rose.p@ihug.co.nz
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2014 11:48 a.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: BLOCK OFFER 2015

Submission on Petroleum Block Offer 2015 consultation

To the Dunedin City Council

policy@dcc.govt.nz

5 December 2014

From: Rosemary Penwarden

Email contact details: rose.p@ihug.co.nz

Kia ora

Thank you for the opportunity to have a say on this topic, I appreciate that you have widened your submission to include the people of Dunedin, but I do not accept it as genuine consultation. I would like to document that New Zealanders' voices have been deliberately removed from genuine input into this issue. Even this so-called consultation by government with council is fake, as you have no sway over what seismic blasting, deep sea exploration or drilling occurs in our region. This is unacceptable.

The risks to Dunedin (and in the wider context to all New Zealanders and to the world) of deep sea drilling off the Otago coast and anywhere in our exclusive economic zone are so serious that ***we recommend that all deep sea exploration and drilling in NZ should cease.*** The two major risks are local, to the **environment and the economy** and global, to **climate change**.

Climate Change

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DCC's submission to last year's 2014 Petroleum Block Offer recognized the cost to communities of adaptation and mitigation of effects of climate change, and recognised oil and gas's contribution to climate change but did not appear to join the dots. Governments and local authorities have a duty of care to their citizens. To endorse deep sea drilling off our coast is to disregard this duty. We are running out of time.

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1. 1. **A major gas blowout or oil spill has the potential to ruin Dunedin's environment and economy**, due to its effect on:
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3 **The risky nature of deep sea drilling in the New Zealand context**

- The **treacherous southern ocean** environment – weather extremes, ocean currents from the Antarctic, huge swells as high as six story buildings. (<http://www.greenpeace.org/new-zealand/en/reports/Out-Of-Our-Depth-Deep-sea-oil-exploration-in-New-Zealand/>)

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Petroleum Block Offer, 2015

Submission by ProGas Otago

It is often said that Dunedin is a City of “firsts”

Some notable firsts include:

The countrys first daily newspaper, founded in 1861

The first University in New Zealand, founded in 1869

The first Medical school, founded in 1875

The first art gallery, founded in 1884.

From the 1860’s, the City thrived and prospered, and became New Zealand’s largest town, all due to resource extraction...based around the discovery of gold.

Many of the residents of Dunedin share the view that we may be close to another rich vein of resource extraction wealth, this time driven by the prospect of commercial quantities of natural gas being found off the Otago coast.

Please remember:

- Scientists expect to find approx. 90 to 95% natural gas and 5-10% light condensate off the Otago Coast
- There is **no** expectation of finding commercial quantities of oil in this area.
- If commercial quantities of natural gas are found off the Otago Coast, a local support base will be required.
- Both Dunedin and Invercargill have indicated that they would be prepared to host a support base.
- Dunedin needs to ensure both civic and business leaders have strongly signalled that the city is prepared to welcome a support base here.

In the event of a find, would Dunedin be prepared to accept both the opportunity AND the challenge?

As a community, would we take any short-term benefits and close our eyes to the urgent need to wean ourselves off fossil energy?

Or would we use some of the expertise and profit gained and utilise the wonderful engineering, research, design and academic resources within Dunedin, to build our low-carbon future?

Overseas examples show this can initiate economic development which creates sustainable jobs.

In any debate around access to natural resources, it is usually more helpful to focus on what people are able to agree on, not what they disagree on. Focussing on points of disagreement tends to cause people to retrench to highly polarised views.

In this case, there is likely to be a high level of agreement on the fundamentals. Both “sides” of the drilling debate should be able to agree on the following:

- The World needs to reduce its carbon emissions from fossil fuels.
- The World does not yet have the infrastructure to abandon its use of fossil fuels entirely. A transition phase is required.
- Coal and oil combustion releases more atmospheric carbon than gas
- In the absence of enforceable international agreements imposing a moratorium on coal and oil combustion (unlikely to say the least), coal and oil will only be left in the ground so long as there are reliable and more efficient alternatives to burning coal and oil. Gas is one available alternative.
- A reliable and economic supply of gas is more likely to substitute for oil or coal consumption than it is to generate new demand for fossil fuels, since coal and oil is still cheap and readily available. In economic terms, the supply side of the “supply and demand” equation is elastic.
- The immediate environmental risk to the Otago coast arises from a crude oil spill.
- Anadarko and Shell are proposing to drill for gas, not oil. The environmental risk to Otago’s coast from gas exploration is relatively low. The risk of the catastrophic escape of vast quantities of crude oil such as the Deepwater Horizon disaster and those crude oil spill scenarios modelled by Greenpeace does not arise.

Decisions about whether drilling for gas takes place are not influenced by what Dunedin people say or do. That decision is made between central government and the boardrooms of Anadarko/Shell

Gas exploration and extraction uses substantial quantities of transport fuel. Dunedin is the closest port to the drilling sites, in terms of steaming time and flight time. Using Dunedin as the support base represents the most efficient use of transport fuel and thus the least emissions of atmospheric carbon.

The only issue that Dunedin is potentially capable of influencing is whether Dunedin is adopted as a support base for gas exploration and extraction.

If we are able to agree on these basic things, what is the most that can be gained by protesting about the presence of Anadarko and Shell in Dunedin? A successful protest can only hope to achieve these things:

- A decision by Anadarko and Shell to base themselves in Invercargill
- Increased carbon emissions due to greater steaming and flight time to the drilling sites.
- Avoiding investment in Dunedin infrastructure and businesses (Port redevelopment, airport upgrades, construction, accommodation, restaurants, vessel provisioning, and marine engineering).

Are those outcomes really worth fighting for?

We struggle to see the benefit (or reduced environmental risk) for anyone in Dunedin arising from those outcomes.

Regardless of your final decision, we thank you for your consideration of our submission.

Adam McCutcheon

From: Angelo <angelo.tekapo@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2014 12:41 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Petroleum Block offer 2015

Submission from Elisabeth Angelo-Roxborough, 6/27 Arthur St Dunedin

The world has to stop using fossil fuels to the degree it has previously due to **the negative impact of fossil fuels on climate change**. I would hate New Zealand to be any further involved in taking fossil fuels from the planet either from the land or under the seas.

I am in favour of oil and gas exploration off the coast of Otago.

Firstly, I believe that the economic benefits of such activities can be significant, see examples of New Plymouth, New Zealand and Aberdeen, United Kingdom. 'Economic benefits' are not some vague intangible – they are real tangible benefits to everyday people: higher incomes, jobs for young people and better funded local government services.

Secondly, speaking as a citizen in favour of strong action on climate change, I believe both the current and previous governments have a poor record on this issue. However, the way to address this is to do so in a way that minimises the economic harm to both Dunedin and New Zealand. That means implementing a market based mechanism such as a carbon tax or emissions trading scheme and avoiding populist regulations which seek to direct top-down which industries will be allowed to flourish and which will not. A strong carbon tax or emissions trading scheme would put the right incentives in place. It is important to note that oil and gas extraction is used to produce other products such as plastics and lubricants (which do not emit as much carbon), and natural gas can often be a cleaner substitute to other more harmful fossil fuels such as coal. We want to penalise the burning of petrol, but not necessarily punish the production of plastic. Therefore, a broad brush approach of banning oil and gas exploration at the outset is not a policy which understands the intricacies of the way carbon is emitted and the trade-offs that exist.

Thirdly, I believe that the risk of a spill is very small and that we have appropriate regulations in place to address that. In addition, I believe there are strong economic incentives acting on companies to encourage safety. For example, BP's oil price fell by over 50% subsequent to the 2010 Gulf of Mexico spill and the CEO lost his job.

Content:**Introduction****Summary of our position****Explanation of our position**

1. The future is carbon constrained
2. New Zealand's real opportunities lie in a clean energy future.
3. New Zealand needs a low carbon strategy.

Thank you for giving us the ability to submit our position. We recognise this does not usually happen for Block Offers so appreciate the opportunity.

Submitters:

Alec Dawson and Letisha Nicholas on behalf of Generation Zero

Contact: alec@generationzero.org

Email to : policy@dcc.govt.nz

Introduction

Generation Zero is a nationwide organisation launched in June 2011, with over 5000 supporters mostly between the ages of 18 and 30. Our vision is for a thriving, zero carbon Aotearoa before 2050. To achieve this we advocate for the development and implementation of a comprehensive government plan, with immediate steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel dependence. We believe that New Zealand has the ability and opportunity to be an example to the world of how to rise to the climate and energy challenges, while creating a better country in the process. Generation Zero is not aligned with any political parties and is 100% independent in its views.

Summary of our position

Generation Zero cannot support the exploration for oil and gas off the coast of Otago or any other place in New Zealand, without the context of a low carbon strategy. Such a strategy would enable assessment of the costs and benefits of different types of energy resources in order to critically decide if its development fits within the direction of a low carbon strategy- to eventually eliminate our reliance on fossil fuels. Such a low carbon strategy has yet to be developed at either a Dunedin Local Government or Central Government Level.

Explanation of our position**1. The future is carbon constrained.**

Human activity is changing the global climate. The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) - the world's most authoritative body on

the science of climate change - concluded that “it is extremely likely¹ that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century”,² a link as strong as the link between smoking and lung cancer.

New Zealand is part of a global agreement that seeks to avoid dangerous levels of climate change by limiting global temperature rise to less than two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels: the Copenhagen Accord.³ The Fifth Assessment Report from the IPCC, released in 2014, backs up the need to keep global warming below this temperature rise, and includes serious potential consequences for cities in coastal New Zealand if the world crosses the threshold for dangerous climate change.⁴

The IPCC AR5 describes how because of the long atmospheric lifetime of carbon dioxide, in order to stabilise the climate at less than two degrees of warming, cumulative carbon emissions must be restricted to an overall global “carbon budget”. Based on current scientific evidence, the best estimate of the carbon budget for a “likely” probability (>66%) of meeting the two degree goal is approximately 1,000 GtC (gigatonnes of carbon⁵) when considering the effects of CO₂ only. Considering the effects of other greenhouse gases, the IPCC states this will be reduced to around 800 GtC. Approximately 531 GtC had already been released up to 2011, leaving a remainder of about 270 GtC.⁶

London-based financial analysts Carbon Tracker have estimated that the total coal, oil and gas reserves listed on the world’s stock exchanges is 208 GtC, and this is only approximately a quarter of the world’s total reserves.⁷ As Carbon Tracker put it, the world has a “carbon budget deficit” where there is more carbon readily available and economic to extract than we can afford to burn in order to meet our commitment to avoiding dangerous climate change.

We consider these findings are not radical - if anything, given the nature of the scientific process, they are conservative.

The simple message is that the future is carbon-constrained. Fundamentally, opening up our waters for further oil and gas exploration fails to acknowledge this scientific reality. Doing so means that to keep to the internationally agreed two degree goal, other known fossil fuel reserves - possibly already capitalised on financial markets - need to stay in the ground. Doing so means adding to the global carbon bubble that needs to burst in order to preserve a

¹ “Extremely likely” is defined as a probability of 95% or higher.

² IPCC AR5 Summary for Policy Makers, page SPM-12.

³ <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/cop15/eng/l07.pdf>

⁴ IPCC, 2014: *Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Part A: Global and Sectoral Aspects. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* at 1413.

⁵ Note that 1 GtC = 3.67 GtCO₂.

⁶ IPCC AR5 Summary for Policy Makers, page SPM-20

⁷ Carbon Tracker, *Unburnable carbon 2013: Wasted capital and stranded assets*.
<http://www.carbontracker.org/wastedcapital>

safe climate.

2. New Zealand's real opportunities lie in a clean energy future.

Given that the world needs to move to a low carbon and more resource-constrained future, economic development centred on clean, renewable energy offers greater potential for long-term growth and prosperity.

In 2011, global investment in clean energy was a record US\$280 billion, almost six times higher than the US\$53 billion invested in 2004. In 2011, more money was invested around the world in clean electricity generation than in new fossil fuel electricity generation.⁸

In 2009, PriceWaterhouseCoopers estimated NZ's potential market share of the global green economy could be between NZ\$7.5-22 billion annually⁹ - far greater than our current oil and mineral exports (\$2.8 billion in 2012)¹⁰. Investment New Zealand has estimated that we can create NZ\$150 billion high-value, low carbon export economy by 2025.

Engaging in risky offshore drilling and fossil fuel extraction may put at risk this economic potential in the clean economy, as much rests on New Zealand's external image and "clean, green" brand. This risk is a further consideration to the direct risk for local industries in Otago that are dependent on unspoiled marine resources. Neither risk has been adequately quantified.

In terms of the kind of energy future we as young people want, and would thrive in, it's the clean energy future described here. This future offers a multitude of opportunities for young people to develop skills in all different sectors; it offers us hope. This is not something the oil and gas industry can provide, when we know that the world needs to ultimately eliminate carbon emissions to have a decent shot at a safe climate future.

New Zealand has latent potential in the renewable sector and developing this is a direction that would see our country live up to the image the world has of us - a direction that would make us proud to say we're from Dunedin. Sending this kind of message to our young people is saying that "we actually want and believe that you can have a decent future and one that is not ruined by short-sighted decision making".

There are real steps New Zealand can take to move towards a clean energy future. In 2014 Generation Zero suggested that Central Government could initiate the process by introducing legally enshrined targets for New Zealand to cut emissions, and an independent climate commission which could offer the non-partisan policy guidance required to move in the right

⁸ Bloomberg New Energy Finance, *Clean Energy Investment in 2011 revised up to record \$280bn*, 2012.

⁹ <http://www.treasury.govt.nz/downloads/pdfs/tfpr-mulcare-23oct09.pdf>

¹⁰ <http://www.stuff.co.nz/business/opinion-analysis/9281349/More-debate-needed-on-oil-gas>

direction. More information on this is available in our report, *The Big Ask*,¹¹ and an endorsement of these proposals would be a sign that you take the transition to a low-carbon society seriously.

3. New Zealand needs a low carbon strategy.

New Zealand currently lacks anything resembling a strategy to deliver on its formally committed emissions reduction targets and move towards a fossil fuel free economy in the long-term.

Generation Zero acknowledges that there may be a case for new fossil fuel developments in New Zealand as part of the transition - particularly natural gas, the cleanest of the fossil fuels - however the absence of a strategy makes it impossible to determine the pros and cons of any particular development.

In the absence of a strategy and a comprehensive policy framework to move away from fossil fuels, further fossil fuel developments of any kind are likely to slow the transition to renewable energy in New Zealand and globally.

Generation Zero is therefore open-minded to further oil and gas developments but only as part of a transition strategy away from fossil fuels. We do not support further exploration for oil and gas until that condition is met. The reason why the presumption should be against development for fossil fuels in the situation without a strategy, is set up by the fact that the majority of current fossil fuel reserves will have to be left in the ground if we are to avoid serious climate change. Such an approach is likely to lead to the development of such a strategy more quickly. We believe any claim that fossil fuels must be a part of a transition without support for planning that transition should be treated as disingenuous.

¹¹ Available at

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/generationzero/pages/548/attachments/original/1409480895/TheBigAskReport_WEB.pdf?1409480895

Adam McCutcheon

From: Gabrielle Panckhurst <gabriellepanck@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2014 04:23 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Block Offer

To the DCC

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Government's Oil and Gas Block Offer 2015.

In the Government's media release on the Block Offer 2015 consultation with iwi and local authorities, Minister Simon Bridges says "this is not about development at any cost. The Government continues its commitment to promoting and managing exploration in a safe and responsible way."

Development of any new Oil and Gas is not safe for the climate so not safe for humans and other animals. Recent news predicted that this year would be the warmest ever globally (ODT, December 4, 2014.) What is happening in the climate generally outpaces the models and predictions. This is the most serious crisis the world has ever faced and we can't continue business as usual. The attached graphic from NASA starkly shows the situation we are in (from <http://climate.nasa.gov>).

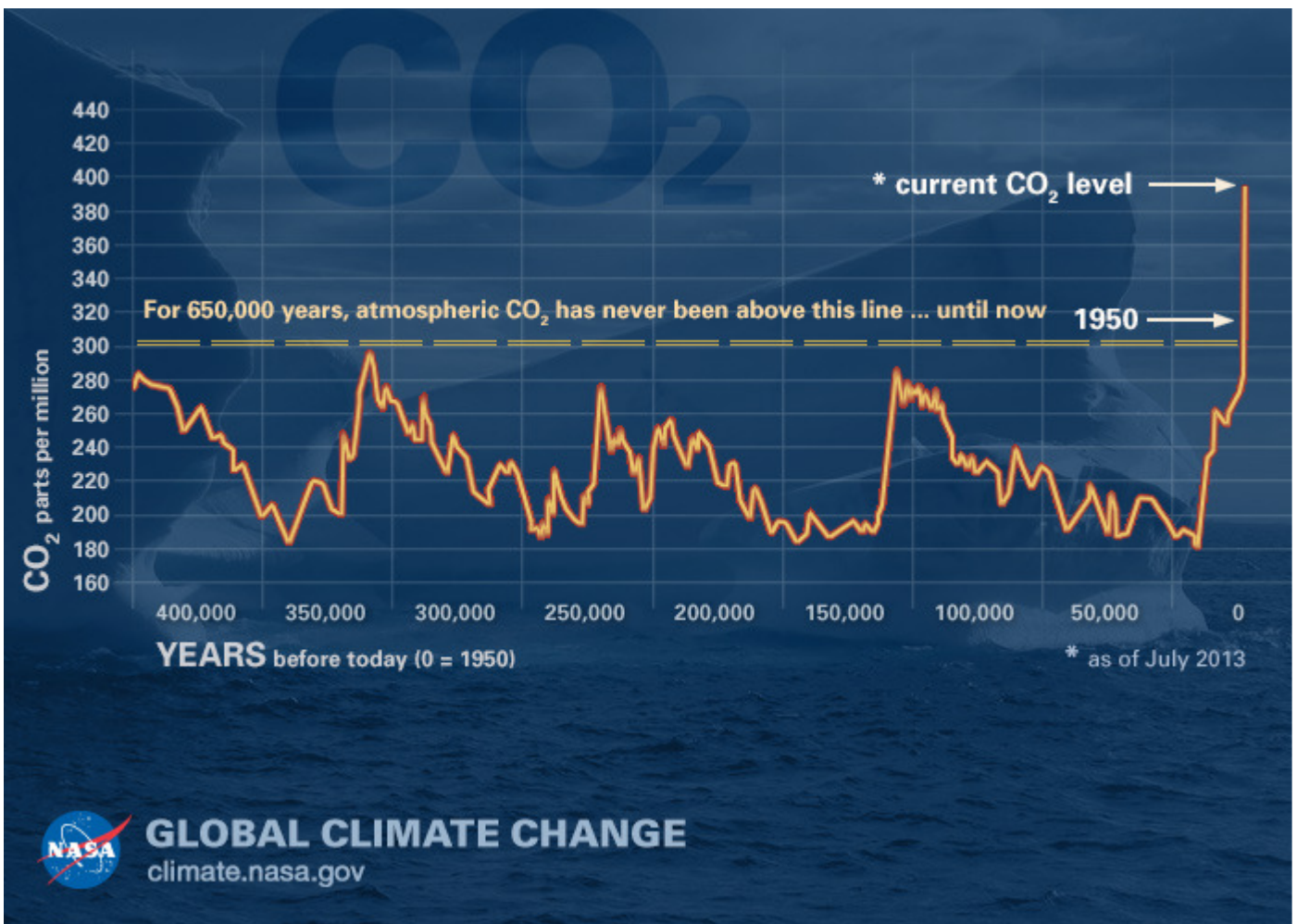
We need to be investing in Green Energy not fossil fuels. The International Energy Agency estimates every \$1 the world fails to invest in transitioning to renewable energy systems by 2023 will eventually cost us more than four times that, adding up to hundreds of billions of wasted dollars (ODT, February 18, 2014). 2023 is only 9 years away, New Zealand needs to be investing in clean energy not fossil fuels **now**

Natural gas is also a concern as there is still significant CO2 pollution (about 30% less than Oil). Natural gas may be useful as a short term transition fuel but it may be a mistake to invest in infrastructure and then very soon need to transition away from gas. We should be making use of New Zealand's natural advantages in wind, tide and solar.

Oil spills are also a concern with Deep Water Drilling and the time it would take to move equipment to New Zealand. An oil spill that effected Otago would also devastate our nature tourism.

In conclusion I am very much opposed to deep water drilling of Otago primarily because of its climate change effects and also for wider environmental effects. New Zealand needs to stand up and do its bit on climate change not add to climate change.

Yours
Gabrielle Panckhurst
Ratepayer



From: Donna & Neil Peacock <grapea@ihug.co.nz>
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2014 04:59 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: BLOCK OFFER

SUBMISSION TO Dunedin City Council -

OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION

BLOCK OFFER – Great South Canterbury Basin

From: Donna Peacock, 25 Stevenson Road, 9018.
4 December 2014

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We wish to register our opposition to the Government's proposal to allow drilling for gas and oil off the Otago Coast in the Great South Canterbury Basin. Our reasons, listed below, include the lack of Local Government autonomy.

1. **Lack of consultation:** . . . with marine and terra firma wildlife organizations. Apart from Iwi, and Local Body organizations there has been no public consultation on this very critical issue. Regional development should be in the control of local bodies.
2. **Climate Change :** Fundamentally, we feel this action to be **unethical**. If it is accepted that Climate Change is a reality, (confirmed once again by ICPP report last month), then we have responsibility to ourselves and our offspring to provide a world that is safe, healthy and economically viable. Evidence demonstrates that we need to start now to keep global warming at a manageable and livable level. Both the mining of, and use of oil and gas, **cause pollution**.

Despite this, there is **no requirement** on local authorities, Government, or the oil industry, to make a financial contribution **to off-set climate change** effects. Reliance on coal is being phased out world-wide – so also is oil and gas. Known oil reserves, are enough to put the world, six times over the climate change tipping point. (Bill McKibben lecture - *Do the Maths*, Dunedin, 12 June 2013) - Why drill for more? In retrospect, not many years from now, when oil/gas will be less acceptable, a decision in favour of oil will be seen as extremely irresponsible.

3. **Risks:** . . . very real. There is no disaster management plan should there be a blow-out. Dangers to the local community arise from : **a) the depths** at which drilling will take place – (never undertaken

at this depth previously; **b) Ocean turbulence**, because of strong Antarctica currents; **c) The loss of our present economy** for possibly decades to come; **d) Marine life** devastation and future mutations; **e) Health risks**: physical - from oil and chemicals and the necessity of eating affected kai moana; and, **f) emotional**: from loss of employment and the previously mentioned harms. (as evidenced by the present situation in the Gulf of Mexico, where people continue to be affected by skin rashes; and fish are found to have mutations). It appears there is a **lack of adequate backup** should a blow-out occur. It took 8 weeks for the Deep Water Horizon site to obtain assistance. The situation in NZ would be far more serious. **Government must legislate requirements for backup** so that Anadarko provides **full insurance and adequate backup** in a worse case scenario, otherwise ratepayers will foot the bill.

4. *** Employment Benefits?**: It appears that there is **no crucial cost/benefit analysis** or feasibility study which could make comparisons between the actual employment available from oil/gas and that of other alternatives available to the Dunedin/Otago region. It is clear that skilled employees will be flown in and out of the city. Most employment for Dunedin will be of a menial nature and low-paid. Options, both in clean energy and other areas, have the advantage of being under 'local control', provide many more jobs, and, over time, might easily be expanded. **While we focus on oil and gas, we continue to have minds set on 'industrial revolution' technology, soon to be superseded by the new industrial age.** Taking up a new challenge will bring rewards for us all and Dunedin/Otago could be a winner if we get ahead of the game.

5. **Infrastructure Costs**: There appears to be no public information on these costs – which again, are costs to the community and as such, require consideration in the cost/benefit analysis. **What actual facilities, training and employment will the company provide?** This needs specification, clarification, and full detail.

6. **Comparison with Taranaki Exploration / Lack of any investment in the Community**: Taranaki of the 1980s/90s and Otago do not compare. In those earlier decades, the government legislated for benefits to the community by way of royalties, which were much greater than that of the 24% of today. (which is reputed to be one of the lowest in the world). Taranaki is still benefitting from Government regulations of that time. Nor can the depth of drilling be compared, Taranaki being 125 metres only, compared to 1500 metres off Otago.

It can be demonstrated that the gas/oil industry does not add to the local economy, but rather makes it poorer. It brings with it a different set of values which are not compatible with the kiwi psychic.

*** Some Solutions** : In supporting deep-sea drilling, a great deal of emphasis is put on the acquiring of much-needed employment. However, other no-risk local options are available.. **Time should now be taken to investigate the options** below: (*"Decide in haste, repent at leisure"*)

- **Affordable Housing**: Dunedin-based Mass-production of quality transportable homes – to meet area of demand, especially Christchurch and Auckland.

- Bring together Dunedin engineering firms of all disciplines to plan and develop clean energy systems – both solar and wind (eg: Waitati/Blueskin Bay project). We have a long history of quality engineering and have skilled people readily available, especially with the closure of Hillside and the loss of jobs in other engineering firms.
- Small-scale hydro-electric production is another area that could be developed.
- Bio-waste as a source of energy: A (Kerikeri? Northland) resident is successfully operating on a small scale at this present time.
- Closer consultation and co-operation with Otago University. The knowledge available in our tertiary institutions should be made use of – perhaps, a ‘Knowledge & Skills Innovation Forum’ bringing all stakeholders together.

Most of these ideas could be undertaken immediately and each one would provide on the spot, long-term, sustainable employment.

We implore our Councillors to act with integrity, dedicated service and 21st Century technological foresight; keep us safe from unnecessary risks to our seashore and kai moana; be visionary in seeking real and satisfying employment for our communities, under our own local innovation and control; and to **strongly press Government to listen to our voices for local autonomy** and development. It is our right!

Cree Indian Prophecy (*Message to the white man*)
1894

.... we might also add:

When the last tree is cut down

The last fish eaten

And the last stream poisoned

You will realize that you cannot eat money

When the seas are acrid from warming

The fish and dolphin extinct

And oil lies on the shore and sea-floor,

*We will realize there had been
alternatives.*

Sincerely

Signed:

Donna Peacock



(Qualifications : 11 Mokokopuna/Grandchildren)

Adam McCutcheon

From: Donna & Neil Peacock <grapea@ihug.co.nz>
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2014 05:02 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: BLOCK OFFER - N Peacock

SUBMISSION TO Dunedin City Council -

OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION

BLOCK OFFER – Great South Canterbury Basin

From: Neil Peacock, 25 Stevenson Road, 9018.
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*We will realize there had been
alternatives.*

Sincerely

Signed:



Neil Peacock

(Qualifications : 11 Mokopuna)

Adam McCutcheon

From: rekrapenator@gmail.com on behalf of nathan P
<tuataraeducationalactivist@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2014 07:28 p.m.
To: policy@dcc.govt.nz
Subject: Oil and Gas exploration

I say **no** to oil and gas exploration off our coast.

My reasons are....

Ocean seismic blasts can directly effect and kill Otago oceanic wildlife and endanger our fishing and tourism industry.

An oil spill or gas blow-out could kill people and directly effect and kill Otago oceanic wildlife endangering our fishing and tourism industry.

We are under equipped for any spills.

It will bring no jobs extra jobs to the city - the jobs will be for specialists who will be flown in or out.

The world already has enough known fossil fuel reserves and locating and then removing more will tip the planet into catastrophic climate change.

We need to move on from fossil fuels and listen to what the scientists are telling us and stop ignoring what we can see happening to the world around us.

Thanks,
Nathan Parker