

## Lincolnshire County Council

### Planning and Regulation Committee 4 March 2019

#### Item 5.1 - Monitoring of Operations at Biscathorpe Oil Exploration Site

Since the report was published, Egdon has advised:

- That drilling has been completed and that it has been found that the target reservoir rock is not as well developed as had been anticipated from the seismic data. Although hydrocarbons have been detected, the existing well is not commercially viable.
- The company is currently considering whether to have the seismic data remodelled to establish whether the drilling of a side track from the existing vertical well would be able to access the hydrocarbons. The company will make a decision on whether to 'plug, abandon & restore' the well or whether to apply for planning permission to drill a side track within the next three to six months.
- In the meantime, demobilisation has commenced and it is anticipated that the rig will be removed from site by Friday 1 March 2019.
- It is expected that the site will be substantially cleared by 6 March 2019. The only items to remain will be the access track on the B1225, the drilling pad and the security fencing that surrounds the compound.
- Previously reported site layout issues will be resolved by 6 March 2019 following the clearance of the site.
- The Heras fencing that is located on the access gate is expected to be removed by 6 March as part of the clearance operations.
- The second emergency exit gate located in the fence that surrounds the compound will be regularised by the submission of an application for a Non Material Amendment.
- Security patrols will be carried out on the site daily. The operator has been advised that only the approved access from the B1225 should be used.

**Planning Manager** - A site monitoring visit will be carried out on Wednesday 6 March 2019. Providing no issues are identified or complaints are received following the visit, it is proposed that site monitoring will resume the standard regime of 2 site monitoring visits per financial year until the site is restored. The site restoration (to agricultural land) is required to be carried out by 28 February 2021.

