

Response ID [REDACTED]

Submitted to Petroleum Exploration and Licensing (Repeal) Bill

Submitted on 2026-06-19 12:25:36

Introduction

1 What is your name?

name:

2 What is your email address?

email address:

3 Are you providing a submission on behalf of an organisation or business?

Yes

If yes, please provide the name of the organisation or business below:

Friends of the Earth (Northern Ireland)

Consent

4 Please confirm that you have read the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee's Privacy Notice by clicking the button below.

yes:

Yes

5 How would you like your submission to be published?

Yes. Publish in full.

Petroleum Exploration and Licensing (Repeal) Bill

Clause 1 - Principal Set of Repeals

6 Do you support the provisions of Clause 1? In other words, should the Clause, as it is currently intended, provide for a ban on all forms of onshore petroleum exploration and production and maintain the Department as lawful owner of all possible underground petroleum reserves in Northern Ireland?

Yes

If No, how should Clause 1 be amended? Should the Clause instead limit petroleum licensing to time bound periods in defined geographic areas? Or should the Clause apply a legislative ban solely to exploration and production of unconventional hydrocarbons including high volume hydraulic fracturing (also known as fracking)? Or should the Clause provide for any restriction at all on petroleum exploration and extraction?:

If No, what powers should the Department have in respect of petroleum exploration and extraction? :

If No, should the Department continue to be the lawful owner of underground petroleum resources?:

If No, should the Department be able to take action against those conducting related activities on land including boring?:

Clause 2 - Transitional Provision

7 Do you support the provisions of Clause 2? In other words, should the Clause, as it is currently intended, allow the Department to treat live applications for exploration or extraction as if they have been withdrawn and to refund relevant application fees?

Yes

If No, what should be done about live applications for exploration or extraction and what powers should the Department have in this regard?:

Clause 3 - Consequential Provision

8 Do you support Clause 3?

Yes

If No, please explain the amendments you would like to see.:

Clause 4 - Ancillary regulations

9 Do you support Clause 4?

Yes

If No, what restrictions should be applied to the Department's ability to make delegated legislation?:

Clause 5 - commencement

10 Do you support Clause 5?

Yes

If No, what restrictions should be applied to the commencement of the Petroleum Exploration and Licensing (Repeal) Act?:

Additional Information/Comments

11 Please provide any additional information or comments on any aspect of the Bill that you feel is relevant.

Additional information or comments.:

Northern Ireland must rapidly transition to a zero-carbon society. Therefore, Friends of the Earth supports fully the repeal of all legislation that allows for the exploration and extraction of fossil fuels. We also support fully revoking all live licences. We are happy for the fees for applying for licences be refunded. However, we would not support any interest or additional costs being refunded. Companies must not profit from speculative or opportunistic applications.

Proposed Additions and Amendments

12 Please provide information on any potential amendments that you feel would enhance the Bill and the rationale for those.

Information on any potential amendments:

Almost done...

13 If you provide an email address you will be sent a receipt and a link to a PDF copy of your response.

email:

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