

CLIMATE JUSTICE TARANAKI NEWSLETTER

22 April 2013

Tena ano koutou

Greetings and many thanks to those of you who attended our joint public meetings last month in New Plymouth and Ngaere (Stratford). We had a great turnout and they were very informative evenings. Thanks again to our wonderful speakers. Videos of these talks are online here:

<http://climatejusticetaranaki.info/photos/cjt-videos/>

We have also been given a very useful document written by the Environmental Defence Society called 'The Legal Framework' for oil and gas in Taranaki. It outlines legal advice for people affected by the drilling. You can download it here

<http://climatejusticetaranaki.info/resources/fact-sheets-presentations/>

Heoi ano, welcome to this month's issue of our panui. We have a couple of events coming up and a request for emails to be sent to US deep sea oil company Anadarko as well as some recent media stories, actions and a local festival. We hope you will all come to the events in June later this year.

Nga mihi,
Climate Justice Taranaki

>> Tell Deepsea Oil drilling company Anadarko to keep away

Last week parliament passed the Crown Minerals (Amendment) Bill, aka the 'Anadarko Act' which introduced penalties of fines up to \$50,000 and a term of imprisonment of up to two years for anyone interfering with a vessel involved in off-shore oil drilling. This is a breach of international laws of the sea and of the NZ Bill of Rights yet still the government pandered to short-term, highly-polluting economic interests over a sustainable future for all. Read more here:

<http://www.indymedia.org.nz/articles/799>

Taranaki already has several nearshore wells and

more in the pipeline off our beautiful coast and seismic ships have spent the last few decades blowing the eardrums of our marine inhabitants. This coming summer Anadarko is sending a drilling ship to attempt to drill NZ's first deepsea oil wells off the Canterbury Coast, in the Cook Strait and off our northern Taranaki coast. The risk of a well blowout and major oil spill is extremely high. WRITE AN EMAIL NOW TO ANADARKO telling them not to come:

<http://tinyurl.com/cntzdmq>

>> 6-7 June ENEX protest and Renewable Energy Forum in New Plymouth!

Once again we have the ENEX NZ Oil & Gas Event coming to town at the TSB Stadium in New Plymouth. You can read more about it here:

<http://www.conferenz.co.nz/conferences/enex-new-zealands-oil-gas-event>

It's two days of schmoozing for them and we plan to hold a counter renewable energy forum as well as a protest. If you're keen to help plan these events with us please get in touch by replying to this email. We hope to make it fun and informative while making it clear oil and gas is not part of a clean energy future.

>> Communities standing up to drilling and mining companies

The second and largest of five drilling leads in the permit block in western Taranaki around Parihaka has recently been surrendered. The people of Parihaka responded again to Todd Energy, Cue Energy, the government and the UN making it clear oil and gas exploration needs to completely stop in the environment of their rohe. Read more here

<http://www.indymedia.org.nz/articles/760>

Kaumatua of Ngati Hau called an urgent hui and have sent a formal message to exploration company De Grey Mining Ltd telling the company to relinquish all exploration permits within their tribal area. Read more here <http://www.indymedia.org.nz/articles/794>

After decades of drilling and damage to waahi tapu and waterways and their way of life, the hapu of Otaraua near Waitara wrote a statement to

Greymouth Petroleum and councils demanding they are recognised as 'an affected party'. This is the same hapu that staged a three month occupation in 2009 to halt Greymouth Petroleum's well pipeline going through Tikorangi Pa.

Ngati Hauua, a South Taranaki hapu, has held hui in relation to a BTW 'landfarm' drilling dump-site around 700 metres from their marae. The company has breached agreements and consent conditions and has received an abatement notice. The hapu says this is not good enough and continues to fight and shut it down in order to protect the rohe.

Last month, over 100 Tikorangi residents packed into the community hall for a public meeting to voice their concerns about the massive increase in oil and gas activity in their community. Have a listen here: <http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/morningreport/audio/2548266/tikorangi-residents-had-enough-of-oil-and-gas-development>

>> News stories in the media

- Last week, Radio NZ ran a story on drillwaste landfarm council abatement notices revealing some shocking so-called 'best-practice'. We still don't know exactly what is going into our once clean, rich Taranaki soils. Listen here: <http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/morningreport/audio/2552018/taranaki-council-says-getting-tougher-on-drilling-waste>

- Seismic Survey Protest in Taranaki waters - last week on the waters off Parininihi/White Cliffs in northern Taranaki, 8 protesters demonstrated against a seismic survey vessel operating in a Marine Mammal Sanctuary. They told the company with banners to "expect resistance". Read more: <http://www.indymedia.org.nz/articles/803>

- Taranaki's 'Live Magazine' has published another 7 page article on fracking in their latest issue: "Is Taranaki the new Texas?" "With over 200 new wells planned throughout Taranaki over the next few years, the face of Taranaki is changing. What will the region look like in ten years time? Proponents of the oil and gas industry want to step things up even more,

environmentalists are urging caution, while local residents near the exploration and drilling sites are dealing with the reality of life in the midst of an oil and gas boom." Words Irena Brooks. Available here: <http://climatejusticetaranaki.info/2013/04/22/2126/>

>> 7-8 June Puanga Festival at Parihaka

Help Parihaka plant some carbon-munching trees :-)
Celebrate the Maori new year and the end of the garden harvest by enjoying some stargazing, food forest planting, awesome bands and wonderful movies. More info coming soon.

>> For more news, views, letters, videos and research see our website

Climate Justice Taranaki

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