

# Climate Justice Taranaki (CJT)

## Newsletter, 3 September 2014

### NEWS BITS

#### OMV Maari development drilling application

Thank you to all those who have submitted to EPA, opposing OMV's development drilling application at the Maari oil field. Of the 155 submissions, all but 6 want EPA to decline OMV's application. A number of new documents have been put up on EPA website re the application and more can be expected, including EPA staff report and OMV's reply to EPA re cumulative effects and oil spill risk. So do keep checking the EPA website: <http://www.epa.govt.nz/EEZ/omv/>

Hearing on the application will begin from 29 October. For those who plan to attend, EPA has a procedural document with details you'll need to know.

#### Contaminated milk from Taranaki landfarms

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has received results on the first round of tests of milk collected from Taranaki landfarms and mix-bury-cover sites, where oil industry wastes have been disposed of. On 30<sup>th</sup> July, MPI referred to a substance as 'X' being detected at levels below food safety concern. Here's our media release about it:

<http://climatejusticetaranaki.wordpress.com/2014/07/31/media-release-stop-putting-livestock-on-toxic-waste-dumps/> Two weeks later, MPI released the milk testing report, revealing the presence of four contaminants: toluene, barium, mineral saturated

long-chain hydrocarbons and Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs) in some of the milk samples. MPI concluded that there is no food safety risk as the levels of contaminants detected were so low and there was no evidence that they were derived from drilling wastes.

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/rural/252198/no-food-safety-risk-in-oil-waste-mpi>

The report gives no detail about the sampling method, sample size, quality assurance and control, or landuse

information about the farms. It appears to be a 'snap shot' study based on a very limited number of samples and no information essential to understanding the possible sources of contaminants. As such, the results cannot be interpreted as 'landfarms are safe'. It certainly gives no assurance that meat from animals that have grazed on Taranaki's landfarms would pose on food safety, as some heavy metals are known to accumulate in organs while organic compounds are stored in animal fat. So far, MPI has no plans to conduct any meat testing, despite dry stock grazing on some of these farms.

#### Tag Oil under investigation

In July, CJT filed an OIA request to WorkSafe NZ, seeking information about Tag Oil's Cardiff-3 well (Cheal-C wellsite) which was reported by the company to have a "poor cement bond" or "skin damage" <http://www.tagoil.com/20140507-TAG-Announces-FY2015-Drilling-Program-Operations-Update.asp> and "well integrity issues" by WorkSafe High Hazard Unit. In August, the request was declined because matters relating to that well are subject to an on-going investigation by WorkSafe. The latter also declined environmental campaigner Sarah Roberts' requests for information.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/news/10405544/Oil-wellsite-probe-news-to-explorers> Remember that this is the same company that is planning to drill some 300m from the Taranaki National Park (Heatseeker wellsite) and just 600m from Norfolk School (Sidewinder B wellsite). The school has not been given affected party status. A CJT member has distributed information leaflets and Lock the Gate Australia's DVD "Fractured Country" to and around the school, to raise awareness about the risks.

#### Vote Compass: Almost half respondents opposed to further fracking

47% of over 120,000 respondents to the survey stated their opposition to fracking whereas just 24% supported further fracking. This certainly encouraging news! <http://tvnz.co.nz/vote-2014-news/compass-almost-half-respondents-opposed-further-fracking-6067693>

## EVENTS

### **CJT presentations at Waikanae and Wanganui**

CJT was invited to give talks at Waikanae and Wanganui, respectively by Frack Free Kapiti and Beyond and Green Party Wanganui Branch. Both talks, focussing on the oil and gas industry and fracking in Taranaki, were well received. Lots of questions were made and a few people said they were 'fired up' for actions! We certainly hope so, as we will need a mass mobilization of concerned groups and individuals from all walks of life, to turn things around. Think and act for climate justice now! The Wanganui presentation is here: <https://climatejusticetaranaki.files.wordpress.com/2013/03/cjt-myth-buster-wanganui-1sept2014.pdf>

### **The Great Climate Voter Debate, 3 Sept 2014, 7pm – Tonight!**

The debate will be hosted by TV3's Samantha Hayes and the confirmed politicians are National's Tim Groser, Minister for Climate Issues, Labour deputy leader David Parker, Green co-leader Russel Norman, New Zealand First deputy leader Tracey Martin and Internet-mana Candidate John Minto. Don't miss it tonight, live stream online: [http://www.climatevoter.org.nz/debate?utm\\_source=MailingList&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=CV+Debate+-+DID+CV](http://www.climatevoter.org.nz/debate?utm_source=MailingList&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CV+Debate+-+DID+CV)

### **Lets Go: The Great Fresh Air Workplace Challenge: From 1 Sept**

Walk, ride or bike. More at <http://www.letsgo.org.nz/>

### **Aotearoa is Not for Sale – Photo Exhibition by Dominika Zielinska: Till 30 September**

Sandwich Extreme, 52 Devon Street East, NP

### **Taranaki Landgirls – Poultry Care: 4 Sept, 7pm**

Upper Mangorei Hall & Sports Complex

Speaker: Ian Selby

### **Introduction to Beekeeping: Fri 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm**

Hive Taranaki, 33 Devon St West, Metro Plaza, NP

### **Crop Swap Merrilands: Sat 6 Sept, Sat 20 Sept, 4-5pm**

Domain Hall, 350 Mangorei Road

### **Community Circle: Mon 8 Sept, 9:30 -11 am**

NPDC Council Chambers

<http://www.taranaki.gen.nz/circle>

### **Crop Swap Oakura: Sat 13 Sept, 27 Sept, 4-5pm**

St James Church

### **Korito Permaculture Course: Sat/Sun 13-14 Sept**

Alternative building, design/materials; Retrofitting a building, grey water, compost toilets and recycling materials. Details from: [info@korito.co.nz](mailto:info@korito.co.nz)

### **Whanganui Permaculture Weekend: Sat/Sun 13-14 Sept**

24 events in 14 venues. Details:

<http://whanganuipermaculture.org/>

### **Taranaki Bee-keepers Club: 15 Sept, 7pm**

Plunket rooms, 214 Devon St West. Details: [Taranakibeekeepers@gmail.com](mailto:Taranakibeekeepers@gmail.com)

### **Hollard Workshop: Pot a Pumpkin: Sun 21 Sept, 2-4pm**

Hollard Gardens, 1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga

For kids to learn about worm biz, scarecrows ...

To register, call 06 764 6544.

### **World Car Free Day: Mon 22 September**

See <http://www.letsgo.org.nz/>

### **Crop Swap Waitoriki: Sat 27 Sept, 10:30am**

Waitoriki Hall, Lincoln Rd, Inglewood

### **NZ Petroleum Summit: 30 Sept – 2 Oct**

Skycity, Auckland. See <http://www.petroleumsummit.co.nz/>