



# Biscathorpe exploratory conventional oil well site

## The proposal in brief

Following our public exhibition, we thought it would be helpful to summarise our proposals and why we believe conventional onshore oil drilling is important, as well as providing information about the development, the planning process and what happens next.

Egdon would like to reassure local communities that the proposed operation will involve conventional drilling for oil only and will not – either now or in the future – involve the process of hydraulic ‘fracking’ for shale gas. This part of Lincolnshire does not have the specific rock-formation types that contain shale gas.

## Where is the site?

The map shows the new proposed site of the Biscathorpe exploratory conventional oil well. It is located on farmland to the west of Biscathorpe, approximately nine kilometers to the west of Louth.

The site, whilst in the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, has been carefully selected to minimise impacts on our neighbours and the environment, whilst being technically feasible to drill between the surface location and the sub-surface target area. It is screened to the north and east by woodland.

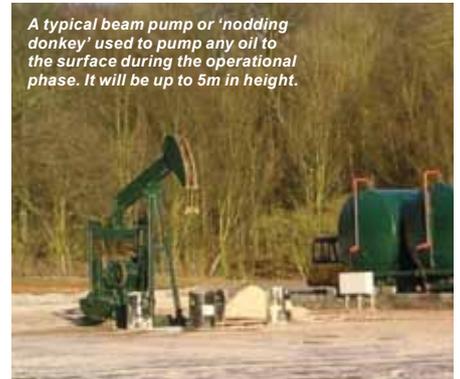
It replaces the previous site to the east for which we withdrew a temporary planning application last year after listening to feedback from local people.

We feel the new site is a more suitable location as the proposed access is from the B1225 (already an approved HGV route), has a much reduced impact on environmentally sensitive locations, and is further from public footpaths including the Viking Way.

[www.egdon-resources.com/Wellsite\\_Biscathorpe](http://www.egdon-resources.com/Wellsite_Biscathorpe)

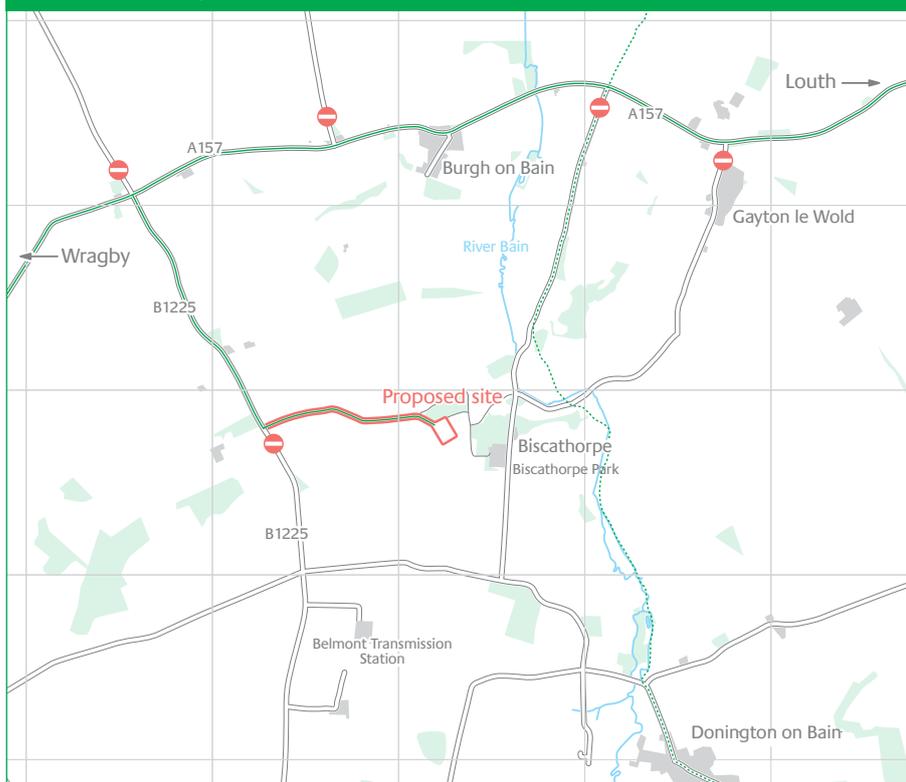


Aerial photograph of a drilling rig (which is up to 50m high) on a previously-drilled Egdon site



A typical beam pump or 'nodding donkey' used to pump any oil to the surface during the operational phase. It will be up to 5m in height.

## New Biscathorpe site location and construction traffic route



## Key

- Proposed site
- Approved HGV route
- ⊘ No entry to HGVs travelling to and from the site
- Green areas
- Buildings
- ⋯ Viking Way long distance footpath

## What is planned?

Should we gain temporary planning permission the proposed development will include an enclosed well site compound measuring 139.8m long by 80.1m wide (approximately the area of one and a half football pitches), comprising of a flat stone surface, soil screening bunds and a security fence.

The proposed development is planned to take place in four phases:

1. The construction of the well site and the associated access track is likely to take around seven weeks.
2. The assembly and installation of drilling equipment and facilities and drilling of the exploratory bore hole is expected to take eight weeks. To maintain operations, drilling continues 24 hours a day, seven days a week until completion. Lighting will be used at night to ensure safety.
3. After the drilling operation, it is likely an extended production test will follow, using a small beam pump – ‘nodding donkey’, fluid storage tanks and associated production equipment to determine actual oil production rates. This test phase may progress for up to 28 weeks.
4. Site restoration. If the well proves to be dry, plans will be made to plug the well and restore the site to farmland in accordance with best practice procedures published by the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC). This will take up to six weeks.

Please note these development phases are approximate and depend on the availability of contractors and equipment such as a suitable drilling rig, so they could take less time or longer to complete. It may also be that they don't run sequentially, so there may be periods with no activity on site.

We ensure high environmental standards on all of our sites and as part of any planning permission and environmental permitting processes will be implementing a number of management plans including biodiversity, noise and archaeology. All of our operations are regulated by the Health and Safety Executive, DECC and the Environment Agency.

If we find commercially viable quantities of oil we will submit a further planning application to develop the site into a longer-term production facility.

## Why the proposed Biscathorpe site is important

The UK relies on oil for almost all its motorised transport needs, which accounts for 75 percent of consumption of oil products. It is also used in agriculture and manufacturing and as a fuel for heating homes not supplied with gas.

Technological advances, electric vehicles, energy from renewables and energy efficiencies will affect the way energy is produced and used. However the technology change is unlikely to significantly impact the UK's energy mix for many years.

The use of a 'home grown' source of energy helps reduce our reliance on imported fuels and makes our energy supply more secure.

Although most of the UK's oil and gas comes from outside the UK and from offshore developments, onshore production makes a modest but important contribution to supply, with the additional advantage of proximity to demand, local and national industry, job creation and localised economic benefits.

## About Egdon Resources

Egdon Resources U.K. Ltd is a subsidiary of Egdon Resources plc, a British onshore oil and gas exploration and production company established in 1997. We use all our expertise to ensure our onshore hydrocarbon drilling projects in the UK and mainland Europe are managed responsibly.

We strive to find effective and appropriate ways of consulting with all our stakeholders, including local residents and businesses, and we believe that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. We hope that the public exhibition has proved both useful and informative and we would welcome feedback on our proposals.

## What studies have been undertaken?

Egdon has commissioned a number of studies to assess the potential effects that the construction and operation of the site might have on a number of aspects, including:

- Noise
- Ecology
- Environmental sensitivities
- Landscape and visual
- Flood risk, geology and pollution control
- Traffic and transport
- Archaeology

The studies, although not complete at time of writing, are undertaken by independent environmental specialists and will be submitted as part of our planning application. As the assessments are independent, any recommendations to reduce environmental impacts or improve the local environment help inform the planning decision process and feed through into specific planning conditions.

## What happens next?

Egdon Resources expects to submit a formal temporary planning application for the new Biscathorpe exploratory conventional oil well site within the next couple of months. We will inform the local community when this happens via our project web page. Alternatively you can register for inclusion on our mailing list by contacting: [jo@fizzpr.co.uk](mailto:jo@fizzpr.co.uk)

On receipt of the planning application, the local minerals planning authority Lincolnshire County Council will place it on the planning register and will assign the application a unique reference number. This will trigger a period of consultation, led by the local authority planning department and will involve key organisations such as the Environment Agency, English Nature, English Heritage etc as well as local and parish councils.

It will also accept comments from members of the public about the application.

A planning decision is made by either delegation to a senior officer in the planning department or by referral to the planning committee. The planning committee, which is made up of elected councilors, would meet on an agreed date to consider the application. They will take into account the case officer's recommendation and representations from key consultees and the public.

## Contact us

If you require any further information please contact:

**Jo Travis**  
**Community Relations Coordinator**  
Telephone: 0115 878 8893  
Mobile: 07979 800 897  
Email: [jo@fizzpr.co.uk](mailto:jo@fizzpr.co.uk)

Please visit our project web page, giving regular updates about our exploratory oil well site at Wressle:  
**[www.egdon-resources.com/Wellsite\\_Biscathorpe](http://www.egdon-resources.com/Wellsite_Biscathorpe)**