



**Office of Liz Saville Roberts MP**

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Greg Hands MP  
Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change  
1 Victoria Street  
London, SW1H 0ET

**11 April 2022**

Dear Mr Hands,

**Fracking**

I hope this letter finds you both well. I am contacting following comments made by Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales David TC Davies regarding fracking during a recording of Any Questions on BBC Radio 4, in which we both took part last Friday.

During the recording, Mr Davies encouraged Plaid Cymru and Labour to abandon our opposition to, and concerns regarding the environmental impact of, shale gas extraction via hydraulic fracturing.

I must remind you that Wales has banned fracking since 2018. In fact, in Wales planning has been withheld for fracking since 2015, after the Welsh Government supported a Plaid Cymru motion.

In addition, at COP26, Wales signed up to the Beyond Oil & Gas Alliance, again reinforcing our comprehensive rejection of fracking or any new hydrocarbon developments.

Shale production will not meet our current energy needs or address the cost-of-living crisis; it will take too long and be too expensive. The UK Government commissioned review by the British Geological Survey of the latest scientific evidence around shale gas extraction in England should have no bearing on our ban in Wales.

The UK Government may be giving in to climate deniers and fossil fuel opportunists, but I must remind you that the powers over licensing for oil and gas extraction on land as well as in intertidal areas, estuaries and coastal inlets were devolved to Wales in 2018.

I would appreciate if in your response you were able to give me a guarantee that the UK Government will not attempt to impose fracking on communities in Wales.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest possible convenience.

Yn gywir,

Liz Saville Roberts MP  
**Member of Parliament for Dwyfor Meirionnydd**

cc. David TC Davies MP – Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales

Simon Hart MP – Secretary of State for Wales

Minister for Climate Change – Julie James MS