

Friends of the Firth Of Clyde

Hunterston Master Plan – or Disaster Plan?

Peel Consultation, Village Hall, Fairlie

Tues 4th Jun 2-7pm, Wed 5th Jun 10am to 4pm, Thur 6th Jun 10am to 2pm.

What Does It Say? read it via: <https://www.peelports.com/media/4436/hunterston-masterplan-2019-digital.pdf>

What Do We Say? We welcome safe and sustainable development, with meaningful resident consultation. Since the 70's £1bn of public money has been sunk into this site, without significant economic impact! We are puzzled by this jigsaw of a plan, the businesses are totally incompatible with each other! LNG is highly explosive, to site next to a Nuclear Power Station an Oil Rig decom (with angle grinders and blow torches) would be madness. How would the site be protected from terrorism?

Here is our digest and questions. As a group we do not support the Oil Rig Decommissioning, the LNG Terminal or the Gas Power Station. We continue to be critical of the Peel way of operating. Peel have never invested any effort in community liaison and most of the information has had to be researched from alternative sources.

Peel's Idea 1 - Turn the Fairlie Coal Jetty into the Biggest Liquid Natural Gas Terminal in the World!

We have an LNG expert in Fairlie, who has kindly prepared this summary for us.



LNG Terminal in Grain, Kent

What is Liquid Natural Gas (LNG)?

- LNG is Methane gas cooled to -165°C to make it a liquid. It would freeze anything on contact.
- The largest storage tanks found to date can hold approximately 90,000 tonnes. Peel plan to hold 5.5 million tonnes! (*We think they might have made an error here!*)

- If LNG is spilled it freezes, asphyxiates, and is highly explosive. There have been terrible accidents, well documented on the internet, causing widespread destruction to buildings and life.
- Large LNG spills on water can cause violent explosion immediately the LNG contacts the water without an ignition source, caused by efficient heat transfer from the water. The pool of LNG spilled on to water travels faster than a pool spilled on land due to the lower surface friction between the LNG and the water surface. The water surface begins to freeze as the pool spreads. Rapid formation of the gas cloud occurs due to the supplied heat from the water and this can be accelerated by turbulence from waves. An ignitable cloud can form quickly due to the efficient mixing, there is no realistic opportunity to halt the pool spreading with barriers or mounds etc.
- Ocean going LNG tankers generally carry around 90,000 tonnes of LNG. It's the size of the biggest aircraft carriers.
- No other vessels are allowed within 1.5 nautical miles of an LNG vessel to prevent collision.

- With the numbers they have suggested 1 tanker would unload per week.
- LNG terminals are generally sited away from centres of population and other industrial activities - Peel Ports propose to site this 400m from Southannan Estate. The bulk of Fairlie residents are within 1300 metres of the storage site.
- Disaster modelling suggests asphyxiation within 500m and explosion impact to 3,500m. We know of no LNG terminal sited within 2400 metres of four nuclear reactors, especially those with cracked graphite bricks, with known risk to seismic events. Even if the probability of an event is low, the consequences are potentially huge.
- LNG is cleaner burning than coal, but when considering the whole environmental impact may not be cleaner. Much LNG is 'Fracked Gas', with well documented environmental impact.

Questions We Have:

- In the Master Plan Peel justify the use of Hunterston as the location for an LNG terminal by citing an unidentified "Scottish Enterprise Report", which they claim "concludes that Hunterston PARC is suitable for an LNG importation and distribution terminal". Why have they not attached a copy of that report to the Master Plan?
- The Grain LNG site (biggest LNG Terminal in the UK and 2km from habitation) has a siren system to evacuate residents. Explain consideration of the risk management plan required for Hunterston?
- Peel have an exceedingly poor safety record. Who would operate the terminal and have responsibility for safety? If Peel are responsible for safety what consideration have they give to their lack of experience and atrocious track record?
- Where would all the storage be located?
- How would ignition risk be managed so close to the other proposed industries and the road?

- What vehicular road transport would be envisaged? In particular have Peel considered whether the local road infrastructure would be capable of supporting the additional traffic projected to result from LNG-fuelled lorries using the Hunterston terminal as a re-fuelling point?
- Peel have designated 2.5million tonnes gas for distribution network – explain more.
- Would the bunkering as shown on the map mean significant dredging of the SSSI?
- What Major Incident and anti-terrorism measures have been considered and what is the readiness of emergency services?

Peel's Idea 2 – A Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Power Station -

Similar power stations have cost £1bn to construct.



In their strategy Peel cite Carrington CCGT Power Station – Image above. This would use 2.5million tonnes of LNG per year.

From an environmental perspective, we fail to understand how this is a good move, specifically when you look at the source of LNG ie fossil fuel, likely fracked gas.

Additionally, the Carrington site needed to be built on 8000 concrete piles due to its proximity to water. Would they envisage piles for Hunterston?

Peel's Idea 3 – Train Manufacturing Plant.

Peel reference Bombardier in Derby.



This would suggest factory style construction. It's the only offering with significant jobs, however Bombardier announced a 5,000 job cut in Nov18.



We are wondering how they would manage the digging out of the heavily contaminated land to put in foundations for a factory?

Peel's Idea 4 – Modular

Manufacturing – next to no details provided. Likely to involve road transport.

Peel's Idea 5 – Concrete Batching - a concrete batching plant is a facility used for combining various ingredients to form concrete. The Master Plan provides next to no details but from our own research it is essential that concrete batching plants are located in areas where they will not pose a hazard to the environment or the amenity of the local community. Highly alkaline wastewater, dust emissions and noise are the key potential impacts associated with concrete batching plants.



We would also expect significant levels of road use by heavy goods vehicles

Peel's Idea 6 – Marine

Decommissioning - the Master Plan states that "Furthermore, the marine yard is uniquely combined with substantial set down land, which could make the PARC an attractive proposition for decommissioning oil and gas structures and vessels. **Projects become viable when assets can be held until commodity markets peak.**"



The decommissioning planning permission specifically prohibits the storage of rigs and other structures on the site unless they are being actively worked on. We therefore assume that by "assets" Peel mean only the scrap materials. Otherwise, Peel's own logic would suggest that marine decommissioning at Hunterston is not viable.

Peel's Idea 8 – Plastic Recycling.

The proposal references the Biffa Recycling Centre at Redcar, mixed plastics refers to pots, tubs and trays. However, with the Scottish Bottle Return Scheme on the horizon, it would be surprising if bottles weren't included.



Bales of crude "feedstock"(plastic waste items)

are delivered, almost certainly by road, and stored outside at the Biffa Redcar facility. They are then taken into the facility where they are broken down by hand and fed onto a conveyor, then picked, washed and shredded.



Likely impacts – heavy road transport in and out. Odour from waste streams and process. Plastic particulate pollution? If you Google plastic recycling and fire – you will see numerous serious toxic fires including those started by self-ignition from the sun.

So what does this all mean for residents?

Peel have so far not provided any useful information to aid understanding. We need to ask for more information about the short and long-term impact including:

- Health and Safety of residents
- Environment – both land and marine
- Road safety - volume of traffic and increase in heavy goods vehicles.
- Impact on Southannan Sands Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Wildlife - marine mammals, bird population, active shellfish and OSPAR protected species that surround the yard
- Tourism, recreation & leisure sectors of the local economy
- Noise & light pollution
- Litter and waste management
- Security of the neighbouring Nuclear Power Station
- MOD activity in the area
- Planning consent conditions
- Coordination of licencing & regulation
- Who will the operators be?
- What are the timeframes?

Our Ideas:

Clean Energy Technology Park, Marina and Environmental Retreat / Conference Centre.

The site is terribly contaminated with coal, and we are critical of Peels environmental management.

Peel open their Master Plan with a discussion about fossil fuels and environmental concerns, yet they have totally failed to address this. Why can't this be a centre for excellence for clean energy?

When will Peel address the coal contamination? One of the best carbon sinks – Sea Grass - is adjacent to the site. The SSSI is a natural asset, with creative thinking a centre for excellence in technological development could sit well with a wetland and tourism attraction. The dry dock might make a great marina complex. The combination of eco-tourism and eco-technology could be world leading.

This could support the Ayrshire economy and enhance the prospects of the 4,000 people in Ayrshire who work in tourism. This could create significantly more jobs than the proposed site and be a much more positive ambitious showcase.

Its difficult to fit everything into a single document - please follow us on facebook (Friends of the Firth of Clyde), email us or visit our website for more information.

secretary@friendsoffirtofclayde.org

<https://friendsoffirtofclayde.org>

This leaflet was produced with donations from residents. All donations gratefully received:

<https://uk.gofundme.com/7ujhe-save-our-marine-life>

Let's pool our knowledge – if you have any insight into the industries promoted, please get in touch. We also would be very keen to hear what you learned at the consultation. We will collate all information for the good of the community.

