

**PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FAO: LOCAL REPORTERS**

Wednesday 4th October 2017

**DAVID TORRANCE MSP WELCOMES FRACKING BAN**

SNP MSP David Torrance has welcomed the Scottish Government's announcement that fracking will be banned.

The Scottish Government previously announced a moratorium while it ran a public consultation and examined evidence over health and public safety. The consultation was the second largest ever run by the Scottish Government, receiving 60,535 valid responses – of which 99% were opposed to fracking.

The announcement will be put in to immediate effect, following correspondence from the Scottish Government to local authorities across Scotland which makes clear that the directions that gave effect to the moratorium will remain in place.

Commenting, SNP MSP David Torrance said:

“People in Fife, and across Scotland, had deep concerns about the development of fracking, which is why the Scottish Government put in place a moratorium while the evidence was carefully examined. The Scottish Government has now undertaken one of the most far reaching investigations into unconventional oil and gas of any government in the world and concluded that we could not pursue fracking in confidence that it would not undermine public health or our climate change targets.

“In the past I have made my stance against fracking very clear in view of the potential detrimental impact it could have on the environment and the people not only within the constituency I represent, but throughout the whole of Scotland; therefore, I am delighted that the Scottish Government are putting the interests of communities first and implementing this ban.”

**ENDS**

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