

STATEMENT FROM UK OIL & GAS PLC

1st June 2020

The unlawful actions by a small group of protesters from Extinction Rebellion, is doubly abhorrent at this time of national crisis. Firstly, they have shown total disregard for the safety and health of others by violating current Covid-19 regulations about social distancing, even urinating on our staff. Their behaviour has been appalling. The police must now risk their own safety in order to remove them. Secondly, they have thumbed their noses at the High Court by violating our injunction order via their aggravated trespass onto our site and from preventing us from conducting our lawful business.

And did they ever stop to think that the medical equipment and PPE the country sorely needs at present is derived from oil and gas? Face masks and visors, gloves, protective aprons, syringes, sterile tubes and pipes in intubators and ventilators, catheters, sample bottles, tablet dispensers, vital function computers and screens, the list is endless. Even patient notes are kept in a plastic file and ID wristbands are made from plastic. All are made from petroleum products. You cannot get away from it.

Petroleum derived products come in all shapes and sizes but any medical facility, from your local GP surgery to the inside of an ambulance to intensive care units in hospitals, depend on plastics, because they are sterile, easily manufactured and durable. Would you want to live in a world without these basic but essential items?