Dear Sirs,

I wish to register my protest against yet another attempt by Halite to get their gas storage plan passed.

My reasons are the same everytime – the safety, the threat of explosion, the colossal scale of the evacuation etc, etc. This is an area where many residents are elderly and cannot/do not drive – there is only one road out of the village, and over Shard Bridge only one for all the Fleetwood, Poulton and Over Wyre residents to use.

We are sick and tired of having to constantly fight for the right to live quietly, peacefully and safely in our villages. How many more of these planning applications must we suffer?

Surely there must be a limit. Halite are just rich bullies and I appeal to the Planning Inspectorate to put an end to this once and for all. In the course of my work I visit many elderly residents and the feedback is – this constant threat is injurious to our mental and physical health and well-being. I ask you to consider our fears. Thank you,

Yours faithfully,

Ps. I enclose a press cutting I wrote eight years ago.
Letters

Cavernous holes could swallow up the Tower

I AM a descendant of salt miners, my great, great grandfather being the first mining engineer to come from Cheshire to test for salt.

I am also strongly opposed to the proposals of CanaXX to store gas beneath the Over Wyre area and the Wyre Estuary.

During the 1980s extraction of brine was by putting water down a brine well and allowing it to run its course through rock salt and be pumped up another brine well.

The marts above the rock salt were incapable of supporting the surface, resulting in subsidence.

Over the years there have been several subsidences resulting in the loss of a farm, a lane and the development of Acre pit, the Flash and the Big Hole.

In June 1933 there was a depression in the ground which became a hole 12 ft in diameter. By August it was 80 yards in diameter, September 120 yards and in October Blackpool Tower could have been dropped down and no trace left of it.

The crater was still expanding in January 1934 and the Fleetwood Chronicle reported one weekend the roar and rumbles being heard at Pilling four miles away.

In 1931 further subsidence left the mine irreparably damaged and it was closed. Used cavities were eventually filled with saturated brine in an attempt to keep the salt stable.

I do not think that the general public are aware of these things, nor realise the extent of the area involved.

Some boreholes are to be found as far as Egland Hill and towards Nately. Highly toxic mercury and brine sludge have been deposited in one cavern.

Who knows at present the state and extent of the caverns, cavities and water courses beneath the land?

I am sure CanaXX will reassure us on these points just as I am sure the people of Kansas and China were reassured. What happens at the end of its life and who then maintains the pressure underground? Would this be necessary forever?

I urge all those people who thought it to be an Over Wyre problem to write and object because Fleetwood, Cleveleys and Poulton are also in the three mile area.

RUTH BRADBURY