

Fracking meets Offshore Oil Drilling to talk about climate change

Obama administration launched fracking in massive scale. The Portuguese government authorized ENI/GALP to start deep offshore drilling in Aljezur. Only if their political decisions were half-consistent with their words...

To please the fossil fuel industry, Obama diverted the attention from coal towards fossil gas. Hydraulic fracking to extract gas from shale rocks was his main energy strategy. He cherry picked the fact that at the point of production gas power plants emit much less CO₂ than coal power plants. However, fossil gas consists mostly of methane and if only 3% of it leaks during extraction or transportation, then it would be worse than coal for climate. Data shows that actually around 3.6% and 7.9% of gas escapes to the atmosphere at the wells. Gas is a good idea for fossil fuel industry, and a horrible idea for climate.

Obama increased US emissions, maintained and strengthened the fossil fuel *status quo*, and then delivered it to Trump who in his energy policy stated that his administration will “support the shale oil and shale gas revolution.”



Accordingly, António Costa’s government signed an agreement with Trump to receive exactly this fracked gas through the Sines port. Portuguese government wants to increase Sines’ capacity to boost European demand for fossil gas.

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About deep offshore oil and gas projects, **PS government** has an even more impressive record. The government turned a blind eye to mass demonstrations against the oil drill in Aljezur, infamously **ignored all the public consultations** where the populations as well as the local politicians unanimously opposed the drill, **extended ENI/GALP's expired contract**, and **allowed the operations to go forward without an environmental impact assessment**.

Both Obama and Costa talk a lot about climate change and energy transition. But the physics and chemistry of the planet do not listen to paidstream media propaganda.

Unless there is immediate and radical emission cuts, we will not only see more and stronger storms, forest fires and droughts, but also trigger runaway climate change entering an age of uncontrollable climate chaos.

Neither Obama nor the Portuguese government officials are politically qualified to talk about an energy transition.

Our demand is simple and clear: Stop lying and start doing.

Stop the drill in Aljezur!

Cancel the oil and gas contracts!

Stop financing the fossil fuel industry!

Start a rapid and just energy transition!



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