

Dear Archbishop Sarah, Archbishop Stephen, and Bishop Graham,

We are writing to you at the start of our 24-hour vigil on Ash Wednesday to ask for your support in urging the Government to refuse permission for the Rosebank oilfield in the North Sea.

Christian Climate Action has been calling for the last two years on the Labour party, now Government, to refuse plans for the vast oilfield off Shetland, which would produce 500 million barrels of oil, and cause 200 million tonnes of CO₂, creating more annual emissions than the world's 73 poorest nations combined.

Today CCA is joining with the Stop Rosebank campaign to perform a 'die in' outside St Paul's Cathedral to raise attention to the millions of deaths that are taking place around the world due to the Climate and Nature Emergency caused by our continued reliance on extracting and burning fossil fuels.

As you know, our living world is in crisis. [The World Health Organisation and the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change](#) is already reporting 546,000 heat-related deaths per year, along with 154,000 deaths from toxic fumes from wildfires, 2.5 million deaths from air pollution, and an additional 124 million people facing food insecurity. In 2024 alone, 45.8 million people were displaced by storms, floods and other disasters. By 2050, [many millions will have died](#).

Despite 2024 being the warmest year on record, reaching 1.55°C above pre-industrial levels, fossil fuel companies are continuing to increase production. The impact from burning Rosebank's 500 million barrels of oil is [incompatible with efforts to maintain a liveable future](#). Scientific consensus suggests every [1,000 tonnes of CO₂ emitted condemns an extra person to death](#).

As part of our Stop Crucifying Creation campaign, Christian Climate Action is urging the Church of England to be a prophetic voice in this existential crisis and speak out against the forces that are driving the Climate and Nature Emergency. This includes calling out the fossil fuel companies, their financiers, enablers and lobbyists, and using its position as the established Church to call on the UK Government to make responsible decisions for the future of the people of this country. You can read the Stop Crucifying Creation vision document here: bit.ly/ourcalltothechurch

Many groups including faith leaders, health professionals, UK parents, environmental groups and charities have already written to Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer, urging the Government to refuse the application for Rosebank, which is due to be decided on very soon.

Please speak up for the future of God's Creation and the Church's fifth Mark of Mission by urging the UK Government to refuse this application for the Rosebank oilfield, in line with its 2024 pledge to end new oil and gas licences.

We will be continuing to pray throughout the next 24 hours for the future of our planet, the people impacted by climate change around the world, and for the leadership of our Church in the realities of the Climate and Nature Emergency that we face together.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Climate Action.

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