



The Impact of Developing Shale Oil and Gas on the UK Countryside

Project Overview

Petrenel was commissioned to undertake 'A Review of the Potential Impact of Shale Gas and Oil Development on the UK Countryside'. Shale oil and gas development could have a profound impact on the countryside and this report describes the background and the state of the emerging industry in the UK and assesses the potential effects on the local environment and how these may be addressed.

Petrenel's Approach

DESCRIBING THE SHALE INDUSTRY

- ... Reviewed recent history and the estimation of the shale resource potential
- ... Described the methods for shale exploitation and how they compare with conventional oil and gas
- ... Described how a typical US Shale operation might appear in the UK
- ... Summarised the UK Government's policy and the licencing, fiscal terms and regulatory background
- ... Listed the current operators and proposed a possible scenario for a generic UK operation including testing its economic viability

ASSESSING THE EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

- ... Reviewed the potential effects of green house gas emissions, flaring, land use and footprint, transportation, water consumption and waste disposal on the countryside
- ... Assessed the risks of groundwater contamination and induced seismic activity
- ... Evaluated the background and framework of each of the above and their relevance to shale oil & gas operations
- ... Assessed what actions could be taken to minimise any potentially harmful impact

Outcome and Client Benefit

The conclusions and recommendations from this unique study are being used as a basis for interaction between various NGO's, government offices and the regulatory agencies and the report is being considered for publication.

