

ADAS Policy on Unconventional Natural Gas



Introduction

This policy document explains the ADAS position on hydraulic fracturing (fracking).

Fracking has been used offshore in the UK since the 1940s for the extraction of North Sea oil. Significant opportunities for onshore fracking in the UK have now been identified with speculation that the UK may contain the largest shale gas reserves in Europe found to date.

Ethical Review

Unconventional shale gas and onshore fracking have been the subject of public concern and media attention. ADAS recognises that ethical and environmental standards are important to its staff, to its clients, to pressure groups and to the general public. Consequently, ADAS has an Ethics Committee to give in-depth consideration to these issues, to formulate and produce relevant policy statements and to ensure that high standards are maintained throughout the Company.

The ADAS Ethics Committee discussed the Company's involvement in fracking related contracts and had no firm objections against carrying out work on ethical grounds; they felt that ADAS acting as independent experts could provide objective and impartial advice to planners, landowners and developers.

ADAS Involvement in Fracking

ADAS' approach to fracking is consistent with its long established core values and business ethos. That is, from an independent position, to provide professional consultancy and policy advice; including the impartial evaluation of new technology, help with developing alternatives to existing technology and to deliver technology transfer.

The scope of ADAS services offered in relation to unconventional shale gas will be an extension of existing services, which may include:

- Independent advice to Local Authorities in assessing planning applications.
- Provision of planning services.
- Provision of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs).
- Landowner negotiations: A brokerage service to represent landowners, gain access to land and agree on compensation.
- Advising on and implementing biodiversity offsetting measures.

Responsibilities

We are fully committed to the implementation of this policy, for which I take overall responsibility. We will work with our employees in order to achieve the policy objectives described. The policy is periodically reviewed so that it continues to be effective and relevant to the business.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "I. Strudwick".

Ian Strudwick
Managing Director
RSK ADAS Limited

PS26 Edition: 05
January 2018