

# Fracking licences issued for beauty spots under "exceptional circumstances"

*SMi's 5th Shale Gas Environmental Summit, 27-28 Oct, provides the ideal platform for industry experts to discuss the impacts during extraction & production*

LONDON, SOUTHWARK, UNITED KINGDOM, August 4, 2014 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The UK government is keen to promote [fracking](#) in the UK, and has already announced a number of incentives to help kick-start the industry. Fracking licences can only be issued for beauty spots in "exceptional circumstances", according to new rules issued by the government. It said the regulations for the new bidding round for licenses - the first in six years - are stricter than before. And companies applying to frack near beauty spots will have additional obligations. But some environmental campaigners say the new rules are not tough enough.



Planning permission may be granted in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty if "it can be demonstrated they are in the public interest". Greenpeace argues that the announcement actually makes it easier for developers to drill in national parks. While The National Trust gave a more cautious welcome to the extraction of shale gas in beauty spots only if it is under exceptional circumstances. (Source: [BBC News](#), Beauty spots still at fracking 'risk', say campaigners, 2014)

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*BBC News, 2014*

Against this backdrop, this year's timely [Shale Gas Environmental Summit](#) will feature exclusive sessions by the the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, FTI

Consulting and Plexus Energy on 'public engagement', to provide insight into:

- The analysis and approaches utilized across key countries in the EU (Poland, Ukraine, Germany and the UK)
- The issues and barriers to shale gas development
- ... and how to break down the barriers

This is just a snippet of what will be covered. This year's event will provide the ideal platform for various industry representatives including operators, environmentalists, campaigners, NGOs, academics and researchers to come together and discuss the environmental aspects of shale gas extraction and production. Other speakers will include the Environment Agency, Plexus Energy, UKOOG, RSPB, Water UK, Bath and North East Somerset Council, No Hot Air, MWH Global, British Geological Survey plus many more.

#### Key Discussions

- How do we monitor and enforce the regulations?
- Does the UK need more rigid laws for fracking?
- What are the resulting impacts on climate change and wildlife?
- What are the impacts on water?

For those who are interested in attending, there is currently a £300 reduced rate through online registrations, using the following code: SM13A7A.

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For more information please visit:

5th annual Shale Gas Environmental Summit  
 27-30 October, 2014  
 Holiday Inn Regents Park Hotel, London, UK  
<http://www.shalegassummit.co.uk>

#### About SMi Group:

Established since 1993, the SMi Group is a global event-production company that specializes in Business-to-Business Conferences, Workshops, Masterclasses, and online Communities. We create and deliver events in the Defence, Security, Energy, Utilities, Finance, and Pharmaceutical industries.

We pride ourselves on having access to the world's most forward thinking opinion leaders and

#### CONFERENCE CHAIRS:

- Julian O'Halloran, Reporter, **BBC**
- Alan Riley, Professor of Law, City Law School, City University

#### KEY SPEAKERS:

- Mark Ellis-Jones, Onshore Oil & Gas Programme Executive, **Environment Agency**
  - Paul Crossley, Leader of the Council and Liberal Democrat Group Leader, **Bath and North East Somerset Council**
  - Nick Grealy, Publisher, **No Hot Air**
  - Harry Huyton, Head of Climate and Energy Policy, **RSPB**
  - Jim Marshall, Policy and Business Advisor, **Water UK**
  - Ken Cronin, Chief Executive, **UK Onshore Operations Group**
  - Paul Stevens, Distinguished Fellow, Energy, Environment and Resources, **Chatham House**
  - John Ord, Business Director – Thermal Power & Energy Networks, **MWH Global**
  - Alan Riley, Professor of Law, City Law School, City University
  - Marianne Pascal Flynn, Geoscientist Research Fellow, **IASS**
- ...and many more!

#### WHY ATTEND THIS EVENT:

- **Understand** the environmental risks and regulation of shale gas exploration
- **Examine** the global impact of natural gas in reducing carbon via coal and oil to gas substitution
- **Evaluate** the risks that shale gas poses to the natural environment
- **Analyse** the strategies for waste water disposal from shale gas drilling
- **Review** the impact of shale gas on the water industry
- **Discuss** the supply chain of shale gas in the UK

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More information can be found at <http://www.smi-online.co.uk>.

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