

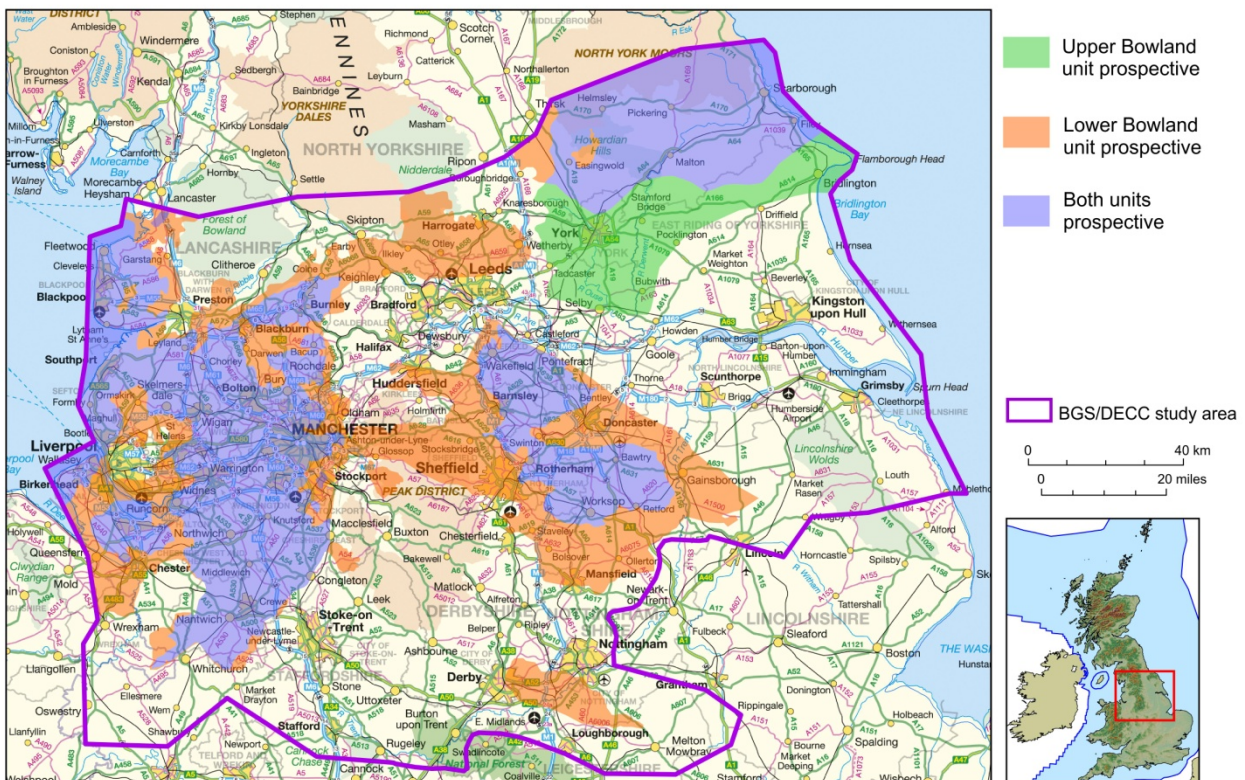
# PRESS RELEASE

27<sup>th</sup> June 2013

## Shale gas resource figure released

The British Geological Survey (BGS) in association with DECC has completed an estimate for the resource (gas-in-place) of shale gas in part of central Britain in an area between Wrexham and Blackpool in the west, and Nottingham and Scarborough in the east. The estimate is in the form of a range to reflect geological uncertainty. The lower limit of the range is 822 tcf and the upper limit is 2281 tcf, but the central estimate for the resource is 1329 tcf.

This shale gas estimate is a resource figure (gas-in-place) and so represents the gas that we think is present, but not the gas that might be possible to extract. The proportion of gas that it may be possible to extract is unknown as it depends on the economic, geological and social factors that will prevail at each operation.



Shale gas clearly has potential in Britain but it will require geological and engineering expertise, investment and protection of the environment. It will also need organisations like the BGS to play their part in providing up to date and accurate information on resources and the environment to the public, industry and Government.

\*Ends\*



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**Notes for Editors**

The following are available for interview:

- Professor Mike Stephenson, British Geological Survey
- Mr Bob Gatliff, British Geological Survey
- Dr Rob Ward, British Geological Survey
- Dr Phil Richards, British Geological Survey

For additional information go to: [www.bgs.ac.uk/shalegas](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/shalegas)

Photographs are available from our ftp server:

<ftp://ftp.bgs.ac.uk/pubload/bgspress/shalegasresource>

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The British Geological Survey (BGS), a component body of the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), is the nation's principal supplier of objective, impartial and up-to-date geological expertise and information for decision making for governmental, commercial and individual users. The BGS maintains and develops the nation's understanding of its geology to improve policy making, enhance national wealth and reduce risk. It also collaborates with the national and international scientific community in carrying out research in strategic areas, including energy and natural resources, our vulnerability to environmental change and hazards, and our general knowledge of the Earth system. More about the BGS can be found at [www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk).

**The Natural Environment Research Council**

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