

PRESS RELEASE

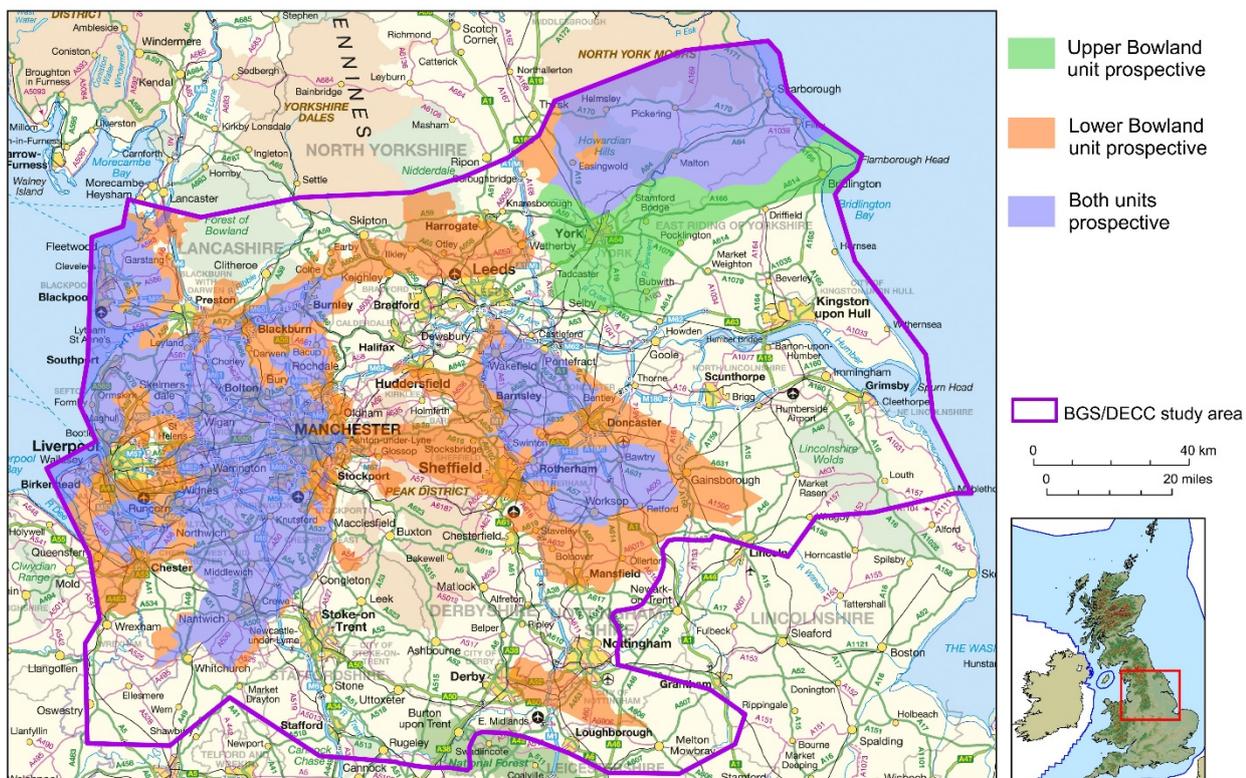
16th August 2016

BGS retains vital role in UK oil and gas exploration

The British Geological Survey (BGS) have successfully retained a key geoscience consultancy role for the UK Government and will work closely with the Oil and Gas Authority (OGA). As part of the three year contract, the BGS will provide geoscience project services that aid the identification, definition and quantification of leads and prospects and provide input data to the calculation of undiscovered resource volumes.

The BGS have provided geoscience project services for the UK Government since the 1970s, including:

- Advice and guidance on UK shale gas resources, including estimates for central Britain (Bowland Shale), south-east England, Midland Valley of Scotland, and Wales
- National offshore geological and geophysical mapping programmes
- Prospectivity for oil and gas exploration
- Promotion of new oil and gas prospects
- Custodian of the national collection of borehole core and cuttings



Prospective shale gas resources in central Britain (published by DECC, 2013)

Robert Gatliff, BGS Science Director for Energy and Marine Geoscience said: "BGS is delighted to continue our collaboration with the OGA and our geoscience colleagues in Government".



Gunther Newcombe, OGA Exploration, Production and Decommissioning Director, said: "In order to fulfil OGA's goal to maximise economic value of the UKCS, it is vital we can independently assess remaining undiscovered resources and improve our geotechnical understanding.

"In addition, OGA is seeking to drive regional development and protect critical infrastructure while promoting the best application of new technologies. The award of these contracts provides a valuable, additional technical resource to the OGA's Exploration, Production and Decommissioning team."

Ends

For further details or to arrange media interviews please contact:

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Notes for Editors

The following are available for interview:

- Robert Gatliff, Science Director for Energy and Marine Geoscience, British Geological Survey

For additional information go to:

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/research/energy/petroleumGeoscience/home.html>

The British Geological Survey

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.

The Natural Environment Research Council

The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) is the UK's main agency for funding and managing world-class research, training and knowledge exchange in the environmental sciences. It coordinates some of the world's most exciting research projects, tackling major issues such as climate change, food security, environmental influences on human health, the genetic make-up of life on earth, and much more. NERC receives around £300 million a year from the government's science budget, which it uses to fund research and training in universities and its own research centres. www.nerc.ac.uk