POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
IN CARBON CAPTURE & STORAGE

FIXED TERM APPOINTMENT

The British Geological Survey (BGS) is one of the world’s leading and forward thinking geological science institutes, with a focus on both public good science for government and geoscientific research to understand earth and environmental processes. It has the UK’s largest academic Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) research group. A vacancy has arisen for a post-doctoral research associate in carbon capture and storage to be based at our office in Cardiff. The appointment is for a fixed term terminating on 31 December 2018 and would desirably start on 1 June 2015, or as soon as possible thereafter.

The BGS office in Cardiff delivers the NERC National Capability in geosciences in Wales. As well as producing baseline geological information (maps and models), we undertake research in strategic topics including energy, land use planning, geohazards, regeneration and environmental management.

This appointment will be funded by the Sêr Cymru National Research Network for Low Carbon, Energy and Environment, and is part of the Geo-Carb-Cymru: Geologic Carbon Storage in Wales Research Cluster. The main aim of the research cluster is to explore the potential of CCS in Wales and adjacent regions. To date, exploration has been limited, despite proximity to large CO$_2$ producers. The research programme aims to address this knowledge gap by undertaking a major collaborative initiative between Aberystwyth University, Cardiff University and BGS Wales.

As a highly motivated scientist, you will take the lead role in the development and delivery of the BGS component of this programme and develop links with other CCS research programmes led by the BGS and with other researchers within the cluster. It is expected that your research will be in the broad area of CCS reservoir characterisation, in topics such as cap-rock and reservoir systems heterogeneity and interactions, or CO$_2$ storage site characterisation.

You will have suitable experience in at least one of the following: basin analysis, reservoir characterisation and structural geology. You will be able to communicate your ideas effectively in a variety of ways to scientists, decision makers and funding bodies. You will already have a track-record of publication in these fields with at least 5 papers in press with ISI accredited journals and will be expected to develop additional peer reviewed publications and grant applications as part of this post.

You must be educated to at least 2:1 degree level in Geology or a closely related geoscience subject, and must hold a PhD in a related topic with at least 2 years’ but no more than 8 years’ relevant experience since attaining your PhD. You will have relevant experience of subsurface geophysical characterisation techniques (seismic/well-log interpretation) and/or computer modelling of geological basins. You must possess excellent oral and written communication skills and be a self-starter, able to work without close supervision when necessary.
Although the post will be based in Cardiff, you should expect some periods of time working away, either undertaking fieldwork in the UK or working at other BGS sites.

Starting salary will be between £28,200 per annum to £35,222 per annum depending on experience. Working hours will be 37 per week excluding lunch breaks. The role also attracts a generous benefits package including a company pension scheme, childcare allowance, 30 days annual leave plus 10.5 days public and privilege holidays.

This is advertised as a full time post but we will consider applications from those who require more flexible arrangements.

Applications are handled by the RCUK Shared Services Centre; to apply please visit our job board at http://www.topcareer.jobs/Vacancy/irc184953_5243.aspx and submit your up-to-date C.V. and covering letter, which clearly outlines why you are applying for this post and how you meet the criteria described in this advertisement. Applicants who would like to receive this advert in an alternative format (e.g. large print, Braille, audio or hard copy), or who are unable to apply online should contact us by telephone on 01793 867003, Please quote reference number IRC184953.

Closing date for receipt of application forms is 15 April 2015.

The Natural Environment Research Council is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. People with disabilities and those from ethnic minorities are currently under-represented and their applications are particularly welcome. The British Geological Survey is an Investors in People organization and has achieved Bronze status for Athena Swan – a scheme that recognizes excellence in women's employment in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) in UK higher education. There is a guaranteed Interview Scheme for suitable candidates with disabilities.