Relocating UKCS cores from Gilmerton (Edinburgh) to the NGDC at Keyworth

Progress to mid-October 2010

Preparations for the core move have progressed significantly over the summer. It was decided to move the legacy well records before the core, to free up space for pallet storage and to collect additional transport vibration data. The records move has started; transport of core and cuttings is anticipated to commence during November.

Key milestones reached include:
- Core store extension at Keyworth completed and handed over to the BGS
- Core box barcoding completed
- Combined offshore & onshore core store database developed
- Transport tendering completed
- Equipment purchase completed (camera, high-spec computer, etc); delivery schedules in place for pallets and cages.
- Plans completed for upgrading core examination laboratories at Keyworth and the provision of additional facilities. Alterations commenced.
- Innovative mobile core benches developed and trialled to facilitate rapid changeover of core.

Over the summer the “Gilmerton Core Sample Collection: Keyworth Transfer” document has been refined. The suggestions from the June meeting have been incorporated; no further advisory group feedback on the plan was received after the meeting. The plan is currently being updated to include:

- The analysis of vibration data from trial runs of BGS core that it not part of the DECC collection
- Additional vibration data from the transport of records
- Results of transport trial of unconsolidated sands analogue (loose builders sand in core boxes)
- Procedures for automatically displaying well information on a screen included in the core images, as suggested at the core move advisory group meeting.
- Procedures for automatically renaming image files
- Procedures for identifying core boxes containing fragile core, or material that requires special attention.
- QA procedures
- Outline schedule for moving core
- Teaching Collection

It is intended to circulate the revised transfer plan to the Gilmerton Core Move Advisory Group members by 15th October and then to post the plan on the BGS website the following week, together with the first transfer schedule, and allowing 4 weeks for user review and comment.