

## Overview of conventional onshore UK Oil and Gas – November 2019

This is a summary overview of developments in the conventional onshore UK Oil and Gas industry, it includes planning, operations and business activities as well as objections and protests.

This review is based on a variety of sources and no guarantee can be given as to the accuracy of this information, links to references and further information are included.

### East Midlands

The [public inquiry](#) into plans by Egdon Resources to produce oil at their Wressle site starts in Scunthorpe. Two reports, ([1](#), [2](#)) from the Lincolnshire Reporter. Following the end of the [enquiry](#), the inspector's decision will be released after the general election on 12 December. [Egdon Resources](#) release their results for the year ending 31 July 2019.

[Work](#) can not start on Rathlin Energy's second site at West Newton, until there has been an archaeological survey made of the area. Reabold Resources [announced](#) that the potential volumes at West Newton have been upgraded following technical analysis of the data. The [case](#) against three people who took part in a protest outside the West Newton well site was dismissed.

Union Jack Oil [announced](#) that they had raised £5 million through a subscription for further drilling at West Newton and a side track at Biscathorpe.

### South East

Fire fighters were called to a [fire](#) in the rig engine at the Horse Hill wellsite in Surrey. A local resident has issued a [legal challenge](#) against Surrey County Council's decision to grant planning permission for long term production and further drilling at the Horse Hill site. UK Oil and Gas (UKOG) [announced](#) the completion of the HH-2z horizontal well.

Campaigners in Sussex have [called](#) for a ban on further drilling at Angus Energy's Balcombe site. The Environmental Agency has [objected](#) to Angus Energy's plans to flow test the Balcombe well as the application did not contain enough information to assess the risk to groundwater. [Angus Energy](#) do not expect this to delay their planning application.

A [report](#) in Surrey Live, as Surrey is named as one of the UK's earthquake hotspots in 2019.

Surrey County Council has [postponed](#) their decision on plans to drill near Dunsfold in Surrey for the fifth time. Local residents [called](#) for more time to comment on the plans and the [public consultation](#) has been extended by three weeks.

UKOG have said that they intend to [submit applications](#) for sites in Arreton and Godshill in the Isle of Wight.

### Other news

UK [Government](#) ends support for fracking in England. However, the government have also [announced](#) that "future applications will be considered on their own merits".

Campaigners at Brockham, Surrey [call](#) on the government to ban other forms of stimulation.

The UK Government [consults](#) on new police powers to criminalise unauthorised encampments.

A YouGov [opinion poll](#) found that 56% of people back the total decarbonisation of the UK economy by 2030.

An [injunction](#) against protests at UK oil and gas sites is to be examined at a full trial in the High Court.

Europa Oil & Gas Plc [announced](#) that Hugh Mackay, their CEO and Executive Director was stepping down from the board.

## 2019 Election

Oil and gas manifesto headlines, (parties are listed in alphabetical order with links to their manifestos)

### [Brexit Party:](#)

- No references to oil and gas exploration or drilling
- Commit to zero rate VAT on domestic fuel

### [Conservatives:](#)

- No support for fracking “unless the science shows categorically that it can be done safely”
- Support for gas for hydrogen production

### [Green Party:](#)

- Ban fracking and other unconventional fossil fuel extraction
- Remove subsidies for oil and gas
- Apply carbon tax to imports and domestic production of fossil fuels with intention of making coal, oil and gas financially unviable within a decade

### [Labour:](#)

- Immediate and permanent ban on fracking
- Commit to nearly 90% of electricity and 50% of heat from renewable and low carbon sources by 2030
- Windfall tax on oil companies

### [Liberal Democrats:](#)

- Ban fracking permanently
- Generate 80% of electricity by renewables by 2030
- End fossil fuel subsidies by 2025

### [Plaid Cymru:](#)

- 100% self sufficient in renewable energy by 2030
- Expanded bus network powered by renewable energy

### [Scottish National Party:](#)

- No support and no new licences for unconventional oil and gas in Scotland
- Ring fence oil and gas receipts in a net zero fund to invest in renewable energy and carbon capture and storage
- 75% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2040