DECC issues a Petroleum and Exploratory Development Licence

Operator carries out Environmental Risk Assessment (for shale gas only)

Operator engages in pre-application discussion with local communities, mineral planning authorities and statutory consultees (Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage)

Mineral Planning Authority screens for Environmental Impact Assessment

Operator undertakes Environmental Impact Assessment

Operator submits Planning Application

Operator applies for environmental permits

Mineral Planning Authority validates, advertises and consults on application and any Environmental Statement

Views of Statutory Consultees and local communities sought

Mineral Planning Authority decides application. Imposes planning conditions

Environment Agency Issues environmental permits

Operator notifies Health and Safety Executive at least 21 days in advance of any activity

British Geological Survey informed and Coal Authority consulted (if appropriate)

DECC
Well Consent Granted

Operator notifies Environment Agency of intent to drill under the Water Resources Act 1991

Operator may proceed and drill well (subject to ongoing enforcement and monitoring)

Operator abandons well

Site restoration and Post abandonment monitoring for defined period

Operator submits copies of data to the British Geological Survey