



Terms of Reference (as at December 2014)

DECC Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) Working Group

The Working Group has been established to co-ordinate DECC interests in UCG and review the current licensing processes.

Objectives

- Assess the current state of the UK UCG industry including:
 - current UCG licensing processes;
 - the research and feasibility work carried out to date in the UK;
 - the nature of any potential environmental impacts; and
 - other regulatory requirements
- Consider the interaction between UCG licensing and the current licensing for coal, oil and gas extraction

Output

The Working Group will:

- (i) Produce a position paper on where UCG is situated within wider DECC policy, consulting with relevant parties including industry and NGOs as appropriate (information gathering and recommendations to the Working Group by end 2014)
- (ii) Set out recommendations for dealing with onshore UCG applications for licenses by end 2014

Meetings

Frequency of meetings

Meetings are to be held on a monthly basis, subject to review. On occasions where timing requires, updates may be given in correspondence or in ad hoc meetings.

Secretariat

DECC Coal Liabilities will provide the secretariat function for the Group.

Standard Papers

- Meeting agenda
- Minutes of the previous meeting
- Update reports

In advance of the meeting, the papers (listed above) will be issued and invites sent to members of the group and other invitees/observers as considered appropriate.

Membership

Director EDU (Chair) or Head of Coal Liabilities
DECC CLU (Secretariat)
DECC OUGO
DECC OCCS
DECC LED
The Coal Authority