

RE: Polish shale gas deal expires, source says no renewal

Mike Hill

02.01.2014 12:24 Uhr

Hi Antoine and Maria,

I am afraid I agree with Antoine on this. The reason I say "afraid" is because unlike the UK the Polish public very much seemed to want shale gas to be a success in Poland. This is only anecdotal from my discussions with Polish people here in the UK (we have 1.5M Polish living here at this time) and also from my chats with Polish people at the EU Conferences.

The reality is that Polish shale has been very disappointing and the recoverability rates very low. In some cases less than 0.3%. The average is 5% and the UK is "promising" 10% (a la Cuadrilla and iGas). So Poland will not be the shale capital of Europe and shale will not allow them to be rid of Russian gas imports. It's ironic but the unfortunate reality of the situation there. 2014 is the year of shale in the UK the Gov has decided. Now finally we will get at least 30 wells drilled and fracked this year to start the ball rolling. Personally I do not believe this but it's a new year's resolution for the operators and the Gov. 7 wells on Fylde coasts to get exploration going in what Cuadrilla now believe (hope more like) will be Europe's biggest shale gas zone – The Bowland Shale. So surrounding my home (within 2 miles) and 1.5M other people's houses the drilling will start and by end of year 7 wells fracked with 12 stage multi fracks and 140M litres of chemicals, silica and water sent 2 miles down and 3 across into the shale. This will leave 70M litres of fracking waste below us and 70M to be treated and dumped into the Manchester Ship Canal by new year 2015. That's just my area.

Then we have Manchester (Barton Moss), Falkirk (Scotland), Banks (Southport), Deal (Kent) and Balcombe (Surrey). By end of year we will have approx. 200M+ litres of fracking waste left underground to leak whoknows where (as nobody is monitoring) and 200M+ litres to be disposed of – again who knows where as the Environment Agency responsible will not tell the public as it could affect the profits of the private companies involved in shale exploitation! (I joke not – I have a letter from the EA stating this). All unregulated. All not inspected or monitored. This is why I called for the EU (DG ENV) to impose shale specific regulations and the EIA on fracking now and not wait for production. This is why it is needed now because fracking is happening now. It is not a pipe dream it is a reality and the EU needs to step up to the mark and protect its citizens else what is it for in 2014?

Regards,
Mike

Michael Hill
Chartered Engineer
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From: Antoine Simon]

Sent: 02 January 2014 10:41

Subject: Re: Polish shale gas deal expires, source says no renewal

Hi Maria,

It doesn't look so contradictory to me.

That situation simply confirms what many experts have been announcing since almost the beginning: The Polish political will to develop this industry has been well beyond the technical and inherent capacities of development:

Tusk can change all the officials he wants, it will never change the quality of the geology, never change the national lack of technical skills, never change the population density issue.

The only contradiction in that story is the fact that Polish officials refuse to see what the shale gas story in their country really is: A dead body.

Remember that **after 2 years of exploration, they have "only" been able to drill around 50 wells, and the most successful one only produces 8.000 cubic meter of gas per day (on average, at the beginning of the production, US shale gas wells produce 250.000 cubic meter of gas).**

Who knows, maybe they're gonna find one offshore sweet spot, or a couple of ones onshore, but it's simply never gonna be this success Polish officials have been announcing for a while.

Antoine

Jeudi 02-01-2014 à 09:42 Maria Olteanu a écrit:

Dear Marek, could you explain to us the situation in Poland, please? I have some contradictory information, that says that Poland has turned even more eager (by changing all the officials with even more pro-shale ones, starting with the environment minister, during the COP-19)?

Polish shale gas deal expires, source says no renewal

The deal's expiration adds to a series of mixed signals from the shale gas industry on its prospects in Poland, eastern Europe's biggest economy.

Enthusiasm towards unconventional gas reserves in the country faded earlier this year after three global players decided to pull out, quoting poor results, red tape and an uncertain legal landscape.

U.S. energy giant Chevron, however, joined forces with PGNiG earlier in December on shale gas exploration in Poland.

Poland launched a major push into shale three years ago when Tusk said the country would seek to produce unconventional gas on a commercial scale in 2014.

The plan has suffered setbacks, however, as Poland's estimated recoverable reserves were slashed by 90 percent.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/12/31/poland-shale-idUSL6N0KA1UQ20131231>

Full story at link

Happy frackfree 2014 in Europe and around the world!

Maria Olteanu