

14 August 2014**ASX Announcement**

Survey indicates majority in UK support shale gas extraction

The results of a survey relating to shale gas extraction in the UK, commissioned by UK Onshore Oil and Gas (UKOOG) have been released. The survey was conducted by Populus, a member of the British Polling Council. The survey, of 4086 participants, is one of the largest polls on the issue to-date, and key findings include:

- **Overall support for shale gas production:** 57% support the production of natural gas from shale in the UK, compared with 16% who oppose and 27% who are undecided.
- **Reducing reliance on gas imports:** 67% agree that Britain needs to produce its own energy to reduce reliance on gas from other countries, compared with 1% who disagree. National Grid has forecast that without natural gas from shale production, Britain will import up to 91% of its gas by 2035.
- **Support for shale gas development alongside renewable energy:** 59% would be willing to see natural gas from shale production proceed if it forms part of a mix that includes renewable energy sources, with 12% disagreeing.
- **New infrastructure needed:** 47% agree that the UK needs to invest in new infrastructure, including housing, roads and railways, airport capacity and new energy sources, with 5% disagreeing.
- **Underground land access:** 42% agree with the Government's planned changes to underground land access, compared with 16% who disagree. The changes are designed to bring oil and gas and geothermal energy production into line with other essential services that have rights of underground access, including water and sewage pipelines and coal mines.

John McGoldrick, Dart Energy's Chief Executive Officer commented: "*Dart Energy welcomes the results of this important survey conducted on behalf of UKOOG by Populus. It makes clear that a significant majority of the UK public support a well run and regulated UK based shale gas industry for both economic and security of supply reasons. Britain should now get on with proving up this potential resource through exploration drilling.*"

Link to Populus Report: <http://www.populus.co.uk/Poll/UKOOG-Survey/>

Link to UKOOG Press Release: <http://www.ukoog.org.uk/about-ukoog/press-releases/131-new-survey-shows-57-of-britons-support-natural-gas-from-shale>