



OESG

05—Baseline Monitoring

Features

Baseline Monitoring involves a range of techniques and measurements that are used to establish the current environmental conditions near, beneath and around sites proposed for onshore oil and gas development. This mostly involves looking for natural gas in groundwater and soil, but can also include things like establishing night time noise levels.

Advantages

Understanding the current site condition is crucial to being able to identify changes, during and after onshore oil and gas activities have taken place, that might indicate a problem that needs addressing. It is also a legal requirement of the Environmental Permitting regime.

Benefits

Risk-based Baseline Monitoring, when combined with appropriate operational monitoring, gives companies the ability to spot potential problems quickly so that they can intervene and resolve them. It also gives regulators and the public confidence that a site at the end of its useful working life will be left in the same condition in which it was found at the start.

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