Fracking: A contentious issue with an uncertain future

Description: Introduction

In the US, fracking has created an oil and gas revolution. It has created jobs and led to greater energy independence. However, the process has many strong opponents who say that the environmental risks are not worth it. This debate has led to several communities and two states in the US to ban fracking. In Europe, fracking is banned in France and has been restricted in the UK.

Features and benefits

- Fracking is controversial. This case study examines claims that fracking wastes water, causes earthquakes, and leaks methane.
- Despite the shale oil and gas revolution in the US, some states and cities have rejected the practice. This case study looks at where and why.
- Fracking has been banned in some countries in Europe, with strict regulations added to others. This is looked at in detail in the case study.
- This case study also looks at how and why oil prices have changed over the last year, and what effects this might have on the fracking industry.

Highlights

In the US, a study found that fracking has created jobs, added $75bn to government coffers, and spurred energy-intensive industries. American information company HIS has estimated that the average American home's income will increase by $2,000 a year in 2015 and $3,500 a year by 2025 because of lower energy bills and reduced prices for goods.

In Europe, countries including France Scotland, Wales, Germany, the Netherlands, and Bulgaria have introduced bans or moratoriums on fracking.

In the UK, restrictions have been placed on fracking. A Guardian analysis found that of the 60% of England that is available for fracking, 39.7% was found to be affected by the bans, including the Yorkshire Dales and the Peak District.

Your key questions answered

- What is fracking? What are the advantages and disadvantages of it?
- How has fracked oil and gas affected the US? Why have some states banned the practice?
- How has the outlook for the UK fracking industry changed over the last couple of years?
- Why have oil prices fallen in the last year?

Contents:

OVERVIEW
  Catalyst
  Summary

THE BENEFITS OF SHALE GAS, A FOSSIL FUEL, ARE DEBATED
  Fossil fuels are cheap but unsustainable
  Shale gas is obtained by fracking
  Fracking is controversial, and has a number of opponents and proponents

Fracking is a drain on water sources

Fracking can leak chemically-treated water

Fracking can cause small earthquakes

Fracking releases methane, a greenhouse gas

Fracking can provide jobs and greater energy independence, as well as cut down on carbon emissions
FRACKING HAS BEEN BANNED OR RESTRICTED AROUND THE WORLD
Fracking has taken off in the US but remains controversial

The US has seen a shale gas revolution
The US is poised to become a net exporter of fracked gas
Fracking remains divisive, with many concerned about the practice
Comprehensive regulation of fracking is missing at both a federal and a state level

New York is one of two states to have banned fracking
Communities in various states have sought to ban fracking
The UK’s fracking industry has been restricted by ministers
Some parts of the government have been enthusiastic about shale gas

Labour’s proposals may make the UK an unattractive prospect for drilling
France was the first country to ban fracking

PLUMMETING OIL PRICES HAVE AFFECTED FRACKING
Demand has outstripped supply in recent years, keeping oil prices at around $100 per barrel
A glut in supply has caused oil prices to crash, compounded by OPEC
The future of fracking is insecure, and may rest on if oil prices recover in the next few years

CONCLUSIONS
The contentious issue of fracking raises questions about its future

APPENDIX
Definitions
Sources
Further Reading
Ask the analyst
About
Disclaimer

Ordering:
Order Online - http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/3170707/
Order by Fax - using the form below
Order by Post - print the order form below and send to

Research and Markets,
Guinness Centre,
Taylors Lane,
Dublin 8,
Ireland.
Fax Order Form
To place an order via fax simply print this form, fill in the information below and fax the completed form to 646-607-1907 (from USA) or +353-1-481-1716 (from Rest of World). If you have any questions please visit http://www.researchandmarkets.com/contact/

Order Information
Please verify that the product information is correct and select the format(s) you require.

Product Name: Fracking: A contentious issue with an uncertain future
Web Address: http://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/3170707/
Office Code: SCH31ZUH

Product Formats
Please select the product formats and quantity you require:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electronic (PDF) -</td>
<td>USD 495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Single User:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electronic (PDF) -</td>
<td>USD 1238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enterprisewide:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact Information
Please enter all the information below in BLOCK CAPITALS

Title:  
Mr ☐  Mrs ☐  Dr ☐  Miss ☐  Ms ☐  Prof ☐

First Name: ___________________________  Last Name: ___________________________

Email Address: * ___________________________

Job Title: ___________________________

Organisation: ___________________________

Address: ___________________________

City: ___________________________

Postal / Zip Code: ___________________________

Country: ___________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________

Fax Number: ___________________________

* Please refrain from using free email accounts when ordering (e.g. Yahoo, Hotmail, AOL)
Payment Information

Please indicate the payment method you would like to use by selecting the appropriate box.

☐ Pay by credit card: You will receive an email with a link to a secure webpage to enter your credit card details.

☐ Pay by check: Please post the check, accompanied by this form, to:
Research and Markets,
Guinness Center,
Taylors Lane,
Dublin 8,
Ireland.

☐ Pay by wire transfer: Please transfer funds to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Account number</td>
<td>833 130 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sort code</td>
<td>98-53-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swift code</td>
<td>ULSBIE2D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBAN number</td>
<td>IE78ULSB98533083313083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Address</td>
<td>Ulster Bank, 27-35 Main Street, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have a Marketing Code please enter it below:

Marketing Code: __________________________________________

Please note that by ordering from Research and Markets you are agreeing to our Terms and Conditions at http://www.researchandmarkets.com/info/terms.asp

Please fax this form to:

(646) 607-1907 or (646) 964-6609 - From USA
+353-1-481-1716 or +353-1-653-1571 - From Rest of World