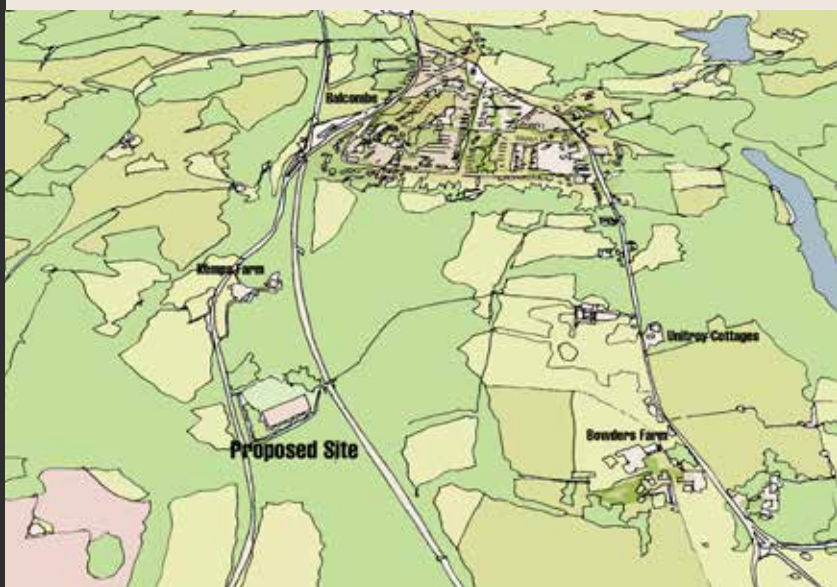


Cuadrilla plans to drill an exploration well on our existing site in Balcombe this summer. This is the same site where energy company, Conoco drilled an exploration well in 1986.



Exploration wells are the primary way in which we gather data on the sub-surface rock and extend our knowledge of oil and gas resources.

# ENVIRONMENT

**Cuadrilla is an independent British energy company based at Lichfield in Staffordshire.**

We are pursuing a gas and oil exploration programme in selected European onshore geological basins including shale gas basins. Our most advanced exploration activities are located in the Bowland Basin in Lancashire.

Cuadrilla was granted planning permission by West Sussex County Council to undertake exploration work at the Lower Stumble site, approximately half a mile outside of the village of Balcombe, in 2010.



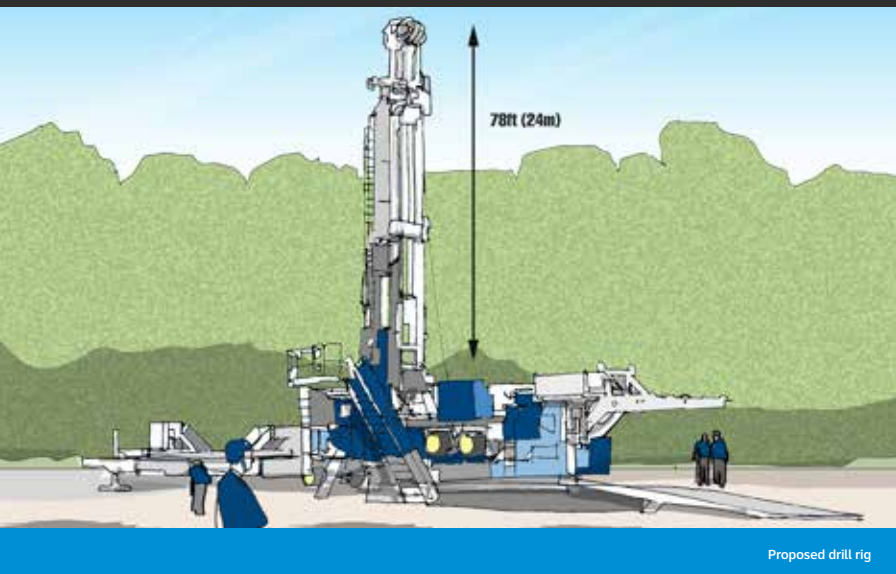
Sussex has a history of oil exploration and production, including on the site at Lower Stumble. Government records show that over 50 oil and gas wells have already been drilled in Sussex.





# EXPLORATION

The UK has a growing dependency on imported hydrocarbons (natural oil and gas) to meet its heating, electricity and industrial needs. Our exploration programme aims to assess the potential of untapped domestic resources.



Proposed drill rig

Our exploration is in line with national policy to promote UK natural gas and oil resources and reduce reliance on imported energy.

Geological studies and geophysical data indicate that there may be significant untapped reserves of hydrocarbons, most likely oil, in this area. The results of test drilling will help us to assess how much oil might be present at this location and whether or not exploration wells should be drilled at other locations to prove the total extent of the discovery.

A rig of less than 80 feet in height will be used and will drill to a total depth of about 3,000 feet. Depending on the results of the vertical section of the well, we may drill a further horizontal leg of approximately 2,500 feet. Hydraulic fracturing will not be undertaken in either the vertical or horizontal sections of the well.



# WHAT TO EXPECT

We intend to work in your region with great sensitivity.



View from London Road

As with all other oil and gas operators in the UK, Cuadrilla's operations will be stringently regulated by the Environment Agency (EA), the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), the County Council and the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC). By the end of September, we plan to have completed our approved operations on the site and removed all equipment.

## Visual impact

The setting of Lower Stumble and existing woodland will help to naturally screen the well site from the surrounding area. Depending on your vantage point, you may be able to see it but the impact will be limited and temporary. Our selected drilling rig is less than 80 feet (24 metres) tall and will be on site for no more than four months.



## Noise and light

We use computer modelling to ensure that we are compliant with UK planning guidance covering noise emissions, which set a level that must not exceed 55 decibels between 7.30am and 6.30pm Monday to Friday, 8am and 1pm on Saturdays, and 42 decibels at all other times.

Low level lighting is provided to ensure that staff can move around the site safely during hours of darkness. Lights are designed to have minimal upward light, thereby reducing "sky glare", and minimising any potential impacts on residents and sensitive wildlife.

## Transport

Cuadrilla would gain access to its site, just south of Balcombe, via an existing access route, which forks off from the B2036 (London Road) at Lower Stumble Wood.

Cuadrilla has undertaken a full traffic and transport assessment of the local area. During delivery and removal of the rig, each taking about one week, there will be a temporary increase in traffic. This increase will represent, on average, two lorry (HGV) movements per hour. To limit inconvenience for local people, we will avoid school drop-off and pick-up hours. During drilling, there will be around two HGV movements per day.



Noise contours and range

# NEXT STEPS

Cuadrilla plans to keep local communities fully informed about our operations.

If you would like further information about our planned work or a visit on site please get in touch.

We have set up a dedicated community information line – 0800 008 6766 - and will keep our website [www.cuadrillaresources.com/balcombe](http://www.cuadrillaresources.com/balcombe) updated with all the latest news. You can also email us at [enquiries@cuadrillaresources.com](mailto:enquiries@cuadrillaresources.com)

