

# gas generation strategy

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## Call for Evidence questions:

1. What are the main strengths and weaknesses of gas generation in helping deliver a secure, affordable route to decarbonisation through to 2020 and then by 2050?
  - + Short term easy option  
Existing pipelines and known technology  
Power stations can be sited in working class areas and near cities
  - Carbon based energy source  
Burns fossil fuels so not renewable and a finite resource which will run out  
Increases energy insecurity, will come to depend more and more on Russian sources which can be turned off. May cause more wars in Caucasus region to compete with other nations for gas reserves.
2. What role can gas fired generation play in the future and what level of gas generation capacity is desirable?
  - Reliance on gas will mean inadequate and weak investment in truly renewable sources of power, wind, wave, solar and tide.
  - Dash for Gas means not Go for Green  
In the long run we should aim to be sustainable with renewable energy production. This means lowering requirements for gas and other fossil fuel based sources of energy.
3. What are the key factors driving the economics of investing in new gas-fired power generation and how are these factors likely to change?
  - Powerful corporations with media infiltration and political contacts will find gas increasingly profitable given rise in global commodity prices.
  - Short term interests of the rich generating power through dangerous carbon emissions aggravating global warming and climate chaos are likely to prevail. No one in government is looking ahead or planning for the future. Short term greed and gain despite environmental cost will win. Later generations and the planet will bear the cost. Short term profits and bonuses for corporations.
4. What barriers do investors face in building new gas generation plants in the UK? What are the key regulatory uncertainties that may prevent debt and equity investors making a final investment decision in gas generation and supply infrastructure?
  - Barriers are too weak and ineffective.
  - A proper carbon emission tax or levy should be applied to emphasise the true cost of gas generation.
  - We should make it more profitable to invest in onshore and offshore wind, tidal power and solar arrays.
5. Are there any other policy issues that need to be addressed beyond the Government's proposals for the capacity mechanism and the EPS?
6. Given a continuing role for gas and the potential for increased volatility in gas demand, to what extent is gas supply and related infrastructure a barrier to investment

in gas fired generation? What impact will unconventional gas have on the case for investing in gas generation and the supporting infrastructure?

One should question the assumption of a continuing and expanding role for gas given volatility of supply and political instability of regions with large reserves. Fracking causes massive environmental damage and water pollution. Short term profit for corporations at the long term expense of the planet is unsustainable. Rape and pillage of the earth only works until one has destroyed the natural environment. It would be better to use the modest existing reserves and invest in a massive green technology revolution instead of carrying on with the old 19<sup>th</sup> century fossil fuel mindset. We are facing planetary energy crises unless we move away from fossil fuel. The "greenest government ever" should do better than burn more fossil fuel or was this pledge just gas?

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