



What is flowback water?

Between 20-40% of the water that we use in hydraulic fracturing returns to the surface, as what we call 'flowback water'. This flowback water contains small amounts of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM), which it picks up from the rock formations several thousand feet below the surface.

How radioactive is it?

The amounts of radioactivity are very low, comparable to those found in surface outcrops of rock encountered in everyday life.

Why is Cuadrilla undertaking these trials?

As the regulations have recently changed to cover flowback water, we are carrying out these tests in order to find the best treatment options for the flowback water. This is in preparation for a permit application that will look at the long-term disposal of the flowback water.

When will you be applying for a permit?

The information that we obtain during the trials will allow us to make a formal application during the coming weeks for a permit, and establish a safe and sustainable long-term solution for the disposal of the flowback water. When we apply for a permit the Environment Agency will be consulting with local people for them to comment.

Do you have approval from the Environment Agency for the tests?

These trials have been discussed in detail with the Environment Agency. They are happy that controls are in place to ensure the safety of these trials. All results from the trials will be reported to the Environment Agency when completed.

Where will the water be going?

Each trial will involve one tanker collecting a 10- to 15-ton sample of the flowback water from the Preese Hall site and transporting it by road to carefully chosen sites that have the best facilities for treating the water. All of the facilities are regulated by the Environment Agency, and are permitted to receive and treat industrial wastes. At this stage, ongoing commercial negotiations prevent us from disclosing the sites in question, but once we have a contract in place we will update the local community on the chosen disposal facility.

How many tankers will there be?

There will be a small number of vehicle movements, with each trial using only one tanker of water.



Is it safe to transport the liquid by road?

The flowback water contains radioactivity at levels which are 100 times less than the amount which would require government regulation for transportation, and would present no immediate or long-term danger in the case of spillage.

When will the trials be taking place?

A small number of trials will be taking place over the next few weeks.

Where can I get more information?

More information is available on our website, www.cuadrillaresources.com. If you have any further questions, you can contact us using the email form on the website, or our Freephone public information line on 0800 170 1115.