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**Focus Group Debrief:**

**New forms of renewable energy and spillover effects from fracking**

**Information on the research project**

The project you have participated in has been undertaken by a research team based in the School of Psychology at Cardiff University. The research is being conducted by Conor John and Steve Westlake. The principle investigator is Dr. Emily Cox.

The project explores whether the controversy over hydraulic fracturing (‘fracking’) for oil and gas has had an impact on people’s perceptions of two new forms of energy: deep geothermal, and green hydrogen. We are interested in people’s opinions on these new technologies. We are also interested to see whether people perceive any similarities between fracking and these new technologies, and why these similarities might exist.

This project is part of a UK-wide project on ‘Unconventional Hydrocarbons’. We need to ensure that future energy systems are secure, that they are affordable, and that they do not damage the environment or the climate. To do this, we might need new forms of renewable energy, and it is important that these are developed in a way which does not harm people or communities. By understanding fracking and the impact that it had, we hope to be able to develop new technologies in a better way.

**Anonymity, Confidentiality and Data**

All data will remain confidential in accordance with British Psychological Society (BPS) “Ethical principles for conducting research on human participants”. Actual names will be changed to aliases after transcription, so that you cannot be identified. The aliases will be used by the project team in day to day discussion of the research. In all related publications, quotes will be made anonymous.

The recording will only be used to transcribe the data and will not be used for any broadcasting purposes or shown to anyone outside the research team. The anonymised transcript will be archived in line with guidelines for open access of scientific data. The data will be used in academic research and will be used to produce reports, presentations, conference papers, and academic publications. The anonymised data and/or subsequent publications may also be used for teaching purposes.

If you have any complaints about this research or the way it has been carried out, you can contact the School of Psychology Ethics Committee at Cardiff University (contact details provided below). The data controller is Cardiff University and the Data Protection Officer is James Merrifield, [merrifieldj1@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:merrifieldj1@cardiff.ac.uk). The lawful basis for the processing of the data you provide is public interest.

**Who is funding the research?**

This research is funded as part of the UKUH project: ‘Unconventional Hydrocarbons in the UK Energy System’. The UKUH project seeks to understand fracking and the impacts that it had, including impacts on the economy, the energy system, communities and society. The project is funded by two publicly-funded UK Research Councils: the Economic and Social Research Council, and the Science of the Environment Research Council.

Our particular project is run solely by Cardiff University, as part of the UKUH Flexible Funding initiative. Funding has been allocated for a period of 6 months, beginning on 15 March 2021.

**Contact details**

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