

# Continuing Professional Development Certificate

## Fracked or fiction: so what do we know of the risks of fracking?

**Date:** Wednesday 10 January 2018

**Time:** 1.15pm - 2.00pm

**Speaker:** Professor Richard Davies, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Engagement and Internationalisation), Newcastle University

In this IIL lecture Richard introduced the subject of hydraulic fracturing: How is fracking conducted? What is the current state of the UK fracking industry? Why is fracking a controversial issue? Richard has been prominent in influencing policy and practice with the aim of mitigating potential hazards and risks associated with fracking, in particular through his publication of 'Hydraulic fractures: how far can they go', which led to the Labour party successfully agreeing an amendment to the Infrastructure Bill (2015), specifically that fracking needed to be at least 1000 m below the land surface to ensure the 600 m margin between UK aquifers is maintained. In his talk, Richard addressed concerns such as: - Well integrity and the issue of abandoned wells - The extent of hydraulic fractures and the potential for aquifer contamination - The potential for fracking to trigger earthquakes, and the history of induced seismicity in the UK - Fugitive emissions of gas from oil and gas infrastructure

By the end of this lecture members would have gained an insight into:

- How is fracking conducted?
- What is the current state of the UK fracking industry?
- Why is fracking a controversial issue?



This lecture or podcast can be included as part of your CPD requirement should you consider it relevant to your professional development needs. It is recommended that you keep any evidence of the CPD activity you have completed and upload copies to the recording tool as the CII may ask to see this if your record is selected for review.