

NERC UK Geoenery Observatories project

Introduction

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Senior Science User

NERC UK Geoenery Observatories project

£31million capital investment

*Delivered by NERC/British Geological Survey
on behalf of the research community*

Open to all

Context: value of the subsurface

- World's 2nd largest tungsten mine outside China – Plymouth, producing since 2015 (£123m)
- World's largest single mine for potash fertilizer being built in North York Moors National Park, to produce from 2021 (£2.5bn)
- Commercial geothermal drilling led by Geon (Arup/Geothermal Engineering Ltd):
 - HALO Kilmarnock – 2km well to feed district heating (£1.8m)
 - Jubilee Pool (Penzance) – 1.4km well, leisure/tourism (£1.4m)
- Onshore: 120 sites with 250 operating wells producing between 20,000 and 25,000 barrels of oil equivalent a day
- 210m tonnes of raw material mined annually in the UK that goes into the supply chain; £5bn GVA -> £235bn GVA products

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Programme

- Geoenergy Observatories in the research landscape
- Breakout 1: What can we do with UKGEOS?
- Opportunities – funding, future facilities
- External perspectives
- Breakout 2: How do we realise the global research potential of UKGEOS?
- Sense About Science
- Next steps