

Underground coal gasification

All underground coal gasification (UCG) activities are prohibited in Queensland following a policy decision announced by the Queensland Government on 18 April 2016.

The Queensland Government will also introduce a moratorium on all future activities relating to UCG through the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*. The moratorium will also apply to the *in situ* underground gasification of oil shale.

The decision to prohibit UCG was made following a number of pilot trial projects that were undertaken to demonstrate the technical, commercial and environmental viability of the industry.

After careful consideration of the results of these trials, the Government concluded that the potential impacts and risks associated with future commercial-scale UCG operations currently outweigh the foreseeable benefits.

The remaining pilot trials are now completing decommissioning and rehabilitation activities at their sites, but no further UCG activities will be allowed. Regulation and monitoring of these activities is undertaken by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.