



[Home](#) | [Field Index](#)

Consents given under the Petroleum Act 1998 and Reviews under the Assessment of Environmental Effects Regulations 1999

Burlington Resources

MILLOM FIELD

Pursuant to Regulation 5(8) of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry gives notice that, being content that the requirements of the above Regulations have been satisfied, he has, pursuant to Licence P 547, granted a consent to Burlington Resources (Irish Sea) Limited to the getting of petroleum and the construction of installations in relation to the development of the Millom field. The consent for the Millom field took effect from 23/02/99 and shall last until 31/03/15.

Background

This proposed gas development will initially comprise a single sub-sea well together with a production manifold. The development is situated in block 113/27a, connected to the existing Centrica operated North Morecambe platform in block 110/2a by an 8.65 Km pipeline and umbilical control cable. A second sub-sea well is proposed to be added at a later date. A pipeline from the Millom East sub-sea installation to a lay-down point in the proposed Millom west gas field on block 113/26a is also proposed to be laid.

Drilling

An existing suspended exploration well, 113/27a-ME1, will be re-entered and the suspension plugs removed by drilling out two cement plugs and washing out two sand plugs. The anticipated spud date is March 1999 and the drill periods scheduled to be 28 days. Mud usage is predicted to be 180m³.

WBM is intended to be used throughout. A second well is intended to be drilled in the future (no dates given) with intended cuttings discharges of about 250 m³ and mud usage of 445 m³. Surplus (spent) WBM will be discharged at the end of the drilling period and this will amount to about 100 m³ for the two wells. For well ME-2, modelling studies predict that the cuttings will fall within 375m of the well.

Well Testing

At the end of the drilling programme, the wells will be cleaned and test flaring may be conducted. If well testing takes place, the total volume of gas to be flared will be 2300 te per well (high combustion efficiency flare tips will be used). No routine flaring will take place

Well Abandonment/Decommissioning

Wells will be plugged and cut 3m below the level of the seabed. Wellheads will be removed and all equipment above the seabed will be removed. Pipelines will be filled with seawater and left buried *in situ*.

Other Issues

Hydrotesting of Pipeline

Approximately 670 m³ of seawater are expected to be discharged following pressure testing; category 1 or 0 chemicals are intended to be used.

ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITIES

Atmospheric Emissions:

Power generation will produce emissions, but ES states no Trans Boundary Effects.

Cumulative Effects

Proposed development is predicted to increase gas production by 1% in East Irish Sea.

No routine flaring and produced water vols. minimal (1m³/d over field life).

Oil Spill Contingency Plan

Diesel spills with a total inventory of 300 te.

Environmental Management System

A combined Safety and environment Management System exists.

Recommendation

Overall the environmental statement is satisfactory and adequately assesses the potential environmental impacts of the proposed development. Recommend that consent be given.