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

### **Chiswick Development Environmental Statement (ES) D/3089/2006**

The Chiswick gas field is located in the Southern North Sea (SNS) approximately 144Km from the nearest landfall at Cromer on the Norfolk Coast of Eastern England and approximately 9Km to the east of the UK/Dutch median line. It is proposed to drill two platform wells with the possibility of up to three further wells (contingent on the results of the first wells) producing back to a normally unmanned minimum facilities platform installed centrally over the Chiswick Field. This will then be tied back via a new 18.3 km, 10" carbon steel export pipeline and a 1.5" piggy-backed methanol pipeline to the Markham J6A manned platform which is situated in the Dutch sector. From Markham the gas will be transported to Den Helder Terminal for processing via the existing Westgastransport (WGT) Pipeline and ultimately via the Balgzand to Bacton pipeline to Bacton in the UK. Field life is anticipated to be between 8 to 13 years with a maximum of 3 million cubic metres per day of gas should all five wells be drilled.

It is planned to install the pipeline and platform facilities in the 3rd quarter of 2006 and drilling will commence in the last quarter 2006. First gas is expected in December 2006/ beginning 2007.

It is proposed to drill the wells using a combination of water based mud (WBM) in the top sections of the wells and low toxicity oil based mud (LTOBM) in the 12.25" & 8.5" sections. Drilling will generate 2,828 tonnes of WBM, which will be discharged to sea and 857 tonnes of LTOBM which will be skipped and shipped to shore. (per well)

The environmental sensitivities at the proposed location along with the potential impacts arising from the project have been assessed within the Environmental Statement submitted to the Department in April 2006, and subsequent correspondence submitted in support of the ES.

Following consultation with the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Services (CEFAS) and the provision of additional information, the Secretary of State is satisfied that the project is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact and, in particular, that it will not have a significant adverse effect on the marine environment in general or on any protected sites or species covered by the "Habitats Regulations". The Chiswick Development ES was therefore approved on 14 July 2006.

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