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

ChevronTexaco Upstream Europe

Captain C Project Block 13/22a

Background

The Captain Field is located in Block 13/22a of the North Sea, approximately 130 km northeast of Aberdeen in the Outer Moray Firth in approximately 110 m depth of water. The proposed Captain C Project will involve two additional wells approximately 2.9 km east of the UTM, which will be tied back to the UTM via one production flowline and a number of other lines for control and well fluids. The development will involve minor modifications to the Captain Bridge Linked Platform to cope with the changes in fluids being processed.

The drilling will start in December 2005 or early January 2006 and is expected to last approximately 110 days. No hydrocarbons will be flared as part of the well completion or cleanup.

The wells will be drilled and completed using either a semi-submersible or jack-up rig.

The wells will be drilled using WBM, with 773 tonnes of cuttings to be discharged from each well (this includes a contingency for sidetracks).

Sensitivities

The environmental statement identifies a range of potential environmental hazards and outlines proposed mitigation measures, including:

- Greenhouse gases/Air emissions
- Discharges to sea
- Disposal to land
- Installation of rig and presence of vessels
- Noise levels
- Accidental events

Recommendation

Overall the environmental statement is satisfactory and adequately assesses the potential environmental impacts of the proposed operation. It is recommended that consent is given to the project.

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