Background:
This well is an obligation under the terms of the offshore licence for the block. The well is 8 Km due south from Hengistbury Head on the south coast and 13Km due west by south from The Needles on the Isle Of Wight.

The well will be drilled vertically from a jack-up and drilling will take approximately 5 to 9 weeks to drill.

Well testing:
No conventional well testing (flaring) proposed, rather, hydrocarbons will be collected down-hole by a sampling procedure.

Well abandonment
On completion of drilling, the well will be plugged and abandoned. The well will be overtrawled in order to ensure no obstructions are present. A debris-clearance survey will be instigated after abandonment; any debris will be retrieved.

Environmental Sensitivities:
The operator has identified four potentially significant areas of impact:

- Physical presence of rig; recreational area; effect on the sub-littoral habitat; possible interaction with fixed fishing gear.

  *Cuttings discharges (wbm)*

  *Power generation atmospheric emissions*

  *Oil spillage*

The model used to predict atmospheric emissions shows, under a worst case scenario, that concentrations of nitrogen oxides and particulates are elevated at the nearest point of land (Hengistbury Head).

Benthic monitoring to provide baseline information has taken place. A post drilling survey to identify any changes in seabed conditions will be carried out.

Cuttings discharges have been modelled for the wbm, which will be used exclusively; modelling predictions will be checked in the post drilling survey.
A shipping survey has been commissioned and DETR have been consulted.

Query as to whether NRA have been consulted as the proposed well is within 12 miles of coastline.

**Consultees:**
Comments were received from statutory and non-statutory bodies

**Recommendation:**
Based on the information presented within the ES it is recommended that approval should be given.