



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

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

Hydrocarbon Resources Limited

BAINS DEVELOPMENT

Pursuant to Regulation 5(8) of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry gives notice that she is content that the requirements of the above Regulations have been satisfied. Pursuant to Licence P543, consent has been granted to Hydrocarbon Resources Limited for the getting of petroleum and the construction of installations, in relation to the development of the Bains field in accordance with the environmental statement, received 28th August 2001. The consent for the Bains field took effect from 08/02/02 and shall last until 31/12/08.

Background

Hydrocarbon Resources Limited propose to develop a gas field in block 110/3c in the Irish Sea. A single well will be tied via a 7.6km long, 8" gas export line back to the existing Douglas field in Morecambe Bay. Only water based mud will be used and discharged. No extended well test is planned and a well clean up will be carried out over a 24 hour period. The pipeline will be trenched and buried along its entire route.

Sensitivities

The environmental statement identified sensitivities of the area and included an impact assessment that identified the key hazards as being: the physical presence of vessels during drilling, installation and decommissioning phases, disruption of the seabed and associated communities due to cuttings deposition and installation of the sub-sea installation and pipeline and accidental spill of diesel from drilling rig or accidental pipeline rupture/loss of production tree integrity.

The area to the west of the proposed development is a feeding area for common scoter, a protected species under the Bird Directive, and a possible pSAC. This was an area of particular concern and further information was requested in order to allow a more thorough assessment of the potential impacts the proposed project could have on the common scoter in the area. The further assessment included drill cuttings modelling that demonstrated that cuttings would remain within 500 metres of the well and that the majority of chemicals to be used are HOCNS category E. The assessment demonstrated that impacts on the common scoter or their prey were unlikely to arise from this development. Mitigation measures are in place to ensure that impacts are kept to a minimum and details of their management systems in place were presented.

Having undertaken a more detailed assessment, it was decided that from the information presented, there is unlikely to be any significant impact on the environment from the development.

Recommendation

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