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

## Marathon Oil (U.K.) Limited

# **BRAEMAR FIELD 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 P313, consent has been granted to Marathon Oil (U.K.) Limited for the getting of petroleum and the construction of installations, in relation to the development of the Braemar field in accordance with the environmental statement, received 30<sup>th</sup> May 2002. The consent for the Braemar field took effect from 01/08/02 and shall last until 31/10/06.

#### **Background**

This small field development comprises the conversion of an existing exploration well to be tied back by a subsea wellhead and pipeline to the East Brae platform. As there is currently no spare capacity in the SAGE gas export line, in order to facilitate gas export an additional pipeline will connect Brae B and the BP Miller platform.

#### **Sensitivities**

Environmental issues identified include atmospheric emissions associated with combustion, discharge of hydrotest fluids, physical presence of facilities, and seabed disturbance. We are content that none of these effects are likely to have a significant environmental impact. The scale of the project is small and Marathon has committed to a number of measures to minimise the effects of their operations.

The implications of the Offshore Petroleum Activities (Conservation of Habitats) Regulations 2001 and the wider implementation of the Habitats and Wild Birds Directive to the UKCS have been considered. In particular it is not considered that the proposed operation is likely to significantly affect any possible site that may be identified.

### **Recommendation**

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