

**Pict Field Development 21/23b  
ES Web Comments**

ES Title: **Pict Field Development**  
Operator: **Petro-Canada UK Limited**  
ES Report No: **D/2103/2004**  
ES Date: **April 2004**  
Block Nos: **21/23b**  
Development Type: **Field Development consisting of 3 horizontal wells tied back to Triton FPSO via the Guillemot West drill centre manifold (DC6)**

**Synopsis:**

The proposed Pict development is located in block 21/23b in the central North Sea, approximately 152 km from the North East coast of Scotland and 102 km from the UK /Norwegian median line. It is proposed to drill three horizontal production wells, which will be tied back via the Guillemot West drill centre manifold DC6 where fluids will be co-mingled with existing Guillemot West and Clapham production and then onto the Triton FPSO, operated by Amerada Hess. An 18.9km 12" production pipeline and a 4" gas pipeline will be provided between the Pict drill centre and manifold DC7 and DC6, an 11.4km electro-hydraulic umbilical between DC7 and Clapham DC5 and a 18km 6" gas lift pipeline between DC6 and Triton. The produced oil will be stored onboard Triton prior to export via shuttle tanker.

It is proposed to batch drill the wells and it is anticipated that first oil will be in May 2005, with an estimated field life of 15 years and expected flow rates to be in excess of 15,000 bpd in the first year falling to 5,000bpd. It is proposed to drill the wells with a combination of water phase fluid (WPF) and oil phased fluid (OPF), with the OPF contaminated cuttings transported to shore for treatment and disposal. The wells will be cleaned up and tested over a maximum of 48 hours and will involve the flaring of 1,590 tonnes of oil and 79 tonnes of gas.

There will be minor topsides modifications to Triton due to the Pict development and an additional requirement of 4MW of power. However from the information provided it is unlikely to be considered substantial change in relation to PPC Regulations.

Further clarification was requested in relation to pipeline selection and the implications for rock dumping; the impact of Pict in relation to the PPC regulations and the OSPAR produced water recommendation, the basis for Petro-Canada's decision in relation to Annex 1 habitat; and Petro-Canada's commitment to benthic sampling. Following the provision of additional information by letter on the 5 and 9 July 2004, we are satisfied that this project is not likely to have a significant impact on any sites protected under the Habitats Regulations. Petro- Canada have committed to undertaking benthic sampling in quad 21 during 2005, irrespective of whether the Gladstone field is developed and have committed to reviewing the pipeline route if necessary following the results of detailed prelay pipeline surveys.

**Consultees:** The statutory consultees for the ES were the JNCC and FRS

**JNCC:** Requested additional information in relation to the proposed rock dumping in connection with the pipelaying, the impacts of anchor chains and to demonstrate how Petro-Canada reached their conclusion that there were no habitats which qualify for protection under the Habitats Directive. In particular further details were sought in relation to the three areas of high reflectivity identified during seabed surveys.

**FRS:** -Further information was sought in relation to rock dumping, the implications of Pict with regard to the OSPAR recommendation to reduce oil in produced water discharges, and Petro-Canada's commitment to undertake benthic sampling.

Following the provision of the additional information both consultees were content for the project to receive approval.

**Public Consultation** – No comments were received as a result of public consultation

**Recommendation:** The field development consent should be granted.