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

### **TotalFinaElf**

#### **NUGGETS FIELD**

Pursuant to Regulation 5(8) of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry gives notice that, being content that the requirements of the above Regulations have been satisfied, he has, pursuant to Licences P239 & P118, granted a consent to Total Fina Elf (U.K.) Plc to the getting of petroleum and the construction of installations in relation to the development of the Nuggets field. The consent for the Nuggets field took effect from 13/07/00 and shall last until 31/12/10.

#### **Background**

The Total Fina (TOM) Nuggets N1 subsea development involves two sub-sea wells tied back to the existing Alwyn Field, c40 km to the north. The two wells are planned to be drilled with WBM, but should SBM be required SBM contaminated cuttings will be contained and shipped to shore, therefore any impact on the marine environment will be minor and localised. Produced fluids will be processed on Alwyn NAB and will coincide with decline in production from the main field. Chemicals used (such as hydrate and corrosion inhibitors) are low hazard, low risk products. The new flowlines and umbilicals will be trenched and the sub-sea facilities constructed to ensure minimal interference with fisheries. Since it is a gas development, with fluids expected to contain little condensate, there are no risks of significant spills. However, the ES accepts that all offshore drilling, development and production activities carry with them some risk of hydrocarbon spillage to the sea. TOM has in place detailed Alwyn Field oil spill response preparedness and a specific Offshore Oil Spill Contingency Plan will be in place for Nuggets.

#### **Recommendation**

Overall, the ES is satisfactory and adequately assesses the potential environmental impacts of the proposed development. Recommend that consent for the development is given.