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Venture North Sea Gas Limited

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

The proposed development is located in Block 47/8c in the Southern North Sea, approximately 34km from the English coastline and 8.1km from the Mercury subsea manifold.

The project comprises the installation of a 8.1km 6" flowline and umbilical (including electrical power, hydraulic power, chemical injection and electrical signal line) from the Eris Field to BG's Mercury manifold. This includes the laying of 60 concrete mattresses and contingency rock dumping of 10,000 tonnes. Pipeline testing and commissioning will also be conducted. The processing and production of gas with a peak rate of 80.45mmscf/d, where the gas will be co-mingled with BG's Mercury production and routed to BP's Cleeton installation prior to be exported to the Dimlington Terminal.

The shortest practical pipeline installation schedule is proposed and safety zones will be in operation throughout the installation. Overall the area impacted by the flowline and umbilical is estimated to be 162,000m². The installation of the pipelines will disturb benthic fauna. However, the impact will be of a temporary nature, especially in the event of rapid re-colonisation. Pipelay and installation vessels will produce noise during installation operations, lasting approximately 33 days, but impacts to marine mammals will be minimal and insignificant. In addition, the only foreseeable discharges are associated with the proposed commissioning of the pipeline and through production at BP's Cleeton. All chemicals used will be CEFAS registered and are not considered to be significantly harmful to the environment. There will be no produced water discharged from Cleeton as re-injection facilities are in operation.

Following consultation and the provision of the additional information on the 29th August, BERR and its consultees were satisfied that this project is not likely to have a significant impact on the receiving environment, including any sites or species protected under the Habitats Regulations. The ES was approved on the 16th September 2008.

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