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

BEATRICE WIND FARM DEMONSTRATOR PROJECT

The Beatrice Wind Farm Demonstrator Project consists of installing two stand-alone wind turbine generating units located in Block 11/30a in the Moray Firth, about 1.6km and 2.3km from the Beatrice platform and approximately 22 kilometres from the Scottish Coast.

The wind turbine generators will operate as a Demonstrator Project for five years, supplying power to Beatrice via a buried umbilical containing an electrical cable. The project will also provide information about the technical, environmental and economic issues associated with creating a commercial deepwater wind farm at this site.

The wind turbine generators will be supported on steel jackets piled into the seabed and will be 88m high with blades 63m long, each having a nominal output of 5MW. A 900m long subsea umbilical will link the two wind turbine generator units and linked to the Beatrice platform by a 1,900m long subsea umbilical. The programme to install facilities at the Demonstrator site will start in 2006 and last approximately one month.

The environmental sensitivities at the proposed location along with the potential impacts arising from the project have been assessed within the Environmental Statement submitted to the Department in January 2006. A detailed impact assessment has been undertaken and where the assessment has identified any issues of potential significance mitigation measures are in place to ensure that impacts are kept to a minimum and details of the management systems in place have been presented.

After a period of public consultation and having taken onboard the advice from statutory consultees and key stakeholders the Environmental Statement submitted in support of this development was approved on 13 June 2006.

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