Mallard & Gadwall Field Development 21/19
ES Web Comments

ES Title: Development of Mallard & Gadwall Fields
Operator: Venture Production (North Sea) Limited
ES Report No: D/2104/2004
ES Date: March 2004
Block Nos: 21/19
Development Type**:** To further develop the existing Mallard Field and to develop the satellite Gadwall Field, which has not yet produced.
Phase 1: Drilling a new water injection well into the Mallard Field to increase productivity. To drill a production well in the undeveloped satellite field – Gadwall and tie it back to the existing line between the Mallard Manifold and the Kittiwake Platform.
Phase 2: A water injection well may be drilled into Gadwall & tied back to the existing Mallard water injection pipeline to maximize production.

Synopsis:
The Mallard and Gadwall fields are situated in block 21/19, approximately 16Km and 12Km south east of the Kittiwake platform respectively, which is itself approximately 160Km east of Aberdeen. The proposed development is planned in two phases:- Phase 1 – drill a new water injection well and into the Mallard Field to increase the recently compromised productivity and develop the satellite field of Gadwall by re-entering a suspended exploration well, completing it and tying it back to the existing production line between the Mallard Manifold and the Kittiwake Platform. Phase 2 – if water injection is found to be required on Gadwall then a water injection well will be drilled and tied into the existing Mallard Water injection pipeline.

Operations are planned to commence in October 2004 with the installation of the T's in place of the flow spools in the Mallard to Kittiwake water injection and production pipelines and also the installation of the tie in for the new water injector well on the Mallard. A drill rig will then move onto Gadwall and re-enter and complete the suspended exploration well 21/19-6 and tie in to the Mallard to Kittiwake Production line. The rig will then re-locate to the Mallard drill centre to drill the water injection well and tie this in via a flexible jumper /rigid spool to the existing Mallard water injection pipeline T.

It is proposed to drill both wells using water based mud (WBM) for the top hole sections and Oil based mud (OBM) for the lower sections, with full containment of the OBM, followed by offshore treatment and discharge. The Mallard WI well is scheduled to take 65 days to drill and 60 days for the Gadwall.
First oil is anticipated for Gadwall in Q4 2004 and based on both phases being undertaken, the predicted peak production at Gadwall is expected to be 112,000m3/day gas & 950m3/day oil, with the second phase extending the Gadwall field life to 10yrs. An extended well test will be undertaken on Gadwall but all test fluids are to be returned to the Kittiwake platform. Gadwall fluids will be co-mingled with the Mallard fluids and be returned to the Kittiwake platform and exported via tanker. Gas will be used to power the Kittiwake generators and will also to be exported via the Kittiwake platform into the Fulmar gas line. Only minor modifications are required to Kittiwake as additional production will fill existing capacity due to

declining production from Kittiwake.

Further information was requested in relation to site specific survey data to demonstrate the absence of Annex I Habitats (spectacular structures), flaring associated with the well clean-up, proposed mitigation measures, treatment of OBM cuttings, and proposed piling activities. However following the provision of additional information on 2 & 11 August 2004, we are satisfied that the ES addresses the impacts of the proposed development and overall no significant environmental impacts have been identified.

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

JNCC: JNCC requested further information in relation to site specific survey work which had been undertaken, piling and mitigation measures. However following the provision of additional information they are content for the project to proceed.

FRS: FRS had no objections to the proposed work programme, stating that impacts will be localised and transient.

Public Consultation - No comments were received as a result of public consultation.

Recommendation: The project should be granted consent.