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

AFFLECK DEVELOPMENT

The Affleck Field is located in Block 30/19a in the central; North Sea, approximately 322 kilometres from the Scottish Coast and 6 km from the UK/Norwegian transboundary line. The field is located 28 km east north east of the Janice field at a water depth of approximately 72 metres. Maersk Oil UK Limited propose to develop the Affleck Field with two wells tied back via a 28.5 km pipe-in-pipe production flow line to the existing Janice Alpha Floating Production Unit. Drilling is planned for September 2006 through to February 2007. Installation is planned to take place during Q2 and Q3 of 2006 with first oil in July 2007. Field life is predicted to be approximately 13 years.

Both wells will be drilled using conventional methods and a Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit. WBM mud will be used for the top hole and central hole sections, OBM for the 12 ¼ inch section and WBM for the final 8 1/2 " section. All OBM will be skipped and shipped to shore.

The 28.5 km, 14" production flow line and associated umbilical will be trenched and buried along its entire route.

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 February 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 were presented.

After a period of public consultation and having taken onboard the advice from statutory consultees the Environmental Statement was approved on 25 May 2006.

Webmaster: [Danny Stocker](#)
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