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

ENTERPRISE

HOWE FIELD DEVELOPMENT

Pursuant to Regulation 5(8) of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry gives notice that she is content that the requirements of the above Regulations have been satisfied. Pursuant to Licence P 077, consent has been granted to Enterprise for the getting of petroleum and the construction of installations, in relation to the development of the Ardmore field in accordance with the environmental statement. The consent for the Howe field took effect from April 2003.

Background

The Howe development project will develop a Northern North Sea oil and gas field in block 22/12a, approximately 160 km east of Peterhead. The project involves the drilling of a single production well in the Howe Field and the laying 14 km of 8" production pipeline and a 3" gas lift line from the field to the Nelson platform. Drilling and pipelaying activities will take place in 2004. First oil is expected in 2004.

Sensitivities

An Environmental Impact Assessment presented within the ES identified and addressed activities as having the potential to impact the environment. Prevention, control and mitigation measures aimed to minimise any potential environmental impact are presented within the impact assessment.

Both FRS and the JNCC reviewed and commented on the ES and the Addendum and both are satisfied that there is unlikely to be a significant environmental impact arising from this development.

Recommendation

Overall the environmental statement is satisfactory and adequately assesses the potential environmental impacts of the

proposed development. It is recommend that consent is given to the project.

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