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

Chevron UK

CALEDONIA FIELD

Pursuant to Regulation 5(8) of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry gives notice that, being content that the requirements of the above Regulations have been satisfied, he has, pursuant to Licence P213, granted a consent to Chevron UK Limited to the getting of petroleum and the construction of installations in relation to the development of the Alba Extreme South field. The consent for the Caledonia field took effect from 12/10/2001 and shall last until 31/03/2004.

Background

Chevron has submitted this Environmental Statement in support of the development of the Caledonia field in Central North Sea block 16/26. The field will be developed as a subsea tie-back to the existing Britannia Platform in one or possibly two phases. The Environmental Statement addresses phase 1 comprising the drilling of a single production well plus subsea facilities including a 5.6 kilometre pipeline. The well will be drilled with WBM and SBM, with the latter skipped and shipped to shore with contaminated cuttings. Well clean-up will involve flaring but there will be no EWT. Chemical use will be subject to control under the new chemicals regulations. No significant impacts were identified. In reaching our conclusion we have also considered the implications of the Offshore Petroleum Activities (Conservation of Habitats) Regulations 2001 and in particular do not consider that the proposed project will affect any site or possible site that may be identified.

Recommendation

Overall the environmental statement is satisfactory and adequately assesses the potential environmental impacts of the proposed development. Recommend that consent be given.