JADE 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 Licences P672, granted a consent to Phillips Petroleum Company (U.K) Limited to the getting of petroleum and the construction of installations in relation to the development of the Jade field. The consent for the Jade field took effect from 04/01/00 and shall last until 31/12/06.

Background

The Jade field development lies in Block 30/2c, 270 km from the UK coast and 15 km from the UK/Norway median line.

The Jade Development will consist of a not normally manned wellhead platform, the tie-back of two existing wells (30/2c-3 and 30/2c-4) one of which will be completed for production and the drilling of 4 additional wells. Produced fluids from Jade will be transported to the existing Judy platform via a new 17 km pipe-in-pipe pipeline. The fluids will then join production from Judy and the commingled product will pass from the Judy platform to Teeside, for gas via the Central Area transmission System (CATS) connector and CATS pipeline and liquids via the Norpipe. Minor modifications will be required on the Judy platform where all processing will be undertaken.

The new development wells will be drilled using water based mud (WBM) for the top hole sections and Low toxicity Oil Based MUDs (LTOBM) for the lower sections. The LTOBM cuttings will be disposed either by annular reinjection or by shipping to shore for reprocessing. Each of the wells will be tested with a typical well test being 3 tests of 8 hours over a 48 hour period.

Phillips were requested to submit a revised ES, which was received 2 November 1999. The request for a revised statement was due mainly to issues relating to pipeline trenching, chemical listings and transboundary effects particularly atmospheric emissions and oil spills. On the basis of the information presented within the revised ES no significant environmental impacts were identified and adequate mitigation measures are identified for any potential environmental impact.

Recommendation

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