

Environment Agency permitting decisions

Surrender

We have decided to accept the surrender of EPR/CB3006ML/S002 the permit for Kiln Lane Wellsite operated by Europa Oil and Gas Limited.

The permit number is EPR/CB3006ML/S002.

We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid any pollution risk and to return the site to a satisfactory state.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements.

Purpose of this document

This decision document:

- explains how the operator's application has been determined
- provides a record of the decision-making process
- shows how all relevant factors have been taken into account

Structure of this document

- Key issues
- Annex 1 the decision checklist

Key issues of the decision

The operator drilled an exploratory borehole at Kiln Lane Wellsite. As a result of the drilling operation extractive waste was produced, stored and transferred offsite to an Environment Agency approved facility.

An installation permit was obtained due to potential for flaring natural waste gas as part of the well testing operations, which would exceed 10 tonnes per day.

Following completion of the drilling operations the decision was taken to decommission the Kiln Lane borehole and restore the well site. The decision to decommission the borehole was taken due to no hydrocarbons being encountered during the drilling operations.

No gas was produced at the site and therefore the activities covered by the installation permit were not carried out.

The Kiln Lane exploratory operations also included a provision to undertake an acid wash and/or squeeze within the formations being tested. However , as

no hydrocarbons were encountered during drilling the acid wash and/or squeeze was never undertaken at the Kiln Lane well site.

The surrender of the installation permit and mining waste permit is therefore being considered as basic surrender.

We are satisfied that the Operator has carried out the drilling of the exploratory borehole in accordance with the requirements of the permit and that the borehole was permanently plugged and decommissioned in accordance with the UK Oil and Gas Guidelines for the suspension and abandonment of wells.

Annex 1: decision checklist

This document should be read in conjunction with the Duly Making checklist, the application and supporting information and permit/ notice.

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met
		Yes
The site		
Extent of the surrender application	<p>The operator has provided a plan showing the extent of the site of the facility that is to be surrendered.</p> <p>We consider this plan to be satisfactory.</p>	✓
Pollution risk	<p>We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility.</p>	✓
Satisfactory state	<p>We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state.</p> <p>In coming to this decision we have had regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.</p>	✓