

Permitting decisions

Surrender

We have decided to accept the surrender of the permit for Herriard “X” Well Site operated by Humbly Grove Energy Limited

The permit number is EPR/HP3338CE

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 provides a record of the decision making process. It summarises the decision making process in the decision checklist to show how all relevant factors have been taken in to account.

This decision document provides a record of the decision making process. It:

- highlights [key issues](#) in the determination
- summarises the decision making process in the [decision checklist](#) to show how all relevant factors have been taken into account

Unless the decision document specifies otherwise we have accepted the applicant’s proposals.

Read the permitting decisions in conjunction with the environmental permit and the surrender notice. The introductory note summarises what the notice covers.

Key issues of the decision

The Operator has applied to surrender the permit for the Herriard “X” well site.

The permitted activities comprised of the 1.2 A(1)(h) (i) the loading, unloading, handling or storage of, or physical, chemical or thermal treatment of crude oil produced from the Herriard “X” well.

The well has been decommissioned in accordance with the requirements of the Oil and Gas Authority. The well has been plugged with cement which will ensure that groundwater is protected. Surface equipment has been removed from the site with the exception of:

- Haul roads;
- Well cellar;
- Firewater tank and concrete pad;
- Water run-off interceptor and associated soakaway;
- Switchgear and associated enclosure;

- Electricity transformer;
- Domestic services (water, electricity and communications);

These will remain in place for use by the landlord.

The Operator has carried out an intrusive survey of the permitted area and we are satisfied that the report presented as part of the application demonstrate that there has been no impact from the permitted activities.

Decision checklist

Aspect considered	Decision
Receipt of application	
Confidential information	A claim for commercial or industrial confidentiality has not been made.
Identifying confidential information	We have not identified information provided as part of the application that we consider to be confidential. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on confidentiality.
The site	
Pollution risk	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility.
Satisfactory state	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state. In coming to this decision we have had regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.
Growth Duty	
Section 108 Deregulation Act 2015 – Growth duty	We have considered our duty to have regard to the desirability of promoting economic growth set out in section 108(1) of the Deregulation Act 2015 and the guidance issued under section 110 of that Act in deciding whether to grant this permit surrender. Paragraph 1.3 of the guidance says: “The primary role of regulators, in delivering regulation, is to achieve the regulatory outcomes for which they are responsible. For a number of regulators, these regulatory outcomes include an explicit reference to development or growth. The growth duty establishes economic growth as a factor that all specified regulators should have regard to, alongside the delivery of the protections set out in the relevant legislation.” We have addressed the legislative requirements and environmental standards to be set for this operation in the body of the decision document above. The guidance is clear at paragraph 1.5 that the growth duty does not legitimise non-compliance and its purpose is not to achieve or pursue economic growth at the expense of necessary protections.