Consultation on Guidance Notes for the Offshore Petroleum Activities (Oil Pollution Prevention and Control) Regulations 2005; PON1 reporting of oil and chemical releases; and Integrated Reporting Service (IRS).

We are contacting you to provide notification of, and seek your views on, proposed updates to Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning (OPRED) technical guidance on PON1 reporting of oil and chemical releases, reporting of non-compliances associated with certain offshore environmental regulations and amendments to the Offshore Petroleum Activities (Oil Pollution Prevention and Control) Regulations 2005 (“OPPC”) Guidance.

The Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning (OPRED) has updated the PON1 Portal for reporting of oil and chemical releases to meet Government Digital Services requirements and has developed a similar Portal based reporting system for reporting of non-compliances with certain offshore environmental regulations which will be known as the Integrated Reporting System (IRS). The PON1 and IRS guidance updates existing the guidance and explains when such reports should be made.

The Offshore Petroleum Activities (Oil Pollution Prevention and Control) Regulations 2005 Guidance has been updated to reflect the proposed changes in the PON1 and IRS reporting as well as update other areas in relation to when permits for oil discharge are required and the information to be provided.

It is anticipated that the guidance will go live on 31 August 2021, but this date may be delayed depending on consultation comments received.

We hope this notification is useful and would welcome, by 2 August 2021, any comments that you may have on the proposed guidance documents. When responding with comments to the guidance please make it clear to which guidance document the comments refer.

Any comments should be addressed to bst@beis.gov.uk

Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning (OPRED)
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

Offshore Inspectorate

Date: 21 June 2021