

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, UNLOADING AND STORAGE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2020 (the 2020 Regulations)**

#### **Rosebank Field Development**

Equinor UK Limited, as operator of the Rosebank field development, acting for and on behalf of the Licensees (Equinor UK Ltd., Suncor Energy Ltd., Ithaca SP E&P Ltd.) has made an application for consent to the Oil and Gas Authority ("the OGA") in relation to the above project. The OGA now operates under the business name of the North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA).

#### **Summary of Project**

The proposed Project is the development of the Rosebank oil and gas field, including the drilling of the production and water injection wells, the installation and commissioning of the required subsea infrastructure and gas export pipeline, and the redeployment of an existing Floating Production Storage and Offloading vessel (FPSO) for the extraction and processing of hydrocarbons from the Rosebank field. Equinor UK Ltd. will operate the Rosebank development.

The Rosebank field is situated in the Faroe-Shetland Channel on the north-west edge of the UK Continental Shelf (UKCS). The location is approximately 130 km north-west of Shetland in water depths of around 1100 m. The field is referenced by UKCS blocks 213/26b and 213/27a (licence P1026), block 205/1a (licence P1191) and block 205/2a (licence P1272). The licences for these blocks are held by Equinor UK Limited, Suncor Energy UK Limited and Ithaca SP E&P Limited.

The project is planned to be delivered in two phases, phase 1 comprises drilling 4 production and 3 water injection wells and, subject to learnings from initial wells, phase 2 will involve drilling up to a further 3 production and 2 water injection wells. The wells will be connected by new flowlines to a redeployed FPSO where the hydrocarbons will be processed. The gas will be exported from the FPSO via a new gas export pipeline connecting to the existing West of Shetland Pipeline System (WOSPS). The oil will be offloaded using tankers.

Subsea facility installation is currently planned to commence in summer 2024 with first drilling planned in 2025. First oil is expected in Q4 2026. Field life is estimated to be approximately 25 years.

#### **Environmental Impact Assessment and Consent Process**

In accordance with the 2020 Regulations, the project is subject to an environmental impact assessment procedure and Regulation 13 applies to the project because the Secretary of State considers the project could have a significant effect on the environment of The Faroe Islands and Norway. The OGA is responsible for deciding whether or not to grant consent for the project, but agreement to the grant of consent must be obtained from the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (the "Secretary of State") prior to consent being granted. The Secretary of State's decision on whether to agree to the grant of consent is based on the environmental impact assessment for the project.

The range of possible decisions in response to the application of consent are as follows:

(a) the Secretary of State agrees to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, and the OGA grants consent, so the project may proceed;

(b) the Secretary of State refuses to agree to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, so the project may not proceed;  
or

(c) the Secretary of State agrees to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, but the OGA does not grant consent, so the project may not proceed.

Where the Secretary of State agrees to the grant of consent, conditions that Equinor UK Limited must comply with may be attached to the agreement, including environmental conditions to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset any significant adverse effects on the environment and measures to monitor such conditions.

Notice of the decision of the Secretary of State and the OGA decision for the project will be published at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia> where information on the Secretary of State's decision to agree to or refuse to agree to the grant of consent will also be made available.

### **Access to Further Information**

Copies of this notice, the summary of the project and the Environmental Statement can be viewed and downloaded at [www.equinor.com/energy/rosebank](http://www.equinor.com/energy/rosebank) and at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia>.

These documents will be available to access for at least three months following the date on which the Secretary of State publishes the notice under Regulation 16(1) (publication of consent decisions) of the 2020 Regulations.

A copy of the Environmental Statement and summary of the project may also be obtained by post or email. Requests should be made by 16 September 2022 to:

FAO: Rosebank SSU Manager

Equinor

Primefour Business Park,

Kingswells,

Aberdeen

AB15 8QG,

United Kingdom

Telephone - +44 (0)1224 540540

Email: [equinoruk@equinor.com](mailto:equinoruk@equinor.com)

### **Public Consultation**

Representations, comments or questions relating to the project may be made to the Secretary of State by 16 September 2022. All representations should quote reference number ES/2022/001 and may be made by letter or by email to:

Business Support Team

Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

AB1 Building

Crimon Place

Aberdeen

AB10 1BJ

[BST@beis.gov.uk](mailto:BST@beis.gov.uk)

## **Judicial Review**

A person aggrieved by the grant of consent for a project may apply to the Court for leave/ permission to apply for judicial review of the relevant decision or decisions. The United Kingdom has three separate legal systems; one each for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The rules for any application for leave/permission to apply for judicial review may vary depending on where that application is made, but it is important to note that there are time limits for making any application and judicial review may only be available if the applicant has standing/a sufficient interest in the subject matter of the application. Further information about the process for seeking judicial review can be obtained from the Administrative Court (for England and Wales), the Court of Session (for Scotland) or the Judicial Review Office (North Ireland).