

Our Ref: 01.08.06.15/592C
UKOP Doc Ref:1246160



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment & Decommissioning

CHRYSAOR PETROLEUM COMPANY U.K. LIMITED
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Registered No.: 00792712

Date: 15th December 2022

Department for Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ

Tel [REDACTED]
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www.gov.uk/beis
bst@beis.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

**THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, UNLOADING
AND STORAGE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS
2020
JOANNE EXTENSION OF PRODUCTION CONSENT**

A screening direction for the project detailed in your application, reference PR/2300/0 (Version 1), dated 29th August 2022 has been issued under regulation 6 of the above Regulations. The screening direction notice, and any relevant conditions and comments are attached. A copy of this screening direction will be forwarded to the application consultees, the Oil and Gas Authority and published on the gov.uk website.

If you have any queries in relation to this screening direction or the attachments, please do not hesitate to contact [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] or email the Environmental Management Team at bst@beis.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully



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

**SCREENING DIRECTION CONFIRMING THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT IS NOT REQUIRED**

JOANNE EXTENSION OF PRODUCTION CONSENT

PR/2300/0 (Version 1)

Whereas CHRYSAOR PETROLEUM COMPANY U.K. LIMITED has made an application dated 29th August 2022, under The Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Unloading and Storage (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2020, and whereas the Secretary of State has considered the application and is satisfied that the project is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment; in exercise of the powers available under regulation 6, the Secretary of State hereby directs that the application for consent in respect of the project need not be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment, provided that the project is carried out as described in the application for the screening direction and in accordance with the conditions specified in the attached schedule.

In giving a screening direction under regulation 6 of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State accordingly gives agreement to the Oil and Gas Authority to the grant of consent for the project as detailed in the application PCON/6282/0.

Effective Date: 15th December 2022



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

SCHEDULE OF SCREENING DIRECTION CONDITIONS

The grant of this screening direction is conditional upon the screening direction holder complying with the following conditions.

1 Screening direction validity

This screening direction shall be valid from 1 January 2023.

2 Production level(s)

The holder of the screening direction shall ensure that the level(s) of production do not exceed the level(s) detailed in the application for the screening direction, and in the application for consent relating to the approval for the getting of petroleum issued under the relevant production licence Model Clause.

3 Prevention of pollution

The holder of the screening direction must ensure that appropriate measures are taken to minimise discharges, emissions and waste, in particular through the appropriate use of technology; and to ensure that necessary measures are taken to prevent incidents affecting the environment or, where they occur, to limit their consequences in relation to the environment.

4 Inspections

Should the Department consider it necessary or expedient for an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State to investigate whether the conditions of the screening direction are being complied with, the holder of the screening direction shall afford the inspector with such facilities and assistance as the inspector considers necessary to exercise the powers conferred by the regulations. The holder of the screening direction shall additionally ensure that copies (electronic or paper) of the screening direction and any other relevant documents are available for inspection by the inspector at:

- a) the premises of the holder of the screening direction; and
- b) the facilities undertaking the project covered by the screening direction.

5 Check monitoring

Should the Department consider it necessary or expedient to undertake an independent monitoring programme to assess the impact of the project covered by the screening direction, the screening direction holder shall afford the Department



with such facilities and assistance as the Department considers necessary to undertake the work.

6 Atmospheric emissions returns

Following completion of the project covered by the screening direction, the holder of the screening direction shall report all relevant atmospheric emissions, such as combustion emissions, using the appropriate Environmental Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS) reporting forms.

7 Unauthorised deposits

Following completion of the project covered by the screening direction, the holder of the screening direction shall recover any materials accidentally or temporarily deposited on the seabed, such as debris, temporary containers, structures or deposits, or scientific instruments, and shall return the materials to land. If it is not possible to recover any of these deposits, full details of the materials remaining on the seabed must be reported to the Department in accordance with the requirements of Petroleum Operations Notice No.2 (PON2).

8 Screening direction variation

In the event that the holder of the screening direction proposes changes to any of the particulars detailed in the application for a screening direction, the holder must notify the Department immediately and submit an application for a post screening direction amendment. The post screening direction must be in place prior to the amended proposals taking effect.

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COMMENTS ON THE APPLICATION FOR SCREENING DIRECTION

Section 1

The attention of screening direction holders is drawn to the following provisions regarding The Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Unloading and Storage (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2020.

1) You are deemed to have satisfied yourself that there are no barriers, legal or otherwise, to the carrying out of the project covered by the screening direction. The issue of a screening direction does not absolve the screening direction holder from obtaining such authorisations, consents etc that may be required under any other legislation.

2) The Department would draw your attention to the following comments:

The Department has no comments.

3) All communications relating to the screening direction should be addressed to:

bst@beis.gov.uk

or

Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning
Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ

Tel [REDACTED]



SCHEDULE OF SCREENING DIRECTION DECISION REASONS

The Secretary of State has decided that, based on the information provided, the project is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment. The main reasons for this decision are:

1) Decision reasons

The following provides a summary of the assessments undertaken by OPRED to determine whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for this project, summarises the information considered, the potential impacts and sets out the main reasons for the decision made. In considering whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is required or not, the following have been taken into account:

- a) the information provided by the developer;
- b) the matters listed in Schedule 5 of The Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Unloading and Storage (Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2020) (the Regulations);
- c) the results of any preliminary verifications or assessments of the effects on the environment of the project; and
- d) any conditions that the Secretary of State may attach to the agreement to the grant of consent

Characteristics of the Project

Having regard, in particular, to the matters identified at paragraphs 1(a) to (g) of Schedule 5 to the Regulations, the characteristics of the project include the following:-

Summary of the Project

Extension of oil and gas production from the Joanne field for 2023 - 2025.

Description of the Project

The Joanne field is located in the Central North Sea and produces through the Judy installation, which comprises the Judy platform and the bridge-linked Judy Riser Platform (JRP).

The project consists of an extension of the production consent for oil and gas from the Joanne field. This is due to a future Chalk infill well potentially starting production during this period. Overall there is a decrease in oil and gas production from the Joanne field compared to current consented levels.



No cumulative impacts are expected to occur with any other existing or approved projects.

Pollution and nuisances are restricted to a potential future increase in marine discharges on account of the produced water from the new Chalk infill well.

There is no change to the assessment of a major accident. The Developer has control measures in place to reduce the risk of a major accident occurring and the probability of such an event occurring is very low.

The project is not at risk from natural disasters given its location in UK offshore waters.

There is not considered to be any significant risk to human health.

Location of the Project

Having regard, in particular, to the matters identified at paragraphs 2(a) to (c) of Schedule 5 to the Regulations, the environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by the project has been considered as follows:-

The Joanne field is located in Block 30/07 of the Central North Sea, approximately 260 km from the Scottish coastline and approximately 18 km from the UK / Norway boundary line, in a water depth of approximately 75 metres.

The surface current speed in the area is approximately 0.01 m/s and the wave height ranges from 1.26 - 3 m. A site-specific survey found the area to consist of a uniform sandy seabed with sediments of mainly fine, slightly shelly, silty sand. The sediments underlying this at depths >0.5 m were found to be medium to very dense fine sand overlying sandy clay with occasional gravel. Levels of hydrocarbons within the sediments were considered representative of background levels for the CNS. The faunal composition identified by the site survey was characteristic of the sediment type and reasonably diverse. Low densities of ocean quahog were present during sampling of the wider area. The horse mussel *Modiolus modiolus* was identified in the wider area, the biogenic reefs formed by which are classified as an OSPAR threatened and/or declining habitat; however, the criteria for positive identification of the biogenic reef was not fulfilled.

The project is not located in any protected areas. The closest protected area is the Fulmar Marine Conservation Zone approximately 13 km away. The project is located in an area of extensive oil and gas development. There are two wrecks within Block 30/07 and no telecommunication cables. The project is not located within an area of military activity.

The project relates to the years 2023 - 2025 and will overlap with spawning seasons for cod, lemon sole, mackerel, Norway pout, plaice and sandeel and is located within the nursery area of several fish species. Several cetacean species have been recorded in the vicinity of the project location. Seabird abundance is low throughout



the year, except April and October - December for which there was no data. The area is described as a low intensity fishing area.

Given the location of the project, the areas identified at paragraphs 2(c)(i), (iii), (iv), (vi), (vii) and (viii) of Schedule 5 are not likely to be affected by the project.

Type and characteristics of the potential impact

In accordance with paragraph 3 of Schedule 5 to the Regulations, the likely significant effects of the project on the environment have been considered. Potential effects of marine discharges and atmospheric emissions on the environment from the activities associated with the project were assessed. Other than the matters considered further below, there is not likely to be any significant impact of the project on population and human health.

It is anticipated that the production extension will not result in any change to current oil in water content of the produced water discharge. Bringing the Chalk well online is likely to lead to a decrease in produced water discharge at the Judy platform in the short-term, although it may eventually increase the volume of produced water as the Chalk well matures. No changes to chemical types or quantities are expected. The marine environment is expected to rapidly disperse and dilute chemical discharges.

There are no additional power requirements required at the Judy platform as a result of the extension in production of oil and gas, as the forecasted production from Joanne will not change the current operating philosophy on the Judy platform and there will be no increase in platform electrical demand. The Judy platform's gas compression and power generation will remain the same. There is no anticipated change to flaring on the Judy platform. There are therefore no significant impacts expected on local air quality and climate.

The project does not involve any physical interaction with the sea or seabed and as such no physical impacts on receptors are anticipated.

There is no change to the assessment of a major accident. The Developer has control measures in place to reduce the risk of a major accident occurring, including an emergency response plan, and the probability of such an event occurring is very low. The existing accidental event spill modelling is applicable and no significant impact would be likely to occur from any such event.

There are no expected transboundary impacts as a result of the project and no cumulative impacts have been identified.

Decision

Taking the above considerations into account, the Secretary of State has concluded that the project is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment and that an environmental impact assessment is not required.



2) Mitigation of significant effects

The following are features of the project or measures envisaged that the developer has proposed to avoid or prevent what might otherwise have been significant adverse effects on the environment:

n/a