

Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-1210U
UKOP Doc Ref:1282591



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment & Decommissioning

BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED
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Registered No.: 00305943

Date: 28th June 2023

Department for Energy Security &
Net Zero

AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
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Tel [REDACTED]
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bst@beis.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

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

A screening direction for the project detailed in your application, reference PR/2391/0 (Version 1), dated 27th June 2023 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**

SCHIEHALLION

PR/2391/0 (Version 1)

Whereas BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED has made an application dated 27th June 2023, 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/5762/1.

Effective Date: 28th June 2023



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 27 June 2023.

2 Change to production level(s)

The holder of the screening direction shall ensure that the change in the level(s) of production do not exceed the amended 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 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 Energy Security & Net Zero
AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ

Tel [REDACTED]
Fax



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:

The information provided by the developer,

The matters listed in Schedule 5 of The Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Unloading and Storage (Environmental Impact Regulations 2020) (the Regulations),

The results of any preliminary verifications or assessments of the effects on the environment of the project; and

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 :

Increase in gas production from the Schiehallion field as a consequence of a well intervention performed on well CP24 which included perforation of the gas zone and significantly increased the gas production rate and incremental production from an infill drilling campaign commencing in 2023.

Description of project

This project consists of an increase in gas production of less than 500,000 cubic meters per day at the Schiehallion field, due to the well intervention performed on well CP24 which included perforation of the gas zone and significantly increased the gas production rate and incremental production from an infill drilling campaign commencing in 2023. This thus meets the definition of "project" under the Offshore EIA regulations (2020). The existing production consent is valid until 2026.

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

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.

It is not considered to be likely that the project will be affected by natural disasters.

There is not likely to be any significant impact of the project on population and 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 Schiehallion field is located West of Shetland (WoS), in UKCS Block 204/20, approximately 150 kilometers (km) to the west of the Shetland Islands, and 35km to the east of the UK-Faroes median line, in a depth of 350-450 metres (m).

The area in the vicinity of Schiehallion is characterised as the European Nature Information System (EUNIS) habitat "Deep circalittoral mixed sediments". The sediments present across the Schiehallion area consist of coarse sand/gravel with an overlying layer of fine material with varying proportions of pebbles, cobbles, and shells, the seabed sediments appear poorly sorted and heterogenous in their composition, with a large variety in grain size. Site specific surveys identified the sediment types as subtidal sands, gravels, and muds, and as such are considered Priority Marine Features (PMFs).

The mean significant wave height in the area is 2.5 - 4m. Mean surface current speeds are in the region of 0.1 - 0.2 m/s and mean seabed current speeds are in the region of 0.05 - 0.1 m/s for short periods of time (up to a few hours).

The fauna observed across the survey area are regularly observed within the North East Atlantic area. The Schiehallion field lies within the Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt NCMPA and although sponge aggregates are found in the wider area there are no known aggregates in the immediate vicinity of the Glen Lyon FPSO. In addition no Annex 1 sensitive habitats protected under EC Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC were observed as part of the Gardline survey (2014) in the immediate vicinity of Glen Lyon FPSO.

Minke whale, long finned pilot whale, white beaked dolphin, common dolphin, harbour porpoise, killer whales, sperm whales, fin whales, sei whales, humpback whales, bottlenose whales, and Risso's dolphins have all been recorded in the area. The majority of which between low and moderate densities with the exception of fin and sei whales at high density.

Harbour and grey seals are unlikely to occur in the area.

Seabird vulnerability in Block 204/20 is generally low to medium throughout the year, with the exception of October when it is high. Similar sensitivities are observed in adjacent blocks.

There are a number of fish species which use the area as a nursery ground with Norway Pout also spawning from January to April.

There are a number of different seabed users which are active in the region. The closest known submarine telecommunication or power cable to the Glen Lyon FPSO is the SHEFA-2 Segment 5 cable which connects the Glen Lyon FPSO to Clair. No aggregate dredging and disposal sites, sites of marine archaeological interests, planned offshore renewable energy developments or recreational sailing routes have been identified within 40km of the Glen Lyon FPSO. There is one wreck located 3km from the Schiehallion area.

Fishing effort in the area is low to moderate. The project is in the National Marine



Plan Area for Scotland.

Given the location of the project, it is not likely that the areas identified at paragraphs 2(c)(i), (iii), (iv), (vi), (vii) or (viii) of Schedule 5 to the Regulations will 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.

Other than the matters considered further below, there is not likely to be any significant impact of the project on population and human health.

The increase in production from Glen Lyon FPSO is as a consequence of a well intervention performed on well CP24 which included perforation of the gas zone and significantly increased the gas production rate and incremental production from an infill drilling campaign commencing in 2023.

Atmospheric emissions through fuel consumption, flaring or venting will not increase as a result.

No topsides modifications are required to the Glen Lyon FPSO. The volume of produced water and produced water treatment strategy will not significantly change with Glen Lyon using a produced water reinjection system (PWRI) with a worst case of 89% of produced water reinjection for 2023.

There are no significant changes anticipated for chemical usage or discharge and no new chemical applications required as a result of the increase to production.

The overall hydrocarbon and chemical spill risk does not increase as a result of gas increase.

It is considered that the increase in gas production from the Schiehallion field is not likely to have a significant impact on other offshore activities or other users of the sea, the seabed, marine life or cetacean species and no cumulative impacts are expected to occur.

2. 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.

3. 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:

Not applicable