

PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOTICE

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

Victory Field Development

Shell U.K. Limited (“Shell”) 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). A notice was previously published under Regulation 11(3)(c) in respect of this application for consent and the accompanying Environmental Statement on 22/07/2022. Further information is now available in respect of this project.

Summary of Project

Following the acquisition of Corallian Energy Limited by Shell, the developer of the Victory Field Development has changed from Corallian Energy Limited to Shell.

Shell is the operator of Seaward Production Licence P2596, which contains the Victory gas field, located in United Kingdom Continental Shelf (UKCS) Block 207/01a, approximately 47 km north west of the Shetland Islands. Shell has 100% equity in the licence.

The Victory field will be developed via a single subsea well tied-back via a new 16.2km, 14 inch pipeline to one of the hot tap tees installed in TotalEnergies’ existing Greater Laggan Area (GLA) network infrastructure. Control of the well will be from TotalEnergies’ Edradour manifold, located approximately 18 km to the west-southwest, via a new umbilical.

The field will be operated from the GLA control room at the Shetland Gas Plant (SGP) located onshore on the north coast of the main island of Shetland. When the production fluids arrive onshore, the liquids (condensates) will be removed and piped to the nearby Sullom Voe oil terminal, while the gas will be processed before being transported to the UK grid via the Shetland Island Regional Gas Export System (SIRGE) and Frigg UK Association (FUKA) pipelines.

Shell conducted detailed surveys in 2023 to allow, subject to the necessary consents and approvals, development drilling and subsea installation activities to be undertaken from Q2 2024 with first gas targeted from 2025.

Victory peak daily wellhead production rates are anticipated to be 4.248 standard million cubic metres (150 million standard cubic feet) per day of gas and 15.50 tonnes (23.85 standard cubic metres) of condensate per day until around Year 3 (maximum case).

Environmental Impact Assessment and Consent Process

In accordance with the above-mentioned Regulations, the project is subject to an environmental impact assessment procedure.

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 Energy Security and Net Zero (“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 is:

- 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 Shell 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 measure to monitor such conditions.

Notice of the decisions of the Secretary of State and the OGA decisions 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 previous notice made under Regulation 11(3)(c), the summary of the project, the Environmental Statement, and the further information may be viewed and downloaded at <https://www.shell.co.uk/sustainability/reporting.html> and at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia>. Access shall remain at least three months after the date on which the Secretary of State publishes the notice under Regulation 16(1) (publication of consent decisions).

A copy of the Environmental Statement, summary of the project and the further information may also be obtained by post or email. Requests should be made to Shell U.K. Limited, Victory Project, The Silver Fin Building, 455 Union Street, Aberdeen AB11 6DB or, by email to HSE-Learning@shell.com or by telephone 01224 882525 by 18/09/2023.

Public Consultation

Representations, comments or questions relating to the project may be made to the Secretary of State by 18/09/2023. All representations should quote reference number ES/2022/003 and may be made by letter or by email to:

Business Support Team
Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ

OPRED@Energysecurity.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 (Northern Ireland).