

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

**PUBLICATION OF DECISION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE OIL
AND GAS AUTHORITY¹**

**Murlach Development (part of Marnock-Skua field)
BP Exploration Operating Company Limited (BPEOC)
UKCS Block 22/24**

ES Reference No: ES/2022/002

Pursuant to Regulation 16 of the above Regulations, the Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (“the Secretary of State”) hereby gives notice of the Secretary of State’s decision to agree to the grant of consent and the decision by the Oil and Gas Authority¹ (“the OGA”) to grant consent.

1. Following the Secretary of State’s conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, and a decision made on the 22 August 2023, the Secretary of State agreed to the OGA’s grant of consent and the OGA granted consent on 8th September 2023 so the project may proceed.
2. The Secretary of State has published further information about this project and the Secretary of State’s decision on GOV.UK – please see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/murlach-development>

3. The information available on the above website is:
 - (a) the Secretary of State’s decision to agree to the grant of consent setting out information required by Regulation 14(3) on the conclusion as to the significant effects of the project on the environment, any conditions attached to the agreement, and a description of any features of the project or measures to avoid, prevent, reduce, or offset any significant adverse effects on the environment; and

¹ The OGA now operates under the business name of the North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA).

(b) information about the public consultation process, including a summary of representations made to the Secretary of State in respect of the project, together with details of how those representations were taken into account.

4. The information at paragraph 3 above can also be requested from the Secretary of State using the contact details below:

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

Email: OPRED@energysecurity.gov.uk

Telephone: (+44) (0) 300 067 1200