



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment
& Decommissioning

CONSULTATION ON DRAFT OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DECOMMISSIONING GUIDANCE AND ASSOCIATED POLICY PROPOSALS

Today, 5 September 2025, the Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning (OPRED) published its consultation on the derogation methodology under OSPAR Decision 98/3, and associated policy changes.

The UK Government has prepared draft guidance to provide clarity on how proposals for a derogation from OSPAR Decision 98/3 will be considered. This consultation invites stakeholders' comments on the draft guidance plus associated policy proposals relating to the decommissioning of offshore oil and gas infrastructure.

This consultation will be of particular interest to those who prepare decommissioning programmes for offshore oil and gas installations and pipelines. Given the wider public interest, the draft guidance and associated policy proposals will also be of interest to other stakeholders including but not limited to consultees of decommissioning programmes.

The consultation document, draft supplementary guidance, and assessment of financial impact can be found on the [consultation website](#). The consultation is open for 8 weeks, closing on 31 October 2025.

You can respond to this consultation online via [CitizenSpace](#) or e-mail to the [OPRED Mailbox](#).

**Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ)
Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning
(OPRED)**

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