



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment
& Decommissioning

DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION ON DRAFT OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DECOMMISSIONING GUIDANCE AND ASSOCIATED POLICY PROPOSALS

Today, 16 October 2025, the Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning (OPRED) has extended the deadline for responses to its consultation on the derogation methodology under OSPAR Decision 98/3, and associated policy changes. This is at the request of stakeholders.

The consultation is now open for ten weeks, with a deadline for responses of **Friday 14th November**.

A minor amendment has also been made to question 8 in the consultation document - the word 'cut' has been replaced with 'removed'. This has been done to aid clarity.

To recap, this consultation invites stakeholders' comments on draft guidance prepared to provide clarity on how proposals for a derogation from OSPAR Decision 98/3 will be considered, plus associated policy proposals relating to the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 Given the wider public interest, the draft guidance and associated policy proposals will also be of interest to other stakeholders including but not limited to consultees of decommissioning programmes.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](#).

You can still 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)**

Date: 16 October 2025