

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOTICE****THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, UNLOADING AND STORAGE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2020****Fotla Field Development**

Ithaca Oil and Gas Limited 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).

**Summary of Project**

The Fotla field lies within UKCS Block 22/1b, in the Central North Sea. The Fotla field is located approximately 176 km to the east of Peterhead, Scotland and 46 km to the west of the UK/Norway transboundary line. The Norwegian coastline lies 265 km to the east. Water depths at the Fotla field vary between approximately 119 m and 132 m LAT, whilst water depths along the proposed pipeline route range between 128 m and 137 m.

The subject of the environmental statement comprises of two production wells connected to a subsea manifold and tied back to the existing Britannia platforms via a new 14 km production pipeline. The existing Britannia platform and Bridged Linked Platform (BLP) are located 13.5 km to the north of the Fotla field in UKCS Block 16/26. It is proposed that all processing of the produced Fotla fluids will be carried out at the Britannia platforms with the Fotla subsea pipeline system delivering produced fluids directly to the Britannia BLP. Produced fluids will be processed through existing topside facilities currently handling production from the Alder field. These topside facilities will be adapted and upgraded to facilitate the Fotla production fluids. The Fotla field is expected to produce hydrocarbons for approximately 15 years. Drilling operations are currently planned for 2027 with first oil is expected Q4 2027.

**Environmental Impact Assessment and Consent Process**

In accordance with the above-mentioned Regulations, the project is subject to an environmental impact assessment procedure and regulation 13 applies as the project could have a significant effect on the environment of the UK, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

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 Ithaca Oil and Gas Limited 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 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 summary of the project and the Environmental Statement can be viewed and downloaded at: <https://www.ithacaenergy.com/operations/environmental-statements> 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 and summary of the project may also be obtained by post or email. Requests should be made by 1st February 2026 to:

Ithaca Oil and Gas Limited      By email: [environment@ithacaenergy.com](mailto:environment@ithacaenergy.com)  
Hill of Rubislaw      By telephone: +44 (0)1224 334000  
Aberdeen  
AB15 6XL

**Public Consultation**

Representations, comments or questions relating to the project may be made to the Secretary of State by 1st February 2026. All representations should quote reference number ES/2024/018 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  
Cronin Place  
Aberdeen  
AB10 1BJ

[OPRED@Energysecurity.gov.uk](mailto: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 decision.

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).