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Public Notices

PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOTICE

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

Tornado Field Development

Ithaca SP E&P 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 Tornado field lies within Blocks 204/13 and 204/14d in the Faroe-Shetland channel, West of Shetland. The Tornado field is located approximately 153 km west of the closest landfall on the Shetland Islands and approximately 8.5 km southeast from the UK/Faroes transboundary line. The water depth at the proposed drill centre location is approximately 1,061.5 m LAT. Water depths along the proposed pipeline route range between 1,090 m below LAT to a minimum of 593.8 m below LAT.

Tornado is a subsea gas development. The subject of the environmental statement comprises up to three subsea wells, drilled from a single drill centre, tied back via a new production pipeline and control umbilical (ca. 86 km in length) to the existing Greater Laggan Area network infrastructure at Tormore, with production to be processed onshore at the Shetland Gas Plant with liquid condensate piped to the Sullom Voe Terminal for further processing. The route of the pipeline and umbilical are required to pass through the Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt NCMPA for a length of approximately 18 km to reach the tie-in point at Tormore. The Tornado field is expected to produce hydrocarbons for approximately six to ten years. Drilling operations are currently planned for 2028 with first gas is expected Q4 2028.

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 Denmark, Norway and the Faroe Islands.

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 SP E&P 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 06/04/2026 to:

Ithaca SP E&P Limited
Hill of Rubislaw
Aberdeen
AB15 6XL

By email: environment@ithacaenergy.com
By telephone: +44 (0)1224 334000

Public Consultation

Representations, comments or questions relating to the project may be made to the Secretary of State by 06/04/2026. All representations should quote reference number ES/2024/020 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).