Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-7104U
UKOP Doc Ref:1441831

Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

ADURA OPERATIONS LIMITED
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Registered No.: 16172712

Date: 2nd April 2026

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ

Tel [redacted]
Fax [redacted]

www.gov.uk/desnz
opred@energysecurity.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, UNLOADING AND STORAGE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2020
PENGUIN WEST, 211/13a- Adelie (R02)

A screening direction for the project detailed in your application, reference DR/2641/0 (Version 2), dated 11th March 2026 has been issued under regulation 6 of the above Regulations. The screening direction notice, and any relevant conditions and comments are attached. A copy of this screening direction will be forwarded to the application consultees, the Oil and Gas Authority and published on the gov.uk website.

If you have any queries in relation to this screening direction or the attachments, please do not hesitate to contact [redacted] on [redacted] or email the Environmental Management Team at opred@energysecurity.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

Signature Not Verified

Digitally signed by Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
Date: 2026.04.02 08:42:06 BST
Reason: On behalf of the Secretary of State
Location: Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning

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

SCREENING DIRECTION CONFIRMING THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IS NOT REQUIRED

PENGUIN WEST, 211/13a- Adelie (R02)

DR/2641/0 (Version 2)

Whereas ADURA OPERATIONS LIMITED has made an application dated 11th March 2026, under The Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Unloading and Storage (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2020, and whereas the Secretary of State has considered the application and is satisfied that the project is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment; in exercise of the powers available under regulation 6, the Secretary of State hereby directs that the application for consent in respect of the project need not be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment, provided that the project is carried out as described in the application for the screening direction and in accordance with the conditions specified in the attached schedule.

In giving a screening direction under regulation 6 of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State accordingly gives agreement to the Oil and Gas Authority to the grant of consent for the project as detailed in the application, WONS/18329/0/IDA/1v3 and WONS/18329/0/C/1 v3.

Effective Date: 2nd April 2026

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SCHEDULE OF SCREENING DIRECTION CONDITIONS

The grant of this screening direction is conditional upon the screening direction holder complying with the following conditions.

1 Screening direction validity

The screening direction shall be valid from 2 April 2026 until 31 October 2026.

2 Commencement and completion of the project

The holder of the screening direction must notify the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (hereinafter called the 'Department') of commencement and completion of the project within two days:

a) of commencement of the project and

b) of completion of the project.

Notification should be sent by email to the Environmental Management Team Mailbox: opred@energysecurity.gov.uk

3 Prevention of pollution

The holder of the screening direction must ensure that appropriate measures are taken to minimise discharges, emissions and waste, in particular through the appropriate use of technology; and to ensure that necessary measures are taken to prevent incidents affecting the environment or, where they occur, to limit their consequences in relation to the environment.

4 Inspections

Should the Department consider it necessary or expedient for an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State to investigate whether the conditions of the screening direction are being complied with, the holder of the screening direction shall afford the inspector with such facilities and assistance as the inspector considers necessary to exercise the powers conferred by the regulations. The holder of the screening direction shall additionally ensure that copies (electronic or paper) of the screening direction and any other relevant documents are available for inspection by the inspector at:

a) the premises of the holder of the screening direction; and
b) the facilities undertaking the project covered by the screening direction.

5 Check monitoring

Should the Department consider it necessary or expedient to undertake an independent monitoring programme to assess the impact of the project covered by the screening direction, the screening direction holder shall afford the Department with such facilities and assistance as the Department considers necessary to undertake the work.

6 Atmospheric emissions returns

Following completion of the project covered by the screening direction, the holder of the screening direction shall report all relevant atmospheric emissions, such as combustion emissions, extended well test emissions or flaring and venting emissions relating to a well test, using the appropriate Environmental Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS) reporting forms. In the case of atmospheric emissions relating to drilling projects undertaken from a fixed installation, they should be included in the annual EEMS reporting forms for the fixed installation.

7 Unauthorised deposits

Following completion of the project covered by the screening direction, the holder of the screening direction shall recover any materials accidentally or temporarily deposited on the seabed, such as debris, temporary containers, structures or deposits, or scientific instruments, and shall return the materials to land. If it is not possible to recover any of these deposits, full details of the materials remaining on the seabed must be reported to the Department in accordance with the requirements of Petroleum Operations Notice No.2 (PON2).

8 Screening direction variation

In the event that the holder of the screening direction proposes changes to any of the particulars detailed in the application for a screening direction, the holder must notify the Department immediately and submit an application for a post screening direction amendment. The post screening direction must be in place prior to the amended proposals taking effect.

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COMMENTS ON THE APPLICATION FOR SCREENING DIRECTION

Section 1

The attention of screening direction holders is drawn to the following provisions regarding The Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Unloading and Storage (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2020.

1) You are deemed to have satisfied yourself that there are no barriers, legal or otherwise, to the carrying out of the project covered by the screening direction. The issue of a screening direction does not absolve the screening direction holder from obtaining such authorisations, consents etc that may be required under any other legislation.

2) The Department would draw your attention to the following comments: n/a

3) All communications relating to the screening direction should be addressed to:

opred@energysecurity.gov.uk

or

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

Tel [redacted]

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SCHEDULE OF SCREENING DIRECTION DECISION REASONS

The Secretary of State has decided that, based on the information provided, the project is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment. The main reasons for this decision are:

1) Decision reasons

Summary of the Project (DR/2641/0)

-Drilling of the Adelie production well in 4 sections (36", 17.5" (WBM), 12.25" and 8.5" (OBM))

-Well clean up including flaring;

-Well Completion;

-Contingent respud and sidetrack of one or more sections.

(WONS/18329/0/IDA/1v3 and WONS/18329/0/C/1 v3)

Description of the Project

This application is for the drilling of the Adelie (R02) production well from the Semi-submersible mobile drilling unit (MODU) Stena Don. The MODU will be held on location by up to 8 anchors (plus 4 contingent anchor). The project will be supported by 2 anchor handling vessels (AHV), supply vessels, a guard vessel, an emergency response vessel and helicopter flights. A contingency wet storage area for the anchors will be used in the event of deck space being restricted on the AHVs. The well will be in four sections, the 36" and 17.5" sections using Water Based Mud (WBM), and the 12.25" and 8.5" sections using Low Temperature Oil Based Mud (LTOBM). Cuttings will be thermally treated and cuttings discharged if within oil on cuttings specification. The well will be cleaned up prior to entering production with flaring of hydrocarbons as part of the well clean up. A flowbase and cocoon (including 2 x 1 tonne grout gabions) to protect the wellhead will be installed. Operations are expected to take upto 113 days, but the screening direction covers the period from 2 April to 31 October 2026 to allow for well schedule and delays.

No cumulative impacts are expected to occur with any other existing or approved projects. The risk of a major accidents and environmental effects from major accidents, such as a well blowout has been assessed. The Developer has control measures in place to reduce the risk of a major accident occurring and the probability of such an event occurring is very low.

There is not likely to be any significant impact of the project on population and human health. It is not considered likely that the project will be affected by natural disasters. No nuisances are foreseen from the project.

Location of the Project

Having regard, in particular, to the matters identified at paragraphs 2(a) to (c) of Schedule 5 to the Regulations, the environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by the project has been considered as follows:-

The Adelie well location is within the Northern North Sea in the Penguins West Field, UKCS Block 211/14a approximately 150 km east from the Shetland coastline in Scotland and 6.5km to the UK/Norwegian median line, in an area where water depth is approximately 170m. The predominant current in the location is dominated by the Norwegian Atlantic flow.

The project location is not within any protected areas, with the closest being 97 km away. Site-specific surveys identified the seabed as comprising of gravelly sand with varying proportions of shell accumulations, pebbles, cobbles, and boulders. The sediment type is described as circalittoral coarse sediment. The benthic species identified, correlated with expected assumptions and were more prevalent near or on cobbled and stony areas. The most commonly observed benthic fauna included sea urchins, starfish, anemones, polychaetes, hermit crabs, squat lobsters, shrimps, sponges, and sea cucumbers. The project works and timing will take place at a time when a number of fish species may be found to be using the area as spawning, juvenile or nursery locations. Sightings of cetaceans are most common during the months of July and August. Seals are not expected to be seen at the remote location. Seabirds are most common in the area during the late summer months of August and September when expected density is 10-20 individuals per square km. The project area is primarily used for demersal fishing, but with a very low historical effort. Shipping intensity at the project location is very low. The surrounding area comprises other oil and gas infrastructure within 10km, but is not within a military activity zone, with no telecommunications cables, marine aggregate sites or renewable energy locations in proximity. CO2 appraisal and storage licence CS013 located 10.2km away. An area of foul ground is located approximately 3km northeast and the closest wreck is approximately 17km to the northwest of the well location.

Given the location of the project, the areas identified at paragraphs 2(c)(i), (iii), (iv), (vi), (vii) and (viii) of Schedule 5 are not likely to be affected by the project.

Type and characteristics of the potential impact

In accordance with paragraph 3 of Schedule 5 to the Regulations, the likely significant effects of the project on the environment have been considered. Potential effects to the environment from the activities associated with the project were assessed, with focus on the predominant impacts resulting from physical presence from the MODU / vessels, atmospheric emissions from drilling MODU including flaring, vessel use and helicopter flights, planned discharges to sea from chemical use and drilling discharges, seabed disturbance from siting the MODU, noise impacts from the MODU, vessels and the Rig anchor release (RAR) system and accidental events such as an oil release.

The MODU has the potential to cause interference to other users of the sea, namely fishermen and vessel traffic, however the MODU and support vessels will be located in a safety zone for the well. Its presence within the safety zone means only authorised vessels would be allowed within the 500 m radius of the well, therefore excluding other users of the sea. Given the low importance of the fishing area and the low vessel traffic, and that the drilling project is a temporary activity - the impact is assessed as not significant. An emergency response and rescue vessel (EERV) will be on site continually to monitor for vessel traffic and provide alerts to other users of the sea. A guard vessel will be on location from anchor pre-lay until the MODU arrives on location.

The area of seabed disturbance resulting from temporary disturbance from rig positioning is 0.046km2. With an area of permanent impact of 0.029 km2 from cuttings discharge, grout gabions placement. The main receptor impacted by seabed disturbance will be the benthic communities. Physical disturbance can cause mortality or displacement of benthic species in the impacted zone. Based on cuttings discharge modelling, deposition of cuttings with a thickness > 6.5 mm is not expected beyond 215 m from the drilling location. The temporary installation of the MODU anchor system is not expected to result in significant changes to sediment properties and rapid recovery of faunal communities within the disturbed area may be expected through a combination of larval settlement and migration of animals from the adjacent seabed once the anchors and moorings are removed. Therefore, the impact on benthic communities will not be significant.

Offshore chemicals will be used and discharged during the drilling of the well sidetrack. The use and discharge of the chemicals have been risk assessed and modelled in accordance with other regulatory requirements. The use and discharge modelling shows a low risk to the environment from the chemicals. Use and discharge of chemicals is not expected to have a significant impact on the environment. The discharge of treated LTOBM cuttings will result in some impacts to marine organisms resulting primarily from smothering and grain size change. The impact of drilling discharges on water quality and benthic fauna is predicted to be minimal as affects will be localised and short-lived. Moreover, given that recovery of the seabed and the associated benthic communities is likely to begin once drilling has been completed, the environmental impact of the discharged cuttings, within the impacted area, is assessed as not significant.

Emissions to air will occur from two main sources, (1) combustion plant used on the MODU and support vessels and (2) the proposed flaring from well clean up activity. The quantity of carbon dioxide equivalent from the MODU and support vessel use amounts to 0.066% of the 2018 total emissions from offshore oil and gas activity. Flaring from the project for a worst-case 96 hr flow period, results in a carbon dioxide equivalent of 0.18% of UK offshore oil and gas flaring emissions based on 2018 data.

The MODU, support vessel and flaring emissions will not have a detrimental effect to local air quality over the long-term, nor will it inhibit the ability to reach wider climate change goals. The environmental effects from emissions to air are not expected to

have a significant impact on the environment. The impact of the vessel emissions will be mitigated by optimising vessel efficiency (i.e. minimising the number of vessels used and vessel trips required to achieve the construction deliverables) and hence minimising fuel use and avoiding the unnecessary operation of power generation / combustion equipment. The RAR system emits a non impulsive sound and is unlikely to result in any significant effects on marine mammals.

In the event that an unlikely and unplanned accidental spill scenario from a Well blow-out was realised the total volume of oil that would be released from the well has been estimated at 461, 035 m3 of crude oil. The modelling suggests that beaching of oil may occur on the coasts of the UK and Norway and this may result in a Major Environmental Incident (MEI) resulting from an uncontrolled well blow-out. All drilling activities will be carried out in accordance with the Offshore Safety Directive as per Adura's Well Examination Scheme and Guidance Document. An approved Oil Spill Emergency Plan to manage hydrocarbon releases will be in place prior to activities being undertaken.

The drilling operations are consistent with the National Marine Plan for Scotland's objectives and policies.

Decision

Taking the above considerations into account, the Secretary of State has concluded that the project is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment and that an environmental impact assessment is not required.

2) Mitigation of significant effects

The following are features of the project or measures envisaged that the developer has proposed to avoid or prevent what might otherwise have been significant adverse effects on the environment:

n/a