

Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-7240U  
UKOP Doc Ref:1450689



Offshore Petroleum Regulator  
for Environment  
& Decommissioning

BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED  
CHERTSEY ROAD  
SUNBURY ON THAMES  
MIDDLESEX  
TW16 7BP

Registered No.: 00305943

Date: 25th June 2026

Department for Energy Security &  
Net Zero

AB1 Building  
Crimon Place  
Aberdeen  
AB10 1BJ

Tel [REDACTED]

Fax

[www.gov.uk/desz](http://www.gov.uk/desz)  
[opred@energysecurity.gov.uk](mailto:opred@energysecurity.gov.uk)

Dear Sir / Madam

**THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, UNLOADING  
AND STORAGE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS  
2020  
PIPELINE PL1366**

A screening direction for the project detailed in your application, reference PL/2653/0 (Version 2), dated 23rd June 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](mailto:opred@energysecurity.gov.uk).

Yours faithfully



**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**

**PIPELINE PL1366**

**PL/2653/0 (Version 2)**

Whereas BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED has made an application dated 23rd June 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, PA/6090, PA/6093, PA/6094, PA/6182 and PA/6179.

Effective Date: 25th June 2026

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

### **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 25 June 2026 until 31 December 2026.

#### **2 Commencement and completion of the project**

The holder of the screening direction must confirm the dates of commencement and completion of the project covered by the screening direction. Notification should be sent by email to the Environmental Management Team Mailbox: [opred@energysecurity.gov.uk](mailto:opred@energysecurity.gov.uk)

#### **3 Nature of stabilisation or protection materials**

Grout bags deposits

4.9 tonnes of grout contained within 25 kilogramme capacity non-biodegradable bags. (The number of bags deposited should be the minimum required to provide the necessary protection, and any surplus bags must be returned to land).

#### **4 Location of pipeline and stabilisation or protection materials**

Within an area bounded by the coordinates listed in SAT

#### **5 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.

#### **6 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.

## **7 Monitoring**

The results of any pre or post-placement surveys carried out to confirm the necessity for the deposits covered by the screening direction and/or to confirm the accurate positioning of the stabilisation or protection materials, should be forwarded to the Department following completion of the surveys

## **8 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.

## **9 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, using the appropriate Environmental Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS) reporting forms.

## **10 Deposit returns**

The holder of the screening direction shall submit a report to the Department following completion of the deposit covered by the screening direction, confirming the quantity of materials deposited and the estimated area of impact, using the appropriate Environmental Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS) reporting form. Where no deposits are made, a 'nil' return is required.

## **11 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).

## **12 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:

The Department has no further comments

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

[opred@energysecurity.gov.uk](mailto: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]  
Fax



## **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**

The following provides a summary of the assessments undertaken to determine whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for this project, summarises the information considered, the potential impacts and sets out the main reasons for the decision made. In considering whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is required or not, the following have been taken into account:

- a) The information provided by the developer.
- b) The matters listed in Schedule 5 of The Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Unloading and Storage (Environmental Impact Regulations 2020) (the Regulations).
- c) The results of any preliminary verifications or assessments of the effects on the environment of the project; and
- d) Any conditions that the Secretary of State may attach to the agreement to the grant of consent.

### **Characteristics of the Project**

Having regard, in the particular, to the matters identified at paragraphs 1(a) to (g) of Schedule 5 to the Regulations, the characteristics of the project include the following:-

### **Summary of the Project**

- i) The Installation of anode skid along PL1366 flowline with associated stabilisation
- ii) Anode skid installation at flowline tie-in assemblies at Loyal drill centre F45, North drill centres F65 and F61, Glen Lyon FPSO F71 and F16 and at Central Drill centre F6. All anode skids will have connection cables and stabilisation material
- iii) Installation of Multiple Application Reinjection System (MARS) including a new electrical flying lead (EFL) and fly to place (FTP) leads with associated stabilisation material at West drill centre
- iv) Installation of subsea control module including 2 new EFL's with associated stabilisation material.

- v) Recovery of the existing Choke Open Close Over-Ride Tool (COCOT) control jumper
- vi) Pressure testing of new lines and systems
- vii) Associated temporary deposits for installation methods.

### **Description of the Project**

The project involves the installation of two pyramid anode skids will be installed along the PL1366 flowline (between the Loyal Drill Centre F45 and North Drill centre F65). Two medium sized anode skids (MAS) will be installed, one at Flowline Tie-in Assembly (FTA) F45 (Loyal Drill Centre) and one at FTA F65 (North Drill centre). Two universal anode skids (UAS) will be installed, one at FTA F61 (at the North Drill centre), and one at FTA F71 (Glen Lyon FPSO). Two MAS will be installed, one at FTA F16 (Glen Lyon FPSO) and one at FTA F6 (Central Drill Centre). All anode skid installation will have associated cables and will require grout bags to be installed for stabilisation at each location. In addition the project will include installation of Multiple Application Reinjection System (MARS) including a new electrical flying lead (EFL - PLU6798) and fly to place (FTP PLU6799) leads at West drill centre. Installation of subsea control module (SCM) including two new EFL's (PLU6790 and PLU6791) at Central Drill Centre. All lines will have associated stabilisation material and systems will be pressure tested.

The existing Choke Open Close Over-Ride Tool (COCOT) control jumper (PLU2178) will be recovered. Existing lines may need to be lifted and moved temporarily in order to access and conduct the works.

Work baskets and other temporary items will be required all of which will be recovered as part of operations. The operations will be conducted using the Havila Pheonix with operations expected to take 6 days.

The temporary disturbance of the seabed from all activities associated with these works is 1543.36 m<sup>2</sup> with a permanent deposit of 116.74 m<sup>2</sup>. The cumulative total disturbance of the project with other operations is 0.355km<sup>2</sup>.

There is no risk to human health from the works to install the pipelines or depositing the protective materials on the seabed. There is no credible potential for a major accident or disaster to affect this project.

Any wastes associated with the project will be handled appropriately and no significant impacts are anticipated. The project is not at risk from natural disasters given its location in UK offshore waters.

### **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 proposed project is located in the Schiehallion and Loyal field, West of Shetland (WoS), in UKCS Block 204/20 and 204/25, approximately 130 kilometres (km) to the west of the Scottish coastline, and 32 km to the east of the UK-Faroes median line, in a depth of approximately 362- 442 metres (m).

The area in the vicinity of Schiehallion infrastructure is characterised under the European Nature Information System (EUNIS) protocol as Atlantic slope mixed sediment which falls under the deep-sea mixed substrata (A6.2) habitat. The superficial sediments in the wider region comprise of coarse sand with variable contributions of shells, gravels, cobbles and small boulders with a mean particle size of 0.9mm. This layer overlies soft brown clay deposits.

The mean significant wave height is expected to be up to 3m. Currents in the area are predominately north-easterly and mean current speeds are normally in the region of 0.1-0.2ms<sup>-1</sup> with a maximum of 2ms<sup>-1</sup> at the surface; and 0.05-0.1ms<sup>-1</sup> with a maximum speed of 0.3ms<sup>-1</sup> at the seabed.

The fauna observed across the survey area are regularly observed within the North East Atlantic area. The project lies within the Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt NCMPA. Site specific surveys were carried out in 2013,2017,2021, 2023 and 2024. The closest known aggregation is 500m to the operations at Central drill centre. All other locations had potential sponge aggregations (with a low to medium confidence level) at a greater than 1km in distance from the proposed operations. The Sponge assessment utilising the Henry & Roberts methods showed the whole project area to have low to medium confidence that the feature can be considered a deep-sea sponge aggregation as defined by OSPAR. Another designated feature of the NCMPA is ocean quahog (PMF). No Ocean quahog were observed during site survey work and one adult was identified at Station DC1. No areas qualified for the definition of stony reef, fluid seep areas or other habitats of conservation significance were recorded in the survey area.

Minke whale, long finned pilot whale, white beaked dolphin, harbour porpoise, and Risso's dolphins occur in the area at low densities, with Killer whale and Atlantic white-sided dolphins occurring at low to moderate densities. Harbour and grey seals are unlikely to occur in the area.

Seabird vulnerability in Block 204/20 and 204/25 is low in October and December and very high in November for both blocks with very high in January for 204/25. Similar sensitivities are observed in adjacent blocks. The proposed operations will coincide with fish spawning and/or nursery activity for a number of species.

There are a number of different seabed users which are active in the region. The nearest marine cable is >14 km away. No aggregate dredging and disposal sites, sites of marine archaeological interests, planned offshore renewable energy developments or recreational sailing routes have been identified within 40km of the operation. Shipping density in the area is low. The project is in the National Marine

Plan Area for Scotland.

Given the location of the project, it is not likely that the areas identified at paragraphs 2(c)(i), (iii), (iv), (vi), (vii) of Schedule 5 to the Regulations will 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 on the environment from the activities associated with the project were assessed, including impacts arising from atmospheric emissions, seabed disturbance, physical presence, planned discharges and accidental spills.

Other than the matters considered further below, there is not likely to be any significant impact of the project on population and human health.

The project will be carried out using the Havila Phoenix. The location of the works is within a demersal gear fishing prohibition location, is in an area which has very low shipping density, and the project is of short duration, any impacts on other sea users is not considered to be significant.

The temporary disturbance of the seabed from the project is 1543.36m<sup>2</sup> and the permanent disturbance is 116.74m<sup>2</sup>. These seabed impacts will primarily arise from the placement of new jumpers, Anode skids and SCM and associated protection materials as well as the movement of current infrastructure to allow the work to be completed.

The disturbance of the seabed will result in the smothering and mortality of benthic fauna which will result in some short-term temporary impacts. None of the disturbance events are expected to cause significant impact to benthic receptors with a large area of similar seabed in the project area. The most risk is from direct impact resulting from the installation of infrastructure on the seabed with some smothering. However mitigation measures will be applied including pre-landing visual sponge surveys to prevent workbaskets or equipment landed directly onto sponge aggregations should they be found. It is expected that the benthic communities will regenerate in the area over time.

The cumulative total disturbance of the project with other operations is 0.355km<sup>2</sup>.

The total cumulative disturbance of all operations equates to 0.0067% of the Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt NCMPS. Given the extent of habitat disturbance and the temporary nature of the majority of the works at the project location in relation to the size of the NCMPS it is not expected that this will have a significant cumulative impact on the integrity of the designated features or the conservation objectives of the NCMPS.

Fish, marine mammals and benthic species (which may be PMFs, Annex II species



and EPSs) are not considered to be significantly impacted.

Atmospheric emissions from the vessel during the drilling operations are expected to be short lived and likely to be negligible relative to the total emissions associated with shipping. These are expected to rapidly disperse and are not likely to have a significant impact.

There are no expected transboundary effects from the project. The nearest boundary (Faroes median line) is located approximately 33 km of the operations.

Discharge of offshore chemicals associated with the tie in operations have been assessed as not likely to have a significant effect on the environment. The main risk of accidental release of hydrocarbons is resulting from a loss of diesel inventory from a vessel. The assessment showed that the probability of a diesel spill from a vessel involved in the project is very low, with numerous mitigation measures and procedures in place. It is concluded that an accidental release of a hydrocarbon during the project is not considered to have the potential to cause a major environmental incident (MEI). Therefore, the risk of an oil spill event that could have a significant impact on the environment is minimised.

## **2. 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.

## **3. 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 effect on the environment:

Not applicable.