

Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-7259U
UKOP Doc Ref:1454571



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment
& Decommissioning

ADURA OPERATIONS LIMITED
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Registered No.: 16172712

Date: 27th July 2026

Department for Energy Security &
Net Zero

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Tel [REDACTED]

Fax

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opred@energysecurity.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

**THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, UNLOADING
AND STORAGE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS
2020
PIPELINE PL6792**

A screening direction for the project detailed in your application, reference PL/2658/0 (Version 3), dated 20th July 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



**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 PL6792

PL/2658/0 (Version 3)

Whereas ADURA OPERATIONS LIMITED has made an application dated 20th July 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/6036.

Effective Date: 27th July 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 29 July 2026 until 29 July 2027.

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

3 Nature of stabilisation or protection materials

Grout bags deposits

135 tonnes of grout contained within 25 kilogramme capacity 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).

Concrete mattress deposits

100 concrete mattresses, each measuring 6 metres x 3 metres x 15 centimetres. (The number of mattresses deposited should be the minimum required to provide the necessary protection, and any surplus mattresses must be returned to land).

4 Location of pipeline and stabilisation or protection materials

Within an area bounded by the coordinates:

PL6792

From: 61 37 ' 46.79 " N 01 29 ' 42.05 " E

To: 61 37 ' 45.20 " N 01 29 ' 40.48 " E

PL6794

From: 61 33 ' 51.60 " N 01 36 ' 18.37 " E

To: 61 33 ' 53.41 " N 01 36 ' 16.07 " E

PL6796

From: 61 37 ' 46.79 " N 01 29 ' 42.05 " E

To: 61 37 ' 45.20 " N 01 29 ' 40.48 " E

PL6797

From: 61 33 ' 51.60 " N 01 36 ' 18.37 " E

To: 61 33 ' 53.41 " N 01 36 ' 16.07 " E

PLU6793

From: 61 37 ' 46.79 " N 01 29 ' 42.05 " E

To: 61 37 ' 47.34 " N 01 29 ' 44.17 " E

PLU6795

From: 61 33 ' 53.10 " N 01 36 ' 23.14 " E

To: 61 33 ' 53.41 " N 01 36 ' 16.07 " E

Deposits for PL6794 and PL6797

From: 61 33 ' 53.41 " N 01 36 ' 16.07 " E

To: 61 33 ' 51.60 " N 01 36 ' 18.37 " E

Deposits for PLU6793

From: 61 37 ' 46.79 " N 01 29 ' 42.05 " E

To: 61 37 ' 47.34 " N 01 29 ' 44.17 " E

Deposits for PL6792 and PL6796

From: 61 37 ' 46.79 " N 01 29 ' 42.05 " E

To: 61 37 ' 45.20 " N 01 29 ' 40.48 " E

Deposits for PLU6795

From: 61 33 ' 53.41 " N 01 36 ' 16.07 " E



To: 61 33 ' 53.10 " N 01 36 ' 23.14 " E

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 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.

8 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.

9 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.

10 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).

11 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) 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]



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 assessment 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 Assessment 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:-

PL/2658/0

This application covers the installation of subsea infrastructure required to tie in the two additional wells (PAC & Adelie) drilled as part of the Penguins field. The two additional wells (PAC & Adelie) were not covered in the ES as these were a result of the new 2026 drilling plan, however a Screening Direction (PRA/358) was submitted and approved for a production increase of Penguins due to the additional wells.

Summary of the Project

The project screening direction application covers the installation of the subsea infrastructure for the PAC and Adelie project. Operations are expected to last 46 days and involve the installation of new pipelines, Tree supply control jumpers and spools. The new infrastructure will route production from the wells to the new Penguins FPSO via the existing DC2 and DC4 manifolds.

Description of the project

The subsea infrastructure installation covered by this application is as follows:

PL6792 - 60.3 Millimetre Gas Lift Pipeline
2" Gas lift spool
88m length
From Penguins DC2 Manifold to PAC well

PLU6793 - Control Jumper (multi-core)
110 mm Tree supply control jumper
84m length
From Penguins DC2 UCS to PAC well

PL6796 - 168.3 Millimetre Production Flowline
6" Production spool
88m length
From PAC well to Penguins DC2 Manifold

PL6797 - 168.3 Millimetre Production Flowline
6" Production Spool
80m length
From Adelie well to Penguins DC4 Manifold

PL6794 - 60.3 Millimetre Gas Lift Pipeline
2" Gas lift spool
80m length
From Penguins DC4 Manifold Adelie well

PLU6795 - Control Jumper (multi-core)
128 mm Tree supply control jumper
128m length
From Penguins DC4 UCS to Adelie well

Stabilisation materials are required to support the subsea infrastructure. These include hessian grout bags and concrete mattresses.

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, have 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 PAC and Adelie wells are part of the re-development of the Penguins field which started in 2019. The location of the new subsea infrastructure is within the Northern North Sea in the Penguins Field, UKCS Block 211/13a and 211/14 approximately 150 km east from the Shetland coastline in Scotland and adjacent 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 120 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 2.2km away. An unknown wreck was identified approximately 7.9km north of the location.

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, 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 proposed work will result in the seabed disturbance from the installation of the subsea infrastructure. The footprint of the pipelines and umbilicals will have a permanent impact of 879.2m². The stabilisation and protection materials will cover an area of 4,135m² of permanent impact with an area of 2,135m² temporary impact associated with the installation.

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. Direct mortality of sessile seabed organisms that cannot move away from the contact area would be expected at the locations the seabed infrastructure.

Recent surveys undertaken in the Penguin area did not identify any Annex I Habitats and the only PMF occupying a benthic habitat was the white cluster anemone, however this was at transects and a station located 2.7 km northwest to Adelie well and 7.4 km south to PAC well. The only PMF fish species which may be present in the area are saithe and blue whiting however these species are not benthic spawners and so are unlikely to be directly impacted from the infrastructure getting installed. While not a PMF, cod are known to use the area as a high intensity spawning ground although are also unlikely to be significantly impacted given they are pelagic spawners.

The direct impacts of physical seabed disturbance and indirect impacts of resuspended sediments have the potential to impact on fish species that require particular sediments on which to feed and spawn. The most vulnerable stages of the fish life cycle to activities such as seabed disturbance are the egg and larval stages. The operational period coincides with spawning periods and nursery grounds of some fish species. Evidence suggests that the sensitivity of fish to suspended sediments varies greatly between species and their life history stages and depends on sediment composition (particle size and angularity), concentration and the duration of exposure. Given the typically large fish spawning and nursery grounds in the North Sea, and the relatively small total area of disturbance and short duration of activities, it is unlikely that the spawning and nursery grounds of the fish species known to occur in the area will be significantly affected. The main receptor impacted by seabed disturbance will be the benthic communities.

It should be noted that observations of sponges were made in 23 of the 49 transects in the survey area, however the percentage of sponge coverage was infrequent with the density falling under category of 'no sponge/single specimen' (< 1% cover) for most of the survey area. The percentage cover and size of the patches does not qualify as the OSPAR 'deep-sea sponge aggregations' habitat. The closest confirmed deep-sea sponge aggregation to the project location is located c. 76.8 km to the northwest.

When taking into account the localised nature of the seabed impacts associated with the operations, the environmental effects from seabed disturbance are considered to be negligible. It is expected that flora and fauna will recover quickly given the localised nature of the operations within an area that has been previously developed. The proposed operations do not contradict the NMP objectives GEN 1 (General



Planning and Principle); GEN 4 (Co-existence); GEN 21 (Cumulative Impacts); Oil & Gas 1 (Environmental Risks & Impacts); Oil & Gas 5 (Potential Environmental Risks & Hazards); or Oil & Gas 6 (Risk Reduction Measures).

Emissions will occur from the installation vessel which will amount to 0.013% of the total upstream UKCS emissions in 2024. They will result in short term local air quality within the vicinity of the project location but will disperse rapidly.

The Penguins field is adjacent to the UK/Norway median line, with the area of operations being c. 7 km west of the UK/Norwegian median line. Due to the limited scope of the operations, and that there is not going to be the release of large volumes of discharges, it is not thought that there will be any transboundary impacts. Impacts are expected to be within UK waters.

The risk of a diesel spill is considered very low due to established vessel procedures, inspections, maintenance, bunding, navigational controls, and operations taking place within a 500 m safety zone. Fishing and shipping activity in the area is very limited, and diesel is a non-persistent hydrocarbon, meaning it would not remain in the marine environment for long. Any accidental release would be managed through approved SOPEPs and the Penguins Field OPEP, so the overall risk to the marine environment is very low and effectively controlled.

The operations are consistent with the objectives of Scotland's NMP.

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.