

Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-7200U
UKOP Doc Ref:1458697



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment
& Decommissioning

INEOS E&P (UK) LIMITED
HAWKSLEASE
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Registered No.: 04376184

Date: 8th September 2026

Department for Energy Security &
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Dear Sir / Madam

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

I refer to your amended application dated 7th September 2026, reference PR/2662/1 (Version 1).

It has been determined that the proposed changes to the project is not likely to result in a significant effect on the environment, and therefore an environmental impact assessment is not required.

A screening direction is therefore issued for the changes to the project. An amended schedule of conditions, comments, and main reasons for the decision on the amended application, 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

[REDACTED]



**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**

BREAGH

PR/2662/1 (Version 1)

Whereas INEOS E&P (UK) LIMITED has made an application dated 7th September 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 PCON/1417/6

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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

This screening direction shall be valid from 1 January 2027.

2 Production level(s)

The holder of the screening direction shall ensure that the level(s) of production do not exceed the level(s) detailed in the application for the screening direction, and in the application for consent relating to the approval for the getting of petroleum issued under the relevant production licence Model Clause.

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

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]



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 by OPRED 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 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

Increase in gas and condensate production from the Breagh field following the proposed drilling and completion of the Breagh A13 development well.

Description of the Project

The project comprises a proposed increase in gas and condensate production through the existing Breagh Alpha platform and export system following the addition of the Breagh A13 development well (42/13a-A13). Drilling of the A13 well is subject to a separate environmental assessment under DRA/1188 and does not form part of this screening decision. First gas from A13 is anticipated in January 2027, and the well is not expected to extend the cessation of production date for Breagh Alpha.

The high-case production forecast indicates that the proposed maximum annual increase would be approximately 350,000 cubic metres of gas per day in 2027, reducing to approximately 80,000 cubic metres per day by 2030. The increase attributable to the project remains below 500,000 cubic metres of gas per day.

The forecast production profile, including A13, remains below the maximum production rates previously assessed and consented over the life of the Breagh field.

The project enables continued recovery of reserves from within the existing field area and does not materially increase total hydrocarbon recovery beyond the range previously considered during field development planning.

The increased production will be handled through the existing Breagh Alpha platform and existing 20-inch export pipeline to the Teesside Gas Processing Plant. No new production facilities or subsea infrastructure are required as part of the production increase.

The Developer has existing management systems, operating controls and emergency response arrangements in place to reduce the risk of major accidents. The probability of such an event occurring is very low. The project is not considered likely to be affected by natural disasters, and no significant effects on population or human health are anticipated.

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 Breagh Alpha platform is located in UKCS Block 42/13a in the Southern North Sea, approximately 62 km from the east coast of England at Bacton and approximately 178 km from the UK/Netherlands median line. The water depth at the platform is approximately 62 m Lowest Astronomical Tide. The seabed in the vicinity is predominantly fine sand with gravelly patches and is representative of offshore circalittoral sand habitat.

The Breagh Alpha platform is located approximately 2.1 km from the Southern North Sea Special Area of Conservation, which is designated for harbour porpoise. No other marine protected areas are located within 40 km of the platform.

The project is located within ICES Rectangle 38F0, which provides spawning and nursery habitat for a range of fish species. The proposed increase in production will use existing infrastructure and will not result in any additional seabed disturbance.

Seabirds may occur in the vicinity of the platform. Seabird sensitivity to surface oil pollution in UKCS Block 42/13 varies seasonally and is extremely high in March, very high in May, June and December, high in September and October, and low in April, July and August. No data are available for January, February and November.

Harbour porpoise is the most frequently occurring cetacean in the Southern North Sea. Bottlenose dolphin, common dolphin, white-beaked dolphin and minke whale have also been recorded within the wider survey area. Grey and harbour seals may occur in the vicinity of the platform.

Fishing activity occurs in ICES Rectangle 38F0 and is predominantly associated with pots and traps. Shipping activity within UKCS Block 42/13 is considered moderate, with elevated vessel density around the platform associated with support and



emergency response vessels.

There are no offshore wind farm sites within 40 km of the Breagh Alpha platform. The nearest other active pipeline is the Langed pipeline, approximately 11 km east of the platform, and the Endurance carbon capture and storage site lies approximately 25.2 km to the south-west.

The Breagh Alpha platform is located within the North East Offshore Marine Plan area. The proposed production increase has been assessed against the relevant objectives and policies of the Marine Plan and is not expected to adversely affect their achievement.

There are no known wrecks in the vicinity of the Breagh Alpha platform. Owing to the offshore location and the use of existing infrastructure, interactions with tourism and leisure activities are expected to be minimal.

The project will not change the existing footprint or physical presence of the Breagh Alpha platform, subsea infrastructure or affect the 500 m safety zone.

The additional production will be processed and exported through the existing Breagh Alpha facilities. No new offshore infrastructure or modifications to existing facilities are required to accommodate the proposed production increase

Given the location and nature of the project, the areas identified at paragraphs 2(c)(i), (iii), (iv), (vi), (vii) and (viii) of Schedule 5 to the Regulations are not likely to be affected by the change to 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 change to the project on the environment have been considered. The assessment addressed atmospheric emissions, climate, marine discharges, physical presence, seabed disturbance, underwater noise, accidental events, transboundary effects and cumulative effects. Other than the matters considered below, the project is not likely to have a significant effect on population or human health.

The additional production will be processed and exported through the existing Breagh Alpha facilities. Significant increases in atmospheric emissions from platform power generation, routine venting or fugitive sources are not expected because the installed equipment, operating limits and emissions profiles remain relatively unchanged.

There is no offshore processing or discharge of produced water at Breagh Alpha, as the produced fluids are exported to the Teesside Gas Processing Plant. Production chemicals are principally managed within closed systems, and the proposed production increase is not expected to change the nature or quantity of permitted chemical discharges. No additional seabed disturbance, physical presence or

underwater noise effects will arise from the production increase.

The proposed production increase will not alter the existing accidental-event scenarios or materially increase the risk of a hydrocarbon release. Existing spill-prevention, well-control and emergency-response measures, including the approved Breagh A Hub Offshore Oil Pollution Emergency Plan, will remain in place. No significant transboundary or cumulative effects are anticipated. It is therefore considered that the increase in gas and condensate production from the Breagh field is not likely to have a significant effect on other offshore activities, other users of the sea, the seabed, marine species or protected sites.

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