

Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-2143U
UKOP Doc Ref:1460891



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment
& Decommissioning

ENQUEST HEATHER LIMITED
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Registered No.: 02748866

Date: 5th October 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
MAGNUS PRODUCTION EXTENSION**

A screening direction for the project detailed in your application, reference PR/2673/0 (Version 2), dated 21st August 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: 2026.10.05 15:21:21 BST
Reason: On behalf of the Secretary of State
Location: Offshore Petroleum Regulator for
Environment and Decommissioning



**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**

MAGNUS PRODUCTION EXTENSION

PR/2673/0 (Version 2)

Whereas ENQUEST HEATHER LIMITED has made an application dated 21st August 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/5759/2 v3.

Effective Date: 5th October 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

This screening direction shall be valid from 6 October 2026.

2 Change to production level(s)

The holder of the screening direction shall ensure that the change in the level(s) of production do not exceed the amended 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:

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 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

Extension to oil and gas production to 2036 from Magnus installation as a result of the Ninian Central Platform (NCP) bypass project. (PCON/5759/2v3)

Description of the Project

The Magnus field has been in production since 1983 and is served by a drilling and production platform in the Northern North Sea with oil exported to Sullom Voe and gas exported via the FLAGGS pipeline to the St Fergus gas terminal. Produced water is discharged to sea. To enable continued production from Magnus following decommissioning of the Ninian Central Platform (NCP), a bypass will be created around NCP. This will result in a 1 year extension to production at Magnus to 2036, this will result in a change in oil production of less than 500 tonnes per day and gas production of less than 500,000 cubic meters per day. This meets the definition of "project" under the Offshore EIA regulations (2020). The production consents (PCON/5759/2v3) are sought to 31 December 2036.

No significant cumulative impacts are expected to occur with any other existing or approved projects. 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 Magnus field is in the Northern North Sea within the East Shetland Basin and is approximately 16 km from the UK/Norwegian median line and 142 km northeast of Shetland. The project is in the National Marine Plan Area for Scotland. Water depths across the area is around 186m and the average wave height ranges from 2.71m - 3m.

Sediments within the region of the platform comprise sand and slightly gravelly sand, with the sediment within the area classified as 'deep circalittoral sand'. Surveys of the area showed that the sediments comprise sand with occasional gravel and shell fragments. The Magnus platform is located within an area as potentially supporting Annex I stony reefs; however surveys have not identified stony reef habitats. There is no evidence within the area of Annex I submarine structures. A survey of the area showed that the dominant groups around the platform area are worm species along with molluscs and polychaetes, with a stable homogenous community, typical of sandy sediments.

The Priority Marine Feature (PMF) 'offshore subtidal sands and gravels' have been recorded within the Magnus area. Subtidal sands and gravels are the preferred habitat of the ocean quahog. The species has been recovered in the area but in low numbers. Sea pens have been recorded in surveys, and an assessment was undertaken of the 'sea pen and burrowing megafauna communities' habitat as these are on the OSPAR list of threatened and/or declining species. Using the SACFOR scale, the density of sea pens was classified as occasional or rare, therefore it was concluded that such a community was not present within the area of the Magnus platform. Hard and soft substrate sponges were also recorded within the area but were not found in sufficient densities to constitute a 'sponge dominated habitat' as defined by OSPAR.

Minke whale, long finned pilot whale, killer whale, bottlenose dolphin, Atlantic white-sided dolphin and harbour porpoise have all been recorded in the vicinity of the Magnus area. Densities of the species are categorised as low to moderate, except harbour porpoise, which is high in July. While grey and harbour seals may be encountered, density maps show the presence of grey and harbour seals in the project area as low due to the offshore location.

The Magnus field is not situated within any conservation areas, with the closest area of conservation interest being the Northeast Faroe Shetland Channel NCMPA which



lies 80km to the north west. This site is designated for deep sponge aggregations, offshore muds, subtidal sands and gravels and geological and geomorphological features. The Pobie Bank Reef SAC is located 115km to the south west and is designated due to the presence of Annex I habitats bedrock and stony reefs.

The Magnus field lies within fishing designated ICES rectangle 52F1 and the proposed operations will coincide with nursery and/or spawning activity for a number of species. Fishing effort in the area is designated as of low importance, with demersal fishing dominating the species type. Seabird oil sensitivity in the vicinity of the Magnus field is predominately low, with medium sensitivity in March, and high sensitivity in January, November and December.

There is 1 non dangerous wreck within 40km of the Magnus platform and there are no known Historic Marine Protected Areas (HMPAs) within block 211/12. There are no offshore wind farms within the vicinity, with the closest offshore wind area the Stoura Offshore windfarm which is 135km from the project area. The Magnus platform is located within the Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind for Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation (INTOG) lease area NE-b. The closest Scotwind lease area is NE-1, which is located over 130 km south-east of Magnus. There are no telecommunication cables within 40km of the Magnus field, the closest cable being the CANTAT Faroese cable with is 55km to the north-east. There are no aquaculture sites or shellfish protected areas within the vicinity of the project area, the closest being approximately 145km from the platform. There are no military restrictions within block 211/12.

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, physical presence, planned discharges and accidental spills. Other than the matters considered further below, there is not likely to be any significant impact from the change to the project on population and human health.

Planned upgrades to the Magnus platform are expected to deliver a reduction in emissions. Atmospheric emissions directly associated with the planned activities are expected to rapidly disperse and are not likely to result in a significant impact. The developer considered the need for an assessment of scope 3 emissions in line with OPRED's Supplementary EIA Guidance. As there is no increase to the total amount of hydrocarbons expected to be produced over the field life of Magnus as a result of this change to production, and it will not exceed that previously assessed, therefore an assessment of scope 3 emissions was not undertaken.

The extension to production will result in ongoing chemical use and discharge to the marine environment, however the effects of this are assessed as not significant. Produced water discharges will not significantly increase as a result of the project and control measures to minimise the impact of produced water discharges are managed through the existing oil discharge permit for the Magnus installation.

There are no changes to the forecasted worst case blow out rate and total spill volume detailed in the approved field OPEP and therefore no change to the potential environmental impact due to accidental events. There are no expected transboundary impacts as a result of the project and no cumulative impacts have been identified given the other known existing and approved projects in the wider area.

The production operations do not contradict any of the Scottish Marine Plan objectives and policies.

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 effects on the environment:

n/a