Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-7298U
UKOP Doc Ref:1462570

Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

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

Registered No.: 00305943

Date: 28th October 2026

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ

Tel [redacted]
Fax

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
SCHIEHALLION 204/20a- IX2303 Injector well

I refer to your amended application dated 27th October 2026, reference DR/2668/2 (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

Signature Not Verified

Digitally signed by Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
Date: 2026.10.28 16:21:32 GMT
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

SCHIEHALLION 204/20a- IX2303 Injector well

DR/2668/2 (Version 1)

Whereas BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED has made an application dated 27th October 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/18977/0/PIDA/1.

Effective Date: 28th 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

The screening direction shall be valid from 17 October 2026 until 31 December 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:

The Department has no further comments

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
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Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ

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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

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 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 change to the project

DR/2668/2 - This post direction ammendment is for minor change to project title only.

DR/2668/1 This post direction ammendment is to update vessel information and minor ammendment to emissions.

Summary of the Project

CAN-ductor installation at 204/20-IX2303 water injector well (hereafter referred to as IX2303) as outlined in the application
Contingency re-spud of CAN-ductor
deployment of temporary installation equipment, DP beacons and guideposts associated with the CAN-ductor installation scope.

Description of the Project

This screening direction is for the installation, by suction piling into the seabed, of the CAN-Ductor system at the IX2303 well location alongside temporary installation equipment, guideposts and beacons. It includes the contingency of a potential re-spud should difficulties be encountered. This infrastructure is being pre-installed and will be used for potential future drilling of the well which will be subject to a separate application. Operations are expected to take 4 days.

The risk of a major accident such as a well blowout has not been assessed as drilling will not commence until a later date, hence there is no risk for a hydrocarbon blow-out scenario. IX2303 well is part of wider BP operations within the UKCS block alongside other operators. The cumulative is not considered to be significant with a worst case impact area constituting 0.0067% of the Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt NCMPA.

It is not considered to be likely that the project will be affected by natural disasters. Other than the matters considered further below, there is not likely to be any significant impact of the project on population and human health.

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 existing Schiehallion North Drill Centre in the Schiehallion field, West of Shetland (WoS), in UKCS Block 204/20 approximately 109 kilometers (km) to the west of the Scottish coastline, and 36 km to the southwest of the UK-Faroes median line, in a depth of approximately 443metres (m).

The area in the vicinity of Schiehallion and Loyal infrastructure is characterised under the European Nature Information System (EUNIS) protocol as Atlantic slope mixed sediment which falls under the deep-sea mixed substrata 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 1-3 metres in summer and 6 metres in Winter. Currents in the area are predominately north-easterly and mean current speeds are 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. Surveys have been conducted in 2021, 2022 and 2023. The closest known aggregation is 4 km to the operations. All other locations had potential sponge aggregations (with a low to medium confidence level) at a greater then 4km in distance from the proposed operations. The Sponge assessment utilising the Henry & Roberts (2014) methods showed the whole project area to have low 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 live Ocean quahog were observed during site survey work with the closest known aggregation located 15km southwest from IX2303 well.

A rocky reef assessment found only 2 survey sites with a medium resemblance. No images exhibited high resemblance to rocky reef and no station exhibited sufficient evidence to be classed as an Annex I 'Reefs' habitat. No areas of fluid seep areas or other habitats of conservation significance were recorded in the survey area.

Harbour porpoise, white beaked dolphins, Risso dolphin, Long finned pilot whales and minke whales were observed in low densities in the WoS area. Killer whales were observed in moderate density in February only and Atlantic white-sided dolphin in moderate density in June and August. Seabird vulnerability in Block 204/20 is medium in April and June, very high in November and low for the remaining months. Similar sensitivities are observed in adjacent blocks.

The proposed operations will coincide with fish nursery activity for a number of species including as Atlantic mackerel, blue whiting and Norway Pout.

There are a number of different seabed users which are active in the region. The closest submarine telecommunication cables is located 11 km North East of IX2303 location. No aggregate dredging and disposal sites, planned offshore renewable energy developments or recreational sailing routes have been identified within 40km of the operation. Shipping density in the area is low. There are 3 global wreck located within 20km of IX2303 with the closest located 6km South by Southwest of the proposed IX2303 well.

There are no Historic Marine Protected Areas (HMPA) within Block 204/20. 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 is located within the existing 500m safety exclusion zones of the Schiehallion field North drill centre excluding unauthorised access of vessels.

The project will result in a seabed footprint of 0.000268 km2, of which 0.000211km is

considered temporary impact from placement of installation equipment, workbasket and beacons. This equates to 0.000005% of the protected site. 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 total cumulative disturbance of all operations in the region equates to 0.0067% of the Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt NCMPA. 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 NCMPA 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 NCMPA.

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 CAN-ductor installation 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 36 km of the operations.

There is no potential for a Major Environmental Incident (MEI) from installation activities.

The project is in accordance with the National Marine Plan for Scotland's objectives and policies. It is considered that the installation of the CAN-ductor and temporary installation equipment at the IX2303 well location is not likely to have a significant impact on other offshore activities or other users of the sea. Cumulative impacts from all activities within the Sheihallion field have been examined and significant impact is not expected to occur.

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:

Not applicable