Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-6686U
UKOP Doc Ref:1462607

Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED
CHERTSEY ROAD
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MIDDLESEX
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Registered No.: 00305943

Date: 29th 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
CLAIR-RIDGE [Part of CLAIR], Clair Ridge Platform, DRILLING INJECTOR WELL 206/08a- S4U3I1 planned well

I refer to your amended application dated 23rd October 2026, reference DR/2566/5 (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: 2026.10.29 13:21:29 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

CLAIR-RIDGE [Part of CLAIR], Clair Ridge Platform, DRILLING INJECTOR WELL 206/08a- S4U3I1 planned well

DR/2566/5 (Version 1)

Whereas BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED has made an application dated 23rd 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/17662/0/IDA/1, WONS/17662/0/IDA/1 Version 3 and WONS/17662/0/C/1.

Effective Date: 29th October 2026

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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 8 December 2025 until 31 March 2027.

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
Crimon Place
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 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 change to the project

DR/2566/5 - This post direction ammendment is for an optional cement plug at the start of the 16" mechanical sidetrack.

DR/2566/4 - This post direction amendment is for an additional singular mechanical side track from the 12.25" section or the 8" section

DR/2566/3 - This post direction amendment is for return to drilling with a mechanical sidetrack will be drilled from below the 16" liner shoe and date extention only.

DR/2566/2 - This post direction amendment is for the plug and suspension of the well.

DR/2566/1- This post direction amendment is for the drilling of the lower sections of the well to target depth, well completion, suspension of well if required and

installation of Xmas tree.

Summary of the Project

Top hole drilling of the S4U3I1 (B27) injector well from the Clair Ridge Platform.

Drilling of the 32" and 23" section with Water based Mud (WBM) and cementing the casing

Drilling the 19", 16" and 12.25 section with low toxicity oil based mud (LTOBM) with casing cemented in place.

Drilling of the 8.5" section with WBM or sacrificial WBM should high formation losses require it.

Casing cemented and lower and upper completions run.

A mechanical sidetrack will be drilled from below the 16" liner shoe with optional cement plug installed for the starting point.

additional singular mechanical side track from the 12.25" section or the 8" section

Well Clean up and hand over to production

Plug and Suspension of the well.

Installation of Xmas tree.

Description of project

This project covers the drilling of an injector well S4U3I1 from the Clair Ridge Platform.

The well will be batch drilled with this first top hole section being drilled only with WBM. The 32" section will be drilled with WBM with cuttings discharged at the seabed. The 23" section will be drilled with WBM and with the cuttings discharged from the platform. The 19", 16" and 12.25" sections will be drilled with LTOBM with cuttings re-injected into the CRI well. A mechanical sidetrack will be drilled from below the 16" liner shoe with the contingency option of an additional singular mechanical side track from the 12.25" section or the 8" section. Should the CRI well become unavailable then LTOBM cuttings will be skipped and shipped.

The 8.5" section will be drilled with WBM with the contingency of sacrificial WBM should losses to the formation be encountered during drilling. Drill cuttings will be injected into the CRI well, however should this become unavailable then the 8.5" drill cuttings then the contingency would be to skip and ship the cuttings. Following each section casing will be run and cemented in place. There is the option to suspend the well at any given section. Following casing cementing the well will be cleaned up and

completions run. Following the upper completions a Xmas tree will be installed and the well handed over to production.

The total anticipated time to drill and complete the well is 231 days. The S4U3I1 is not anticipated to have any cumulative impacts.

It is not considered to be likely that the project will be affected by natural disasters. The risk of a major accident such as a well blowout has 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.

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 Clair Ridge platform is located approximately 55 kilometres (km) west of Shetland and 94 km south east of the United Kingdom-Faroes median line in block 206/8.

The project is in an area characterised by sand, slightly gravelly sand and gravelly muddy sand with a water depth of 143 metres (m). The wave height within the area ranges from 2.71 - 3.00 m and the annual mean wave power is between 42.10 - 48.00 kW/m. Surveys indicated that areas were predominately classified as sublittoral coarse sediment. Additional habitats were identified to a lesser extent, including sublittoral sand and sublittoral mixed sediment. The benthic fauna in the vicinity of the Clair Ridge platform is typical of the wider area. Surveys conducted around the area observed a diverse range of species.

Sediments within the survey area were identified as comprising the broad scale Priority Marine Feature (PMF) habitat 'offshore subtidal sands and gravels', however, this habitat is widely distributed and unlikely to be of conservation significance for the wider survey area. This is the preferred habitat for ocean quahog Arctica islandica, however no A. islandica were observed across both survey areas and siphons were not visible at the sediment surface in any of the seabed photographs. Due to the areas of relatively high reflectivity observed throughout both survey areas, it was thought that the Annex I habitat 'stony reef' was likely to occur. However after assessment these areas did not meet the minimum extents and therefore were not considered to constitute an Annex I stony reef habitat. Other protected features such as, but not limited to, PMF Ocean quahog Arctica islandica, OSPAR Threatened and/or Declining Species of 'Seapen and Burrowing Megafauna' and deep sea sponge aggregations were not identified from either the geophysical or photographic data.

The closest protected site to the project is the Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area (NCMPA) located approximately 18 km to the northwest and the Seas off Foula Special Protected Area (SPA) located approximately 39 km to the south.

The project is in the National Marine Plan Area for Scotland. The proposed operations will coincide with fish spawning and/or nursery activity for a number of species.

Numerous cetacean species are present in the area in low numbers with the during the operational period including pilot whales, Atlantic sided dolphins, killer whales and Risso dolphins. Harbour porpoise and white beaked dolphins are present in moderate density in July. Low numbers of Grey and harbour seals are anticipated to be in the area at any time.

Seabird sensitivity during the operational period ranges from low to high. Fishing effort in the area is low.

There is only one oil and gas installation within 40km of the project. The Shefa 2 telecommunication cable which is owned and operated by Faroese telecom runs within < 1 km of the project site however this will not be impacted by operations.

The area is located within a Ministry of Defence practice area but any restrictions are only applicable to the siting of an installation. Shipping density in the area is low. There are no protected wrecks located in the vicinity. No aggregate dredging and disposal sites, sites of marine archaeological interest, aquaculture sites or planned offshore renewable energy developments have been identified within 40km of the Clair Ridge Platform.

Given the location of the project, it is not likely that the areas identified at paragraphs 2(c)(i), (iii), (iv), (vi), (vii) and (viii) 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, accidental events and transboundary impacts.

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

There is a 500 m radius safety zone around the Clair Ridge Platform, excluding unauthorised access of vessels and prohibiting access to fishing vessels. There are therefore not expected to be any impacts to other sea users.

Operations are conducted from the Clair Ridge Platform and will use existing power generation. It is expected the emissions will be rapidly dispersed and are not likely to have a significant impact.

There will be 301.7 m2 of seabed disturbance from the conductor and cementing operations. A cement patio may be formed when cementing the conductor back to the seabed however this will be kept to a minimum. In addition seabed disturbance will occur from the discharge of water-based mud drill cuttings. WBM drill cuttings discharge modelling has shown that 1mm depth coverage of cuttings would be limited to 300m surrounding the well. This could result in the smothering and mortality of benthic fauna which will result in some short term temporary impacts however the benthic communities are expected to regenerate the area impacted by drill cuttings over time and therefore the impacts from seabed disturbance have been assessed as not likely to have significant effect.

Discharge of offshore chemicals associated with the drilling of the well, cementing and suspension have been assessed as not likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

Transboundary effects from the project are expected to be negligible. The nearest boundary line (UK/Faroes Median Line) is located approximately 94 km of the operations. Although not a planned activity, a worst-case major accident scenario resulting from a potential well blow-out was modelled and assessed. The probability of a large oil spill from the proposed operations is low. Therefore, it is considered that the control measures in place to prevent loss of well control minimise the risk of an oil spill that could have a significant impact and the proposed operations carried out as planned are not likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

The drilling 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