Our Ref: 01.01.01.01-7406U
UKOP Doc Ref:1462957

Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

ADURA OPERATIONS LIMITED
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LONDON
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Registered No.: 16172712

Date: 5th November 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
MARINER, Mariner PDQ Platform, DRILLING PRODUCER WELL 9/11a-A19Y sidetrack (ANPW)

A screening direction for the project detailed in your application, reference DR/2691/0 (Version 3), dated 3rd November 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: 2026.11.05 10:05:20 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

MARINER, Mariner PDQ Platform, DRILLING PRODUCER WELL 9/11a-A19Y sidetrack (ANPW)

DR/2691/0 (Version 3)

Whereas ADURA OPERATIONS LIMITED has made an application dated 3rd November 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_SCON/5766.

Effective Date: 5th November 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 11 November 2026 until 30 June 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 have no comments at this time.

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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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 project

DR/2691/0

The application covers the drilling of the ANPW well which will be drilled as a 8 1/2" section after performing sidetrack by installing whipstock inside the existing 9 " liner in previous well 9/11a-A1Y (AMPB). The application covers the following:

- Re-entry and permanent Plug and Abandonment of A-1Y;

- Existing packer brine extends to approximately 2,565 m measured depth and will be recovered for onshore disposal, then replaced with fresh brine.

- The upper completion tubing and electric submersible pump (ESP) will be removed

after the old packer fluid is recovered.

- A whipstock will be installed at 2,620 m inside the 9 -inch liner before milling the sidetrack window.

- The well will be displaced to water-based mud (WBM); all circulated fluids, cleaning slops and residual brine will be skipped and shipped.

- Drill 81/2" section to target depth (TD);

- No cementing is required; complete the well with upper tubing and an electric submersible pump.

Description of the project

The project involves the re-entry and permanent plug and abandonment of well 9/11a-A1Y, followed by drilling and completion of the ANPW oil producer sidetrack from the Mariner A Production Drilling Quarters (PDQ) platform. The sidetrack will be initiated by installing a whipstock at 2,620 m measured depth inside the existing 9 -inch liner.

The new 8 -inch reservoir section will be drilled using 1.20-1.24 SG water-based mud to a planned target depth of 4,264 m measured depth, with a maximum permitted depth of 4,364 m. The well will then be completed using open-hole screens or blank pipe; no new cementing is required.

Following drilling, the lower completion will be installed, the Formation Isolation Valve closed and pressure-tested, and the well displaced to 1.06 SG inhibited sodium chloride brine. Upper completion tubing incorporating an electric submersible pump will then be installed. All returned fluids and cuttings will be skipped and shipped onshore for treatment and disposal.

Operations are expected to take 45 days overall, including 18 days for re-entry and plug-and-abandonment activities and five days for drilling. The permit end date is 30 June 2027 to accommodate potential operational or weather delays.

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 proposed project will occur in the Mariner Field from the Mariner A PDQ and is located in UKCS licence block 9/11a. It is located 131 km to the southeast of Shetland and 45 km west from the UK/Norway median line. The water depth at the proposed project location is approximately 110 m.

The seabed at the proposed project location comprises mainly sandy sediment (92.5-95.0%) with fines (4.88-7.48%) and limited gravel (0.01-0.16%). The EUNIS classification of the benthos is deep circalittoral sand. There are no Annex I habitats identified in the proposed project area. Sea pen (*Funiculina quadrangularis*) were identified in a survey, therefore there is potential for the OSPAR habitat 'Sea pens and burrowing megafauna communities' to be present in the area. No OSPAR habitats have been identified in the proposed project area. Ocean quahog (*Arctica islandica*), a Priority Marine Features (PMF), has been identified in the proposed project area.

Benthic survey samples were dominated by newly settled juveniles of sea urchins (Echinidea/Spatangoida). Other benthic species identified in surveys of the area include polychaete (*Spiophanes bombyx*), brittle star (*Ophiocten affinis*), horseshoe worm (*Phoronis spp.*) and tube dwelling anemone (*Cerianthus lloydii*). Fish species identified in surveys of the area include cod (*Gadus morhua*), pollock (*Pollachius pollachius*), turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*) and hagfish (*Myxine glutinosa*).

The following PMF fish species have been identified in the proposed project area: angler fish, blue whiting, cod, European hake, haddock, herring, ling, mackerel, Norway lobster, Norway pout, saithe, sandeel and whiting.

The following cetacean species have been identified in the proposed project area: Atlantic white-sided dolphin, Harbour porpoise, Killer whale, Minke whale, White-beaked dolphin.

Seal species have been identified in the proposed project area. Harbour seal and Grey seal have been found to be present in the proposed project area at low densities.

The proposed project is not located within a designated site. The Braemar pockmarks Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is closest, located approximately 69km southeast of Mariner A PDQ. Its designated features are Annex I habitat of 'Submarine structures made by leaking gases' as designated under the EC Habitats Directive. The next closest protected area to the proposed project is the Central Fladen NCMPA, 79 km away. Its designated features are burrowed mud (characterised by sea pens and burrowing megafauna), as well as the presence of sub-glacial tunnel valley representative of the Fladen Deeps Key Geodiversity area.

Seabird oil sensitivity in block 9/11 is low throughout the year, except in May when it is medium. There is no data on seabird oil sensitivity for April, October, November or December.

The proposed project is located in Scottish waters and therefore the Scotland's National Marine Plan applies.

The proposed project area is located in International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) rectangle 48F1. The fishing effort in the rectangle is considered to be above average compared to overall UKCS fishing effort. The target species in the area were demersal and the most utilised gear type in the area was trawls in 2024.

Shipping density in the proposed project area is considered to be very low.

The following oil and gas installations are within 40 km of the proposed project area: Mariner B, Beryl B, Beryl A, Beryl SPM2/3, Bruce and Kraken.

The proposed project is not located within military training areas.

The closest cable to the proposed project area is the TAMPNET 4 Bu4 which is connected to the Mariner A PDQ. The other closest cable is the TAMPNET 4 trunk which is located 1.5 km southwest.

The proposed project is within the Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas (INTOG) NE-c area.

There are no wrecks in the vicinity of the proposed project.

There are no aquaculture sites within 40 km of the proposed project area.

Given the location of the project, the areas identified at paragraphs 2(c)(i), (iii), (iv), (vi), (vii) and (viii) of Schedule 5 are not likely to 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 of the project on population and human health.

All returned fluids and cuttings from the ANPW re-entry, sidetrack and drilling operations will be skipped and shipped for onshore slops treatment and disposal. Consequently, there will be no planned discharge of water-based mud cuttings to the seabed and no associated deposition, turbidity or smothering effects. The well design requires no new cementing because the reservoir section will be completed using open-hole screens and blank pipe.

On this basis, significant effects on ocean quahog, other benthic receptors, protected

species, fish and spawning grounds are not expected from routine ANPW operations.

Drilling operations will be conducted from the existing Mariner A PDQ Installation such that there is no increase in the infrastructure footprint on the seabed.

The impact of use and discharge of chemicals from this project and change to the project are considered not to be significant to the marine environment as detailed in the chemical risk assessment submitted for this operation.

Drilling operations will be undertaken from the Mariner A PDQ and no additional equipment will be required for the drilling activities. Atmospheric emissions associated with the project will result from power demand for the proposed operations. Therefore, significantly increased emissions resulting from drilling operations are not expected. Consequently, the impacts arising from these emissions on climate change and local air quality are not expected to be significant.

No impulsive noise sources are being used. Therefore, no significant impacts on marine mammals as a result of noise from the proposed operations are expected.

The risk of a major accident such as a well blowout has been assessed. The Operator 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. The Major Environmental Incident (MEI) assessment indicates that a worst case (uncontrolled and unmitigated) well blowout scenario from Mariner PDQ has the potential to cause significant damage, as defined by the Environmental Liability Directive, to protected species or habitats (listed under the Annex I of the Birds Directive and/or Annex I, II and IV species listed under the Habitats Directive) and coastal economies and could constitute an MEI as defined in the Offshore Safety Directive. The spill prevention and mitigation measures detailed in the application and in supporting documentation including the OPEP makes such an event extremely unlikely.

In the case of an accidental diesel release from the Mariner A PDQ, it is expected to evaporate quickly due to its very high level of light ends. The low asphaltene content prevents emulsification, therefore reducing its persistence in the marine environment. As such, a diesel release is not expected to present a significant risk.

The closest international boundary is 45 km away and therefore the risk of transboundary impacts as a result of the proposed operations is low.

The drilling operations are in accordance with the National Marine Plan for Scotland's objectives and policies. It is considered that the drilling of the 9/11a-A19Y Sidetrack (ANPW) well is not likely to have a significant impact on other offshore activities or other users of the sea.

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.