

PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOTICE

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

TALBOT FIELD DEVELOPMENT

Chrysaor Petroleum Company U.K. Limited (a Harbour Energy company) has made an application for consent to the Oil and Gas Authority (“the OGA”) in relation to the above project. The OGA now operates under the business name of the North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA). A notice was previously published under Regulation 11(3)(c) in respect of this application for consent and the accompanying Environmental Statement on 16 June 2022. Further information is now available in respect of this project.

Summary of project

The Talbot field lies within UKCS Block 30/13e, in the central North Sea region of the United Kingdom Continental Shelf and is a discovered light-oil and associated gas resource opportunity with a life expectancy of up to 16 years. The proposed development is situated in a water depth of 75 metres with the nearest coastline (Scotland) located approximately 278 kilometres to the west thereof. The proposed development lies 7 kilometres west of the UK/Norway transboundary line.

The proposed development comprises a subsea drilling template and manifold with associated infrastructure and a pipeline connecting the Talbot field subsea facilities to the Judy platform. The Judy platform operated by Harbour Energy is located in Block 30/07 approximately 16 kilometres north of the Talbot field. Hydrocarbons produced from the Talbot field will be processed on the Judy platform before being transported back to the UK mainland at Teesside. Subsea installation activities are currently planned to commence at the Talbot field in 2023, with first development drilling operations currently planned from early 2023. First oil is expected in 2024.

Environmental Impact Assessment and consent process

In accordance with the above-mentioned Regulations, the project is subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment procedure and Regulation 13 applies as the project could have a significant effect on the environment of Norway.

The OGA is responsible for deciding whether or not to grant consent for the project, but agreement to the grant of consent must be obtained from the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (“the Secretary of State”) prior to consent being granted. The Secretary of State’s decision on whether or not to agree to the grant of consent is based on the Environmental Impact Assessment for the project.

The range of possible decisions in response to the application of consent is:

- a) The Secretary of State agrees to the OGA’s grant of consent following the Secretary of State’s conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, and the OGA grants consent, so the project may proceed;
- b) The Secretary of State refuses to agree to the OGA’s grant of consent following the Secretary of State’s conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, so the project may not proceed; or
- c) The Secretary of State agrees to the OGA’s grant of consent following the Secretary of State’s conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, but the OGA does not grant consent, so the project may not proceed.

Where the Secretary of State agrees to the grant of consent, conditions that Chrysaor Petroleum Company U.K. Limited must comply with may be attached to the agreement, including environmental conditions to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset any significant adverse effects on the environment, and measure to monitor such conditions.

Notice of the decisions of the Secretary of State and the OGA for the project will be published at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia>, where information on the Secretary of State's decision to agree or refuse to agree to the grant of consent will also be made available.

Access to further information

Copies of this notice, the previous notice made under Regulation 11(3)(c), the summary of the project, the Environmental Statement, and the further information may be viewed and downloaded at <https://www.harbourenergy.com> and at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia>.

Access shall remain for at least three months after the date on which the Secretary of State publishes the notice under Regulation 16(1) (publication of consent decisions).

A copy of the Environmental Statement, summary of the project and the further information may also be obtained by post or email. Requests should be made by **24 February 2023** to:

Harbour Energy
Rubislaw House
Anderson Drive
Aberdeen, AB15 6FZ

Contact:

Simon Thomas - simon.thomas@harbourenergy.com

Craig Bloomer - craig.bloomer@harbourenergy.com

Telephone - +44 (0) 1224 205000

Public consultation

Representations, comments or questions relating to the project may be made to the Secretary of State by **24 February 2023**. All representations should quote reference number D/4273/2021 and may be made by letter or email to:

Business Support Team
Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen, AB10 1BJ
BST@beis.gov.uk

Judicial review

A person aggrieved by the grant of consent for a project may apply to the Court for leave/permission to apply for judicial review of the relevant decision or decisions. The United Kingdom has three separate legal systems; one each for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The rules for any application for leave/permission to apply for judicial review may vary depending on where that application is made, but it is important to note that there are time limits for making any application and judicial review may only be available if the applicant has standing/a sufficient interest in the subject matter of the application. Further information about the process for seeking judicial review can be obtained from the Administrative Court (for England and Wales), the Court of Session (for Scotland) or the Judicial Review Office (Northern Ireland).

26 January 2023