

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

Rhum Production Increase

Serica Energy (UK) Limited has made an application for consent to the Oil and Gas Authority (“the OGA”) in relation to the above project.

Summary of Project

The project involves a workover of the R3 well to increase production levels from the Rhum Field. The R3 well will produce condensate and gas to the Rhum central manifold that is tied back to the Bruce platform (59° 44’ 34” North; 01° 40’ 22” East). Located in the NNS in block 3/29, the associated subsea infrastructure includes the Rhum manifold, 16” Production Pipeline (PL2091), IMS Line (PL2092) and umbilical (PLU2099).

Environmental Impact Assessment and Consent Process

In accordance with the above-mentioned Regulations, the project is subject to an environmental impact assessment (“EIA”)

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 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 Serica Energy (UK) 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 measures to monitor such conditions.

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

Access to Further Information

Copies of this notice, the summary of the project and the Environmental Statement can be viewed and downloaded at www.serica-energy.com/environmental-statement-r3 and at www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia. Access shall remain 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 and summary of the project may also be obtained by post or email. Requests should be made to Serica Energy PLC, H1, Hill of Rubislaw, Anderson Drive, Aberdeen, AB16 6BL, by email to info@serica-energy.com or by telephone 01224 978400 by 14/07/2021.

Public Consultation

Representations, comments or questions relating to the project may be made to the Secretary of State by 14/07/2021. All representations should quote reference number D/4267/2021 and may be made by letter or by 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 use the procedure to apply for judicial review regarding the decisions made in respect of this project. A court may allow proceedings to challenge a decision made in respect of the Regulations.