

APPENDIX 1 – GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

Anadromous	Organisms that migrate from marine environments to freshwater rivers to breed
Annulus	The space between the drill string and the well bore
Anode	Metal fitting, commonly an aluminium alloy, that provides corrosion (cathodic) protection
Anthropogenic	Relating to/caused by humans
API	American Petroleum Institute
Appraisal well	A well drilled, subsequent to establishing the location of a hydrocarbon accumulation, to delineate the size and productive capacity of the reservoir
APTV	Anti Pollution Testing Vessel
Artificial lift	A method of increasing oil production rate from a well, for example by electrically powered submersible pumps within the well
Auks	Diving seabirds of the family Alcidae, characterised by a chunky body, short wings and webbed feet e.g. razorbills, guillemots, puffins
Barite	Barium sulphate – a heavy mineral added to drilling mud as a weighting agent to increase its specific gravity and thus the hydrostatic head of the mud column
Base fluid	The liquid component of drilling mud
Bathymetry	Measurement and study of ocean depth and floor
bbls	Barrels
Benthos	Organisms living in or on the seabed
BGS	British Geological Survey
Bioaccumulation	The uptake and concentration of elements or compounds within an organism
Biodiversity	Diversity of species
Biogeographic	Relating to the geographical area characterised by distinctive flora and fauna
Biota	The total flora and fauna of a given area
Biotope	A physical habitat and its associated biological community

Block	Sub-division of sea for the purpose of licensing to a company or group of companies for exploration and production rights. A Block is approximately 200-250 sq kilometres.
Blowout preventer	Hydraulically operated device used to prevent uncontrolled releases of oil or gas from a well
BOD	Biochemical oxygen demand
BODC	British Oceanographic Data Centre
BOP	Blowout preventer
Bunkering	Transfer of fluids (fuel, organic phase fluid, water etc) from supply vessel to rig or platform
Casing	Steel lining used to prevent caving of the sides of a well, to exclude unwanted fluids and to provide a means of the control of well pressure and oil and gas production
CCR	Computer Control Room
CEFAS	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
Cephalopods	Marine molluscs including squid, octopus and cuttlefish
Cetaceans	Aquatic mammals including whales, dolphins and porpoises
CHARM	Chemical Hazard Assessment and Risk Management
CO₂	Carbon dioxide
Combustion emissions	Emissions of gases including carbon dioxide and oxides of nitrogen and sulphur, from the burning of fossil fuels such as oil or gas
Contaminants	Substances which may cause impurity or pollution
Copepod	Small crustaceans, usually planktonic
CPA	Closest point of approach
Crustaceans	Arthropods (mostly aquatic) usually having a segmented body and chitinous exoskeleton e.g. crabs, lobsters, copepods
CSV	Construction Support Vessel
DB	Decibel
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change
Demersal	Living at or near the bottom of the sea
DEV	Downstream Enhancement Vessel

Diadromous	Migrating between fresh and marine waters
Diatoms	Microscopic algae, with cell walls of silica consisting of two interlocking symmetrical valves
Dinoflagellates	Minute single-celled organisms, primarily marine plankton, with one or more whip-like organelles (flagella) generally used for locomotion. Approximately half are photosynthetic, and some species may produce toxins
DP	Dynamic Positioning. The use of thrusters instead of anchors to maintain the position of a vessel
Draft SAC (dSAC)	Areas that have been formally advised to UK government as suitable for selection as SACs, but have not been formally approved by government as sites for public consultation
Drill bit	A drilling tool used to cut through rock
Drill casing	Steel pipe cemented into a well to prevent cave-in and stop fluids from leaking to or from surrounding rock into the hole
Drill cuttings	Rock chips produced as a result of drilling
DSV	Diving Support Vessel
DWT	Dead Weight Tonnage
EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment)	Systematic review of the environmental effects a proposed project may have on its surrounding environment
Echinoderms	Radially symmetrical marine invertebrates e.g. starfish, sea urchins
Environmental Management System (EMS)	System established to manage an organisation's processes and resultant environmental impacts
Epifauna	Non-photosynthetic, benthic organisms that live upon the surface of sediments or soils
ERMCVS	ERM Certification and Verification
ES (Environmental Statement)	Formal document presenting the findings of an EIA process for a proposed project. Issued for public consultation in accordance with The Offshore Petroleum Production and Pipe-lines (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations, 1999
ESAS	European Seabirds at Sea
ESD	Emergency Shutdown

ESDV	Emergency Shutdown Valve
ESP	Electro-Submersible Pumps
EU	European Union
Euphausiid	Commonly known as krill, they are shrimp-like, small marine crustaceans forming an important component of zooplankton
FEED	Front End Engineering and Design
Flare	The burning of unwanted gas through a pipe (the pipe is also called a flare or a flare stack).
Formation	An assemblage of rocks or strata
FRS	Fisheries Research Services
FPSO	Floating Production, Storage and Offloading
Fugitive emissions	Very small chronic escape of gas and liquids from equipment and pipework
Gas/Oil Ratio	The ratio of produced gas to produced oil
Geology	Physical structure and substance of the earth
GOR	Gas-oil ratio
Greenhouse gases	Gases believed to contribute to the greenhouse effect, including carbon dioxide, water vapour and methane
GWP	Global Warming Potential
HS&E Policy	Health, Safety and Environmental Policy
HSEQ	Health, Safety, Environmental and Quality Management System
Hydrocarbon	Compounds containing only the elements carbon and hydrogen, including oil and natural gas
Hydrostatic	Relating to the pressure of fluids or to their properties when in equilibrium.
IBA	Important Bird Area
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
Infauna	Aquatic organisms (usually animals, but sometimes algae) living within sediments or soil
Injection Well	A well in which fluids are injected rather than produced, the primary objective typically being to maintain reservoir pressure

IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change
ISO 14001	International standard for environmental management systems
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Licence block	Area of the sea which has been sub-divided and licensed to a company or group of companies for exploration and production of hydrocarbons
Licensing round	An allocation of licences made to oil companies
Liner	Small diameter casing placed within a well to carry hydrocarbons back to the surface
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
MARPOL 73/78	International Marine Pollution Convention
MCA	Marine Conservation Area
MEG	MonoethyleneGlycol
Molluscs	Invertebrates (mainly marine) typically having a soft unsegmented body, a mantle, and a protective calcareous shell. They also include cephalopods e.g. squid, octopus, cuttlefish
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
MSL	Mean Sea Level
MW (th)	Thermal megawatt
NEC (No Effect Concentration)	Concentration at which no detrimental effects are expected to occur
<i>Nephrops</i>	Abbreviation of <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> , commonly known as Norway lobster, Dublin Bay prawn or langoustine. A small orange-pink lobster found in the north-east Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea. The tail is frequently eaten, often under the name "scampi"
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NO_x	Nitrogen oxides
NSA	National Scenic Area
OCNS	Offshore Chemical Notification Scheme
OPEX	Operational Expenditure
OPF	Organic-phase fluid

OPPC	The Offshore Petroleum Activities (Oil Pollution Prevention and Control) Regulations, 2005
OPRC	Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention
Organic compounds	Materials containing carbon combined with hydrogen, often with other elements
OSCP	Oil Spill Contingency Plan
OSPAR	Oslo & Paris Commissions
OSRL	Oil Spill Response Ltd
OVI	Offshore Vulnerability Index
Ozone	A gas formed naturally in the atmosphere containing three atoms of oxygen
P10	Estimate of recoverable reserves: the highest figure of hydrocarbons available, i.e. the amount that has 10% probability of being there/recoverable
P50	Estimate of recoverable reserves: the average figure of hydrocarbons available, i.e. the amount that is expected to be closest to the true reserves there/recoverable
P90	Estimate of recoverable reserves: the lowest figure of hydrocarbons available, i.e. the amount that has 90% probability of being there/recoverable
PAH	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
PEC (Predicted Environmental Concentration)	Concentration of a chemical predicted to occur in the environment
PEC:PNEC	Predicted Environmental Concentration : Predicted No Effect Concentration
Pelagic	Aquatic/marine organisms living in the water column
Permeability	Degree to which a solid allows the passage of fluid through it
PETS	Portal Environmental Tracking System
Phytoplankton	Free-floating microscopic plants
Pigging	Pigging in the maintenance of pipelines refers to the practice of using pipeline inspection gauges or 'pigs' to perform various operations on a pipeline without stopping the flow of the product in the pipeline.

Pinnipeds	Marine mammals such as seals, sea lions and walruses
Plankton	Free-floating microscopic organisms
PLONOR	(Chemicals which) Pose Little Or No Risk (to the environment)
Polychaetes	Segmented worms, generally marine, with a pair of fleshy protrusions on each body segment that bear many bristles. They may be free-swimming, burrowing or tube-dwelling
PON 15B	Petroleum Operations Notice 15B (Application for Direction and Term Chemical Permit for chemical use and discharge during the drilling of a well)
PON15C	Petroleum Operations Notice 15C (Application for Direction for Pipelines Activities)
PON15F	Petroleum Operations Notice 15F (Application for Term Chemical Permit for chemical use and discharge during completion or workover operations)
Possible SAC (pSAC)	Possible SAC: sites that have been formally advised to UK Government, but not yet submitted to the European Commission.
Production well	A well producing fluids (gas or oil)
Produced water	Water removed from the reservoir along with oil and natural gas
Ramsar Sites	Areas designated by the UK under the Ramsar Convention (Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as waterfowl habitat)
RBS	Riser Base Structure
Reservoir	A petroleum reservoir or an oil and gas reservoir (or system), is a subsurface pool of hydrocarbons contained in porous rock formations
Riser	Pipe connecting a rig or platform to a wellhead or pipeline
ROV	Remote Operated Vehicle
RQ	Risk Quotient
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SAC	Special Area for Conservation, designated as European Sites (Natura 2000) under the Habitats and Species Directive
SAHFOS	Sir Alister Hardy Foundation for Ocean Science
Salmonids	Soft, finned fishes of cold and temperate waters e.g. salmon, trout
Sands	In context of rock formations - sandstone
SAST	Seabirds At Sea Team (at JNCC)

SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
Sediments	Loose material, such as sand and mud, laid down at the bottom of the sea, river or lake
SEERAD	Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department
Semi-submersible rig	A particular type of floating vessel that is supported primarily on large pontoon-like structures submerged below the sea surface
Seismic	Survey technique used to determine the structure of underlying rocks by passing acoustic shock waves into the strata and detecting and measuring the reflected signals. Depending on the spacing of survey lines, the seismic is referred to as either 2 or 3-D
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SFF	Scottish Fisherman's Federation
Shallow gas	Gas accumulation present near the surface of the seabed
Sidetrack well	Creation of a new section of well to detour around an area or to reach another area
SL	Source level
SMRU	Sea Mammal Research Unit, St. Andrews
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SPA	Special Protection Area, designated as European Sites (Natura 2000) under the Wild Birds Directive
SPU	Synthetic Poly Urethane
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
Stratification	Water stratification occurs when water of high and low salinity, as well as cold and warm water, forms layers that act as barriers to water mixing
STP	Submerged Turret Production
SUTU	Subsea Umbilical Termination Unit
SWT	Scottish Wildlife Trust
Telemetry	Tracking of an organism by automatic measurement and transmission of data from remote sources (e.g. tags) to receiving stations for recording and analysis
Term Permit	A permit for a specified length of time allowing the use and discharge of chemicals in association with oil and gas exploration and production

UKCS	United Kingdom Continental Shelf
UKOOA	United Kingdom Offshore Operator's Association, now known as UK Oil and Gas
VOC	Volatile organic carbon (organic compounds such as ethylene and benzene which evaporate readily and contribute to air pollution directly or indirectly)
Weather vaning	Positioning the vessel at a favourable angle towards the wind, waves and current
WBM	Water-Based Mud
Wellhead	Control equipment fitted at the top of a well
WI	Water Injection
Zooplankton	Free-floating small animals

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