

# Annex 5: Oil and gas operations

Application to carry out mineral working and associated development

Town and Country Planning Act 1990



Environmental Services Department

## Part 5

You should complete this form for proposals involving oil or gas operations and requiring Planning Permission. Please read the Guidance notes at the end of this annex before completing these questions.

For exploration, complete questions	A5.1, A5.4 and A5.5
For appraisal, complete questions	A5.2, A5.4 and A5.5
For production, complete questions	A5.3, A5.4 and A5.5

### Exploration

A5.1 i Please state:

a the total area of exploration  ha

b route(s) of any seismic survey(s) to be carried out during exploration

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\_\_\_\_\_

ii Does the seismic method to be employed use vibrosis methods?

Yes  No

iii Does the seismic method to be employed use any explosive charge?

Yes  No

If yes:

a What is the depth of charge and maximum instantaneous charge?

Depth

Maximum instantaneous charge

b What is the average and maximum number of explosives charges to be used per day?

Average per day

Maximum per day

c What will be the estimated level of ground vibration at the nearest affected properties?

\_\_\_\_\_

For office use only

Application number

Date



iv Will the exploration involve the drilling of wells? Yes  No

If yes:

a What criteria is being used for selecting the well site(s)?

\_\_\_\_\_

b What is the expected number of wells to be drilled?

c What is the average depth of wells?

 m

d What is the proposed method of disposal of drilling wastes?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

v What equipment will be used for exploration?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

vi What is the anticipated duration of operations?

 Start date Completion date

## Appraisal

A5.2 i State:

a appraisal site area  ha

b criteria to be used for the selection of well sites

\_\_\_\_\_

c equipment to be used to undertake the appraisal

\_\_\_\_\_

d) methods to be used to undertake the appraisal

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ii If exploration well(s) site is to be used:

a what is the number of wells to be drilled?

b what will the average depth of wells be?

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**Production**

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A5.3 i Please state:

- a anticipated maximum volume of oil/gas (delete as appropriate) to be extracted  
barrels/standard cubic feet (delete as appropriate)

Per day

Total per annum

- b total reserves anticipated from the field

total

- c life of the field years

- d equipment and plant to be used

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- e anticipated capacity for the plant

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- f location of any off-site processing plant

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- ii Please state the proposed method(s) of transport of oil and/or gas from well(s) to gathering, processing and storage facilities. For example, pipelines, rail, road or shipping.

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## Specific environmental effects of the proposals

A5.4 i Please state oil spill contingency plans and measures for the protection of surface and groundwater

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ii Please state measures taken to minimise atmospheric and noise emissions

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iii Please state proposed methods to be used to dispose of drilling wastes and other operational waste arisings

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A5.5 Summarise specific restoration proposals

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## Guidance notes for oil and gas operations

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It is recognised that oil and gas developments are also regulated by the system of specific licences awarded to oil companies through the Secretary of State which are subject to a number of safeguards, particularly relating to pollution and details of drilling operations. But, in planning terms, these types of development involve sensitive and complex issues of local concern which we need to consider.

It is often helpful especially for oil and gas developments, for matters to be brought together in an environmental statement which you should submit at the same time as this application, where possible.

You should also refer to D of E circular 2/85 planning control over oil and gas operations which gives current national guidance.

You should provide separate information for the exploration, appraisal and production elements of these types of development as well as specific effects of the proposals. Guidance on the range and type of information is given in the more detailed Guidance notes provided on a separate sheet.

## Part 5

If you are unclear about any aspect of this information, please contact us for further advice.

**A5.1** All information should be referenced to supporting plans.

If seismic surveys are to be used then it is accepted that seismic investigations generally involve limited environmental effects, and in many cases, this type of development - particularly involving vibrosis techniques - may be regarded as 'de minimus', for example, not requiring planning permission. Good practice requires that applicants notify us as well as district and highway authorities of the proposals. Operators may also need to inform other statutory bodies such as the water companies and police in relevant circumstances. Information requirements are for the proposed seismic method and ground vibrations at nearest affected properties, if relevant.

**A5.2** All information should be referenced to supporting plans which must be specified in Question 5 of the main Minerals application form.

You should also provide a summary of relevant information derived from exploration phases.

**A5.3** All information should be referenced to supporting plans which must be specified in Question 5 of the main Minerals application form.

**A5.4** You should summarise other on-site works associated with the proposed development or designed to protect the environment. This information is often best dealt with in an environmental statement. You should clarify this requirement with us.

**A5.5** The restoration of sites following unsuccessful exploration drilling should normally be undertaken immediately or as soon as possible after drilling has ceased. In the case of appraisal and production sites, a comprehensive restoration and aftercare scheme should be submitted with this application.

For sites containing all field facilities including pipelines, distribution terminals, gathering stations and so on, you should provide plans for abandonment and reinstatement at the end of the permitted period.

You should note that we may also require additional safeguards through planning obligations to ensure this removal takes place.



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