

About this consultation

PO30 3BT, UK Oil & Gas Plc: environmental permit consultation

The aim of this consultation is to ask whether you have any comments relevant to the permit application

We want to make the best decision when permitting. Listening to the views of others helps us to take account of concerns, or local environmental factors, that we may not be otherwise aware of.

We are seeking comments on the application for **UK Oil & Gas Plc**. Please use the reference number below when making comments on this application.

- Permit Number: **AP3804LV/A001**
- Regulated facility type: **Onshore oil and gas exploration well – summary details below**
- Regulated facility location: **Isle of Wight**

UK Oil and Gas PLC submitted this environmental permit application on 18th November 2020 for the proposed construction, operation and decommissioning of a well site for the exploration and appraisal of hydrocarbon minerals at Arreton on the Isle of Wight (IoW). Separate Planning permission was applied for in 2020 under reference 20/00513/FUL available here: <https://publicaccess.iow.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=Q7DSVFIQ07V00>. The planning application decision has not been made to date.

The proposal includes one exploratory borehole (Arreton-3) and one side-track borehole (Arreton-3z) and would operate for a temporary period of three years. This involves the siting of plant and equipment, the erection of boundary fencing and entrance gates, well drilling using a drilling rig and well testing. Any natural gas produced during the well testing would be incinerated in a temporary on-site flare. Any oil, water and surface water produced will be collated and removed from site for further use, treatment or disposal. There is no intention to carry out high pressure, high volume fracturing (Fracking) at this site, and this has not been requested in the application.

The Site lies within Petroleum Exploration Development (PEDL) 331, an area which extends across the IoW and includes the Wessex Basin which is a proven and producing hydrocarbon system. Historical hydrocarbon exploration took place at Arreton in the 1950's (Arreton-1) and 1970's (Arreton-2) but neither site is in operation today. The proposed site would be the only operational onshore oil and gas site on the IoW at this time. The site location is currently worked agricultural land, within a landscape of rural and commercial uses. Immediately east of the site is Wight Farm Anaerobic Digestion Energy Power Station and west of the site is Blackwater aggregate Quarry.

Non-Technical Summary

Refer to the non-technical summary which explains this application, in non-technical language.

This should include a summary of the regulated facility, the key technical standards and control measures arising from the risk assessment.

What the response will be used for

We will take your consultation responses into consideration as part of our determination of the permit. If we decide to grant the permit we will explain how we made our decision and how we have addressed the concerns that were raised.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
0345 988 1188

We will only issue a permit if we believe that harm to the environment, people and wildlife will be minimised and that the operator has the ability to meet the conditions of the permit. Providing a business can prove that the proposed activities meets all the legal requirements, including environmental, technological and health requirements, then we are legally obliged to issue a permit, even if some people do not approve of the decision.

How to Respond

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak we are following Government advice to manage the risks of Coronavirus to our organisation, to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff and sustain our critical operations. In line with government advice, our office is now closed and our staff are working remotely, therefore we are unable to receive responses by post.

If you would like to comment online, please use the online consultation tool in Citizen Space.

If you'd prefer to submit your response by email, email PSCpublicresponse@environment-agency.gov.uk

How we will use your information

We will look to make comments received publicly available at our Environment Agency public register.

All comments which are made publicly available will exclude email addresses and telephone numbers. Any comments where confidentiality has been claimed will not appear on the public register.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we may be required to publish your response to this consultation, but will not include any personal information. If you have requested your response to be kept confidential, we may still be required to provide a summary of it.

Consultation Principles

We are running this consultation in accordance with the criteria set out in the government's [Consultation Principles](#).

If you have any queries or complaints about the way this consultation has been carried out, please email: PSCpublicresponse@environment-agency.gov.uk

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