

STATUTORY CONSULTATIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENTS (ES) AND PETROLEUM OPERATIONS NOTICES 15 (PON 15)

Under the Offshore Chemicals regulations (OCR) and EU Directive 85/337 contractors wishing to exploit offshore oil and gas reserves in UK coastal waters are obliged to provide evidence that they have considered and satisfactorily mitigated the risks that their operations may pose to the marine environment. CEFAS is a statutory consultee in the assessment of both PON 15s and ES in English and Welsh Waters. Teams within CEFAS:

- verify the accuracy of the presented information
- provide expert guidance regarding any possible impacts on fish stocks and
- advise on measures that might be necessary to mitigate any environmental impacts to acceptable levels

EU DIRECTIVE 85/337 (ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS OF CERTAIN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROJECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT)

OSPAR DECISION 2000/2 ON A HARMONISED MANDATORY CONTROL SCHEME

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI)

ANNEX 1 PROJECT

ANNEX 2 PROJECT

OFFSHORE CHEMICALS REGULATIONS 2002

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT (ES) & PON 15

HARMONISED OFFSHORE CHEMICAL NOTIFICATION FORMAT (HOCNF)

SCOTTISH WATERS

ENGLISH AND WELSH WATERS

UK OFFSHORE CHEMICAL NOTIFICATION SCHEME (OCNS)

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (SEERAD)

CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE (CEFAS)

FISHERIES RESEARCH SERVICES ABERDEEN (FRS)

UK OFFSHORE CHEMICAL NOTIFICATION SCHEME (OCNS)

- On behalf of DTI, CEFAS run and administer the UK wide Offshore Chemical Notification Scheme (OCNS).
- Under the OCR every chemical that is used offshore as part of the process of 'winning' and 'treatment of' hydrocarbon reserves (and therefore listed in Environmental Statements and PON 15s) must have been accepted, and hazard ranked, as part of the OCNS.
- Data supporting the assessments are defined by OSPAR's standardised data set requested in the Harmonised Offshore Chemical Notification Format (HOCNF).
- These assessments are underpinned by Hazard Quotients (HQ) generated by the Chemical Hazard and Risk Management (CHARM) model¹ or hazard groupings awarded under the UK's own Offshore Chemical Notification Scheme (OCNS) hazard ranking process.
- The resulting ranked list of products provides operators with a means of progressively working towards the use of lower risk materials.

¹ CHARM can be obtained from the publications pages within the OGP website - <http://www.ogp.org.uk/>

INDUSTRY VIA CEFAS PRODUCT TEMPLATES AND PRODUCT LISTS ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB www.cefas.co.uk/ocns

CEFAS has developed a unique system that allows for an exchange of information that meets the needs of:

- operators who require data on products in order to carry out site specific risk assessments to support ES and PON 15 applications, and
- chemical suppliers, who wish to keep confidential most of the information supplied to the UK regulator in the form of an HOCNF.

Following a successful product re/submission CEFAS generates a 'Product Template' for the supplier. This document contains the minimum information that CEFAS have identified as necessary to calculate a Hazard or Risk Quotient to support a PON 15 application from an operator.

Operators obtain these documents directly from their chemical suppliers thus protecting their rights to non-disclosure if required. However, suppliers should be aware that, unless product risk can be estimated and discussed on PON 15s by operators, products will not be allowed for use offshore.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HAZARD AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

HAZARD ASSESSMENT



Chemical Data + Biological Data
= **HAZARD ASSESSMENT:**
Hazard quotient (HQ) or OCNS Group

RISK ASSESSMENT



Hazard Data + Site & Task Specific Data
= **RISK ASSESSMENT:**
Risk Quotient or Expert judgement

Figure 1.

Risk assessment uses the Hazard data presented on OSPAR's Harmonised Offshore Notification Format (HOCNF) on an offshore chemical to determine its likely environmental impact on a site and task specific basis. This can then be used to implement appropriate Risk management procedures. Hazard assessment is only the first step in a Risk management process.

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