



Oil & Gas  
Authority

## North Sea Transition Steering Group meeting

11<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Meeting was held via MS Teams

### Welcome and Introductions

- Andy Samuel opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He welcomed Simon Roddy who has joined the Steering Group representing the Wells Task Force.
- Jean-Luc Guiziou highlighted a good example of collaborative working being taken forward by the Efficiency Task Force.

### Task Force Updates Supply Chain and Exports Task Force (SCETF)

- The SCETF had four priority areas, these have all been completed.
- They had good results with frictionless tendering, stimulating demand and 30day payment.
- The task force has now turned their attending on delivering actions from the North Sea Transition Deal (NSTD). The group have paused until suitable tasks have been identified.
- It was highlighted that it would be important to avoid duplication of work with the new DIT/BEIS supply chain task group.

### Technology Leadership Board (TLB)

- Three workgroups have been launched in the first quarter of 2021 and they have strengthened collaboration with the other task forces and the OGTC.
- The workgroups are:
  - Accelerating technology deployment – work has started on the OGTC list.
  - Data and Digital – a technology maturity report will be published in June.
  - Technologies for net zero – looking at technologies needed to support net zero and working with the Asset Stewardship Task Group on case studies.
  - They will be looking for other task forces to help take forward some of the technology initiatives

- OGTC highlighted that the work had been going well and that they will check with industry to ensure the correct technologies are being worked on.

### **Wells Task Force (WTF)**

- The WTF are working on five themes:
  - Right scoping
  - Waste removal
  - Reservoir and wells optimisation
  - Improving partnerships
  - Wells decommissioning
- There has been active participation from industry, workshops have been held looking at sharing best practice.
- There has been good collaboration with other task forces.
- The Improving Partnerships workgroup will be publishing a white paper shortly outlining the business case for multi-operator campaigns.

### **Exploration Task Force (EXTF)**

- The EXTF are supporting the conclusion of the licensing review. Licensing is a solution not a barrier to emission reductions and will help to retain high value skills.
- Licensing also helps to support data acquisition which will be needed for energy transition. Looking at a swift conclusion in order to get licensing rounds resumed.
- Also supporting the OGA guidance for CCS licensing.
- They are continuing to support the NDR and through their representation on the Digital committee are pushing is to ensure that they get data from non-oil and gas sectors into the NDR.
- The energy transition workgroup is focused on making the case for continued exploration on the UKCS. Communication packs are being developed, a policy focussed pack was issued last year and an investment case pack will be published shortly. Also developing a geoscience skills pack.
- The request was made that when these packs are issued that the steering group members share within their organisation and wider industry.
- It was highlighted and agreed that the work being done on the licensing review would be a good topic to discuss at a Steering group meeting.

### **Efficiency Task Force (ETF)**

- The ETF met with the chairs of the other task forces where it was agreed that the Efficiency Hub could support the other task forces by providing a focal point for industry and the task forces for promoting good and efficient practice.
- Still working on how the efficient practice and case studies can be pulled together. Webinars have been held on examples of good case studies.
- Keen that all the good work being done by the task forces can be made available and promoted from one place.

### **Decommissioning and Reuse Task Force (DaRT)**

- The DaRT has been revamped with new members and a change of roles.
- The group are still working on:
  - Liability in perpetuity
  - Balanced decision making
  - Repurposing and reuse – priority for this will be developing guidance.
- The next time success will be measured will be October 21.
- Key to costs continuing to go down will be learning from other operators and offering flexibility to the supply chain.
- The OGA has published a revised Decommissioning Strategy.

### **Asset Stewardship Task Force (ASTF)**

- Stewardship Expectation SE11, Net Zero has been published.
- The ASTF have been championing the net zero case studies from industry, which is published on the OGA website. It was suggested that it should be made available via the efficiency hub too.
- The case studies highlight the work that operators are doing in support of net zero.
- There is good collaboration and drive in the Electrification workgroup on the overarching UKCS plans.
- Still to be looked at is how it can be ensured that the Electrification workgroup can support the implementation of the North Sea Transition Deal.
- The PETF have requested operators to share loss data and a template has been developed for this purpose. It is planned that a best practice document will be published.
- The question was asked regarding the timeline for the emissions intensity target. This is being worked and the aim is to bring this to the Steering Group for approval.

## **OGA Strategy Update**

- To reflect the Strategy, changes are being made to many of the OGA's guidance documents.
- OGA committed to engage with industry and informal road testing will be done via the task forces to check for unintended consequences.
- The Stewardship Expectation SE 11 has been published and the next one due for publication is SE12.
- An overview of further guidance that is due for published by the end of summer 2021 was given.
- The Strategy set out that the OGA would look at the societal cost of carbon, the Standard Economic Template has been updated to include emission profiles, this will be published on the OGA website.

## **North Sea Transition Deal (NSTD)**

- Work is being progressed with OGUK, BEIS and OGA, there is a huge emphasis on the structure being put in place for implementation which is inclusive of the tripartite approach.
- A high-level overview of the proposed governance structure was given.
- There is a great deal of complexity in delivering each of the commitments, key will be to simplify and prioritise what needs to be delivered by when.
- A meeting is being held in May for the Deal Delivery Group which will be cochaired by BEIS and industry.
- A Project Management Office will be provided by OGUK.
- Working on proposals on how the £2million that was provided by the Treasury to support the NSTD can be spent. Priorities should be electrification and the Supply Chain. **Discussion points**
- It was agreed that the landscape was complicated, and prioritisation is essential, industry help will be needed.
- There needs to be a proper commercial and legislative framework before companies commit to spend money.
- Industry will need help to access existing funding.
- It will also be good to get the Scottish Government involved.
- It was noted that HMT was not represented on the Delivery Group and going forward engagement with HMT would be needed.
- OGTC have carried out landscaping on funding available and would be willing to share this information.

## **AOB**

- There was no AOB.

