

North Sea Transition Authority

Wells Decom Steering Group

Chris Wark – Wells Decom Manager, CNRI

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Alastair Bisset – Head of Decommissioning, NSTA

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The NSTA's Role in Well Decom

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Influencing & Regulating



Engaging with operators to review P&A plans and drive improved cost performance



Identifying campaign and collaboration opportunities and sharing best practice



Engaging with the supply chain and understanding their needs and challenges



The NSTA manages well abandonment licence obligations (WONS consents) and dates



Gathering historical and forecasted data to develop benchmarks for industry use



Working with operators to identify potential reuse and repurposing opportunities



Well decommissioning is an obligation, not a choice – and accounts for ~48% of Decom Costs (based on UKSS data)

The Regulatory Landscape

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Delivering the commitment





>1,500 wells to be decom'd before 2030

£10bn Forecast well decom spend by early 2030s



2-byrs Post CoP window for WONS compliance

Ongoing challenges



Licenses & Consents: Legal & Contractual Challenges Supply Chain: Global demand & lack of UKCS certainty



Funding Priorities: Inflation impacting budgets/spend

Actions & Aspirations

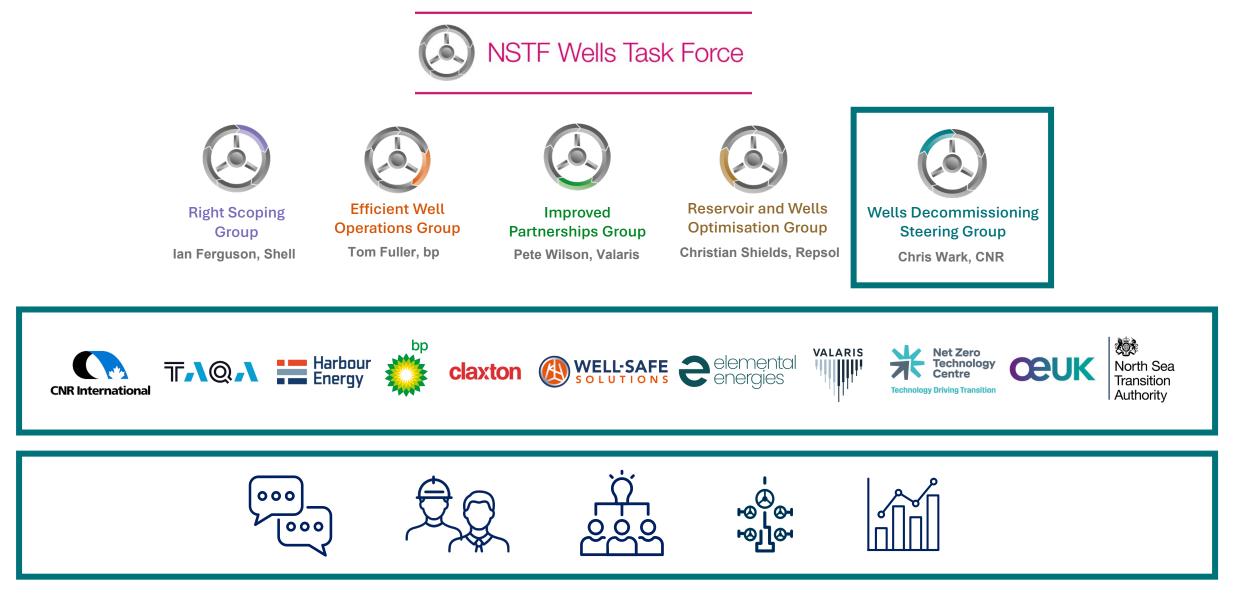
- Developing tools and publishing key data
- Stewarding to agreed plans and milestones
- Using sanction process & regulatory powers
- Aligning with other regulators on legislation
- Making operator performance more visible
- Work ongoing with industry to map out upcoming P&A activities to support collaboration and campaigning

CCS considerations...



What is being done?

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Well decommissioning has a key role to play in reducing decom costs in the UKCS and supporting the delivery of energy transition

The role of the WDSG

The Wells Decom Steering Group exists to drive alignment, accountability, and action to deliver cost efficient well decommissioning and support the UK government's net zero ambitions.

Objectives



Working with stakeholders to identify barriers and support development of solutions



Supporting the practical application of technology to deliver cost efficiencies



Ensuring appropriate guidance is available, working closely with OEUK and other Wells workgroups



Promoting and supporting collaboration and campaigning opportunities

2024 Focus Areas



Addressing the skills shortage and demand in Wells Decom sector, and opportunities to increase visibility



Expectations on industry for legacy well data reporting requirements



Regulatory and technology updates



Performance benchmarking and KPIs

Tree/wellhead type and tooling alignment (2023 UKSS data)

Use of non-rig methods



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