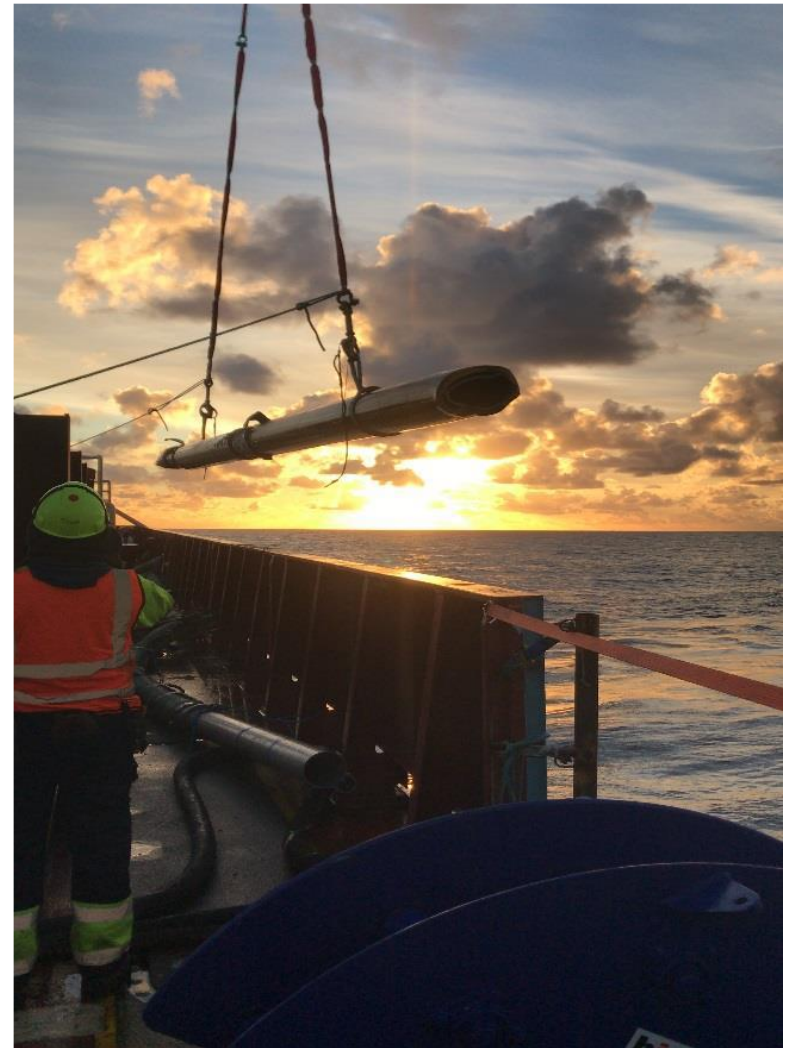


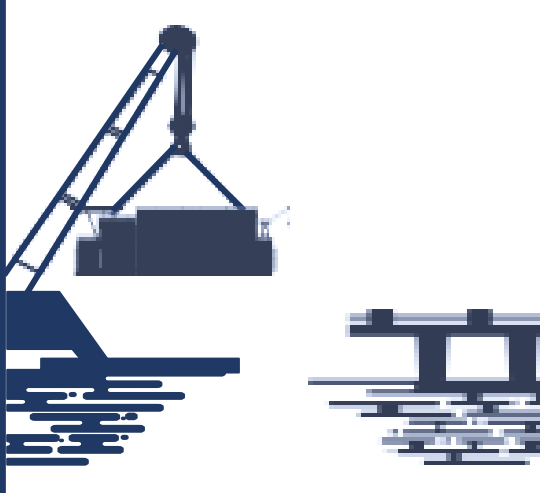
Decommissioning update



Photograph provided by Total, showing section of pipeline from Janice, James & Affleck fields being recovered to deck.

OPRED Decommissioning Objectives

We seek to:



Achieve decommissioning solutions that are consistent with regulatory obligations and meet public expectations.



Protect the taxpayer from paying for the full cost of decommissioning

Meeting our objectives

To achieve this:



We work with other regulators and stakeholders to deliver decommissioning in the UK



We serve liability notices as appropriate and may request financial security

Decommissioning First Principles

- Are the **activities** that takes place once an oil or gas field reaches the **end of its economic life**
- Is the **process** that sees infrastructure **removed from service**
- Is underpinned by “**precautionary**” and “**polluter pays**” principles
- Is governed by the **Petroleum Act 1998**
- Meets **international obligations**
- Proposals are set out in **approved Decommissioning Programme**, which is required before work commences



Photograph provided by CNOOC, showing recovery of an out of use subsea Xmas tree

Guidance driven by International Obligations and UK Legislation



International Rules



Geneva Convention 1958

“any installations which are abandoned or disused must be entirely removed”.



The ‘London Convention’ 1972

In 1996, the "London Protocol" was agreed to further modernize the Convention and, eventually, replace it. Under the Protocol all dumping is prohibited.



United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) ratified by the UK in 1997.

Any installations or structures which are abandoned or disused shall be removed to ensure safety of navigation.

OSPAR Decision 98/3 on the disposal of disused offshore installations

Prohibits the dumping, and the leaving wholly or partly in place, of disused offshore installations with the maritime area.

Derogations from the requirement if the competent authority of the relevant Contracting Party is satisfied that this is appropriate for:

- All or part of the footings of a steel installation weighing more than 10,000 tonnes in air (excluding the topsides) placed in the maritime area before 9 February 1999;
- Gravity base and floating concrete installations;
- Concrete anchor bases; and
- Any other disused installation to be dumped or left partly or wholly in place due to exceptional or unforeseen circumstances resulting from structural damage or deterioration.

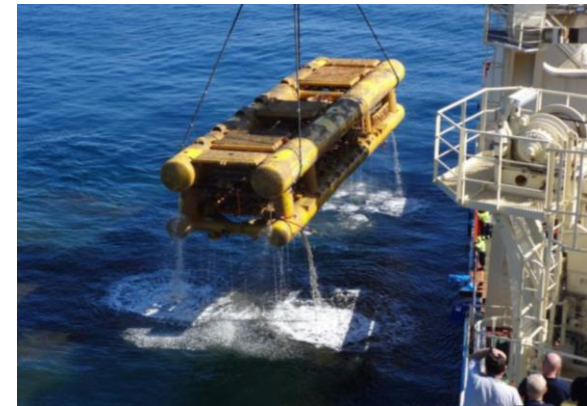


Decommissioning Activity in the UKCS

Decommissioning Projects approved to date	
Complete Removal	
Platforms/Surface Installations	50
Subsea Installations	103
Derogations	
Steel Jackets removed to top of footings	3
Concrete Gravity Base left in situ	3
Toppling – Damaged structure	1



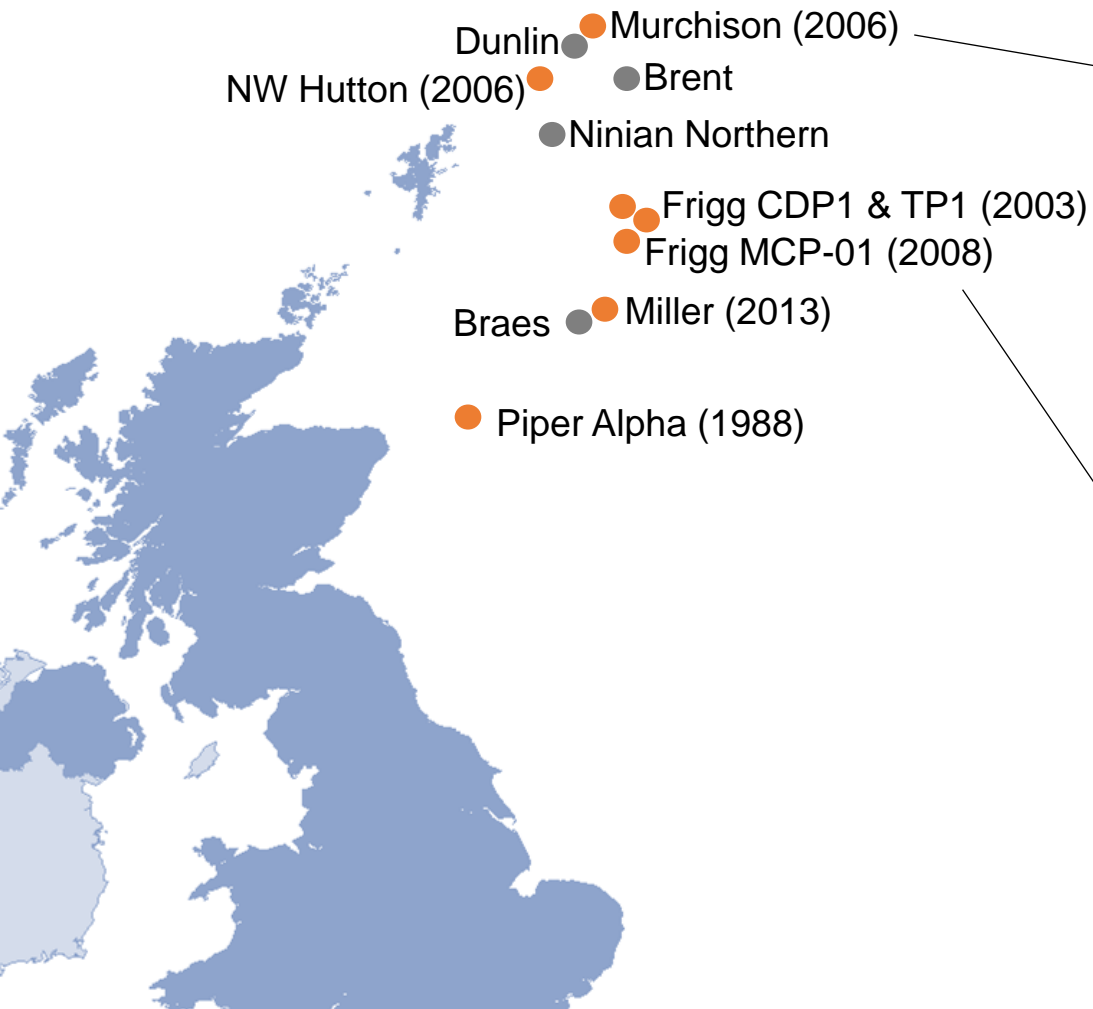
Photograph provided by Total showing Janice FPSO on quayside



Photograph provided by Total showing Leadon South Towhead recovery



OSPAR 98/3 in action



Murchison platform in operation. Source: Wikimedia Commons



Photograph provided by Total showing Frigg MCP-01 substructure following topsides removal

- Approved projects
- Projects at consultation stage

Brent Decommissioning

Brent



Re-use/Repurposing



Decommissioning in action

Subsea infrastructure recovery



Photograph provided by Fairfield showing concrete mattresses from Dunlin, Merlin & Osprey fields recovered to deck.

Topsides removal and well P&A



Photograph provided by Total showing Frigg QP topsides lift.

Pipelines decommissioning



Photograph provided by Total showing Leadon flowline packed onto anchor winch drum.



Projects vary in complexity



Learning lessons as we go...

UK strategy for decommissioning

Encouraging operators to make plans for the infrastructure before production stops

- Operators should consider the future options for their infrastructure the at an early stage
- Decommissioning is the default option, but
- Waste hierarchy principles should be considered – can it be re-used for the same purpose or can it be adapted for another purpose (in the same location)?

Achieve decommissioning solutions that are consistent with regulatory obligations and meet public expectations

- UK decommissioning policy requires operators to aim to achieve a clear sea bed
- In exceptional cases some aspects of infrastructure may be allowed to remain in the marine environment. This will require ongoing monitoring
- Most of the infrastructure in the UKCS can be removed, and most operators want to achieve a clear sea bed

Final thoughts:

- UK sets a high standard
- Decommissioning activity is increasing and so is public interest
- We are still learning!

