

# **North Sea Transition Steering Group Meeting**

**3 October 2024**

## **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Stuart Payne opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

The main focus for the meeting is to share updates on the progress being made by the task forces and also to discuss any challenges being faced.

Stuart gave an overview of potential oil and gas and decarbonisation projects in the pipeline.

Both the Subsurface and the Carbon Capture Transportation and Storage task forces are seeking new industry co-chairs, and it is hoped to have these in place by the new year.

## **Task Force Updates**

### **Supply Chain and Exports Task Force (SCE)**

This SCE has had a challenging year; however, some progress has been made.

One of the deliverables for the SCE is to estimate the supply chain demand. Trade associations are being encouraged to share non-sensitive data; the aim is to establish the task force as a “neutral broker”.

They are also using university (RGU) modelling to pull together data to create a demand profile

There is a key opportunity to improve supply chain investment by increasing the visibility of demand, and a potential that a deliverable (report or other document) can be the end product for this task force.

Stuart Payne agreed to look at how this could be raised within Government.

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

The WTF has active subgroups with representatives from across the industry and has had a productive year.

Good practice guidelines for the Southern North Sea Drilling have been published which are available on the OEUK website.

The Reservoir Optimisation subgroup held a workshop in August with strong participation from operators.

The group are currently collating case studies demonstrating the value of collaboration, which will be shared with industry.

The decom subgroup has been acting in an advisory capacity for a NSTA project on well P&A.

The WTF are planning to look at their focus areas again to ensure they can make tangible progress to the KPIs (reduction of non-productive time, reduced basin

abandonment liability cost etc) as efforts being made are not moving the needle on these key lagging performance indicators

Other challenges faced are rig collaboration and the uncertainty around plans, also skill shortages in well decommissioning is causing some concern.

Another opportunity was to deepen the understanding on low well intervention activity, and articulating the barriers

### **CO2 Transportation and Storage Task Force (CTS)**

The CTS have published two reports this year:

- Accelerating time from licence to injection
- Monitoring Technology

Two new workgroups have been established which will be working on:

- Legacy wells
- Reducing the cost of store development

These reports are available on the CTS [LinkedIn page](#).

The new licensee group will be looking at capacity scenario modelling and how quickly the capacity will be developed.

The only challenge for the CTS is keeping the group to manageable size as there have been a lot of requests to join highlighting the interest in the UKCS.

### **Decommissioning and Repurposing Task Force (DART)**

More operators have been added to the Data Visibility Dashboard this year, the dashboard has received positive feedback when shared at events.

The group have been working with the WTF on the P&A area plan project which is now underway.

The DART group expertise has been used to provide feedback on guidance/documents for NSTA and OEUK.

The group plan to collaborate with Asset Stewardship task force around cessation (CoP) dates.

Also looking at the possibility of undertaking a project around ports and yards capacity in the UK.

The Steering Group was asked to highlight any areas where they feel there are gaps and identify who they feel would be best to work on these to ensure optimal distribution of work and minimising duplication of effort as it has been highlighted that numerous groups were working on decommissioning improvement efforts

## **Subsurface Task Force (STF)**

On the oil and gas side the STF have focussed on licensing models and tenure and a paper was published earlier this year.

A paper will be published shortly on CB6 delivery, looking at what future capacity needs to be brought forward to meet the CB6 target. This will include recommendations and examples of how companies can collaborate.

There is a very active skills subgroup which has focused on geoscience skills, this is an important topic and a key risk to the overall health of the subsurface discipline. A skills paper was published last year, and the group are now working on some of the recommendations including setting up a geoscience forum which will focus on promoting geoscience skills and signposting career opportunities.

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

This is a very active group that is well supported. The work being carried out by the members and the subgroup was recognised.

Good practice guidance for JV hub strategy and ERAPs were published and are available on the OEUK website. Currently working on promoting and embedding the use of these. A presentation was given on these at the OEUK conference this included a case history to share how a project coming to the end of its life can be redeveloped.

The Learning and Sharing subgroup have been holding webinars and publishing newsletters linked to the ASTF's deliverables.

The Culture subgroup is working on a survey looking at emission reduction culture, with the aim to embed emission reduction into work practices.

A further subgroup will be set up to look at low carbon power.

## **Technology Leadership Board (TLB)**

The TLB have been successful in raising awareness of available proven technologies and helped to create opportunities for deployment.

The TLB have successfully collaborated with other task forces including the ASTF. In partnership with the ASTF they hosted a technology showcase where 14 suppliers showed technology deployments in asset ERAPs.

They have also collaborated with DART to accelerate the deployment of P&A technologies; new technologies can help to reduce costs.

In collaboration with the CSTF they plan to hold a CCS MMV technology showcase at the end of October which will bring solution providers and operators together.

## **Closing Remarks**

There was recognition overall on the great work across the Task Forces, and the group were asked to think about how the achievements can be compellingly communicated. There are some unique stories focused around:

- People working together in the interest of the industry as a whole
- Supporting an emerging industry around CCS
- Working together to generate lower emissions

Thanks were given to the task force co-chairs and those working in the subgroups for all the work being undertaken which is over and above their normal day jobs.

It was suggested that the leads of the subgroups could be invited to a gathering to show thanks.