

Annual Consents Exercise (ACE) 2025

Presentation to Industry

NSTA Regulation & Operations Teams

OPRED EMT

27 June 2024

What we will Cover

- | | Presenter |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ■ ACE 2025 | |
| ■ Intro & Housekeeping | DR |
| ■ What is ACE | DR 2-7 |
| ■ ACE Context & Overview | JW 8-10 / MC 11-14 |
| ■ Production Applications | GW |
| ■ OPRED Environmental Requirements | SD (OPRED) |
| ■ Flare and Venting Applications | MC 23-24 / JW 25-26 |
| ■ Onshore | SB-B |
| ■ Consents for Facilities | RW |
| ■ Key Messages | AC |
| ■ Q&A | All |



Turn off camera



Use 'raise hand' button
to ask any urgent
questions.



Mute Mic



Use the chat to park
questions

This meeting is being recorded and will be uploaded to our website

What is ACE?

Annual Consents Exercise (ACE)



Compliance/
Expertise



Net Zero 2050



Emissions, CO2,
GHG

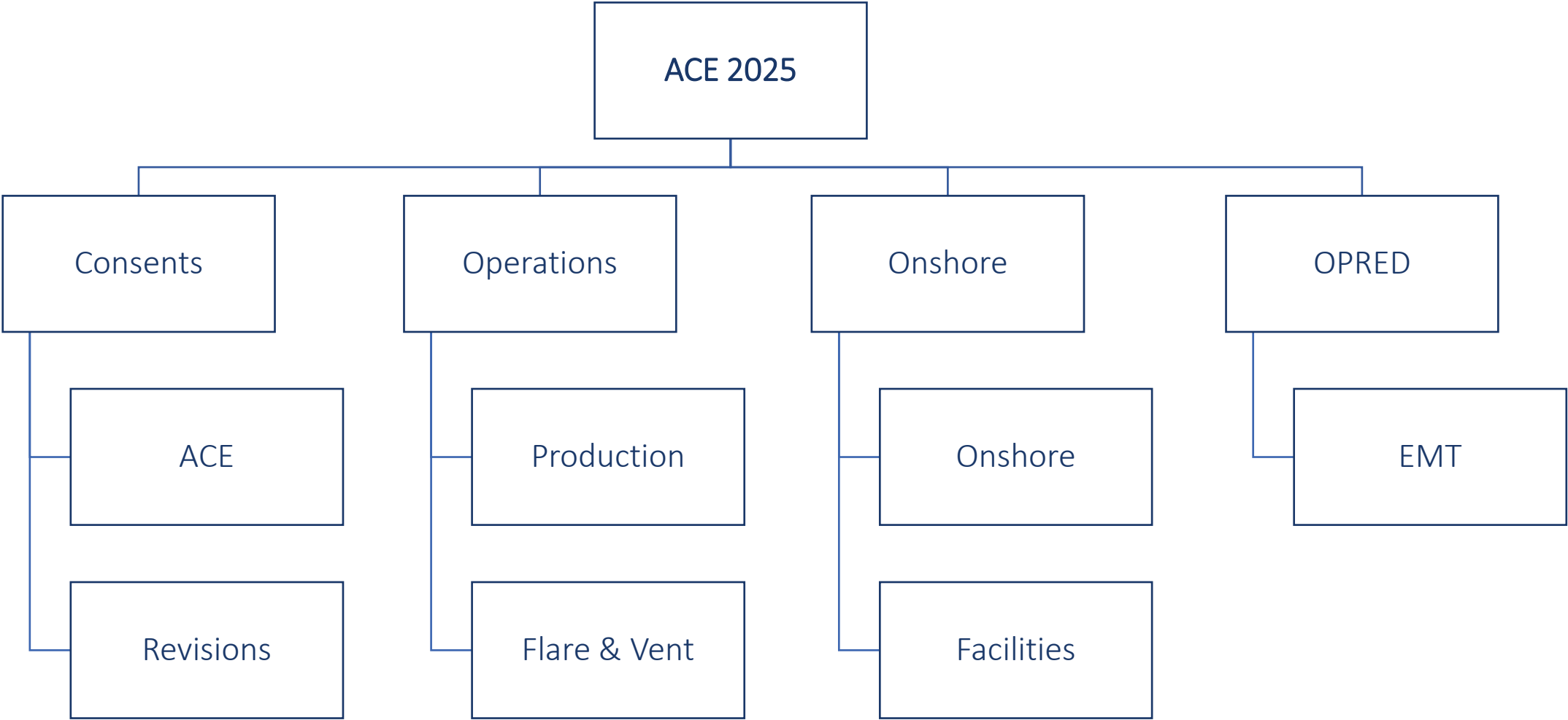
An efficient framework to ensure the requisite consents are in place



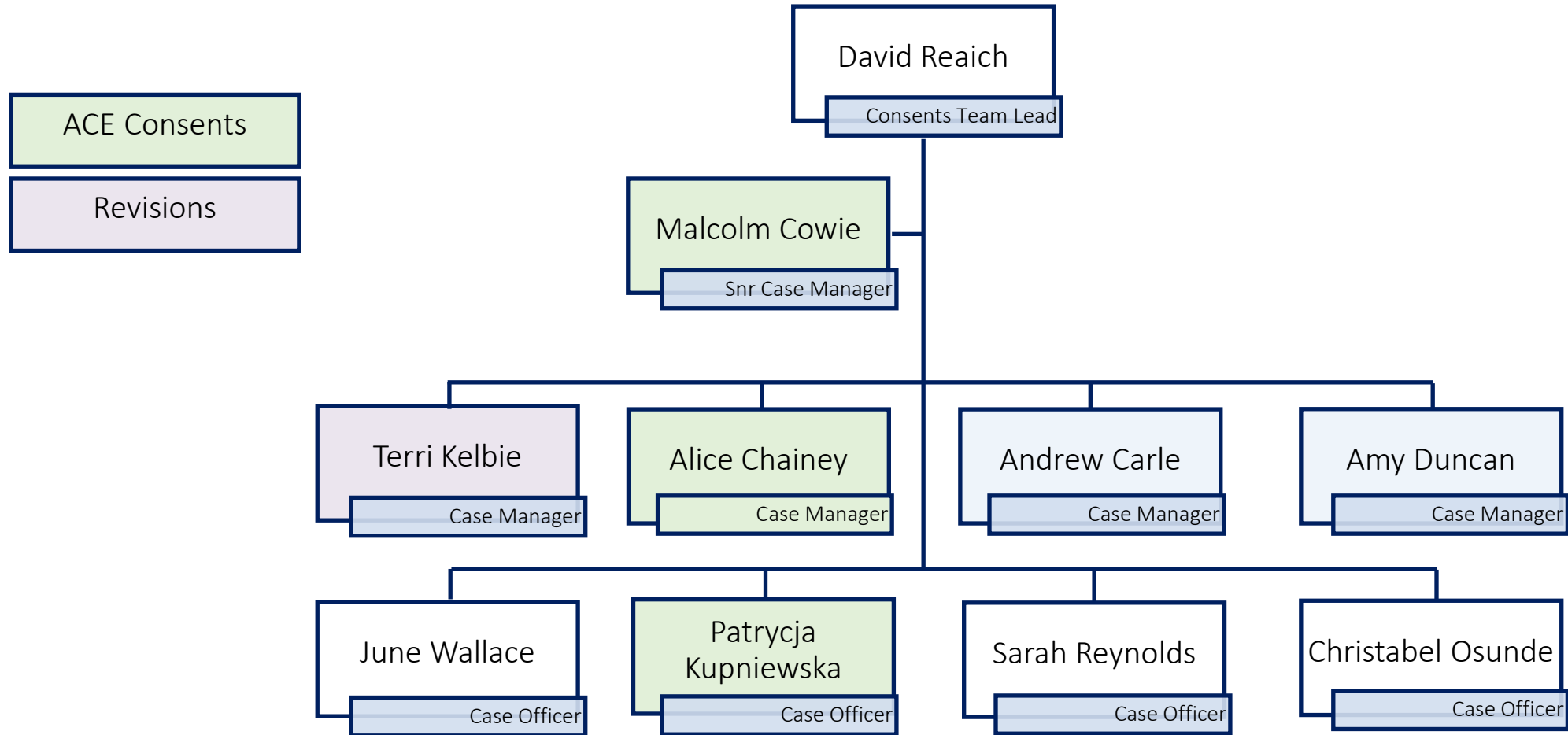
Support delivering the OGA Strategy:
Energy security, emissions reduction and accelerating the transition



Ensure alignment with DESNZ Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2020)



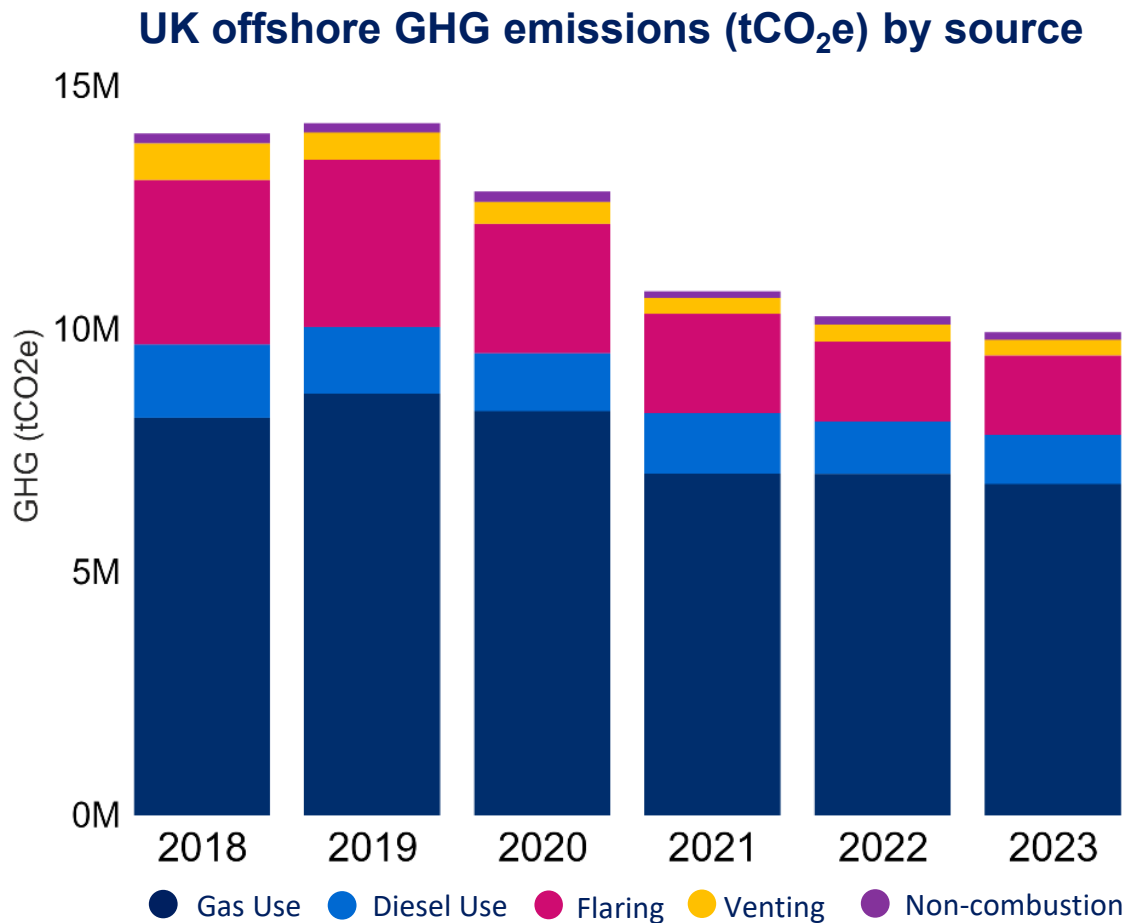
Consents Organogram



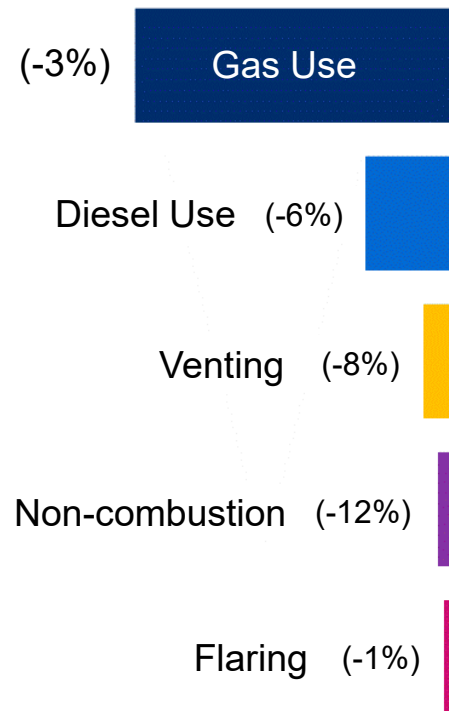
ACE Context

OGA Plan – Emissions Reduction

The OGA Plan on emissions reduction, which was published on 27 March 2024, sets out the NSTA’s requirements for how relevant persons can meet the Central Obligation, as set out in the Strategy, for Green House Gas (GHG) emissions reductions from oil and gas extraction.



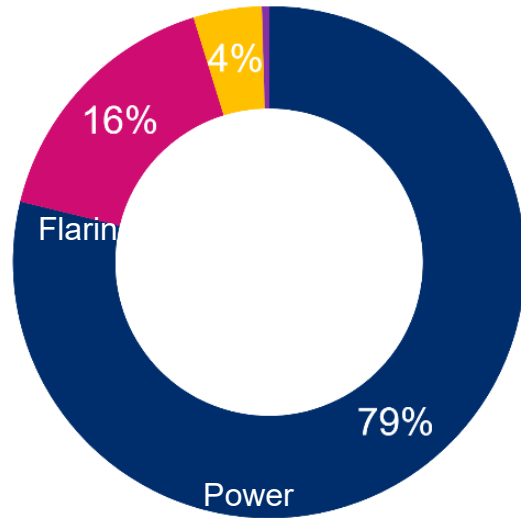
2022 – 2023 change & %change in GHG emissions (tCO₂e) by



Provisional 2023 data indicates a further annual decline in offshore GHG emissions in 2023

A fall in gas use was the primary driver of emissions reduction in 2023

Offshore Emissions by source



● Power Generation ● Flaring ● Venting ● Non-combustion

99% of Offshore emissions

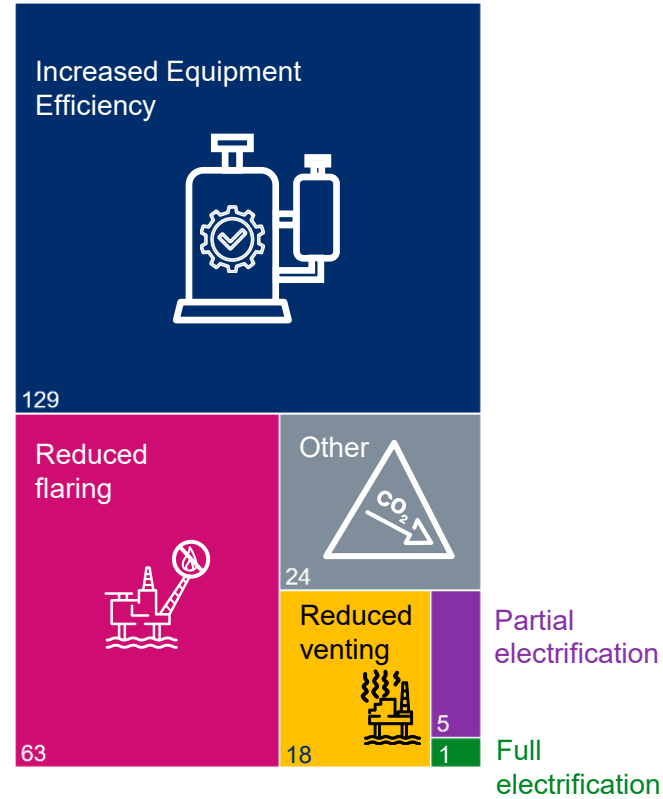
20% Flaring & Venting

79% Power generation

2023 UKSS Emissions reduction projects

129 Increased equipment efficiency projects

81 Reduced flaring & venting projects

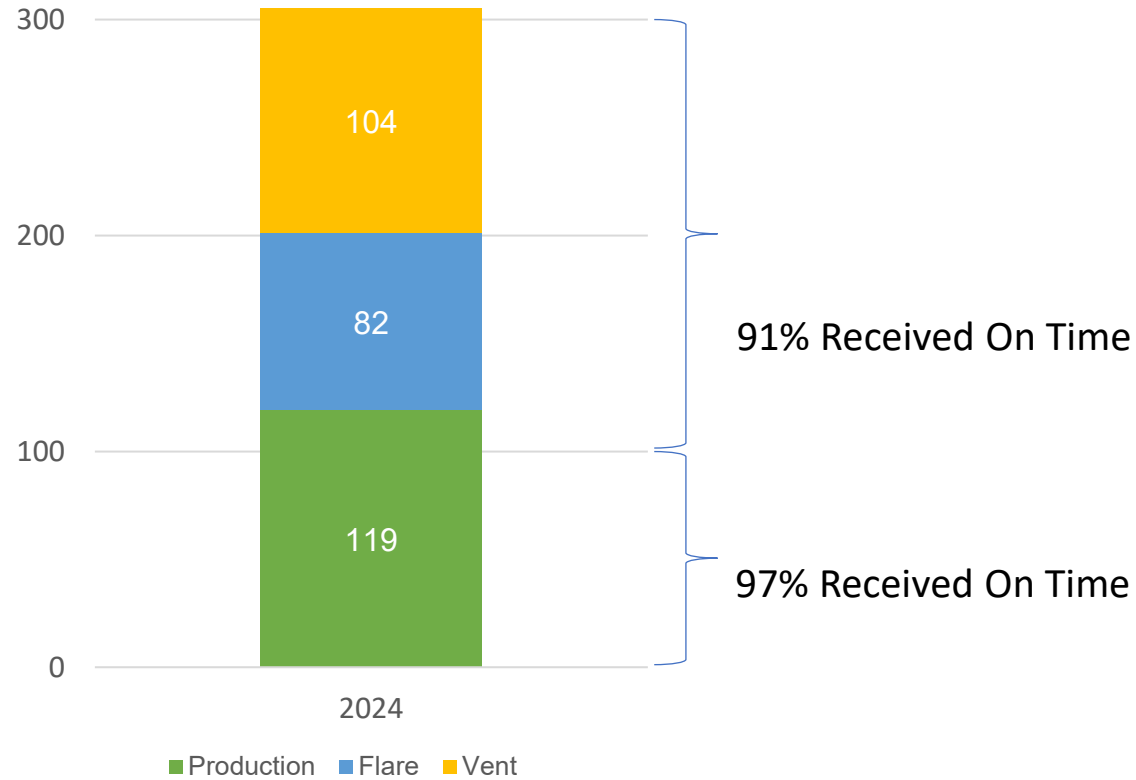


Low carbon power solutions & zero routine flaring & venting are essential for resource progression and to achieve GHG emissions reduction targets

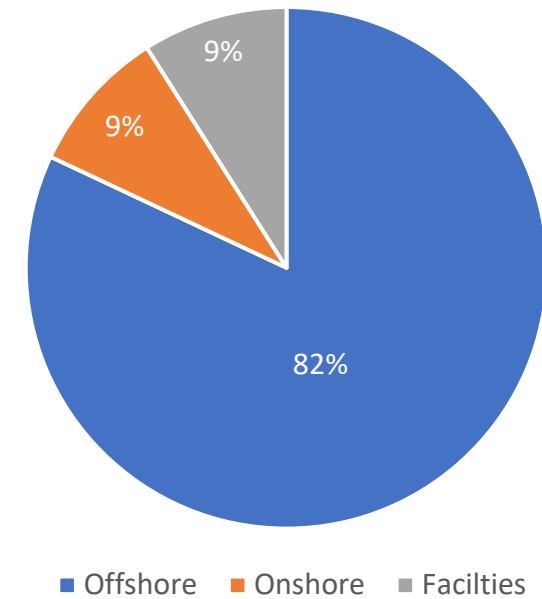
Variety of emissions reduction projects submitted by operators in UK Stewardship Survey

Annual Consents Exercise 2025

ACE 2024 Overview



No. of Consents by Offshore, Onshore & Facilities



Failure to submit compliant applications by deadlines may be regarded as a failure against the Petroleum-Related Requirement to act in accordance with the Strategy

Dates & Deadlines

ACE 2025
Production Consents

Operator submissions
1 Jul – 16 Aug

ACE 2025
Flare & Vent Consents

Operator submissions
19 Aug– 13 Sept

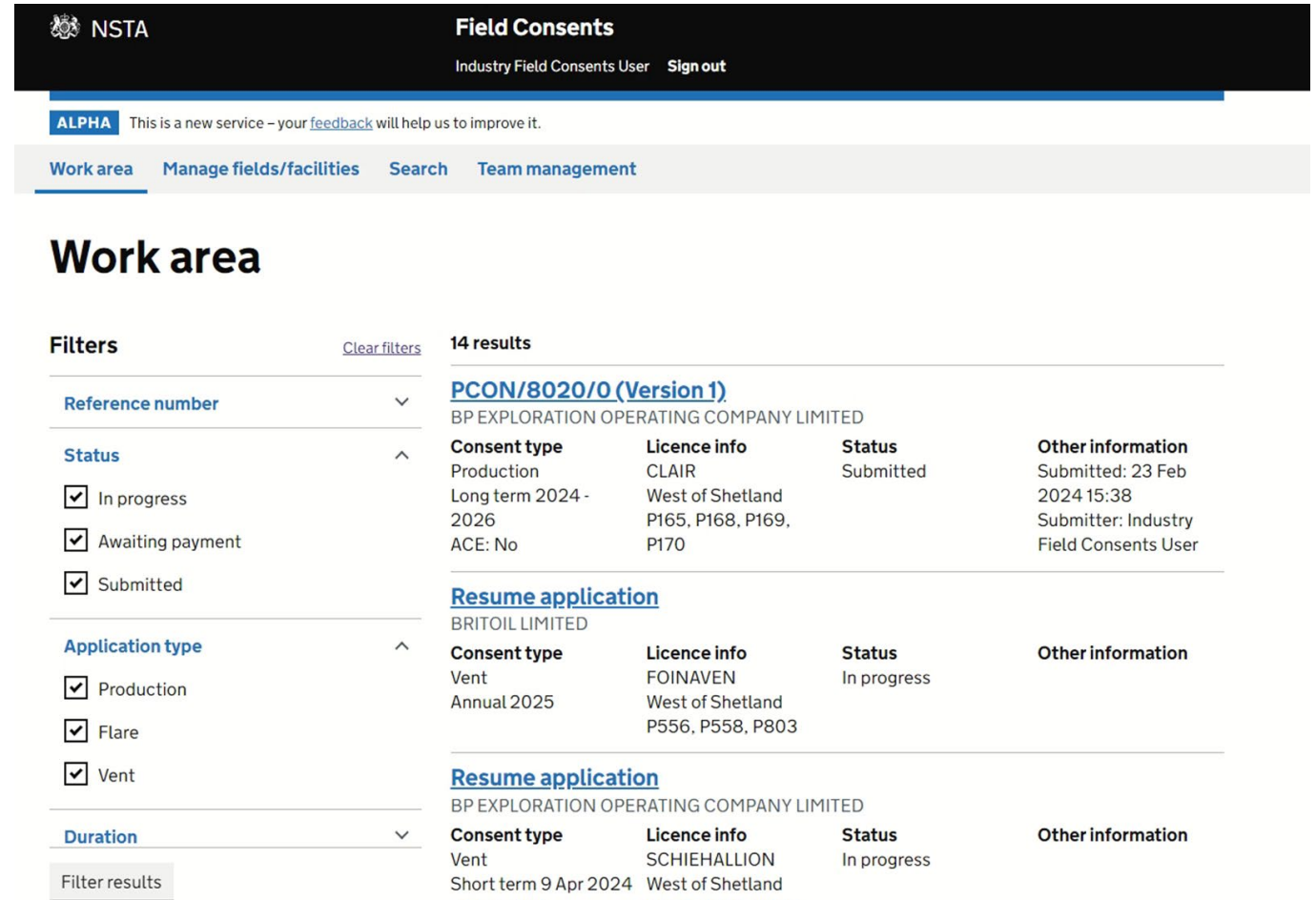
All Consents Issued

13 December

New Field Consents
System Live
1 July 2024

Show & Tells

8 Jul 2-3pm
16 Jul 11-12pm
25 Jul 11-12pm
29 Jul 11-12pm



The screenshot shows the NSTA Field Consents web application. The header includes the NSTA logo and the text "Field Consents" and "Industry Field Consents User Sign out". A blue banner below the header reads "ALPHA This is a new service - your feedback will help us to improve it." The navigation menu includes "Work area", "Manage fields/facilities", "Search", and "Team management". The "Work area" section is active, displaying "Filters" and "14 results".

Filters [Clear filters](#)

- Reference number** (dropdown)
- Status** (dropdown)
 - In progress
 - Awaiting payment
 - Submitted
- Application type** (dropdown)
 - Production
 - Flare
 - Vent
- Duration** (dropdown)

[Filter results](#)

14 results

[PCON/8020/0 \(Version 1\)](#)
BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED

Consent type	Licence info	Status	Other information
Production	CLAIR	Submitted	Submitted: 23 Feb 2024 15:38 Submitter: Industry Field Consents User

[Resume application](#)
BRITTOIL LIMITED

Consent type	Licence info	Status	Other information
Vent	FOINAVEN	In progress	

[Resume application](#)
BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED

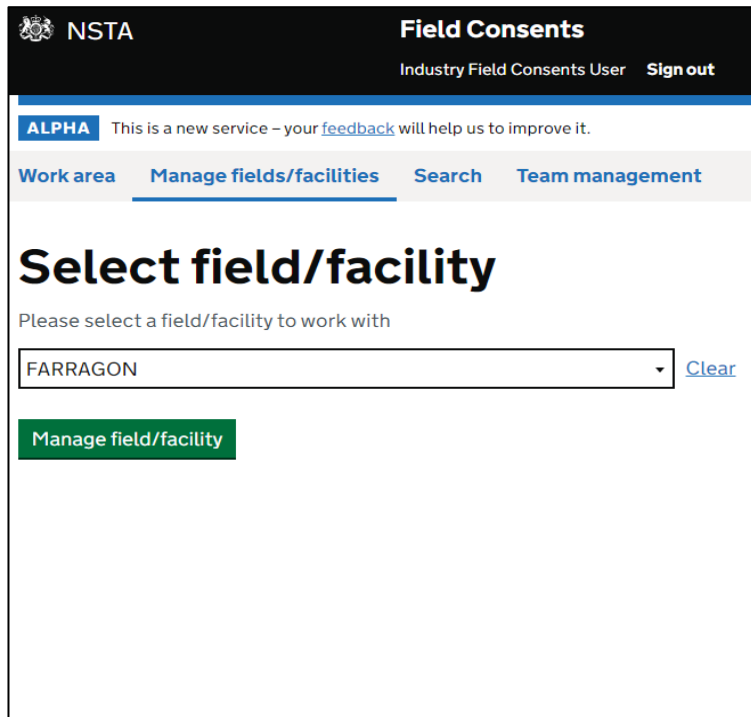
Consent type	Licence info	Status	Other information
Vent	SCHIEHALLION	In progress	

Production



ACE 2025: Production Consents

Applicants Must Select: New Production Consent commencing in 2025.



NSTA Field Consents
Industry Field Consents User Sign out

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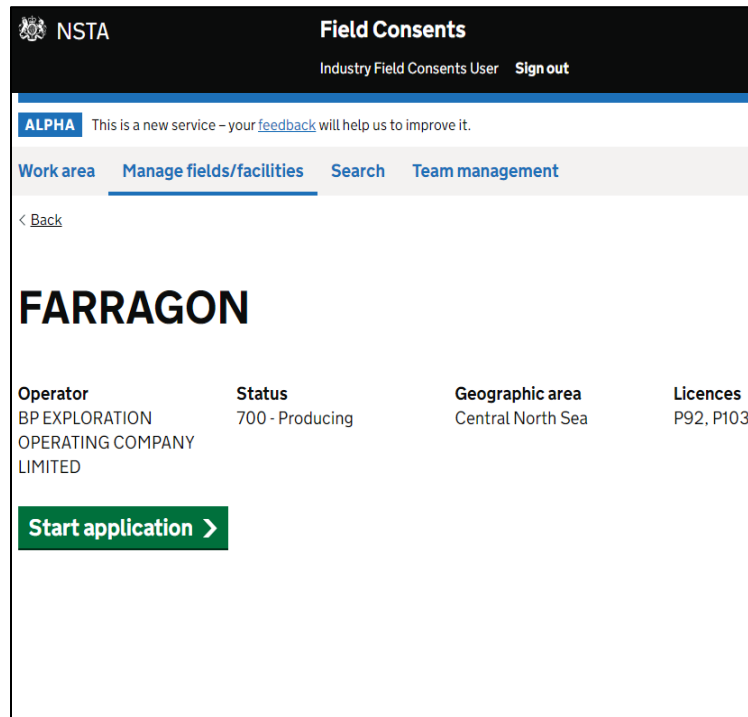
Work area Manage fields/facilities Search Team management

Select field/facility

Please select a field/facility to work with

FARRAGON [Clear](#)

[Manage field/facility](#)



NSTA Field Consents
Industry Field Consents User Sign out

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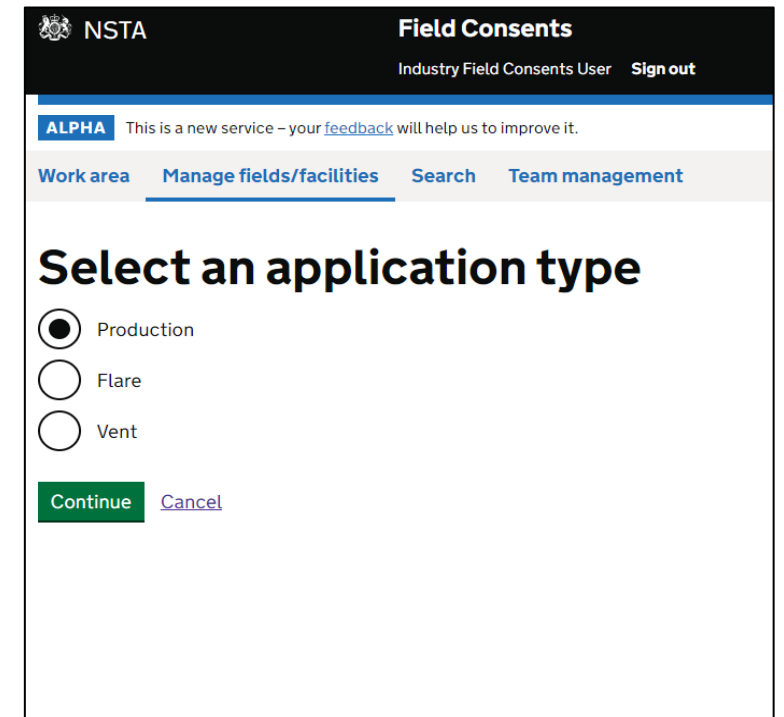
Work area Manage fields/facilities Search Team management

[< Back](#)

FARRAGON

Operator BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED	Status 700 - Producing	Geographic area Central North Sea	Licences P92, P103
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[Start application >](#)



NSTA Field Consents
Industry Field Consents User Sign out

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Work area Manage fields/facilities Search Team management

Select an application type

Production
 Flare
 Vent

[Continue](#) [Cancel](#)

 **NSTA** **Field Consents**
Industry Field Consents User [Sign out](#)

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[Work area](#) [Manage fields/facilities](#) [Search](#) [Team management](#)

Annual Oil and Gas Production Request 2025

[▶ Pasting data from Excel](#)

Month	Minimum Oil (kscm/month)	Maximum Oil (kscm/month)	Minimum Gas (kscm/month)	Maximum Gas (kscm/month)
January	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
February	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
March	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
April	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
May	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Volumes will be converted to kscm/day on the Issued Consent Document

 **NSTA** **Field Consents**
Industry Field Consents User [Sign out](#)

BETA This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[Work area](#) [Manage fields/facilities](#) [Search](#) [Team management](#)

Long Term Oil and Gas Production Request

[▶ Pasting data from Excel](#)

2024 to 2029

Year	Minimum Oil (kscm/day)	Maximum Oil (kscm/day)	Minimum Gas (kscm/day)	Maximum Gas (kscm/day)
2024	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2025	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2026	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2027	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

OPRED

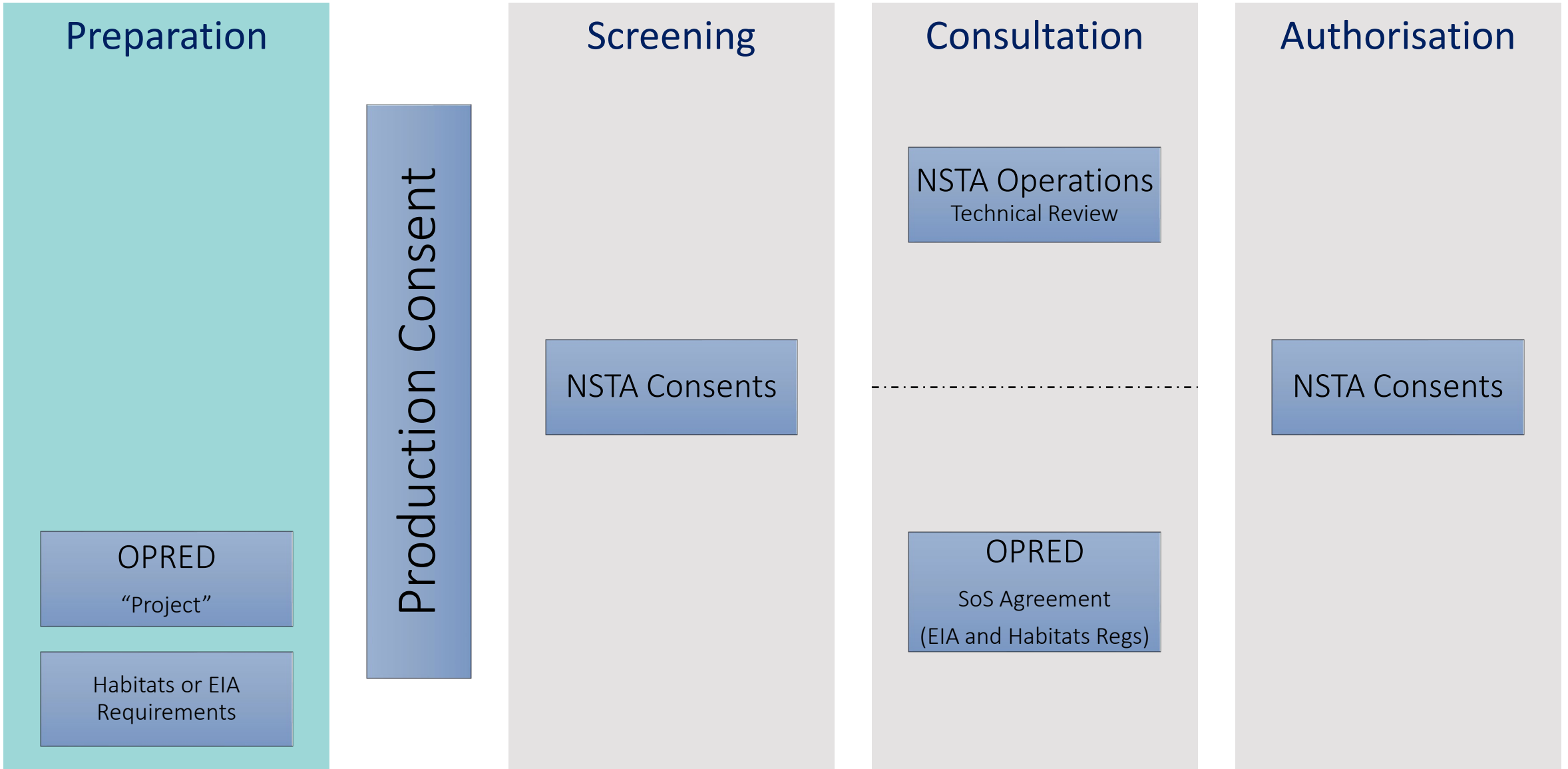


The NSTA needs confirmation of Secretary of State (“SoS”) agreement prior to issuing field consents which include project activity.

Please engage with OPRED early regarding Project activity and ensure that associated environmental submissions are made in sufficient time.

If you submit an application to the NSTA which is consented, and later considered a Project. As the SoS agreement has not been received for the Project Activity, the NSTA will take action to revoke the consent and you will have to reapply.

Production Consents



ACE 2025: OPRED – What is a Project?



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment & Decommissioning

Project defined under the 2020 EIA Regulations:

Schedule 1

Extraction of oil and natural gas for commercial purposes where the amount extracted **exceeds** 500 tonnes per day in the case of oil and 500,000 cubic metres per day in the case of natural gas *[compared to current figures]*.

OR

Schedule 2

Extraction of oil or natural gas for commercial purposes where the amount extracted **is equal to or less than** 500 tonnes per day in the case of oil and equal to or less than 500,000 cubic metres per day in the case of natural gas *[compared to current figures]*.



AND there is:

- the execution of construction works or of other installations or schemes,
- other interventions in the natural surroundings and landscape including those involving the extraction of mineral resources

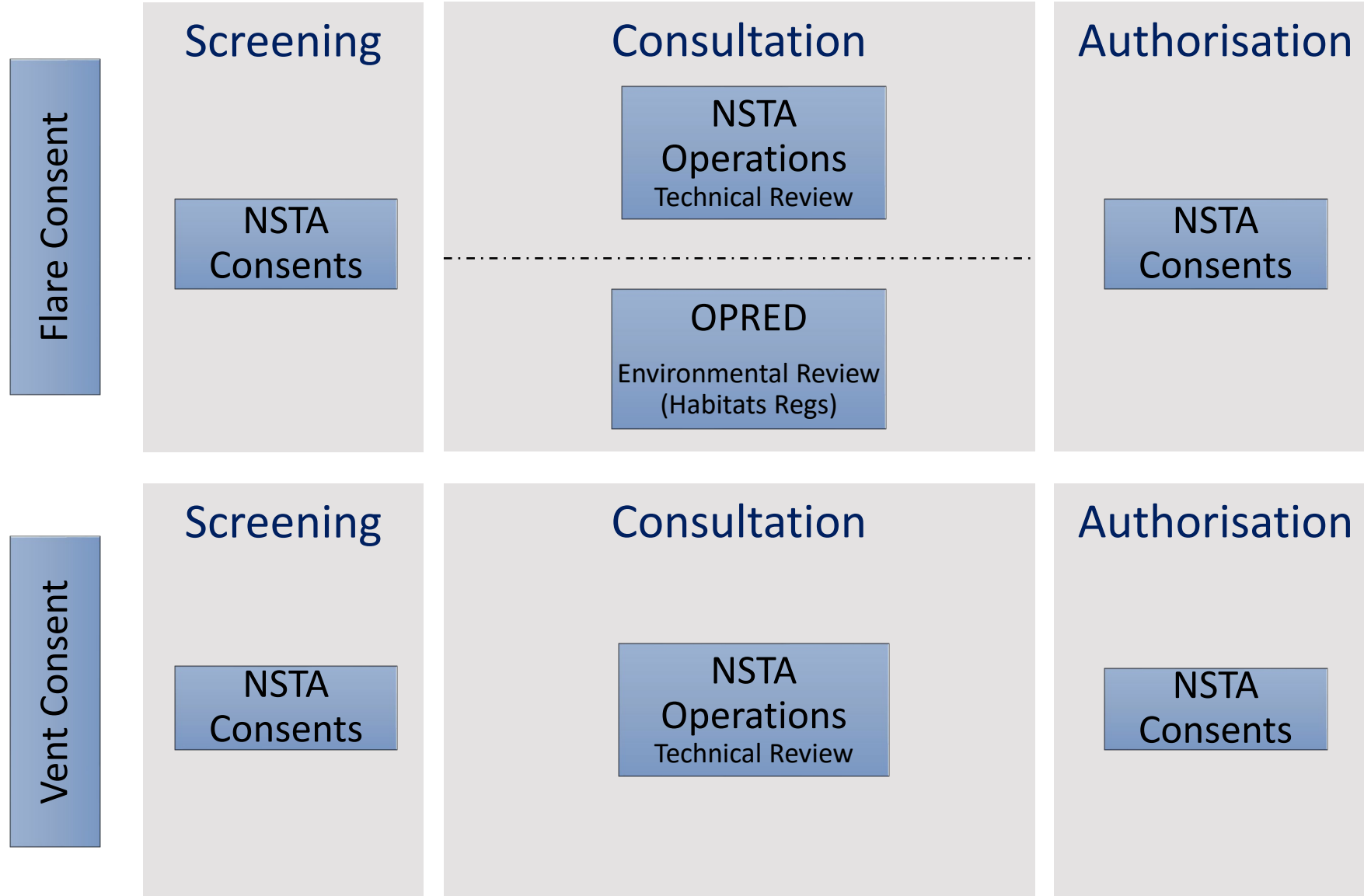
e.g.

- Drilling of a well
- Well intervention works
- Enhanced oil recovery

Flaring and Venting are **not** considered 'projects' under the 2020 EIA Regulations. Therefore, no assessment is required, and no Secretary of State agreement is required.

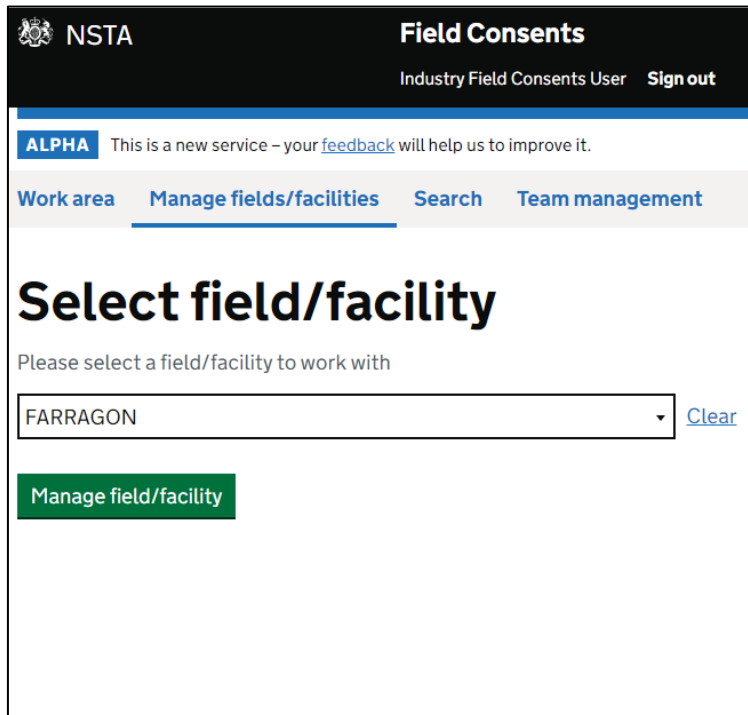
Flare & Vent





ACE 2025: Flare & Vent Consents

Applications for ACE Flare/Vent consents and short-terms must be submitted using a new application.



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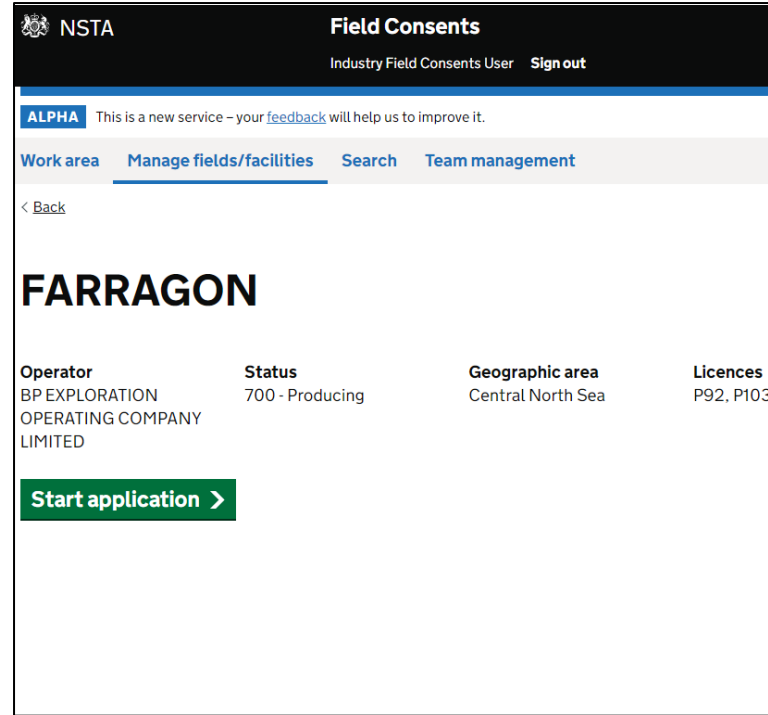
Work area **Manage fields/facilities** Search Team management

Select field/facility

Please select a field/facility to work with

FARRAGON [Clear](#)

[Manage field/facility](#)



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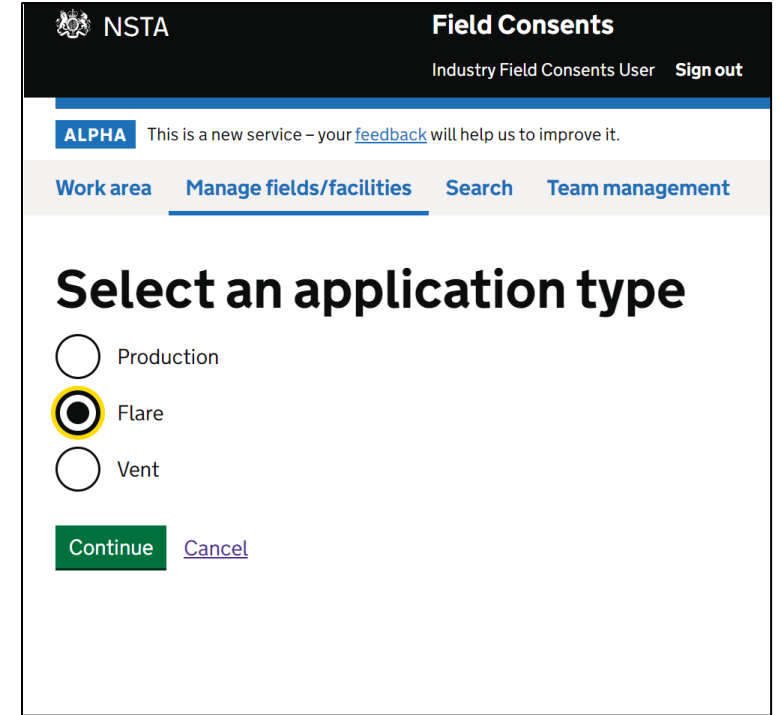
Work area **Manage fields/facilities** Search Team management

[Back](#)

FARRAGON

Operator	Status	Geographic area	Licences
BP EXPLORATION OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED	700 - Producing	Central North Sea	P92, P103

[Start application >](#)



NSTA **Field Consents**
Industry Field Consents User [Sign out](#)

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Work area **Manage fields/facilities** Search Team management

Select an application type

Production

Flare

Vent

[Continue](#) [Cancel](#)

ACE 2025: F&V Applications must include:



Explanation for requested Consent



Forecast requirements reflect delivery of all in-year emissions reduction activities



Reported full 12 months Actuals and Requested Consent figures
(in categories)

A: Routine, B: Non routine, C: Safety related

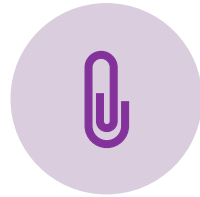


Documentation of how the Categorisation was done

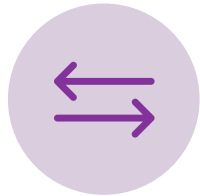
Why F&V applications are returned:



Lack of comments



No attachments/
explanation



Significant variation in
month-by-month
categories



Significant difference in
consent request vs report
actuals

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Industry Field Consents User [Sign out](#)

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[Work area](#) [Manage fields/facilities](#) [Search](#) [Team management](#)

Supporting information

Notes
Please add additional information to support the application in the box provided below.

Onshore

ACE 2025: Onshore



North Sea Transition Authority

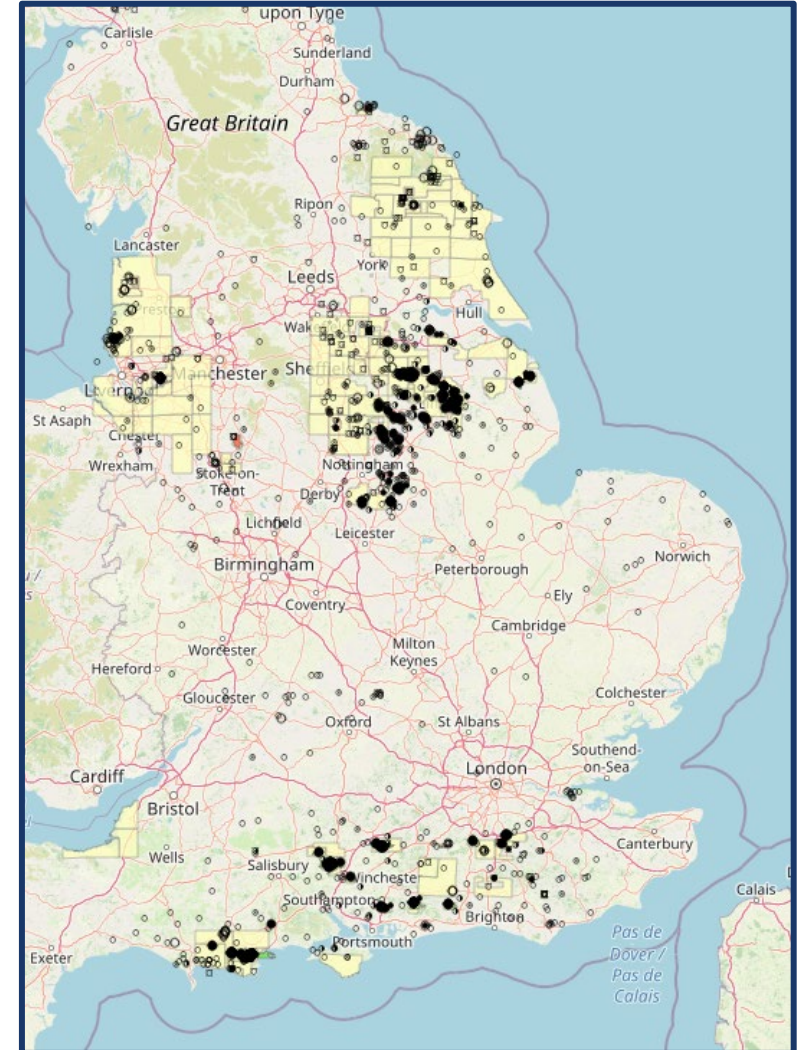
At least 35 Onshore applications requiring consent for 2025

Will follow the same schedule as offshore consents

Following government commitment to net zero and reducing waste of hydrocarbons, we are only accepting annual F&V consents on the new system going forward

We require FDPA if requesting further production consent

Well stewardship continuing with focus on wells within fields that are not being actively used



Facilities (Terminals)



Queries will be raised, and consents for 2025 issued through the new Field Consents system



Application requirements outlined on slide for Flaring and Venting apply to Facilities



Payment required at the time of application submission



Onshore terminal

Key Messages

Dates & Deadlines

ACE 2025
Production Consents

Operator submissions
1 Jul – 16 Aug

ACE 2025
Flare & Vent Consents

Operator submissions
19 Aug– 13 Sept

All Consents Issued

13 December

Process



Revisions to current consents are to be submitted **before** applications for the **new** consent.



Promptly respond to NSTA requests and comments



Engage early with OPRED EMT



Unable to meet deadlines?
Email consents@nstauthority.co.uk
with background info

Information



Charge for withdrawing wrong application & for the new correct application.



Minimum of two working contacts in each role in the new Field Consents system.



Show & Tells of new system (July)



Pay up front for application by credit/debit card

Q&A

Thank You