

SHELL BRENT FIELD DECOMMISSIONING TIMELINE

KEY DATES

1971

Brent Field discovered

1976

Brent Bravo is the first platform in the Brent Field to begin production

1987

Brent produces its one billionth barrel of oil – this is enough to fuel 1.2 billion mid-sized cars

2006

Decommissioning project established

2007

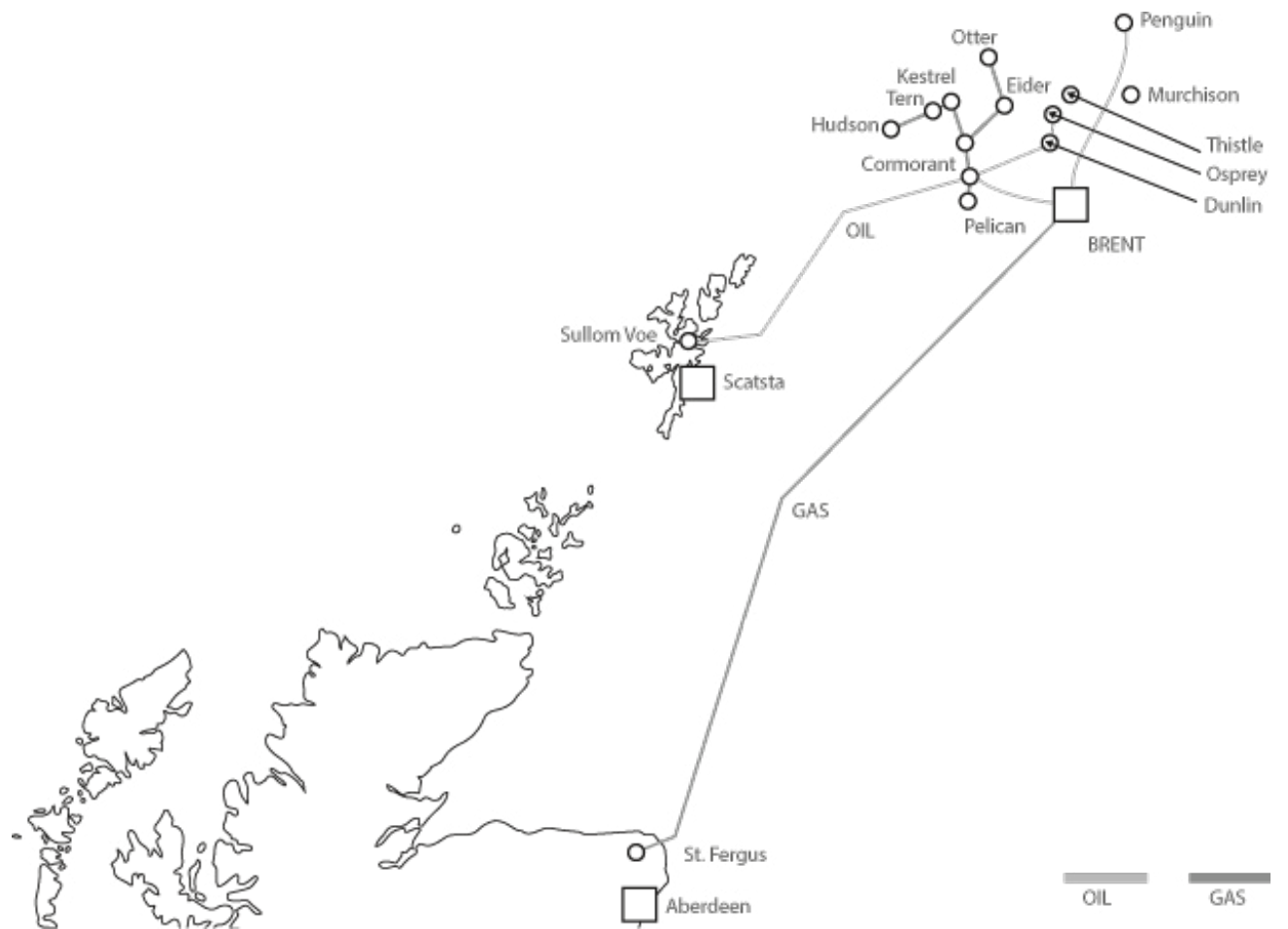
First stakeholder event held

2014

All wells on Brent Delta sealed and the platform is declared hydrocarbon-free

MAP OF THE BRENT FIELD

The Brent Field is located 186km north east of the Shetland Islands.



1971

Shell drills discovery well 186km north east of Lerwick, Shetland

1972

Discovery of the Brent Field announced

1975

Brent Delta platform installed

1976

Brent Spar installed

Brent Alpha jacket installed

Brent Bravo begins production in November and a month later the first tanker loads crude oil at the Brent Spar

Brent Delta platform installed

1977

St Fergus and Mossmorran pipelines built

First production from Brent Delta

1978

Brent Charlie platform installed

Brent Alpha production begins

1979

Western Leg gas line between Cormorant Alpha and Brent Bravo platforms complete

Brent oil pumped to Sullom Voe via Comorant Alpha

1981

Brent Charlie production starts

1982

First gas from Brent received at St Fergus Gas Plant

Brent Field production peaks at 504,000 barrels of oil and 26.6 million cubic metres of gas per day

1987

Brent produces its one billionth barrel of oil

1991-1994

Brent Spar ceases operating

Studies and plans are underway to look at how best to decommission Brent Spar

1993

£1.2 billion Brent Redevelopment Project announced, switching from oil to gas production

1994

3000 man years worked offshore during this four year period – equivalent to over 5 million man hours

The Spar decommissioning programme is submitted. Approved by the UK Government with a recommendation to dispose of the Spar in deep water, however, this programme was withdrawn due to public reaction

1995

Brent Bravo resumes production after redevelopment

1996

Stakeholder consultations begin in London for decommissioning of the Brent Spar

Brent Charlie is redeveloped within the year

1997

Brent redevelopment complete finishing with Brent Delta

1998

The decommissioning programme for Brent Spar is resubmitted to the UK Government

The proposal is for the Spar to be re-used as a quay in Norway

1999

Work begins to form the base of the new quay using the Brent Spar

Stakeholder consultation draws to a close for Brent Spar

2000-2001

Record low temperatures of -34°C and snowstorms are reported in the Brent Field – this is almost as cold as winter in the Arctic

First female offshore installation manager (OIM) in the UKCS is appointed

Mckinsey benchmarking identifies Brent as the highest performing in the North Sea field in terms of production and costs

Brent Alpha drills 23,000ft long well

2001

The Brent Field celebrates its Silver Jubilee

2006

Brent decommissioning project established

2007

Shell set up an independent review group to objectively review all the scientific and engineering methods used to decommission the Brent Field

Stakeholder engagement for the fields decommissioning begins with meetings in London and Aberdeen

2008

Stakeholder events are held in Aberdeen and London

2009

Brent E News is established for regular updates on the project. This is in addition to any specific emails to communicate major milestones

Stakeholder events are held in Aberdeen and London

2010

Stakeholder events are held in Aberdeen and London

The Wood Group PSN are awarded the contract to provide support for Brent decommissioning activity on the Delta platform

2011

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report is made available defining the scope of the decommissioning project

Stakeholder events are held in Aberdeen and London

Production at Brent Delta is stopped and the platform begins preparation work for decommissioning

2012

A Cell Management Stakeholder Task Group (CMSTG) is formed allowing stakeholders in depth insight into cell contents options

2013

The final stakeholder group looking at dealing with cell content management is held. This allows stakeholders to review the modeling they had previously completed and look at new information that has been made available over the last 12 months

Stakeholder events are held in Aberdeen and London to discuss the emerging options and recommendations for the project

Allseas are awarded a contract for "single lift" vessel

This means that the top of the platform – the area on top of the legs – will be lifted in one large piece and taken to shore on the vessel for reuse and recycling. This technology includes the Alpha, Bravo and Delta topsides as well as the Alpha Jacket structure

2013

Brent Delta is declared hydrocarbon-free. This means that there is no longer any oil or gas on or being produced on the platform – a key stage in the decommissioning process

Able UK in Hartlepool are awarded the recycling contract for the Brent Delta topsides with a target of 97% recycling of topsides