

The Minister
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
29 - 31 Adelaide Road
Dublin D02 X285

Date 08th August 2019

Re: Kinsale Head Plan of Development

1. Application for approval of an addendum to Plan of Development in accordance with Sections 13 and 13A of the Petroleum and Other Minerals Development Act 1960, as amended, to decommission certain facilities; and

2. Application for consent under Section 5(2) of the Continental Shelf Act 1968, as amended, to alter and remove certain facilities from a designated area

Dear Minister

Pursuant to section 13 of the Petroleum and Other Minerals Development Act 1960 as amended (the "1960 Act"), a petroleum lease was granted in respect of the Kinsale Head gas fields and facilities on 7 May 1970 (the "Kinsale Head Petroleum Lease"). Pursuant to the terms of the Petroleum Lease, the Plan of Development for Kinsale Head (the "Kinsale Head Plan of Development") was submitted and agreed with the then Minister in respect of Kinsale Head.

The Kinsale Head gas fields and facilities form part of the greater Kinsale Area gas fields and facilities. PSE Kinsale Energy Limited (Kinsale Energy) is preparing for the decommissioning of the Kinsale Area gas fields and facilities, which are coming to the end of their productive life, having been in production since 1978. The Kinsale Area gas fields and facilities are made up of (1) the Kinsale Head gas fields and facilities and (2) the Seven Heads gas field and facilities. Together the decommissioning of the entirety of the Kinsale Area gas fields and facilities is collectively referred to as the Kinsale Area Decommissioning Project (KADP). The Kinsale Area gas fields and facilities are located in the Celtic Sea, between approximately 40 and 70km off the County Cork coast and onshore at Inch, Co. Cork

On 28 June 2018 Kinsale Energy submitted an application to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment (the "Minister") for an addendum to the Kinsale Head Plan of Development, which was submitted to and agreed with the then Minister under the terms of the Petroleum Lease under section 13 of the 1960 Act, for the decommissioning of certain facilities set out in the Decommissioning Plan – Kinsale Head Petroleum Lease (OPL1) – Consent Application No.1 ("Consent Application No. 1"). Consent Application No. 1 was accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report, which were prepared to assess the environmental impacts of the entirety of the KADP including the decommissioning of the Inch onshore gas terminal. Following a request for further information from the Minister, and a second request for supplementary information, both of which were formally responded to by Kinsale Energy, Ministerial consent for Consent Application No. 1 was received on 26th April 2019.

1. Application for approval of an addendum to Kinsale Head Plan of Development under Section 13 of the 1960 Act

Pursuant to Section 13 of the 1960 Act, PSE Kinsale Energy Limited is hereby applying to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment (the “Minister”) for approval for an additional addendum to the Kinsale Head Plan of Development. This addendum is seeking consent for the decommissioning of certain facilities set out in the Decommissioning Plan – Kinsale Head Petroleum Lease (OPL1) – Consent Application No.2, a copy of which is enclosed with this application and the scope of which is summarised below.

In accordance with Section 13A of the 1960 Act, this application is accompanied by the EIAR which was submitted with Consent Application No. 1 along with an addendum to the EIAR to reflect the additional information provided to the Minister on 14th November 2018 during the Consent Application No. 1 process, and additional relevant environmental information which has been published since the preparation of the EIAR (the “EIAR Addendum”). In addition, the application is accompanied by the AA Screening Report which was submitted with Consent Application No. 1 along with an addendum AA Screening Report to reflect the additional information provided to the Minister on 14th November 2018 and 12th December 2018 during the Consent Application No. 1 process, and additional relevant environmental information which has been published since the preparation of the AA Screening Report (the “AA Screening Report Addendum”).

2. Application for Consent under Section 5 of the Continental Shelf Act 1968 (as amended)

Pursuant to Section 5(2) of the Continental Shelf Act 1968, as amended, the consent of the Minister is also sought to alter and remove certain facilities from the area designated pursuant to Article 2 of the Continental Shelf Designated Areas Order 1993 SI 92 of 1993.

3. Decommissioning Plan – Kinsale Head Petroleum Lease (OPL1) - Consent Application No. 2 - Scope

The application covers the decommissioning of certain facilities in the Kinsale Head Gasfield, located within the Kinsale Head Petroleum Lease area in offshore petroleum licensing Blocks 48/20 and 49/16. The activities covered by the application are the removal of the Kinsale Alpha and Kinsale Bravo platform sub-structures (jackets) and all associated works. Further details of the facilities to be decommissioned and the proposed work schedule are contained in the enclosed Decommissioning Plan - Kinsale Head Petroleum Lease - Consent Application No.2. The facilities included in this application are not suitable for re-use.

This application covers only the facilities noted above and detailed in Decommissioning Plan - Kinsale Head Petroleum Lease - Consent Application No.2. Consent Application No. 1 covered the removal of topsides structures, subsea production structures, wellheads, spool pieces, umbilical jumpers and all associated protection materials. A further application will be made in due course for Kinsale Head facilities not covered by this plan i.e. offshore pipelines and umbilicals and a separate decommissioning plan for these facilities will be submitted at that time.

4. Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report

The above applications are accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), EIAR Addendum, an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report and the AA Screening Report Addendum. These documents have been prepared to assess the environmental impacts of the entirety of the KADP including the decommissioning of the Inch onshore gas terminal.

A public notice will be published in the Irish Examiner on 12th August 2019. Copies of the notice are included with this application.

4 Hardcopies and one electronic copy of the following documents are enclosed:


- Cover Letter (this letter)
- Copy of Public Notice

- Decommissioning Plan – Consent application 2
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report & Addendum
- Appropriate Assessment Screening Report & Addendum
- Copy Letter to Prescribed Bodies

The application will also be made available for viewing or purchase for a reasonable fee at the PSE Kinsale Energy Limited Office (Mahon, Cork) for a period of one month from the date of publication of the notice.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,


FG Murphy
For PSE Kinsale Energy Limited

Encl.

1. Public Notice
2. Letter to Prescribed Bodies
3. (List of Prescribed Bodies)
4. Decommissioning Plan (4 copies)
5. EIAR Addendum (4 Copies)
6. AA Screening Report Addendum (4 Copies)