

Invitation to submit applications for hydrocarbon prospecting licences for subsector F6b

(2002/C 12/02)

The Minister for Economic Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands hereby announces that an application for a hydrocarbon prospecting licence has been received for subsector F6b of sector F6, as shown on the map in Annex I to the 1996 Regulation on Continental Shelf hydrocarbon licences (Stcrt. 93).

In accordance with Article 3(2) of Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 1994 on the conditions for granting and using authorisations for the prospecting, exploration and production of hydrocarbons and the publication of the Ninth Round of applications for hydrocarbons prospecting licences (Stcrt. 33, 1995), the Minister for Economic Affairs hereby invites interested parties to submit applications of hydrocarbon prospecting licences for subsector F6b.

Applications may be submitted within 13 weeks for publication of this invitation in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, to the Minister for Economic Affairs marked for the personal attention of the Director for Energy Production, Bezuidenhoutseweg 6, 2594 AV The Hague, The Netherlands. Applications submitted after this deadline will not be taken into consideration.

A decision on the applications will be made not later than nine months after the expiry of this deadline.

For further information, please telephone (31-70) 379 66 85.

United Kingdom Government notice concerning Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and Council of 30 May 1994 on the conditions for granting and using authorisations for the prospecting, exploration and production of hydrocarbons

(2002/C 12/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

THE PETROLEUM (PRODUCTION) (SEAWARD AREAS) REGULATIONS 1988

20th OFFSHORE LICENSING ROUND

1. The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry invites interested persons, in accordance with the Petroleum (Production) (Seaward Areas) Regulations 1988 (S.I. 1988 No 1213), as amended ('the 1988 Regulations'), and the Hydrocarbons Licensing Directive Regulations 1995 (S.I. 1995 No 1434), to apply for Petroleum Production Licences in respect of those blocks and parts of blocks listed in the Schedule to this notice that were not subject to an existing petroleum production licence on the date of this notice. The definitive list of unlicensed blocks is shown on maps deposited at the Department of Trade and Industry Library, where they can be viewed by prior appointment (see below for contact details) between 09.15 and 16.45, Monday to Friday, until 16 April 2002 (referred to below as 'the application date'). They are also available on the Oil and Gas Directorate's website.

2. Licences issued pursuant to this invitation will incorporate clauses based substantially, subject to certain modifications and additional provisions, on the Model Clauses set out in Schedule 4 to the Petroleum (Production) (Seaward Areas) Regulations 1988 (as amended, except that the

amendments to Model Clauses set out in paragraphs (a)(ii) and (c) to (h) of Regulation No 8 of the Petroleum (Production) (Seaward Areas) (Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I. 1996 No. 2946) will not apply).

3. DTI has conducted a strategic environmental assessment of the area, including all the blocks listed in the Schedule, to the standard required in Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment. The conclusion of the assessment was that there are no overriding reasons why this area should not be considered for oil and gas licensing. Details of the assessment, and instructions for obtaining copies, may be obtained from the website: <http://www.habitats-directive.org/sea2/index.cgi>

Applications for licences

4. Applications must be made on the application form for seaward production licences, which is available on the Oil and Gas Directorate's website or from the Oil and Gas Licence Administration (see below for contact details).