

Communication from the Minister for Economic Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands pursuant to Article 3(2) of Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conditions for granting and using authorisations for the prospection, exploration and production of hydrocarbons

(2015/C 170/05)

The Minister for Economic Affairs hereby gives notice that an application has been received for authorisation to prospect for hydrocarbons in the area known as 'Brielle', which is in the province of South Holland and the territorial sea and is bounded as follows:

- a. the straight line running from vertex B to auxiliary vertex 1 up to the intersection of that line with the line defined in the annex to the Mining Act (*Mijnbouwwet*). That intersection is located close to vertex A;
- b. then the straight line running from vertex B to vertex C;
- c. then the straight line running from vertex C to the intersection of the line marked by the southern boundary of block S3, as indicated on the map appended as Annex 3 to the Mining Regulation (*Mijnbouwregeling*) (Government Gazette (*Staatscourant*) 2002, No 245), with the line defined in the annex to the Mining Act. That intersection is located close to vertex D;
- d. then the line defined in the annex to the Mining Act running from vertex D to the intersection referred to in 'a'.

The coordinates of the vertices referred to above are as follows:

Vertex	X	Y
Auxiliary vertex 1	59 659,53	444 308,27
A (*)	59 720,10	444 264,21
B	78 000,00	430 966,10
C	78 000,00	423 000,00
D (*)	45 358,39	428 286,78

(*) approximate location

The coordinates are expressed in accordance with the national triangulation system (RD, *Rijksdriehoeksmeting*).

On the basis of this description of the boundaries, the surface area is 343,6 km².

With reference to the Directive mentioned in the introduction and Article 15 of the Mining Act (Bulletin of Acts and Decrees (*Staatsblad*) 2002, No 542), the Minister for Economic Affairs hereby invites interested parties to submit a competing application for authorisation to prospect for hydrocarbons in the area known as 'Brielle'.

The Minister for Economic Affairs is the competent authority for the granting of authorisations. The criteria, conditions and requirements referred to in Articles 5(1), 5(2) and 6(2) of the above-mentioned Directive are set out in the Mining Act (Bulletin of Acts and Decrees 2002, No 542).

Applications may be submitted during the 13 weeks following the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union* and should be sent to:

The Minister for Economic Affairs
 attn.: Ms J. J. van Beek, Energy Market Directorate
 Bezuidenhoutseweg 73
 Postbus 20401
 2500 EK Den Haag
 NEDERLAND

Applications received after the expiry of this period will not be considered.

A decision on the applications will be taken not later than 12 months after this period has expired.

Further information can be obtained by calling Ms J. J. van Beek on the following telephone number: +31 703796326.