

Collaborative Well P&A Success Story



Oil & Gas Authority

Collaborative well P&A drives down decommissioning costs

- The KX well (operated by ConocoPhillips) is located within a subsea manifold operated by Spirit Energy. The manifold also houses their Alison B3 well, which was planned to be plugged and abandoned (P&A).
- Opportunities were recognised and agreement was reached for Spirit Energy to also plug and abandon the KX well.
- Both wells contained synergies having originally been drilled back in 1995 by the same jack-up drilling rig so the completions, casing design, wellheads and trees were similar. Spirit Energy was also the owner of bespoke tooling interface equipment required for these wells.
- Spirit Energy is recognised for best practice within the industry for having a strong track record on Southern North Sea subsea well plugging and abandonments. They have previously performed four abandonments that required the same bespoke subsea tooling, a significant feature of the proposed work-scope, allowing learnings to be leveraged across wells.
- Using one jack-up rig to plug and abandon wells on the manifold meant that significant savings were realised on the rig move, interface and Dive Support Vessel (DSV) costs.
- Efficiencies were also realised through batch operations across the wells.

Achievement based on:

- Collaboration between operators and owners to minimise costs through knowledge sharing across the activities.
- Collaborative commercial behaviours to establish the framework to enable shared operations.
- Efficient execution.

OGA Decom Team comments

Both collaboration between operators and campaign execution at a large scale are identified as major opportunities in the industry to achieve significant decommissioning cost reductions and this is an excellent example that is indeed possible.

Key facts

- Batched operations between the two wells generated increased efficiency enabling full P&A to be completed 40% ahead of AFE duration estimates.

