



**Minutes of OGA Board meeting on 18 July 2019  
21 Bloomsbury Street, London**

<b>Directors</b>	<b>In attendance</b>
Tim Eggar Chairman	Helena Charlton Shareholder Representative
Frances Morris-Jones Non-executive Director	Mike Brannan (item 8) BEIS Onshore Decommissioning
Robert Armour Non-executive Director	Tom Wheeler (item 8) Director of Regulation
Andy Samuel Chief Executive	John Seabourn (item 9) Head of Digital Services
Nic Granger Chief Financial Officer	Russell Richardson Company Secretary
<b>Apologies:</b> Mary Hardy, Non-executive Director Emily Bourne, Shareholder Representative Director	Fiona Gruber Board Secretary

**1. Welcome and introductions**

The Chairman welcomed Helena Charlton to the meeting, representing the Shareholder in the absence of the Shareholder Director.

**2. Minutes and matters arising**

The board approved the minutes of the June meeting.

**3. Conflicts of interest**

No conflict of interest with any agenda item, nor as a result of new appointments, was declared by any director.

**4. Safety and environment report**

The Chief Executive updated the board on safety and environment performance. Following a recent case of poor well operatorship, the board welcomed moves by OGUK, OPRED and the OGA to promote greater sharing of well operatorship expertise across the industry.

**5. Chief Executive report**

On the day of the publication of the annual decommissioning cost estimate report, the Chief Executive was pleased to report a 17% reduction compared to the 2017 inventory, with a saving on actual spend in 2018 of £400m. The OGA will continue to work closely with BEIS and HMT on the decommissioning cost board to maintain this momentum.

The board welcomed the signing of a pre-development agreement for the Quad 9 area - the first time such an agreement has been finalised in the UKCS. Given the OGA's enhanced facilitation role in driving this development, the board agreed it would be a good addition to the stock of case studies on the OGA's website.

## **6. Shareholder report**

The Shareholder Representative updated the board on Rhum and onshore matters.

With ministerial changes on the horizon, the board agreed that - should a new energy minister be appointed - the OGA would seek an early meeting and invite a new incumbent to Offshore Europe in early September.

The Shareholder Representative confirmed that the review of the OGA was now complete and the report was being drafted by the partnerships team. She confirmed that BEIS would be able to share the draft recommendations in advance of the board strategy day in September.

## **7. CFO report**

The CFO reported that the OGA had collected almost 90% of levy payments, with interest being charged on late payments. She confirmed that the focus on operator payment performance in the annual benchmarking numbers had reduced the level of late payment.

The finance team continues to refine its reporting and planning, including working to level the overall spend profile and charting in-year budget reallocations against the original budget line.

The board discussed the impact on the OGA of its reprioritisation exercises and agreed that the leadership team should prepare a list of dropped or delayed projects for board's budget strategy discussion in September.

## **8. BEIS onshore decommissioning**

The BEIS policy lead on onshore oil and gas decommissioning updated the board on the department's work to examine the current onshore decommissioning landscape and develop a consistent onshore decommissioning regime.

The board commended the team for presenting a good picture of the status quo and taking a principles-based approach to developing a strategy, in consultation with industry, but reiterated the need for clear powers to be defined, and additional budget allocated, before the board could commit to any further OGA involvement.

## **9. Digital excellence**

The Head of Digital Services demonstrated his team's work to digitally map workflows across the OGA to improve internal decision-making efficiency, starting with the licensing team. By supplementing the delegation framework with greater detail on what each person does before a decision can be made, staff understand better how their work interacts with others' and have more scope to suggest improvements.

## **10. Board agenda planning**

The Board agreed some timing changes to the forthcoming meetings programme.

## **11. AOB**

There was no other business.



Oil & Gas  
Authority

Company number: 09666504

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. G. ...', written over a dotted line.

Chairman

A handwritten date '20<sup>th</sup> September 2019' written in black ink over a dotted line.

Date

