



**Minutes of OGA Board meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020**  
**09:00-14:00**  
**48 Huntly Street, Aberdeen**

<b>Directors</b>	<b>In attendance</b>
Tim Eggar Chairman	Wendy Kennedy (item 5) Chief Executive, OPRED
Frances Morris-Jones Non-executive Director	Stuart Payne (item 9) Director of HR and Supply Chain
Mary Hardy Non-executive Director	Scott Robertson (item 10) Director of Operations
Robert Armour Non-executive Director	Gunther Newcombe (item 10) Director of Special Projects
Andy Samuel Chief Executive	Russell Richardson Company Secretary
Nic Granger Chief Financial Officer	Fiona Gruber Board Secretary
Emily Bourne Shareholder Representative Director	

### **1. Welcome and introductions**

The Chairman welcomed directors to the meeting.

### **2. Minutes and matters arising**

The board discussed and approved the minutes of the December meeting, agreeing small amendments.

### **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 board discussed the Chief Executive's update on safety and environment performance.

### **5. OPRED presentation**

The Chief Executive of OPRED updated the board on its work, including preparing for a new Offshore Energy Strategic Environmental Assessment, to take account of the government's net zero commitment, and planned legislation to implement post EU exit changes to environmental regulations, including the introduction of a UK ETS.

She updated the board on the status of decommissioning programmes and the Brent OSPAR consultation. The OPRED Chief Executive and the board agreed that, given the increasing challenges facing the industry, it would be important for the OGA, HSE and OPRED to maintain their close collaboration.



## **6. Chief Executive report**

The Chief Executive has discussed the OGA's net zero plans and the Chairman's upcoming speech with several MDs and will schedule further conversations to develop a better understanding of key operators' approaches to net zero.

The MER UK Steering committee meets tomorrow, after which the Chairman will deliver his speech setting energy transition targets for industry in advance of COP 26. More broadly, interest in the Energy Integration Phase 1 report has been stimulated by OGA activity on business social media. The SPE Offshore Europe decommissioning paper has been well received.

The OGA has agreed its approach for the MER UK Strategy Review and workshops with key teams will be held before drafting begins.

## **7. CFO update**

The finance report will this month be issued after the board meeting, but the CFO does not anticipate any issues to arise from it.

## **8. Shareholder update**

The Shareholder Representative confirmed that Ministerial portfolios remained unchanged following the general election and that work on post EU exit transition is ongoing.

The planned energy white paper will encompass the government's roadmap for 2050 net zero strategies and the department has started to consider the potential shape of a transformational sector deal for the oil and gas sector, with a focus on ensuring there is a role for the industry during the transition to a low carbon future.

## **9. Inclusion and diversity**

The Director of HR and Supply Chain updated the board on the work the OGA has done to promote inclusion and diversity, both within the OGA and in industry.

The OGA's workforce is more gender balanced than in 2015 and the OGA has recognised need to focus on inclusion more generally. In 2019 it shared internally a two-year I&D plan covering a range of interventions, taking care to act fairly and avoid appearing to favour one group over another. The trends within the OGA to date are positive.

Externally, the OGA has worked with Powerful Women and other groups to try to drive I&D in industry but believes that greater commitment from senior leaders is needed, particularly among smaller operators and the supply chain.

The board asked management to think about a resource light set of proposals, perhaps based on the Powerful Women Charter, which the OGA could take to industry and which could be measurable, even if not benchmarkable. Management should also consider making public the work the OGA has done internally.



#### **10. Directorate challenges: Operations**

The incoming and outgoing Directors of Operations presented an overview of the directorate's development over the past five years. The directorate faced significant personnel changes in the second half of 2019 but has succeeded in rebuilding the team with some very strong appointees.

The Director of Operations is focusing on integrating net zero into the directorate's regulatory, stewardship and area plan activities and offering staff the opportunity to develop complementary skills. He will also refocus efforts on pro-active stewardship and area planning.

#### **11. Board succession and evaluation**

The Chairman briefed the board on progress with recruiting two non-executive directors and suggested that directors meet shortlisted candidates in advance of a nomination committee and board discussion in late February.

The Chairman invited directors and the company secretary to complete the annual board evaluation questionnaire and return it to the board secretary by 19<sup>th</sup> February. He will discuss the anonymised outcomes with each director individually, prior to a full board discussion in March.

#### **12. Board agenda planning**

The board discussed the schedule and confirmed that the May meeting would be held in Edinburgh, giving directors the opportunity to engage with local stakeholders.

There was no other business.

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Chairman

*19<sup>th</sup> March 2020*

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Date