

Exploration Task Force Meeting (XTF) (Q2 2021)

2 June 2021

Attendees:

Nick Terrell (Chair) – Azinor
Mohamed-Amine Soudani (Total)
Nick Richardson (co-Chair) – OGA
Ben Hillier (Shell)
Jenny Morris (Chrysaor)
John Underhill (Herriot-Watt University)
John Colleran (Consultant)
Colin Percival (Athena)
Anne-Sophie Cyteval (Spirit)
Rod Crawford (Zennor)
Graham Godfrey (Soliton)
Russell Reekie (NEO Energy)
Graham Turner (TGS)
Keith Wise (OGUK)
Gillian White (OGTC)
Owain Tucker (Shell)

Agenda

1. Introduction, Agenda & Review of Actions
2. Energy Transition
3. Licensing
4. Data
5. Technology
6. Opportunity Maturation

Introduction, Agenda & Review of Actions

- Nick Terrell welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- He welcomed Owain Tucker (Shell) to his first meeting as the XTF's CCS expert.

- May and Early June has been busy with the Exploration Conference, OGUK annual conference, Seismic 2021 and DEVEX coming shortly.
- **Action Point:** If anyone thinks anything is missing from the events calendar please contact Nick Terrell, Nick Richardson or Marian Bruce.
- Key elements are the BEIS licensing review and checkpoint design process.
- A date has not yet been confirmed for the next exploration Forum but is likely to be delayed.

Energy Transition

- The 'Investing in a low-carbon future' pack has been drafted, feedback from the previous meeting has been worked into the pack. The pack is targeted at the investment community and not the general public.
- The pack is not intended to be a presentation, it will need to be cut down if presented.
- External stakeholder input has been received and feedback has also been given by OGA and OGUK.
- An overview of the pack was given, and feedback/comments were received (see below).
- The question was asked where the pack should be shared? e.g. on the OGA or OGUK websites?
- It was suggested that there could be a launch presentation.
- The group was thanked for the work they had done on the pack.
- It was highlighted that there has been an Exploration Task Force LinkedIn account set up - [Exploration Task Force: About | LinkedIn](#) and that this could be used to share a link to the pack.

Licensing

- The group has 3 main tasks
 - Implement updates to JOA Standard Agreement to reflect the Innovate Licence – This is now being taken forward.
 - LARRY and Marks Scheme: ensure recommendations are considered and implemented by OGA ahead of 33rd Licensing Round. Assist in delivery of a new licensing system covering oil and gas and CCUS if approved – Currently on hold pending outcome of BEIS licensing review.
 - Continue to support BEIS licensing review process (covered below)
- The UK government will introduce a new Climate Compatibility Checkpoint before each future oil and gas licensing round.
- The checkpoint will use the latest evidence, potentially looking at a combination of domestic demand for oil and gas, the sector's projected production levels, the increasing prevalence of clean technologies and the sector's progress against its ambitious emission reduction targets.

- Future licence awards must be compatible with the UK's climate change objectives.
- The checkpoint will be designed and implemented by the end of 2021 through consultation with stakeholders.
- XTF members were asked to vote on which recommendations they thought should be priority to be included in the checkpoint (see meeting slide pack)

E&A required for CO₂ storage sites

- It is proposed to that a short position paper is written on the options and issues facing the UK on how to go about exploring and appraising UK CCS sites so that the government's medium- to long-term CO₂ storage targets can be met.
- The TOR and suggested content were shared with XTF members, XTF members were asked for their views.
- Once drafted the paper will be circulated for peer review and agreement will be sought at the Q3 meeting.

Comments

- Need to do play based evaluation of CCS opportunities.
- Another driver is infrastructure.
- Could blue hydrogen licensing be included?
- Need to consider post field monitoring.
- Have to add justification for believing information held regarding old wells.

Data

- There has been some good innovation on the OGA data centre, linking to the NDR.
- The question was asked if the right data was being stored is there more data that could be requested from operators e.g. bio strata? XTF members were asked for their thoughts on this.
- **Action Point:** Suggestions for what additional data should be collected and stored should be emailed to Rod Crawford.
- The question was asked if there was no way to get propriety core-related data analyses released from BGS? The task force members/industry would need to identify what is missing. The OGA has already run a project for the Petroleum Systems Project which resulted in the identification and release of data/information previously held at the BGS.
- It was suggested at the next meeting that options could be shared with members to get input.
- There is currently a freeze on the old NDR as it is going through the process of transferring to the new platform.

- The old NDR service will be turned off at the end of June and on 1st July NDR 2 will be launched.
- A NDR user group meeting will be held on the 9th June, there is a registration form for anyone who wants to attend.
- Training and awareness sessions will be held for licensees prior to the launch.
- Free data download will be made available up to a limit.
- It was asked if a member of staff from the NDR team in the OGA could attend the next meeting to provide a formal update.
- The question was asked if it was possible to share the data collected at the OGA's workshops.
- It was questioned why geophysical companies have not yet released any data through the NDR. It was noted that that geophysical companies have legal concerns. It was also noted that this situation has been under discussion for a number of years, and a public consultation was held, with a response published in 2020 together with the guidance documentation.

Technology

- OGTC still have five live projects ongoing.
- Information about the projects can be found on the OGTC website.
- The Heriot Watt project is carrying out a CCUS assessment in the Southern North Sea. This project kicked off in October.
- The OGTC 'Missed Pay' project raw and conditioned data is now available on the OGA data centre.
- **Action Point:** XTF to consider how the data from the 'Missed Pay' project could be used in some sort of challenge, feedback to be provided to Gillian White
- This was Amine Soudani's last XTF meeting, he was thanked for all work he had carried out in support of the task force.

AOB

- It has been suggested that a young-professional join the task force.
- **Action Point:** XTF members to consider suitable young professional to join the task force. Nominations should be made by completing the nomination form (click [here](#) to download) and send to Nick Richardson and Marian Bruce.
- The Geoscience Energy Transition skills pack will be finalised shortly, a special task force will be held to discuss this.
- It is still to be decided what format the Q3 meeting will take.

Actions from this meeting

Priority	Actions/Update	Who	When
	If anyone thinks anything is missing from the events calendar please contact Nick Terrell, Nick Richardson or Marian Bruce.	All XTF members	Next meeting
Data	Suggestions for what additional data should be collected and stored should be emailed to Rod Crawford.	All XTF members	
Technology	XTF to consider how the data from the 'missed pay' project could be used in some sort of challenge, feedback to be provided to Gillian White.	All XTF members	
	XTF members to consider suitable young professional to join the task force. Nominations should be made by completing the nomination form (click here to download) and send to Nick Richardson and Marian Bruce	All XTF members	

Actions from previous meetings

Priority	Actions/Update	Who	When
Data	Invite a member of the OGA NDR team and representative from Osokey to attend the next meeting Nick R gave overview at meeting 3/6. Andy Thomson to be invited to Q3 meeting	Nick Richardson	September
	Meeting to be set up the	Keith Wise	

Opportunity Maturation	Reserves Progression group and Commercial Managers.	Anne-Sophie Cyteval	
	Stakeholder map to be developed	Nick Terrell	