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MINUTES

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OFFSHORE LIAISON (EPOL) GROUP

DATE: Wednesday 11 March 2020

LOCATION: Virtual Meeting hosted by Police Scotland via conference call

CHAIR/MINUTES: Dave Cowie and Len Braun

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ewan Donald (CNOOC)	Dave MacDonald (OPRED)
Richard Cox (Noble Drilling)	Alix Thom (OGUK)
Edith McLeod (IADC)	Bob Ross (CNOOC)
John Duncan (Total)	Craig Robertson (Serica Energy)
Rob Inglis (CNRI)	Pete Lowson (MCA)
Sandra Henderson (CNRI)	Gwen Thomson (Bristow)
Ruth Evans (RockRose Energy)	Hannah Curd (Shell)
Toni Hutcheson (Dana Petroleum)	Neil Anderson (Police Scotland)
Louise Thomson (Wood)	Dave Cowie (Police Scotland)
Sharon Robertson (Wood)	Len Braun (Police Scotland)
Becky Heginbotham-Blount (Norfolk Constabulary)	
Rob Shaw (Norfolk Constabulary)	
Heather MacLeod (Floatel International)	
Grace Cameron (TAQA)	

1. WELCOME AND DOMESTIC ISSUES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting brought about by the ongoing Covid-19 issues.

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2. OPENING OF MEETING AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair formally opened the meeting and welcomed those who were new to the group.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the following:-

Lynne McLeod (INEOS)
Gordon Craig (UK Oil & Gas Chaplaincy)
Lynne Deboer (UK Oil & Gas Chaplaincy)
Karen MacKay (Chrysaor)
Peter Swain Ithaca Energy
Colin Walker (BP)
Paul Keay (Repsol Sinopec)
Jennifer Poole (Perenco)
Graham Wall (Perenco)
Andy Taylor (OPRED)
Gary Hunt (TAQA)
Nick Bailey (HSE)
Simon Taylor (Apache)
Sinead Watson (TAQA)
Lesley Sim (CHC)
Steve Golightly (Petrofac)

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on Wednesday 4 December 2019 were approved.

5. CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

Hannah Curd spoke to the group about a Shell employee who tested positive for the virus at their Altens complex, the actions taken and risk assessment. She also spoke about the wider processes being developed for their other sites and for offshore.

A general discussion information sharing session followed about the implications for companies.

6. EPOL SUB-GROUPS UPDATE

6.1 MEDIA SUB-GROUP

Natalie Coupar was unavailable to join the meeting. Len Braun advised the Group he had spoken with Natalie since the previous meeting. At the December

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meeting, the members present made the decision to end the Vuelio project and dissolve the Media Sub-Group. Natalie advised the Group she required to report back to OGUK at their meeting on 12 December 2019. Following that meeting it was established that one participant proposed the Vuelio project should not be discontinued and member companies should be canvassed about the benefits of the Vuelio software before reporting back to the next OGUK meeting in April 2020. It was established the participant is not an employee of OGUK or any EPOL member company.

Following appraisal, the Group reaffirmed their position that the Vuelio project should be terminated with immediate effect and that no further discussion will be entertained at future EPOL Group meetings.

TASK - Len Braun undertook to report back to Natalie Coupar with the Group's decision. Completed.

6.2 EVACUEE RECEPTION CENTRE / RELATIVE RESPONSE SUB-GROUP

Ewan Donald updated the Group regarding work carried out since the Sub-Group was formed at the previous EPOL meeting. He has completed the review of the EPOL Relative Response Guidance Document and has circulated the draft of the updated version to the Sub-Group members to consider. It will then be cascaded to all Group members to share within their organisations.

Ewan also confirmed that Len Braun had forwarded him an email he had received from a training provider with comments and suggestions for amendments to the current document. These will be considered by the Sub-Group as they move forward with the project.

7. RESPONSE TO PROTEST ACTIONS

Chief Inspector Neil Anderson provided the Group with an overview of his role as Chief Inspector with responsibility for Specialist Services for Police Scotland's North Territorial Area. He then held a question and answer session with the Group with focus on protest actions.

8. MCA UPDATE

Pete Lawson provided the following update.

Periodic reminder of the importance of the Installation Summary Sheets – all EPOL members requested to send these in as soon as realistically possible and keep them updated as required.

He asked if any members used Vantage Block for those who had been taken off an installation unexpectedly (e.g. medevac) and until they received a fit to return certificate. This was discussed at the Topside Medical Forum though it appears it is

not widely used.

Due to licensing considerations, the Norwegian SAR aircraft will no longer be permitted to land at UK helipads such as the one at ARI. Any use of those aircraft will now be to airports only.

The EPOL website has been updated following a recommendation during the training providers' seminar. A new page 'EPOL updates' exists for important items and documents which can be easily accessed by all, including non-members.

An exercise VoD form has been added. This should be used sparingly to avoid misuse or misunderstanding.

Pete also discussed potential risk of hydrocarbon release on responding resources either during SAR or counter pollution. Details may well be in an OPEP however this won't always be immediately clear to SAR what the risks are.

9. INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRILLING CONTRACTORS UPDATE

There was nothing to update from the IADC

10. HSE UPDATE

Due to technical difficulties Colin Hart was unable to speak directly to the Group. He provided the following update by email.

'The Emergency Response, Marine and Aviation Operations Inspection Guides are currently available and one other that soon will be available. The guides outline the approach to the inspection that would happen offshore. They cover key topic areas that HSE Inspectors will be inspecting when offshore and in the office.

Already on the HSE web:

Inspection of Evacuation, Escape and Rescue – covering aspects of PFEER, Emergency Response Plan, Evacuation and Escape philosophy and equipment

Brand New – just released:

The Offshore Marine Operations Inspection Guide – covering Marine Assurance, Collision Risk Management, Cargo Transfer, Rig moving, Walk to Work and Multi-Role ERRV Operations.

Soon to be released:

The Offshore Inspection Guide Aviation (Helicopter Operations) – covering competence of helideck team, emergency equipment, drone inspections and helideck

wave off lights and access routes.

He was also going to mention that HSE are concentrating Collision Risk Management as part of the forthcoming inspection regime. There is very good guidance from Oil and Gas, but HSE are finding that duty holders are not using it.'

11. OPRED UPDATE

The following update was provided by Dave MacDonald.

IRS, (Integrated Reporting System)

Phase 1 of IRS, which will allow for the submission of PON1 notifications which report the release of oil and offshore chemicals has been largely developed. The system has been demonstrated to a representative group of Industry including Oil and Gas UK. We intend to offer regulatory bodies, including MCA, Marine Scotland and MMO, the opportunity to meet and demonstrate the system. While the system has been largely developed we do not intend to go live until other work streams that will support IRS are released such as PON1 guidance.

Phase 2 of IRS, which will allow for the submission of other regulatory notifications, including OPPC non-compliance, OCR non-compliances, PON2 and PON10 notifications is on track to be developed by 31 March. As with phase 1 we will engage with Industry and other regulators to provide a demonstration of the phase 2 functionality. Like phase 1 the system will not go live immediately as we need to ensure guidance is provided to industry.

Coronavirus

OPRED is following government guidance to employers and not taking any additional measures, but will continue to monitor the situation.

12. OIL & GAS UK UPDATE

Alix Thom confirmed to the Group that the revised OGUK Response to Protest Actions Guidelines have been published and is available on both the OGUK and EPOL Group websites. The document is dated January 2020.

Alix also confirmed the revised OGUK Security Incident Guidelines for Offshore Installation Managers (OIMs) dated February 2020 will be published imminently. It will also be available on the OGUK and EPOL Group websites.

13. POLICE SCOTLAND UPDATE

The Chair advised the Group that a newly updated version of the Police Scotland / Industry Annual Weapons Security Audit Submission document had been uploaded

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onto the EPOL Group website. The document is available for immediate use.

The Chair asked the Group if their companies had designated protestor locations at their sites should they become targets of future protest action. Any company who feel they would benefit from the advice and/or visit from a Police Tactical Advisor should contact him or Chief Inspector Neil Anderson to arrange.

The Chair then read out an email received from Colin Sellar for sharing with the Group. Colin has changed positions within Subsea7 and as a consequence will relinquish his membership of the Group. Subsea7 will now be represented by HSE Manager, Peter Guild.

14. INFORMATION SHARING / OPEN SPACE

15. AOCB

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 10 June 2020 – Virtual Meeting by conference call.