An offshore regulator’s perspective: maintaining focus on managing spill risk

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Presentation Roadmap

- Risk-based approach
  - Fit-for-purpose amount and quality of resources
  - Competitive industry imperative

- Pre-activity approval
  - Planning process imperative (worked example)
  - Demonstrating ALARP

- Regulatory role
  - Reducing barriers through consultation
  - Independent scrutiny by competent experts

- Collaborative improvement opportunities
  - Global initiatives to set clear expectations
• Risks differ
  – Risk tolerances and activity
  – Proximity to land and oil type
Pre-activity approval

- Detail Risks and Impacts
- Evaluate and Demonstrate
- Set Performance Standards
- OPEP
Pre-activity approval
Worked Example

Do all parties know their role?
Are the roles and responsibilities agreed?

How am I going to respond?
What processes make sure I do the right things?

Detail Risks and Impacts

What are the risks from this activity?
What are the impacts from planned response activities?

Set Performance Standards

How effective will the controls be?
How will the effectiveness be measured?

OPEP

Are risk management choices doing everything reasonably practicable?
Will planned response activities reduce impacts from the spill?

Evaluate and Demonstrate

CONSULT
Demonstrating ALARP

- All things reasonably practicable must be done
- Make defendable choices about managing risks
- Industry opportunity for fit for purpose implementation

1. Identify potential controls
2. Select feasible controls that reduce consequence
3. Detail desired effectiveness of selected controls
4. Consider ways to improve effectiveness
5. Make a case that all things reasonably practicable are being implemented
Regulatory role

- Are arrangements agreed with others? Have all barriers to effectiveness been reduced?
- Are the arrangements scalable and executable? Can the response be adapted to do the right things?
- What else could happen? How bad could that be?
- Examine Inputs & Test Assumptions
- Assess Justification & Conclusions
- Check Arrangements and Capabilities
- Study Effectiveness of Performance
- What more could be done? Have they done enough? Are there defensible reasons why more isn’t being done?
- Will they be effective? Are they ready to operate? Can they achieve success?
Ensuring plans match the current risks
-preparing for the next major event-
-not the last-

- Leverage the flexibility of objective-based regulatory regime
- Emphasise a continuous improvement culture
- Maintain and enhance professional skills and experience
Any questions?