

Europa's plans for appraisal drilling in Burniston (continued)

Phase three: Proppant squeeze and flow testing (Up to 17 weeks. One week of testing, one week for the proppant squeeze and 15 weeks flow testing)

In order to determine the potential reserves of gas, it will be necessary to test the well. This is expected to take up to 17 weeks comprising an initial testing of a week, followed by the proppant squeeze operation lasting around one week, and then possible further flow testing for up to fifteen weeks.

Phase four: Well decommissioning, site restoration and aftercare (six weeks)

Following the end of phase three (assuming an unsuccessful outcome), the site would be restored to its former condition, in this case agricultural use. The well would be plugged, hydrostatically tested and sealed following a programme approved by the Health and Safety Executive, the Environment Agency and the North Sea Transition Authority (which regulates the oil and gas industry).

All equipment, infrastructure, membranes, aggregate and facilities will be removed. The soil stored in the bunds will be tested and used to level the site ensuring compatibility with the surrounding land quality.

If the appraisal well testing is successful then we may decide to apply for a production licence. Any application for gas production would be subject to a separate planning application. This is likely to be at least two years away.



Decommissioned sites are returned to their former use which is often agricultural

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