



North Sea  
Transition  
Authority

# SPE Aberdeen Well Decommissioning 2023

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Beyond Oil and Gas;

Late-life, decommissioning and repurposing

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Regulating and influencing the oil, gas and carbon storage industries. Driving North Sea energy transition, realising the significant potential of the UK Continental Shelf as a critical energy and carbon abatement resource. We are holding industry to account on halving upstream emissions by 2030.

## ENERGY SECURITY



Helping meet UK energy demand

Oil and gas licensing and stewardship

## EMISSIONS REDUCTION



Regulating for emissions reduction

Promoting electrification and zero routine flaring and venting

## ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION



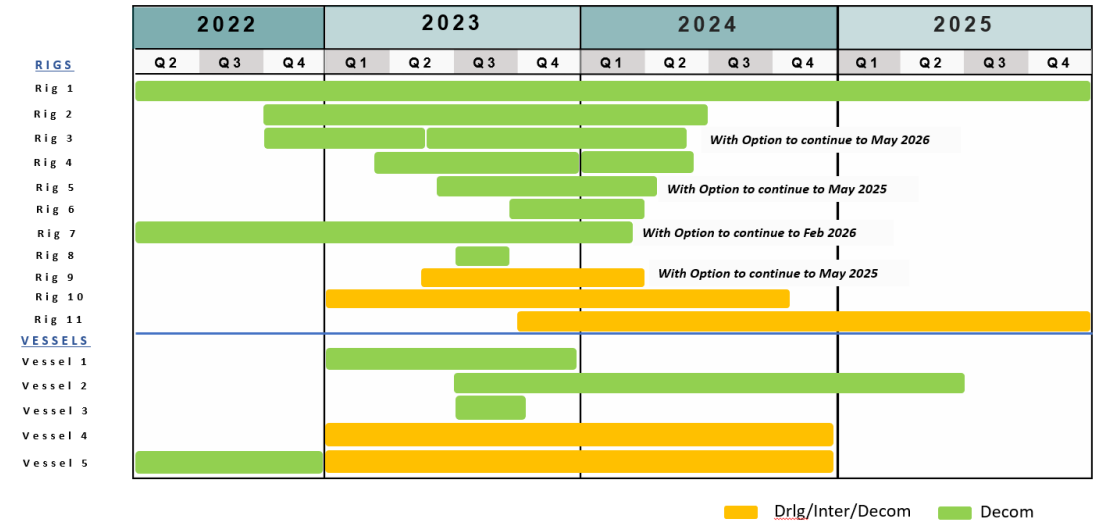
Carbon storage licensing and stewardship

Promoting energy integration  
Providing open access data

# Well Decommissioning: Setting the scene



**NSTA continued focus on obligation, regulation and good practice**



## Delivering the commitment



**150 - 200**  
wells to be decommissioned p.a.



**£0.7 - £1bn**  
Forecast well decom spend p.a.



**2 years**  
NSTA expectation of regulatory compliance

## Ongoing challenges



Legal & Contractual Challenges



Non-Collaborative Behaviours



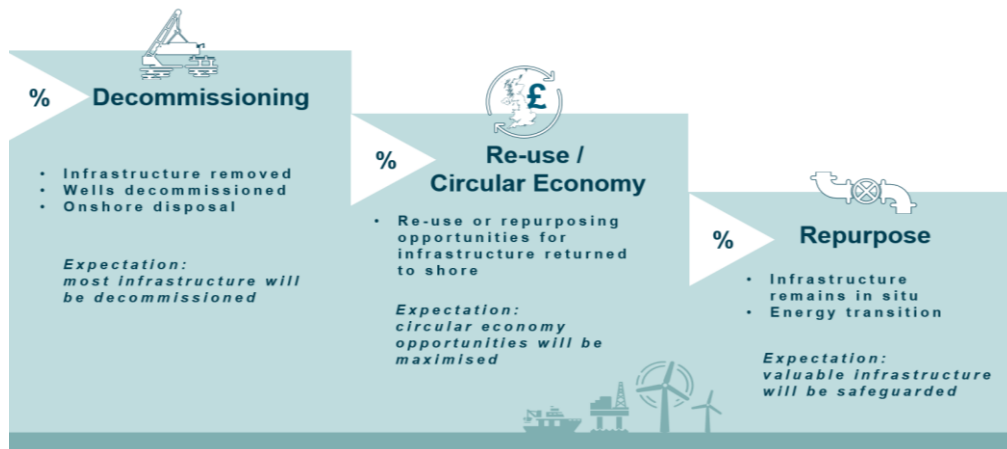
Inflation

Operators must engage with NSTA during the late-life operating phase to agree a post-hydrocarbon plan for wells.

## Planning



## Evaluate reuse or repurposing opportunities



## Well decommissioning plan



Basis of design



Categorising well stock



Contracting strategy



Budgets and resource plan

NSTA expects that most wells will be decommissioned in accordance with industry standards, however there are increasing opportunities to reuse or repurpose wells

## Decommissioning



Plan, plan, plan and deliver in accordance with the plan



Collaboration and campaigning



Regulatory requirements, NSTA, HSE, OPRED



Learn and share lessons

## Repurposing



Plan in parallel with decommissioning – well aspects, formations



Obligation to assess CCS

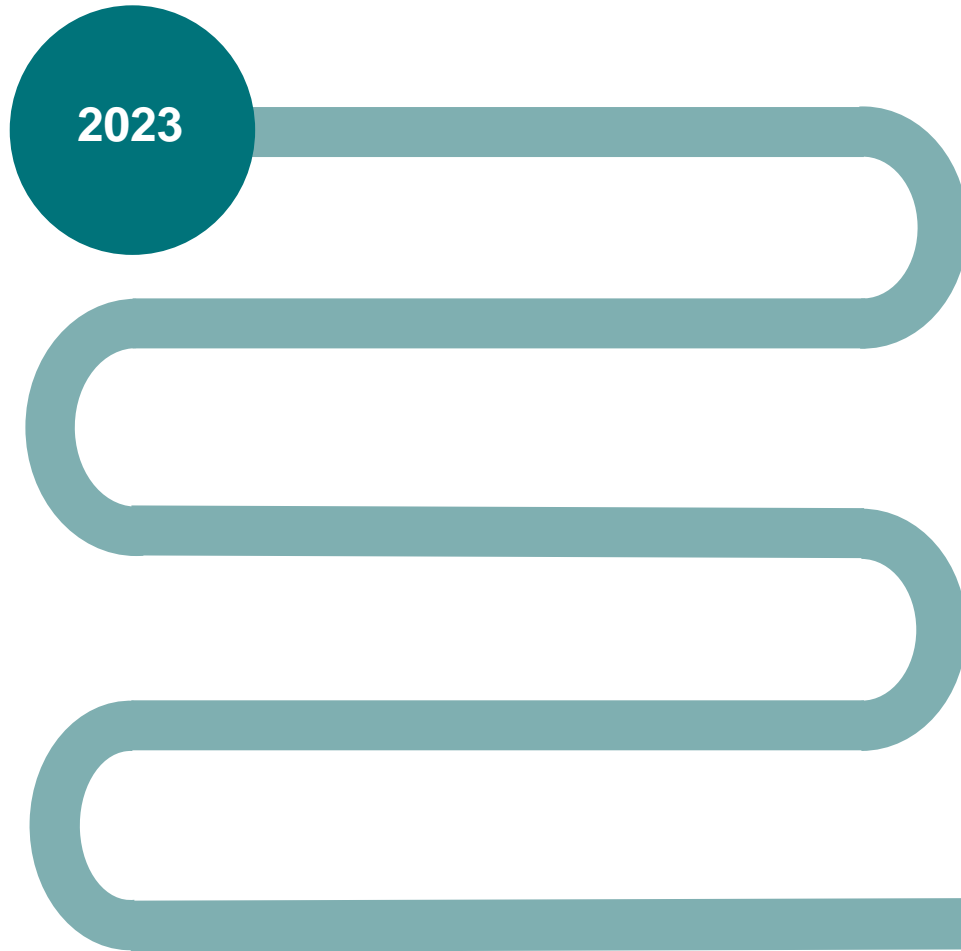


Hydrogen



Geothermal opportunities

# The future is bright



## *Making good progress, with more opportunity....*

£10bn over next decade

Key part of energy transition

Technology **best practice** and **innovation**



Well P&A



Re-use or repurpose



Social licence to operate

NSTD commitments to **50% UK content** on decommissioning

Sustainable export opportunity



2050