

Energy J. of JV



Prime Minister (2)

To note.

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Prime Minister

Following the agreed preliminary announcement on 17 May of my proposals for an Eighth Round of offshore licensing, discussions were held with interested parties including other Government Departments, the fishing industry, the oil industry and environmental interests.

Their views were considered carefully and, where practicable, they have been accommodated; mainly by adjusting the selection of blocks to be offered.

The overall spread and balance of the Round have been preserved; a total of 184 blocks will be on offer, distributed as follows:

<u>Cash Tender</u>		
	Central North Sea	<u>15</u>
<u>Gas Province</u>		
	Southern Basin	<u>38</u>
<u>Frontier Areas</u>		
	Unst Basin	6
	Fair Isle Basin	1
	West Orkney Basin	4
	East Shetland Basin	<u>33</u>
	Forth Approaches	16
	Mid North Sea High	<u>69</u>
	Southern Sub-Basin (Bristol Channel)	2

Not all blocks are likely to attract applications and my aim is to licence up to 85 blocks.

I propose to publish the formal invitation to apply for Eighth Round licences in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes of Friday 24 September. A Press Conference will be held on the previous day.



The closing date for applications will be 17 January 1983 and I expect to complete the award of licences for tender blocks in February and for the remainder in April.

I am copying this minute to the Lord President, to Members of 'E' Committee, to the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

J. P. Clegg

PR Secretary of State for Energy
16 September 1982

(Approved by the Secretary of State and signed in his absence.)



Energy July 79
8th Licensing Room

The attached data for application of 10 CFR 41.111 and I request to
complete the record of license application for the reactor and for the
reactor in 1979.

I am enclosing this letter to the Vice President, U.S. Department of Energy,
to the Department of Energy for the Federal and State and for the record.

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