CASE STUDY

Kinsale Area Decommissioning

Situated approximately 50 km off the south coast of County Cork, the Kinsale Head, Ballycotton, Seven Heads, and South-West Kinsale gas fields were nearing the end of their productive life. Consequently, Kinsale Energy was tasked with decommissioning the facilities and restoring the areas in accordance with lease terms. To streamline this process, PDi was contracted to develop the pipeline conditioning philosophy, a scoping document for subsea infrastructure decommissioning, and the scope of work for subsea decommissioning.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE | COST EFFICIENCY | ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

THE CHALLENGE

Kinsale Energy sought a partner to assist them in navigating the intricacies of fulfilling their obligation under lease terms to decommission the Kinsale Area Gas Fields and restore the areas as agreed with the Irish authorities. With diverse needs spanning environmental approvals, regulatory compliance, subsea contractor engagement, and project budgeting and scheduling, Kinsale Energy required a dependable advisor to guide them through this multifaceted endeavour.

OUR SOLUTION

PDi was engaged as Kinsale Energy's strategic partner developing pipeline conditioning methodologies, reviewing equipment specifications and interfaces, identify cross-scope interfaces, and efficiently managing mobilisation and demobilisation procedures for decommissioning equipment.

KINSALE AREA DECOMMISSIONING

- **Development of pipeline conditioning philosophy:**
  - Formulation of suitable methodologies and justification
  - Comprehensive review of required equipment and interfaces
  - Programme of works and offshore execution schedule to streamline decommissioning process
- **Creation of subsea infrastructure decommissioning pre-tender scoping document:**
  - Reviewing client data and developing subsea inventory summary
  - Formulating preliminary sequence of activities and offshore execution schedule
  - Developing methodologies for subsea infrastructure decommissioning
  - Identification of interfaces between various work scopes to ensure seamless coordination throughout the project

KINSALE DECOMMISSIONING SUPPORT

- **DOF Subsea** was awarded the contract for the wellhead removal phase in the decommissioning
- **PDi provided the following support:**
  - Creation of mobilisation master equipment list
  - Coordination with vessel operations department
  - Generation of deck plan for initial mobilisation & final demobilisation
  - Generation of wellhead recovery procedure including a task plan for Xmas tree docking pile cut and recovery
  - Generate guide base frame recovery procedure including a task plan for the recovery of loose Xmas tree legs
  - Lift plans, input to HIRA, and site visits to ensure safety and efficiency
  - Provision of offshore project engineering support

KINSALE HEAD DECOMMISSIONING

- **Heerema Marine Contractors Nederland SE (HMC)** was awarded the contract for the Engineering, Preparation, Removal, and Disposal (EPRD) of the Kinsale Alpha and Bravo Platforms
- **PDi's involvement in the project included:**
  - Providing offshore client representation onboard SSCV Thialf at short notice to fill in a rota gap due to a COVID-19 outbreak

CONCLUSION

With the assistance of PDi, Kinsale Energy adeptly managed the intricacies of decommissioning, guaranteeing adherence to regulatory standards, cost-effectiveness, and environmental stewardship. This project underscores the industry's dedication to sustainable practices and operational excellence in handling end-of-life assets.

Project Development International Ltd
PDi House, 137 Gallowgate
Aberdeen, AB25 1BU
United Kingdom

pdi-ltd.com | decom@pdi-ltd.com | +44(0)1224 269060