

EAG/44/04



**Economic Advisory Group Meeting
Monday 22 March 2004**

Change in collection of UKCS financial data

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Survey Objectives

> supply important data

For DTI

field level data - to monitor individual fields
forecasts of tax receipts etc
useful check on omissions

aggregated data - to monitor industry as a whole
publication - in 'Brown Book'

For ONS

aggregated data - for use in National Accounts
> important: as oil not consistent
with other sectors

Triennial Review

Statutory requirement of Survey Control to show
survey still necessary
burden on government and industry minimal

No major changes since start in 1976

But increased number and complexity of fields lead to
Deterioration in quality and speed of responses

+rising burden to industry & gov't

>>> Consultation Process>>>

Solution>

to improve response & reliability of field level data

DTI to make annual field data data suffice
run by email
simpler form
collect total field data from operators alone.

ONS to obtain simple aggregate quarterly data
by extending Quarterly Profits Inquiry
Quarterly Inquiry into Capital Expenditure

>> much simpler for industry

reduces burden to industry and gov't

but needs good support from industry to

work

So far>

DTI has found a respondent at each operator

- **positive responses**
- **agree big savings**
 - **much easier**
- **happy with email**

'more efficient' 'simplifies' 'reduces effort'

'improvement' 'look forward to sending this way'

Implementation

ONS unable to extend their two inquiries until Q2 2004
So DTI will trial the new “annual” email form for Q1 2004
& Q2 2004

Thus some operators may receive two forms for Q2 2004

Thereafter operators will give
ONS simple quarterly aggregates
DTI annual field level for previous year

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