



LOCAL AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATION

PRESS RELEASE

Monday 15th August 2011

KIMO UK Disappointed by the latest North Sea oil leak



KIMO UK are disappointed by the news that a significant amount of oil continues to be spilled from Shell's Gannet Alpha platform into the North Sea, a incident Shell only reported after a two day delay. An oil slick covering approximately fifty square miles has been reported 112 miles East of Aberdeen, a slick that presents a threat to marine ecosystems and our coastline.

KIMO UK believe that Shell should have been more open about the nature of the spill, reporting it as soon as they became aware of incedent, so that the appropriate contingency plans could be put in place by stakeholders who could be affected by the spill.

Norman MacDonald, KIMO UK Chair said "*Shell has suffered because of their ageing infrastructure in the North Sea before and it appears that they may*

have been affected by it again. Failures such as this should be prevented by the appropriate maintenance, inspection and monitoring not discovered when things go wrong.”

Tom Piper of KIMO UK said “*Shell have stated they have dispersants onsite but dispersants do not remove oil from our seas they merely reduce its visibility and little is understood about their long term impact on marine life.*

KIMO UK will continue to monitor developments and will be looking at the inevitable published investigations into the spill to ensure that any recommendations are fully followed up by both industry and government.”

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Notes to editors

1) KIMO (Local Authorities International Environmental Organisation) is an association of coastal local authorities whose goal is to eliminate pollution from the Northern Seas for more information see www.kimointernational.org