

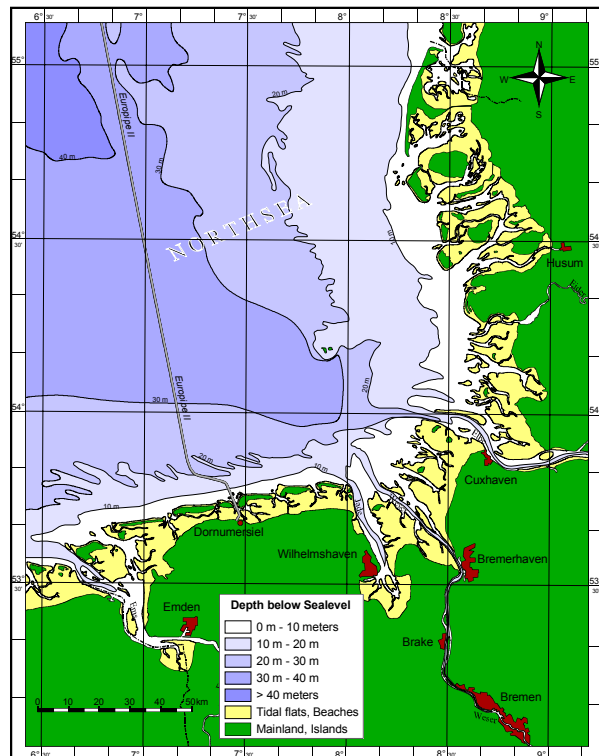
Environmental Impact Assessment Europipe II

CLIENT:

STATOIL NORWAY, STAVANGER

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Norwegian State Oil Company (STATOIL) has been built the Europipe II for transporting natural gas from Kårstø near Stavanger (Norway) to Dornum (Germany). It is oriented in a dominantly north-south direction and total 653 km in length (approx. 200 km within the German Sector).



Map of the planned pipeline route offshore and water depth contours

The landfall area in Germany is between the East Friesian Islands of Baltrum and Langeoog at Dornumersiel and consists of 15 km of landfall section (pre-installed with Europipe I), a maintenance valve, 5 km of onshore pipeline and a Pig Receiving Facility at the Europipe Receiving Facility (ERF) terminal in Dornum (Lower Saxony). An extension of the existing ERF was necessary.

An environmental impact assessment (EIA) has been appointed by STATOIL on a voluntarily basis, as it is not yet mandated by the German authorities.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF BIOCONSULT:

The EIA has been worked out by BIOCONSULT during the planning phase of the project in 1997. The report concerned with the possible offshore effects of the planned structure as well as the likely impacts on land and is based on existing data.

As main impacts can be assumed: during offshore construction hydro- and morphodynamics will be altered locally and temporarily due to dredging and jetting activities prior or during pipe-laying activities and some gravel-dumping. The pipe will be buried on most of the length in the German sector. Thus no longterm alteration of local sediment structure in the surrounding must be expected. There will be some increase of turbidity during dredging and jetting.

During onshore construction soil structure will be altered due to the pipe laying within an area of about 20 ha. Soil functions including soil fauna will be reduced for some years. No longterm impact must be assumed. Impact to birds will be low due to the restricted importance of the impact area for birds. However, due to the vicinity of the Wadden Sea, some disturbance for resting birds might be possible.

For the capacity-extension of the ERF an area of about 2 ha will be covered by new installations, from which about 1,6 ha m² will be buildings etc. and about 0,4 ha roads etc. Soil functions will be destroyed or at least reduced within this area.

Long-term damages to the offshore and onshore environment due to the pipelaying activities can be excluded.