

Acceptance Decision

Davros Phase II Multiclient 3D Marine Seismic Survey Environment Plan

This document provides notification of NOPSEMA's decision made under regulation 10 of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009 (Environment Regulations) to accept an environment plan.

Submission information

Titleholder:	CGG Services (Australia) Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Davros Phase II Multi-client 3D Marine Seismic Survey (Document No. N1514701, Revision 3, dated 28 October 2015)
Petroleum titles:	N/A – title pending
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	27/2/2015
Activities type(s)¹:	Seismic survey
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>The survey area is located entirely within offshore Commonwealth waters, approximately 92 km north of Dampier and approximately 190 km north-west of Port Hedland, at its closest points to the mainland. Rosemary Island in the Dampier Archipelago is approximately 65 km to the south-east of the survey area. Seismic survey data will be acquired over a survey area of approximately 1,693 km², across Exploration Permits WA-1-P, WA-458-P, Retention Lease WA-48-R, Production Licences WA-03-L, WA-04-L, WA-20-L, and adjacent open acreage areas.</p> <p>The duration of the activity is approximately two months and will be conducted at some time between Q1 2016 and Q4 2016. The final dates will be set according to vessel availability, approvals, access authorities and favourable weather forecasts.</p> <p>The seismic array will comprise eight to 12 solid streamers, with a maximum length of 8,100 m. Streamer spacing will be between 50 and 100 m and survey line spacing will be between 500 and 1,000 m.</p> <p>The acquisition area now incorporates a Fish Protection Area (FPA) [for Glomar Shoal] which encompasses the areas of (mostly reefal) seabed in <30 m water depth and surrounding areas predicted by AIMS to support relatively high fish species richness and abundance. This protection area is considered to represent the area of highest conservation value in the Glomar Shoal Key Ecological Feature. CGG established a buffer area around the FPA to ensure seismic sound levels did not have adverse impacts on fish within the FPA. The width of the buffer was derived from the modelling with added precaution. The Fish</p>

¹ Activity type as listed in the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Regulations 2004

Protection Area and 250 m buffer is therefore a highly conservative response to this uncertainty. The seismic airgun will NOT be discharged within the FPA or buffer zone.

This information is extracted from the accepted Environment Plan.

Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	9 February 2016
Decision made by:	Representative of NOPSEMA: Environment Manager – Seismic and Production Operations

Basis of decision

NOPSEMA has assessed the environment plan in accordance with its assessment policies and procedures. Having regard to all information provided by, and referred to in the environment plan, NOPSEMA is reasonably satisfied that the environment plan meets the criteria set out in Regulation 10A of the Environment Regulations.

Next steps for the petroleum activity

An environment plan summary must be provided to NOPSEMA within 10 days of this acceptance. Regulation 11(4) requires that this document provide material from the accepted environment plan.

Once the summary document has been prepared to NOPSEMA satisfaction it will be published on NOPSEMA's website. NOPSEMA aims to have all environment plan summary documents published within 20 days of acceptance. This timeframe may vary should the document require amendment by the titleholder.

The titleholder is required to notify NOPSEMA 10 days prior to the commencement of the activity. This notification will be published on NOPSEMA's website.

Titleholder environmental performance requirements

A titleholder is required to undertake a petroleum activity in accordance with the accepted environment plan. It is an offence under the Environment Regulations to act in a manner contrary to the accepted environment plan. A titleholder must submit a revision to the environment plan in response to a new or increased environmental impact or risk, or a significant modification or stage of the activity not provided for in the accepted environment plan.

How to get further information

If you have any further questions regarding the activity it is suggested you contact the titleholder's nominated liaison person for the activity.

If you would like to access any further information regarding the decision, or would like to contact NOPSEMA please email environment@nopsema.gov.au.