

Acceptance decision

Bilby 2D Phase 3 Multi-Client Marine Seismic Survey

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

Titleholder¹:	Searcher Seismic Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Bilby 2D Phase 3 Multi-Client Marine Seismic Survey Environment Plan, Revision 2
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	WA-37-SPA and WA-83-AA
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	22/10/2015
Activities type(s)²:	Seismic Survey
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>Searcher Seismic Pty Ltd proposes to complete Phase 3 of the Bilby 2D Multi-client Marine Seismic Survey in Commonwealth waters of the Offshore Roebuck Basin, Western Australia. The survey commenced between March and June 2015 but due to operational reasons, was not completed within the stated timeframes in the previously accepted Environment Plan. Searcher proposes to complete Phase 3 between approximately April 2016 and June 2016, lasting for a total estimated duration of 35 days. The survey will be undertaken in a similar acquisition area presented for the accepted Bilby 2D Survey.</p> <p>The operational area (including boundary coordinates) within which Phase 3 of the Bilby 2D Survey will be acquired covers approximately 55,000 km², approximately 95 kilometres (km) north of Port Hedland and approximately 160 km west south west of Broome. The operational area incorporates the necessary space for seismic acquisition activities, vessel manoeuvring and ancillary activities (i.e. additional area for the purpose of line run-outs, source testing, soft starts and turns etc.). Searcher currently anticipates acquiring approximately 4,900 full fold line km of 2D seismic data during Phase 3 of the Bilby 2D survey</p>
Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	08/04/2016
Decision made by:	Representative of NOPSEMA: Environment Manager - Seismic & 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 this decision, or would like to contact NOPSEMA please email environment@nopsema.gov.au.

¹ A titleholder includes an applicant for a petroleum access authority, petroleum special prospecting authority, pipeline licence, greenhouse gas search authority or greenhouse gas special authority under sub-regulation 9(2).

² Activity type as listed in the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Regulations 2004