

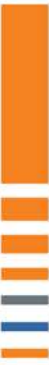
## Refuse to accept decision

### Wheatstone Project Start-Up and Operations 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) that NOPSEMA is still not reasonably satisfied that the environment plan meets the criteria set out in regulation 10A, and therefore must refuse to accept the environment plan.

#### Submission information

<b>Titleholder<sup>1</sup>:</b>	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd
<b>Environment plan:</b>	Wheatstone Project Start-Up and Operations Environment Plan (Document No. WS2-COP-00001, Revision 3, dated 17 December 2015)
<b>Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):</b>	WA-46-L, WA-47-L, WA-48-L, WA-3-IL, WA-25-PL
<b>Date submitted to NOPSEMA:</b>	17/12/2015
<b>Activities type(s)<sup>2</sup>:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operation of a facility used for the recovery or processing of petroleum;</li> <li>• Recovery of petroleum using a subsea installation;</li> <li>• Operation of a licensed petroleum pipeline.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity overview:</b> <i>As described on the NOPSEMA website.</i>	<p>Offshore hydrocarbon infrastructure will produce and transport fluids (comprising gas, condensate, and produced water) from the subsea wells to the platform via subsea flowlines. The gas and condensate are dehydrated and dewatered at the platform, and then the dry gas and condensate are routed through the trunkline to the onshore endpoint.</p> <p>Before steady-state production, initial start-up and testing of the platform systems and equipment occurs. Initially, ‘buy-back’ gas may be provided from the onshore plant (sourced from the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline) through the trunkline to the platform for an initial low intensity pre-start-up period, prior to production from the wells. Upon the introduction of production fluids from the wells, further testing of the platform systems and equipment occurs, as production is gradually ramped up to steady-state capacity and normal operations.</p> <p>The activity commences when hydrocarbons are introduced into the hydrocarbon system (scheduled for 2016), and is expected to last for approximately 30 years. Activities can occur 24 hours a day. The temporary and low-intensity pre-start-up period (using onshore gas at the platform) may last approximately one year. The gradual production period (when well fluids are introduced) when the system is tested and ramped up to steady-state is expected to last between approximately six months and one to two years from the time fluids are produced from the wells. This timing and duration is</p>



indicative, dependent, in part, on the onshore facilities' demands, and thus is subject to change.

Fluid production will be from wells located in the Wheatstone (WA-46-L, WA-47-L, and WA-48-L) and Iago (WA-46-L and WA-48-L) fields located off the Pilbara coast of WA. The platform will receive the fluids for processing and transportation to the WA mainland via the trunkline.

Approximate water depths in the offshore licence areas range between 150 and 280 m for the Wheatstone field and between 70 and 120 m for the Iago field. The platform is in water approximately 71 m deep, with centre coordinates of 19° 55' 45.78" S and 115° 23' 02.22" E. The trunkline generally extends along the outer continental shelf at approximately the 110 m isobath, and crosses the shore through a microtunnel at Ashburton North approximately 12 km south-west of Onslow on the Pilbara coast. The platform is approximately 50 km north of the Montebello Islands, while the trunkline is approximately 46 km west of Barrow Island and the Montebello Islands.

<b>Decision:</b>	Refuse to accept
<b>Decision date:</b>	11/05/2016
<b>Decision made by:</b>	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. On completion of assessment, NOPSEMA has decided that it is not reasonably satisfied that the environment plan meets the criteria below as set out in regulation 10A of the Environment Regulations:

(e) includes an appropriate implementation strategy and monitoring, recording and reporting arrangements.

## Titleholder requirements

NOPSEMA decision to refuse to accept the environment plan means that assessment of the submission is complete. A titleholder can submit a new environment plan for the same activity to NOPSEMA for assessment. However, this will constitute a new submission and attract an environment plan levy.

## 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](mailto:environment@nopsema.gov.au).

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<sup>1</sup> 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).

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