

Acceptance decision

Balnaves Operations Cessation 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

Titleholder¹:	Woodside Energy Julimar Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Balnaves Operations Cessation, Rev 0, June 2016
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	WA-49-L
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	03/06/2016
Activities type(s)²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decommissioning, dismantling or removing a facility
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>Woodside is seeking environmental approval to undertake petroleum activities to support the cessation of operations at the Balnaves oil field. The Balnaves infrastructure is located in production licence WA-49-L in Commonwealth waters. The Balnaves oil field is approximately 48 km north-west of the Montebello Islands and 75 km north-west of Varanus Island. Water depths over the field vary from 110 m to 160 m. Activities are anticipated to be undertaken within a 6-12 month timeframe.</p> <p>Activity Summary</p> <p>Activities to be undertaken include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing preservation of the Balnaves subsea systems and riser turret mooring (RTM) (also known as disconnectable turret mooring) until RTM removal. Vessel monitoring, including subsea inspections by remotely operated vehicle of the Balnaves field and RTM. Disconnection and removal of flushed flowlines from manifold and installation of pressure caps on the well heads. Disconnection and recovery of flushed spools from well heads and removal of manifold and supporting infrastructure. Disconnection and removal of flushed risers and umbilicals. Disconnection and removal of RTM (and associated facilities). Ongoing preservation of the Balnaves subsea systems until the wells are plugged and abandoned. Plugging and abandonment of wells and decommissioning of remaining

subsea infrastructure will be covered in future environment plan submissions.

Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	18/07/2016
Decision made by:	Representative of NOPSEMA: Environment Manager - Drilling & Developments

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