



Ichthys Project Gas Export Pipeline (Operation) 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). In this instance, NOPSEMA is providing an opportunity to modify and resubmit the environment plan as it is not reasonably satisfied that the plans meets the acceptance criteria set out in the regulations.

Submission information

Titleholder¹:	Ichthys LNG Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Ichthys Project Gas Export Pipeline (Operation) Environment Plan
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	WA-22-PL, NT/PL4
Date submitted to NOPSEMA:	20/09/2016
Activities type(s)²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of a licensed petroleum pipeline
Activity overview: <i>As described on the NOPSEMA website.</i>	<p>Activity description</p> <p>Operation of the gas export pipeline (GEP) involves the transportation of GEP gas through the GEP to the Ichthys LNG Plant in Darwin.</p> <p>Inspections provide assurance that infrastructure is performing according to design. They also proactively identify maintenance and/or repair activities that may be required to protect the GEP integrity.</p> <p>Inspection activities within the environment plan (EP) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV) or autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) inspections • marine acoustic surveys. <p>Maintenance and repair activities described in this EP are not intended to occur but, if required, may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seabed intervention (e.g. jetting, mass flow excavation, installing grout bags, rock placement or concrete mattress installation) • marine growth removal • pigging to recover the integrity of, or isolate, the GEP in the event of a repair • clamp repairs • major repairs, including use of a pipeline repair system (PRS) used to replace sections of pipe. <p>Activity Location</p> <p>The GEP is approximately 889 km long, with approximately 793 km of it located within Commonwealth waters, between the Ichthys Field and the Northern Territory (NT) three-nautical-mile limit. Activities covered by this EP are wholly</p>

located in Commonwealth waters and the operational area is defined as a two-kilometre-wide corridor, 1 km either side of the GEP centreline, up to the gas export riser base.

The water depths range from ~250 m below lowest astronomical tide at the gas export riser base, to ~30 m LAT, at the boundary of Commonwealth waters and the NT three-nautical-mile limit.

Decision:	Not reasonably satisfied
Decision date:	17/10/2016
Resubmission due date³:	16/11/2016
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. 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:

- (a) is appropriate for the nature and scale of the activity
- (b) demonstrates that the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be reduced to as low as reasonably practicable
- (c) demonstrates that the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be of an acceptable level
- (d) provides for appropriate environmental performance outcomes, environmental performance standards and measurement criteria
- (e) includes an appropriate implementation strategy and monitoring, recording and reporting arrangements
- (h) complies with the Act and regulations.

Titleholder requirements

In accordance with regulation 10, the titleholder is required to modify and resubmit the environment plan. Upon resubmission of the plan, NOPSEMA will continue to assess the submission in accordance with its assessment policies and make a decision under regulation 10. After a titleholder has been provided with reasonable opportunity to modify and resubmit an environment plan, NOPSEMA will make a final decision on whether to accept or refuse to accept the 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

³ NOPSEMA sets the proposed timeframe for resubmission; after which NOPSEMA may determine a reasonable opportunity has been given and NOPSEMA may refuse to accept the plan. Titleholders can request an extended timeframe.