

Acceptance decision

Cliff Head Field Offshore 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) to accept an environment plan.

Submission information

Titleholder¹:	Roc Oil (WA) Pty Limited
Environment plan:	Cliff Head Field Offshore Operations Environment Plan (Revision 7, No.10/HSEQ/ENV/PL01)
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	WA-31-L, WA-12-PL
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	26/08/2016
Activities type(s)²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of a licensed petroleum pipeline
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>Location</p> <p>The Cliff Head oil field is located off the Western Australian coast (Production Licence WA-31-L), west of the Big Horseshoe Reef; approximately 20 km south-southwest of Dongara.</p> <p>This Environment Plan considers only the offshore components of the Cliff Head development, namely those that occur beyond the Commonwealth-State boundaries at 3nm from the coastline, these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An unmanned well head platform, Cliff Head Alpha (CHA) to accommodate the well heads and support equipment; • Eight well heads with the current arrangement of five production wells with electrical submersible pumps (ESPs) to enable artificial lifting of the produced fluid (i.e. crude oil and water), and three water injection wells; • An insulated subsea production pipeline, which transports the produced fluids from CHA to the onshore Arrowsmith Stabilisation Plant (ASP); • An insulated subsea water injection pipeline from ASP to the three injection wells at CHA; and • A subsea power and communication cable, and chemical supply umbilical running from ASP to CHA. <p>The production pipeline transports the produced fluids from the CHA to the ASP where oil is separated from the produced formation water (PFW). The PFW is then transported via the water injection pipeline to the injection wells, where it</p>

is then injected into the geological formation that hosts the hydrocarbon reservoir.

The offshore components of the pipelines that lie within Commonwealth waters are approximately 4.9 km in length and are operated under pipeline licence WA-12-PL.

A Petroleum Safety Zone (PSZ) of 500m has been gazetted around the CHA Platform facility.

Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	30/11/2016
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. 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. In deciding to accept the EP, NOPSEMA considered pipeline maintenance works necessary to properly manage environmental impacts and risks. This has resulted in a simultaneous request for a proposed revision of the EP.

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