

## Acceptance decision

### Hockey and Bianchi 3D Seismic Survey 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

<b>Titleholder<sup>1</sup>:</b>	Quadrant Northwest Pty Ltd
<b>Environment plan:</b>	Hockey and Bianchi 3D Seismic Survey Environment Plan (Revision 2, EA-00-RI-10148).01, together with supplementary information provided in response to NOPSEMA’s request for further written information
<b>Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):</b>	WA-59-R, WA-290-P, WA-49-R, WA-13-L, WA-510-P, WA-33-R, WA-43-R, WA-50-R, WA-29-L, WA-55-R, WA-214-P
<b>Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:</b>	25/07/2016
<b>Activities type(s)<sup>2</sup>:</b>	Seismic survey
<b>Activity overview:</b> <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>Quadrant Northwest Pty Ltd (Quadrant) proposes to undertake the Hockey and Bianchi 3D Marine Seismic Survey (MSS) in Commonwealth waters on the North West Shelf (NWS) of Western Australia (WA). The MSSs will take approximately 60 days and will avoid the peak humpback and pygmy blue whale migration periods during 1 May through to 31 December. The validity of the EP will remain until 31st December 2018.</p> <p>This EP covers marine seismic surveys (MSS) and associated activities and related environmental risks occurring within the operational area. Associated activities includes, as appropriate, refuelling and resupply, use of support vessel and crew changes. The scope does not include those periods when the seismic and support vessels are not engaged in any MSS or associated activities, such as during cyclone avoidance, vessel mobilisation and demobilisation to and from the survey area, maintenance outside of the survey area and port calls.</p> <p>The MSSs will consist of a ‘survey area’ and a larger ‘operational area’. The survey area is located entirely within Commonwealth waters and is defined by that area which contains full-fold seismic coverage for the purpose of imaging the subsurface. The survey vessel will not enter state waters at any point during the activity. The operational area is used for conducting operations ancillary to achieving full-fold coverage within the survey area. Activities conducted in the operational area may include: acoustic emissions at full power on sail line ‘run-outs’; acoustic emissions below full power for the purpose of ‘soft start’ or ‘fauna alert’ procedures; miscellaneous maintenance operations; and, vessel turns at the end of each sail line, necessary for the vessel to change to a new</p>

sail line. The MSSs will acquire data in two operational areas; Hockey and Bianchi. For the purpose of this EP, the operational area will contain both Hockey and Bianchi operational areas.

At its nearest point, the operational area is located 5.5 km, 13 km and 11.5 km east of Barrow Island, the Lowendal Islands and Montebello Island respectively. Airlie and Thevenard islands are located 26 km and 33km south of the operational area respectively. The nearest point on the mainland is Onslow found 54 km south of the operational area. Water depths in the operational area range from 20 m to 830 m, however the vessel will not enter waters depths less than 30 m.

<b>Decision:</b>	Accepted
<b>Decision date:</b>	22/12/2016
<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. 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](mailto:environment@nopsema.gov.au).

---

<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