

Acceptance decision

Griffin Well Abandonment 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:	BHP Billiton Petroleum (Australia) Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Griffin Well Abandonment environment plan, revision 2, document number OOGA-BHPB-N00-0001]
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	WA-10-L, WA-12-L
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	14/03/2017
Activities type(s)²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drilling
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>The Griffin Well Abandonment Activities for 13 wells (8 Griffin wells; 3 Scindian wells, Chinook-1 well and Ramillies-1 well) is located in Permit Areas WA-10-L and WA-12-L in Commonwealth waters, approximately 68 km northwest of Onslow, Western Australia (WA). The Griffin Well Abandonment Activity will commence in 2017 and will occur over an estimated 6-month period, which means it may run into 2018. The Activity will require a semi-submersible mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU). The Activity will take place 24 hours a day and is expected to take an average of 12 days to permanently abandon each well (inclusive of MODU mooring activities by AHTS vessels).</p> <p>Abandonment of the Griffin wells does not constitute field decommissioning. Full field decommissioning and abandonment of remaining in situ development infrastructure in Permit Areas WA10-L and WA-12-L once the MODU has moved off location will be undertaken at a future point in time and will be subject to a separate approvals for this phase of activities.</p> <p>Each well operational sequence will be dependent on multiple issues including: well completion design, scale deposit levels, and production casing cement quality and quantity; however, a generic sequence of work that will be followed for the abandonment of each well is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Position MODU over the well and set the anchors; •Installation and function test of the Intervention and Work-Over Control System (IWOCS) to control subsea tree hydraulic functions; •Remove tree cap;

- Run tree running tool (TRT) / quick disconnection package (QDP) on dual bore Work-Over riser;
- Enter well bore and bullhead (the pumping of kill-weight fluid) brine into production tubing / reservoir;
- Replace the reservoir cap rock by installing 2 (cement plugs) barriers in the well;
- Remove the Xmas tree and 'wet store' on the seabed adjacent to the well head on purpose built mud mat (including cut and disconnect flowlines and umbilicals);
- Tubing will either be cut below the SSSV and recovered to surface or used as a cement string and dropped back into the well, with top of tubing being >10m below seabed;
- Well heads may be cut and removed (or delayed for inclusion in the future Griffin Field Abandonment phase); and
- Pull anchors and move MODU to location of next well/ demobilise MODU.

Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	13/04/2017
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