



Bethany 3D Seismic Survey

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:	Santos Offshore Pty Ltd, Magellan Petroleum (Offshore) Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Bethany 3D Seismic Survey, Revision 0
Petroleum titles:	NT/P85, NT/P82
Date submitted to NOPSEMA:	13/04/2017
Activities type²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seismic survey
Activity overview: <i>As described on the NOPSEMA website.</i>	<p>Santos Offshore Pty Ltd (Santos) proposes to undertake the Bethany 3-dimensional (3D) seismic survey over the NT/P85 and NT/P82 permits in Commonwealth waters off NT. The Bethany survey is a typical 3D survey using methods and procedures similar to others conducted in Australian waters. No unique or unusual equipment or operations are proposed.</p> <p>The survey acquisition area is approximately 4,190 km² with a larger operational area (12,610 km²) around it to allow for vessel turn-arounds and testing of equipment. The survey location is approximately 250 km north-west from Darwin and approx 70 km from Melville Island the closest point to land.</p> <p>Water depths in the survey area range from 45 to 110 m. The survey will take a maximum of 75 days and will be undertaken within the period of 1 May to 30 September 2017.</p> <p>Santos will undertake the Bethany survey for and on behalf of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> titleholders of NT/P85 - being Santos and Origin Energy Resources Limited; and titleholder of NT/P82 - being Magellan Petroleum (Offshore) Pty Ltd. <p>Santos will undertake the Bethany survey on behalf of the titleholders of both NT/P85 and NT/P82, it will be Santos’ management systems and processes that will apply during the course of the Bethany survey.</p>
Decision:	Not reasonably satisfied
Decision date:	15/05/2017
Resubmission due date³:	14/06/2017
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:

- (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
- (e) includes an appropriate implementation strategy and monitoring, recording and reporting arrangements
- (g) demonstrates that:
 - (i) the titleholder has carried out the consultations required by Division 2.2A
 - (ii) the measures (if any) that the titleholder has adopted, or proposes to adopt, because of the consultations are appropriate

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.