

Acceptance decision

Fishburn (WA-459-P) 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) to accept an environment plan.

Submission information

Titleholder¹:	Santos Offshore Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Fishburn (WA-459-P) 3D Seismic Survey Environment Plan
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	WA-459-P
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	27/02/2017
Activities type(s)²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seismic Survey
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>Santos Offshore Pty Ltd (Santos) is the operator of exploration permit WA-459-P within Commonwealth waters off northern Western Australia. Santos proposes to undertake the Fishburn 3-dimensional (3D) seismic survey over this permit area. The Fishburn 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 600 km² with a larger operational area (3,150 km²) around it to allow for vessel turn-arounds and testing of equipment. The survey location is approximately 330 km west-south-west from Darwin and approximately 60 km from the closest point to land at Cape Rulhieres in the Kimberley region.</p> <p>Water depths in the survey area range from 60 to 100 m. The survey will take a maximum of 21 days and will be undertaken within the period of 15 June and 1 August 2017. This timing has been selected as it is outside the Northern Prawn Fishery season.</p>
Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	23/05/2017
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. 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