

Acceptance decision

Addendum to Mutineer Exeter Development Field 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:	Santos Limited
Environment plan:	Addendum to Mutineer Exeter Development Field Operations Environment Plan, Revision 0, ME-7000-A02-F003-ADD
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	WA-26-L, WA-27-L and WA-54-L
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	22/12/2017
Activities type(s)²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of a facility
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>The Mutineer-Exeter Development is located in water depths of 130-160m on the NWS approximately 150km offshore from Dampier. Santos has been producing from the Mutineer Exeter Development since 2005. Production occurs from a series of subsea wells linked by subsea pipelines via a disconnectable turret mooring (DTM) to a Floating Production Storage and Offloading unit (FPSO). Operation of the development includes onboard processing of production fluids (and associated discharges), ongoing vessel based inspection and intervention activities, as well as periodic disconnection of the FPSO.</p> <p>Production from the field is declining, and Santos now intends to cease (shut in) production from the remaining wells in approximately April 2018, with the FPSO scheduled to depart in 2018. If shut in is delayed, the latest date at which the FPSO would depart before July 2019.</p> <p>Once the FPSO sails away, the subsea infrastructure will remain in place and the development will transition to a ‘cessation’ phase. The cessation phase will continue until field decommissioning occurs. A Cessation of Production EP to cover the inspection/maintenance activities that will occur during the cessation phase will be submitted to NOPSEMA prior the departure of the FPSO.</p> <p>To reduce the potential for hydrocarbon leaks from flowlines and umbilicals after production is shut in, Santos plans to use seawater to flush all remaining well fluids from the system back to the FPSO prior to its departure. The subsea infrastructure will then be filled with treated seawater so that the subsea</p>



infrastructure will be left safely 'preserved' on the seabed. Flushing/preservation activities will take approximately 7 – 10 days. All flushing fluids will be captured onboard the FPSO and processed via the production system. All recovered hydrocarbons will be added to the crude inventory. Flushing fluids containing preservation chemicals and residual hydrocarbons will settle in the slops tanks prior to discharge at an oil in water content <30ppm.

Although similar in nature to the maintenance and intervention activities that have been undertaken during production, the specifics of the flushing/preservation activities and the presence of preserved infrastructure remaining on the seabed are not considered by Santos to be adequately described in the existing Operations EP. Accordingly, Santos prepared this Addendum to the Operations EP to describe these activities in detail, to evaluate the associated impacts/risks, and document the controls that will be implemented to ensure all impacts and risks are managed to ALARP and acceptable levels.

Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	20/02/2018
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