

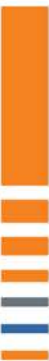
Acceptance decision

North West Shelf Renaissance North Multi Client Marine Seismic Surveys

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:	TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	North West Shelf Renaissance North Multi Client Marine Seismic Surveys Environment Plan dated October 2017 Revision 2 and associated supplementary information provided to NOPSEMA.
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	Title Application No. 3325C9
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	11/01/2016
Activities type(s)²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seismic surveys
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>TGS proposes to acquire multi-client (MC) three-dimensional (3D) marine seismic surveys (MSS) within the North West Shelf Renaissance North (NWSR North) operational area in waters offshore from Western Australia. The operational area is 143,000 km² and limited to the Commonwealth waters off the Pilbara coast and is more than 180 km off Port Hedland, 210 km off Exmouth and 75 km off Barrow Island.</p> <p>The broader operational area consists of a full-fold acquisition area plus a 20-km buffer zone around most of this acquisition area. The inshore (eastern) boundary of the acquisition area is contiguous with the 200 m isobath. TGS do not intend to conduct survey operations over the entire NWSR North operational area. Restrictions within the EP allow for smaller surveys to be undertaken within this larger operational area over the two-year period up to a maximum of 25,000 km² per year. Further temporal and spatial restrictions also define when/where these surveys can take place.</p> <p>Surveys will be undertaken with a purpose-built vessel. A support vessel may accompany the survey vessel.</p> <p>The proposed 3D marine seismic survey(s) will be similar to previous surveys conducted in Australian waters, with no unique or unusual equipment or operations proposed. The largest sound source that TGS will use for any survey within the operational area will have a capacity no greater than 4,120 cui.</p> <p>During the proposed survey activities, the survey vessel will traverse a series of pre-determined sail lines within the operational area at a speed of ~4.5 knots.</p>



The operating pressure for the seismic acoustic source will be ~2,000 psi, with the 3D acoustic source deployed in two arrays. Specific commencement dates and durations of individual surveys within the operational area have not yet been determined.

Decision: Accepted

Decision date: 13/06/2018

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