

## **Acceptance decision**

# Dorrigo 3D Marine 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:	3D Oil T49P Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Dorrigo 3D Marine Seismic Survey
Petroleum title:	Exploration Permit T/49P
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	30/01/2019
Activities type(s)2:	Seismic Survey
Activity overview: As described in the accepted environment plan.	3D Oil Limited propose to undertake the Dorrigo three-dimensional (3D) marine seismic survey (MSS) in the Commonwealth waters of the Otway Basin within Exploration Permit T/49P which lies adjacent to Tasmania. The Dorrigo MSS is located entirely within Commonwealth waters, approximately 18 km west of King Island (Tas), at the closest point, and 56 km south of Cape Otway (Vic). Water depths in the survey area are between 80 – 1420 m with seismic data acquisition undertaken in water depths between 100-840m.
	The Dorrigo MSS operational area is 4350 km2. The full-fold acquisition area where seismic airguns will be operational covers an area of 1580 km2 within this larger area. Airguns will not operate outside the operational area. The operational area incorporates necessary space for vessel manoeuvring such as line run-ins, run-outs, and line-turns. Two additional vessels are planned to support the Dorrigo MSS activities.
	The proposed seismic source will have a total capacity of not more than 3260 cubic inches and will be towed at approximately 4.5 knots a short distance behind the seismic vessel at a depth of approximately 7 m. Ten solid hydrophone streamers measuring approximately 6000 m in length and spaced up to 125 m apart will be towed at a depth of 8-25 m below the surface behind the survey vessel. The seismic source will be discharged every 12.5 m along a series of parallel north-south lines spaced between 500-720 m apart.
	The Dorrigo MSS is expected to take up to 35 days between 1 September and 31 October 2019. This period avoids the Bonney upwelling period, the associated presence of marine megafauna in the survey area and other marine users.

Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	13/05/2016
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 <u>environment@nopsema.gov.au</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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). <sup>2</sup> Activity type as listed in the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Regulations 2004