

## Acceptance decision

### Stybarrow Operation Cessation

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

<b>Titleholder<sup>1</sup>:</b>	BHP Billiton Petroleum (Australia) Pty Ltd
<b>Environment plan:</b>	Stybarrow Operation Cessation
<b>Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):</b>	WA-32-L
<b>Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:</b>	17/03/2016
<b>Activities type(s)<sup>2</sup>:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any other petroleum related operations or works carried out under an instrument, authority or consent granted or issued under the OPGGS Act</li> </ul>

#### Activity overview:

*As described in the accepted environment plan.*

The Stybarrow Facility produced crude oil from the Stybarrow and Eskdale reservoirs via a single stand-alone Floating Production Storage and Offloading Facility (FPSO). The Stybarrow Facility was located in Commonwealth waters approximately 51 km north-west of the North West Cape of Western Australia and approximately 30 km north-west of the northern boundary of Ningaloo Marine Park (Commonwealth Waters) and approximately 55km west-north-west of Exmouth.

Production from the Stybarrow Facility ceased in July 2015 and the vessel sailed away in August 2015. At the cessation of production, all wells were bullheaded and valves were pressure tested and closed. Flowlines were flushed with treated seawater until the OIW content was < 30 ppm. These activities were carried out under the Stybarrow Operations Environment Plan (STHSE-E-0001). This Environment Plan covers the activities during the cessation phase.

The Stybarrow field including wellheads, pipeline route and the gas-injection well remain protected from third party vessels and shipping activities by a restricted area. Gazetted exclusion and cautionary zones are marked on nautical charts surrounding the Stybarrow FPSO and subsea facilities of 500 m and 2.5 nm (4.6 km) respectively under the Offshore OPGGSA (Part 6.6: "Safety zones and the area to be avoided").

This EP describes BHP Billiton's proposed cessation activities located in Permit Area WA-32-L in Commonwealth waters (the Activity). The scope of the activities includes:

- The cessation phase where the wells, flowlines and other subsea infrastructure remain in-situ;
- Vessel-based activities including subsea inspections/ interventions;
- Vessel-based activities including subsea flowline cutting and plugging; and
- Vessel-based activities to disconnect the spider buoy.

<b>Decision:</b>	Accepted
<b>Decision date:</b>	28/04/2016
<b>Decision made by:</b>	Representative of NOPSEMA: Environment Manager - Drilling & Developments

## 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](mailto:environment@nopsema.gov.au).

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<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