

Acceptance decision

Keraudren Seismic Survey 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 WA Energy Ltd
Environment plan:	Keraudren Seismic Survey Environment Plan, revision 1, QE-91-RI-20012.01
Petroleum titles:	WA-435-P, WA-436-P, WA-437-P and WA-438-P
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	07/12/2018
Activities type(s)²:	Seismic survey
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>Recent exploration undertaken by Quadrant in the Bedout Sub-basin has identified hydrocarbons within several reservoirs. To further appraise the hydrocarbon resources, Santos is seeking to acquire additional subsurface data via a seismic survey in Commonwealth waters approximately 118 km north of Port Hedland. The proposed Keraudren Seismic Survey is within petroleum permits WA-435-P, WA-436-P, WA-437-P and WA-438-P. The seismic survey covers a total area of 5,539 km², including vessel ‘ramp up zones’. An additional operational area has been allowed for vessel manoeuvring, providing for a total operational and seismic survey area of 10,690 km².</p> <p>Water depths in the operational area range from 50 m to 150 m.</p> <p>This activity is expected to take between 80 and 110 days, subject to weather conditions and vessel availability, in a window between March to July 2019.</p> <p>The seismic survey will acquire data in two directions, defined as the Exploration Seismic Survey Area which runs north-west to south-east, and the Development Seismic Survey Area which runs north north-east to south south-west.</p> <p>Seismic acquisition in the Exploration Seismic Survey Area will be via methods and procedures similar to other 3D marine seismic surveys conducted in Australian waters. One seismic survey vessel will tow a seismic source array and streamers to survey the area.</p> <p>Seismic acquisition for the Development Seismic Survey Area will be via a modified version of a typical 3D marine seismic survey and involve the use of a second survey vessel. The primary survey vessel will tow a seismic source array and streamers, over which the secondary survey vessel towing only a seismic source array (i.e. no streamers) will follow. The primary and secondary survey vessels will sail in the same direction and be separated by a distance of</p>

approximately 3 kilometres.

Decision: Accepted

Decision date: 25/03/2019

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