



## Otway Basin Exploration Drilling EP

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). In this instance, NOPSEMA is providing an opportunity to modify and resubmit the environment plan as it is not reasonably satisfied that the plans meets the acceptance criteria set out in the regulations.

### Submission information

<b>Titleholder<sup>1</sup>:</b>	Cooper Energy (CH) Pty. Ltd.
<b>Environment plan:</b>	Otway Basin Exploration Drilling - Document No. VOC-EN-EMP-0001 - Revision 0
<b>Petroleum title(s) number(s):</b>	VIC/P44 and VIC/L24
<b>Date submitted to NOPSEMA:</b>	10/12/2018
<b>Activities type(s)<sup>2</sup>:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drilling</li> </ul>
<b>Activity overview:</b> <i>As described on the NOPSEMA website.</i>	<p>Cooper Energy propose to undertake exploration drilling activities in two separate titles located within Australian Commonwealth waters. The EP provides for drilling activities for up to two (2) exploration wells (Annie-1 and Elanora-1) in the Otway Basin off Victoria’s south-west coast, in an area where hydrocarbon exploration and production is well established. The proposed well sites are located within waters ranging in depth from approximately 62m to 75m.</p> <p>The proposed drilling activities are to be completed by a semi-submersible mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU). The MODU will be anchored to the seabed and will be supported by two (2) to three (3) offshore vessels for the duration of the activities. The operational area covered by this EP is defined as a 2km radius from each well inclusive of MODU moorings and the MODU 500 m exclusion zone.</p> <p>Drilling activities are planned to commence in Q2 or Q3 of 2019, although depending on MODU availability, may commence later in the year. Preparations for the MODU arrival to the first well location may include drill site survey activities undertaken from a vessel 8 -12 weeks prior to drilling. Drilling activities are expected to take approximately 30-50 days at each well location. Drilling and support activities will typically be conducted on a 24-hour basis.</p>
<b>Decision:</b>	Not reasonably satisfied
<b>Decision date:</b>	09/01/2019
<b>Resubmission due date<sup>3</sup>:</b>	8 February 2019
<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. On completion of assessment, NOPSEMA has decided that it is not reasonably satisfied that the environment plan meets the criteria below as set out in regulation 10A of the Environment Regulations:

- (a) is appropriate for the nature and scale of the activity;
- (b) demonstrates that the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be reduced to as low as reasonably practicable;
- (c) demonstrates that the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be of an acceptable level;
- (e) includes an appropriate implementation strategy and monitoring, recording and reporting arrangements; and
- (g) demonstrates that:
  - (i) the titleholder has carried out the consultations required by Division 2.2A
  - (ii) the measures (if any) that the titleholder has adopted, or proposes to adopt, because of the consultations are appropriate.

## Titleholder requirements

In accordance with regulation 10, the titleholder is required to modify and resubmit the environment plan. Upon resubmission of the plan, NOPSEMA will continue to assess the submission in accordance with its assessment policies and make a decision under regulation 10. After a titleholder has been provided with reasonable opportunity to modify and resubmit an environment plan, NOPSEMA will make a final decision on whether to accept or refuse to accept the 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).

---

<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

<sup>3</sup> NOPSEMA sets the proposed timeframe for resubmission; after which NOPSEMA may determine a reasonable opportunity has been given and NOPSEMA may refuse to accept the plan. Titleholders can request an extended timeframe.