

Acceptance decision

Zénaïde 3D Marine Seismic Survey 2017 - 2018

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:	Polarcus Seismic Limited
Environment plan:	Zénaïde 3D Marine Seismic Survey 2017 - 2018 (revision 2, document number 0413457)
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	application
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	13/09/2017
Activities type(s)²:	Marine Seismic Survey
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	<p>The Zénaïde 3D MSS is a three-dimensional multi-client marine seismic survey proposed by Polarcus Seismic Limited (Polarcus) to be undertaken in Commonwealth waters located approximately 50 km off the Kimberley coast of northern Western Australia (WA). The Acquisition Area covers an area of approximately 2,860 km² within the western Joseph Bonaparte Gulf of the Bonaparte Basin (title block WA-522-P) and is 60 km from the mainland coast in water depths of approximately 67 m - 97 m.</p> <p>The planned seismic source has a total capacity of 3,090 cubic inches (cui) and will be towed at approximately 4.5 knots a short distance behind the seismic vessel at depths of 5 - 10 m. Ten solid hydrophone streamers, each measuring approximately 8,100 m in length and spaced 150 m apart, will be towed at a depth of approximately 15 m below the surface. The seismic source will be discharged every 12.5 m (approximately 5 seconds) along a series of parallel east-west lines spaced approximately 750 m apart. The surrounding Operational Area incorporates the necessary space for vessel manoeuvring such as line run-ins, run-outs, line-turns source testing, soft starts and turns, refuelling and resupply, use of support and supply vessels as required, and crew changes.</p> <p>The Zénaïde 3D MSS is anticipated to commence as early as December 2017 following the acceptance of the Environmental Plan (EP) for the proposed activities by NOPSEMA. The acquisition time is expected to be of a maximum duration of 45 days and to be completed before 31st December 2018.</p>
Decision:	Accepted



Decision date:	07/12/2017
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