

Acceptance decision

Exploration Drilling WA-343-P

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:	INPEX Browse E&P Pty Ltd
Environment plan:	Exploration Drilling WA-343-P, Doc No: 0000-A7-PLN-6000, Rev 1, date 14 June 2019
Petroleum titles/Application numbers:	WA-343-P
Date first submitted to NOPSEMA:	11/04/2019
Activities types²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other survey • Drilling
Activity overview: <i>As described in the accepted environment plan.</i>	As titleholder on behalf of its joint venture participants, INPEX Browse E&P Pty Ltd. (INPEX) is proposing to drill an exploration well in exploration permit area WA-343-P, in the Browse Basin. The permit area is wholly within Commonwealth waters located approximately 400 km north of Derby, Western Australia. The petroleum activity will consist of a pre-drilling site survey, and the drilling and evaluation of an exploration well, where water depths are approximately 350 m. Drilling will be conducted using a semi-submersible mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU). The pre-drilling site survey is expected to commence in the second half of 2019, with drilling scheduled to commence in the first half of 2020; however, the start date is subject to MODU availability, operational efficiencies, weather and analysis of geophysical data collected during the pre-drill site survey.
Decision:	Accepted
Decision date:	24/07/2019
Decision made by:	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.

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