



Performance Report

EPBC Streamlining



Data period: 28 February 2014 to 30 June 2014

Presented to: Minister for the Environment
Hon. Greg Hunt MP

On 28 February 2014 the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) was endorsed as the sole regulator for petroleum activities in Commonwealth waters. Under the streamlined arrangements, NOPSEMA will not accept an environment plans for activities that will result in unacceptable impacts to matters protected under Part 3 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act), including:

- World Heritage properties
- National Heritage places
- Wetlands of international importance
- Listed threatened species and ecological communities
- Listed migratory species
- Commonwealth marine area.

A further commitment under the streamlined arrangements is for NOPSEMA to enter into administrative arrangements with the Department of the Environment. As part of these arrangements, NOPSEMA will report on compliance with the commitments specified in tables two and three of the Streamlining Offshore Petroleum Environmental Approvals - Program Report (Program Report). This is the first report under this requirement.

Program commitments relating to EPBC Act Part 3 protected matters

Environment plan submissions and decisions		28 Feb - 30 Jun 2014
Category		Number
Submissions		13
Submission accepted		2
Submissions accepted that pose unacceptable impacts to matters protected under Part 3 of EPBC Act		0
Submissions refused acceptance		0
Submissions returned or cancelled		1
Submissions under assessment		10



Program commitments relating to administration of the Program

NOPSEMA performance			28 Feb - 30 Jun 2014
Program commitment	By whom	By when	Performance
Agree and enter into administrative arrangements with Department of the Environment (DoE) for the transfer of relevant information regarding the administration of the Program.	DoE and NOPSEMA	Within six months of Program endorsement.	Administrative arrangements between DoE and NOPSEMA were finalised and agreed to in July 2014.
Prepare amendments to NOPSEMA's existing advice documents to reflect consideration of matters protected under Part 3 of the EPBC Act.	NOPSEMA	Following Program endorsement, for implementation when approval of classes of actions is in place.	Existing NOPSEMA advice material was reviewed and updated to incorporate consideration of matters protected under part 3 of the EPBC Act. This included updates to the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOPSEMA Assessment Policy • Environment Plan Content Requirements Guidance Note.
Develop specific advice document(s) that titleholders should consider in the preparation of their offshore project proposals (OPPs) and environment plans (EPs), to make reference to consideration of the protected matters under Part 3 of the EPBC Act. This advice should include references to relevant guidance documents to be considered by titleholders in preparing OPPs and EPs such as EPBC Act guidance documents.	DoE and NOPSEMA	Within six months of Program endorsement.	NOPSEMA has developed guidance in consultation with DoE to ensure that this commitment was met. The following documents were published between February and June 2014: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOPSEMA Assessment Policy • Streamlining Environmental Regulation of Petroleum Activities in Commonwealth Waters Information Paper • OPP Content Requirements Guidance Note • Environment Plan Summaries Guidance Note.

In light of the above, NOPSEMA considers its commitments in relation to the implementation and administration of the Program have been met. NOPSEMA does not consider additional reporting against these commitments is necessary during ongoing administration of the Program. Therefore this document is NOPSEMA's final report against the commitments in table three of the Program Report.

