

# Vessels subject to the Australian Offshore Petroleum Safety Legislation

This Guidance Note is intended to assist participants in the Australian offshore petroleum industry establish when a vessel is subject to Schedule 3 of the Commonwealth *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* (OPGGs Act) and Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Safety) Regulations 2009 (OPGGs(S) Regs) and equivalent State and Northern Territory legislation where powers have been conferred on NOPSEMA. If in doubt contact NOPSEMA to discuss.

## Start Here

Is the vessel planned to be used ONLY as:

- (a) An offtake tanker; or
- (b) A supply vessel; and / or
- (c) An anchor handler; and / or
- (d) A tugboat?

Yes

**The vessel will not be a facility**

See OPGGS Act Schedule 3, clause 4(6)

No

Is the vessel planned to be used at a site in Commonwealth waters to undertake one or more of the following activities?

- (a) Providing accommodation for persons working on a facility
- (b) Drilling or servicing a well for petroleum or do work associated with the drilling or servicing process
- (c) Laying pipes for petroleum, including any manufacturing of such pipes, or doing work on an existing pipe
- (d) Erecting, dismantling or decommissioning of a facility

No

**The vessel will not be a facility**

See OPGGS Act Schedule 3, clause 4(1)(b)

Yes

Is the vessel planned to be used ONLY to undertake one or more of the following activities?

- (a) Supporting a remotely-operated vehicle that is being used in connection with: inspection, cleaning, non-disturbing span rectification (for example, grout bagging), the operation of a valve, the recovery of debris, valve control unit change out or the removal of weight coating from a pipe before hydro-testing
- (b) Supporting a diving operation that relates to: inspection, cleaning, non-disturbing span rectification (for example, grout bagging), the operation of a valve, the recovery of debris, valve control unit change out or the removal of weight coating from a pipe before hydro-testing
- (c) Laying an umbilical or a cable
- (d) Laying a clump weight anchor or mattress
- (e) Conducting rock dumping on a pipe during its construction (before hydro-testing)
- (f) Placing support structures or foundations on the sea bed for the purpose of a facility, including: foundation supports for a platform jacket, pipe end manifold or another manifold or foundation piles
- (g) Undertaking pipe trenching and burial during the construction of a facility (before hydro-testing)
- (h) Being a dumb barge that is 'hipped-up' to a facility
- (i) Installing and attaching a short length flexible pipe or jumper if there is no petroleum or greenhouse gas substance contained in the pipe or equipment to which the flexible pipe or jumper is being connected
- (j) Placing a subsea pipe manifold or pipe end manifold during the construction of a facility (before hydro-testing)
- (k) Attaching a cathodic protection anode to a pipe if welding is not required

No

**The vessel will be a facility**

Operator nomination, scope of validation & safety case required

See OPGGS(S) Regs Regulations 2.1, 2.24 & 2.44

Is the vessel currently located at a site in Commonwealth waters being used, or prepared for use at that site?

No

Yes

**The vessel is an associated offshore place**

Compliance with duties and host facility safety case required

See OPGGS Act Schedule 3, clause 10 & OPGGS(S) Regs Regulations 2.45 & 2.48

Yes

No

Is the vessel currently located at a site in Commonwealth waters being used, or prepared for use at that site?

**The vessel will be an associated offshore place**

See OPGGS(S) Regs Regulations 1.7(1) & 1.7(2)

Activities to be addressed in host facility safety case

See OPGGS(S) Regs Regulation 2.44

**The vessel is a facility**

Compliance with duties of an operator and safety case required

See OPGGS Act Schedule 3, clause 9 & OPGGS(S) Regs Regulations 2.45 & 2.48

**The vessel will not be a facility while only undertaking these activities**

See OPGGS(S) Regs Regulation 1.6

**The vessel will not be a facility nor an associated offshore place and will not be subject to Schedule 3 of the OPGGS Act or OPGGS(S) Regs**

No

Is the vessel planned to be used to:

- (a) Support a diving operation that relates to: inspection, cleaning, non-disturbing span rectification (for example, grout bagging), the operation of a valve, the recovery of debris, valve control unit change out or the removal of weight coating from a pipe before hydro-testing; and / or
- (b) Be a dumb barge that is 'hipped-up' to a facility?

Yes

No

Yes

Will a [production] facility [or part thereof] be causing a risk (other than an ordinary marine risk) to the vessel or persons on the vessel?