

Regulating the offshore petroleum industry

Session: Preparing for marine pollution incidents

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- **Information free for use**
- **The terms used are simplified**
- **Consult the legislation**
- **Talk to NOPSEMA for regulatory advice**

“The major difference between a thing that **might go wrong** and a thing that **cannot possibly go wrong**

is that when a thing that cannot possibly go wrong *goes wrong* it usually turns out to be impossible to get at or repair”

Douglas Adams

Preparedness: the state of being **prepared** for a particular situation

- **Prepared**: **ready** to deal with a particular situation
 - Ready: prepared and **suitable for fast activity**

Source: Cambridge Dictionary

Exercise! Exercise! Exercise!

Scenario:

1. An incident has occurred
2. Stay calm
3. We are investigating
4. The problem has been identified



Exercise! Exercise! Exercise!

Instruction:

1. Everyone, your response plan is needed
(Jane briefed you at the end of the last session)
2. Response Phase I: **Please stand up**
3. Response Phase II: Are you standing next to someone you did not know before today?
4. Response Phase III: If yes to above, please **sit down**

- Understand the response plan
- Get ready to respond: sufficient and fast
- Testing
- Learn and improve:
...prepared to do what would be needed

“A scenario for a potential **blowout** for the well from which Company X would expect to have the highest volume of liquid hydrocarbons **is not required for the operations proposed**”

“due to the distance from the shore and the response capabilities that would be implemented, **no significant impacts are expected.**”



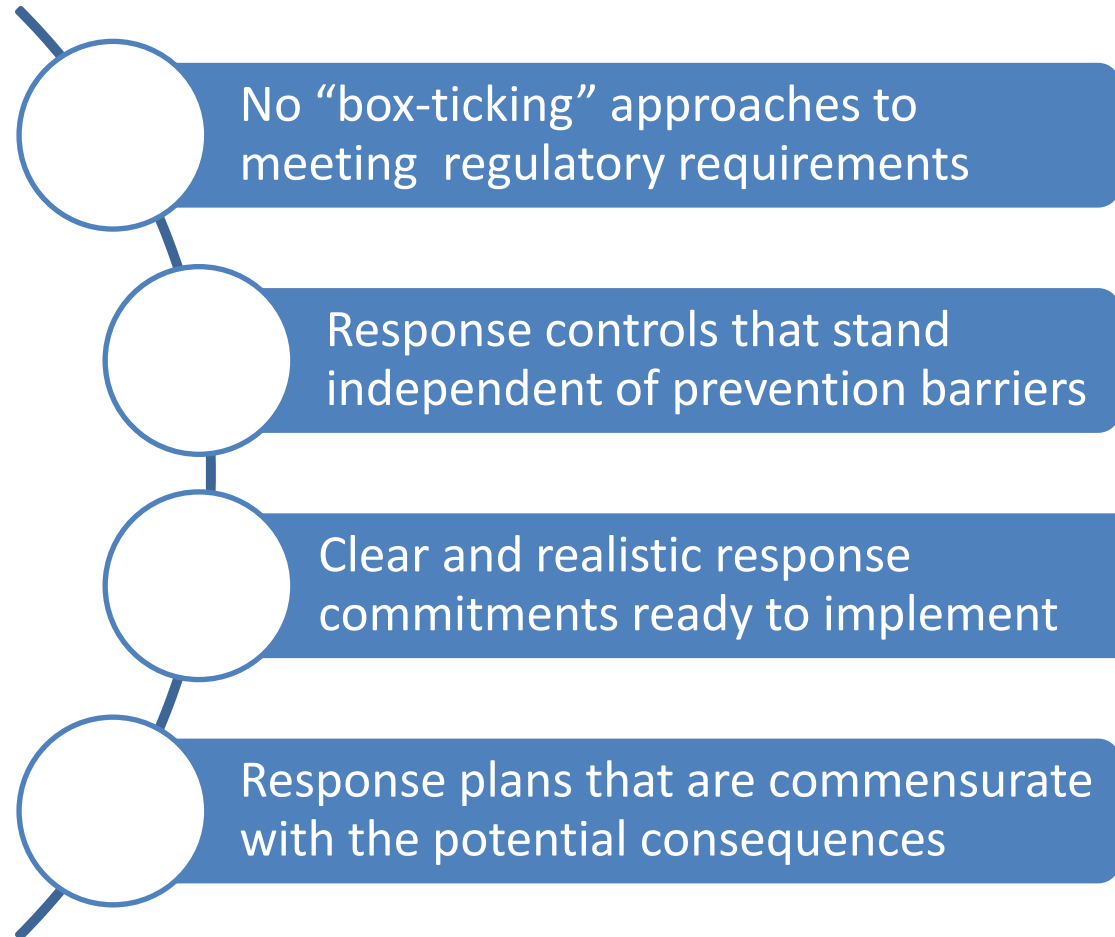
“well was drilled using reputable contractors and approved by the **Government**”
(based on company media statement on ‘gross negligence defence’)

“In the event of an unanticipated **blowout** resulting in an oil spill, it is **unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards**”



Obtained through creative commons source at www.wordpress.com

Need:



- **Duties imposed on companies:** e.g. prevent escape of petroleum
- **Standards set** via objective-based regulations
- Requirement for **companies to “make the case”** to the regulator that controls are sufficient
- **Competent and independent regulator** to monitor and secure compliance

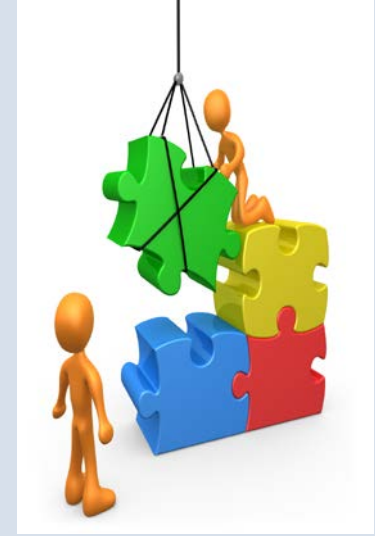


PLAN



PREPAREDNESS

PREVENTION



RESPOND

OPGGS Act and Environment Regulations



PLAN

Assess



PREPAREDNESS

PREVENTION

Inspect compliance

Enforcement



RESPOND

Assess

Intervention

Investigation

Regulating preparedness: peacetime efforts



PLAN



PREPAREDNESS



RESPOND

Inspect compliance... Ready to implement plan

- **People:** capacity and capabilities available
- **Equipment:** state and duty readiness
- **Access:** arrangements reflect support needs
- **Testing:** Test response (not test prep for exercise)

Government

- **Coordinate** and communicate national arrangements
- **Maintain** national resources
- **Response support:**
 - agreed in plan or on intervention

Regulator

- **Promote** good practice
- **Assess** plans
- **Monitor** and secure compliance
- **Intervention** for non-compliance

Company

- **Prevent** spill
- **Plan** for response
- Maintain **preparedness**
- **Respond** and pay

Thank you