

File note

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Concurrence:

Author:

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SUBJECT: MINERVA DECOMMISSIONING – FIELD JOINT CUTS REV 1

Introduction

The Minerva decommissioning campaign involves decommissioning a 10km offshore pipeline. As part of the Environmental Plans (EP Ref: 1401801084 (Commonwealth) and 1401801116 (State)) an engineering assessment is necessary to cut the pipe at the field joints. This file note forms the engineering assessment of the risk of losing plastic debris to the marine environment when cutting at the field joints as cutting at field joints will enable the team to cut variable lengths of pipe and reduce the number of cuts. The risk of losing plastic saddles will also be reduced by giving flexibility in cut location.

Environmental Plan Requirements

The Environmental Plan has the following requirements:

Environmental Performance Outcome 9

Impacts from subsea discharges associated with decommissioning activities limited to localised, temporary changes in water and sediment quality in the vicinity of the discharge location

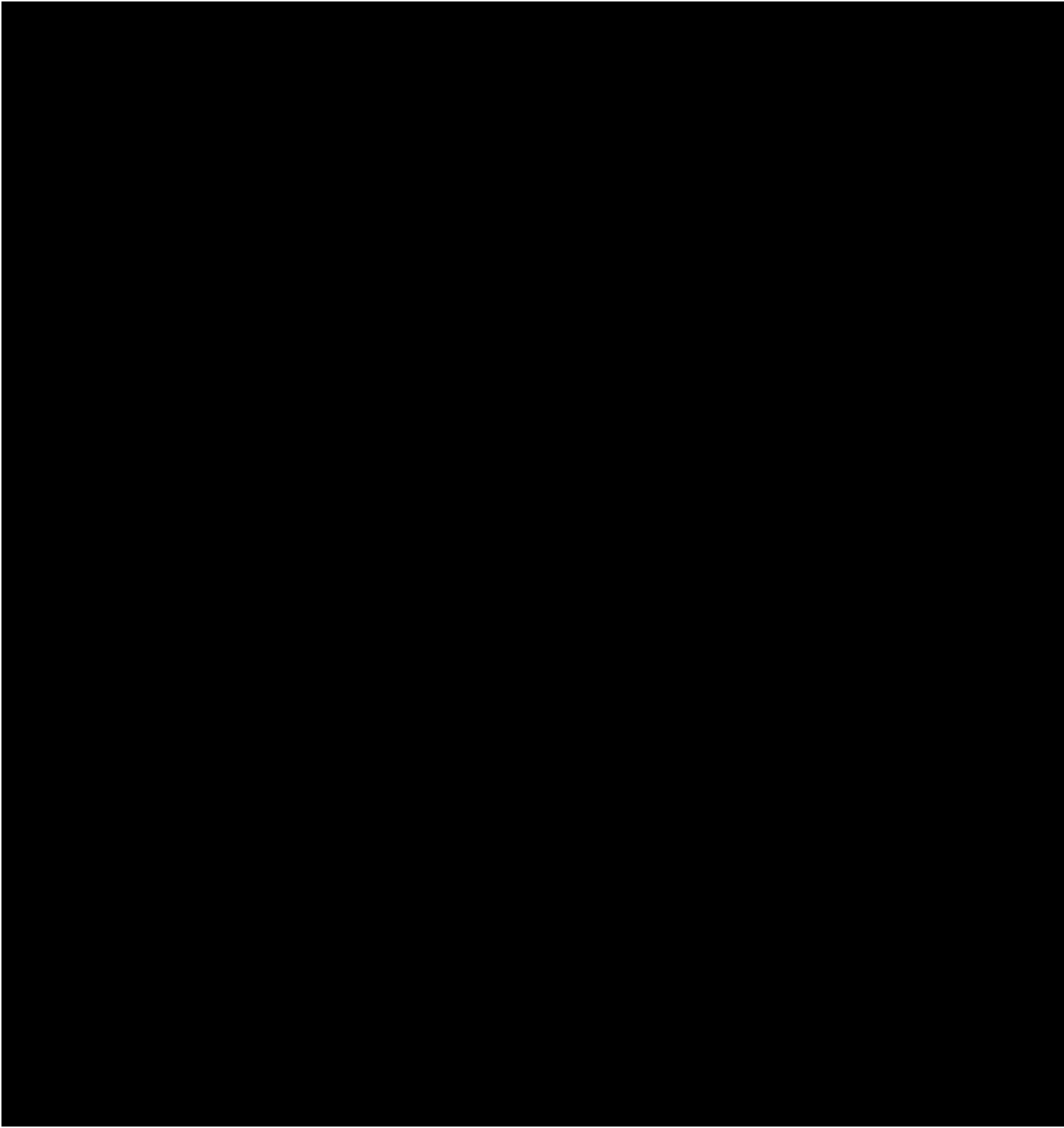
Performance Standard 9.1

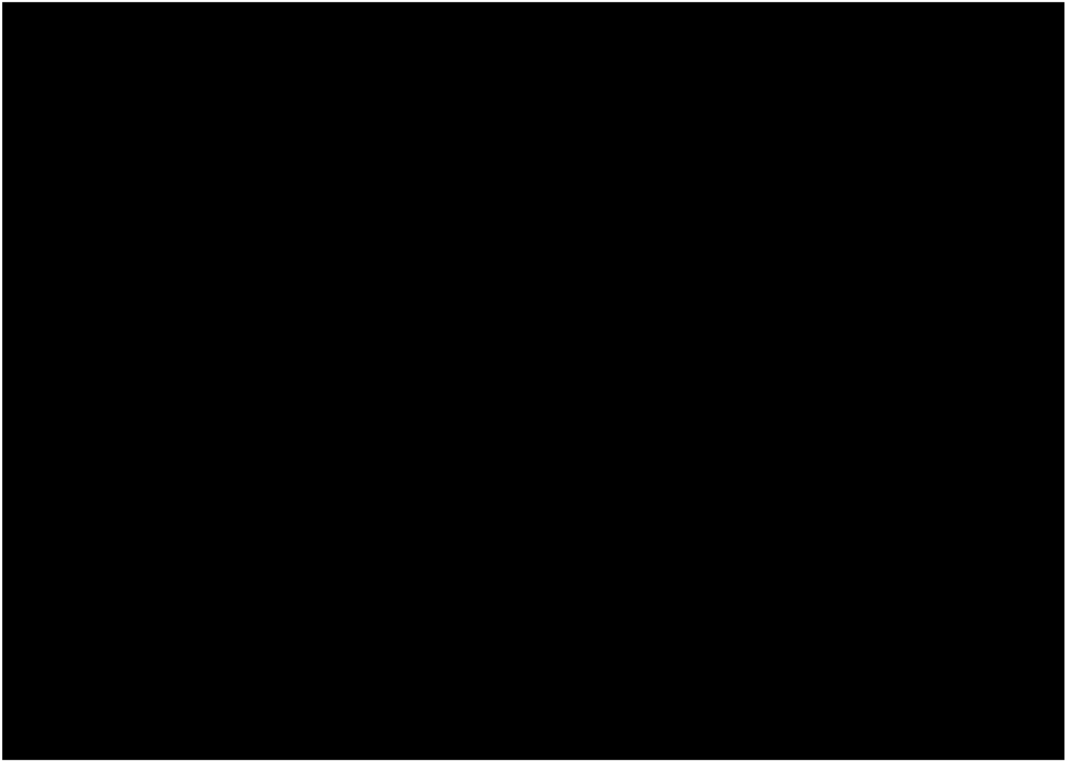
An engineering assessment must be undertaken prior to cutting the pipeline at a field joint. The engineering assessment must provide reasonable assurance that plastic debris will not be released to the marine environment. The assessment must be completed before any pipeline cuts at field joints may be made to remove the pipeline.

Measurement Criteria

9.1.1 Engineering assessment documentation demonstrates that Woodside is reasonably satisfied that field joint cuts (if required) will not release plastic debris to the marine environment.

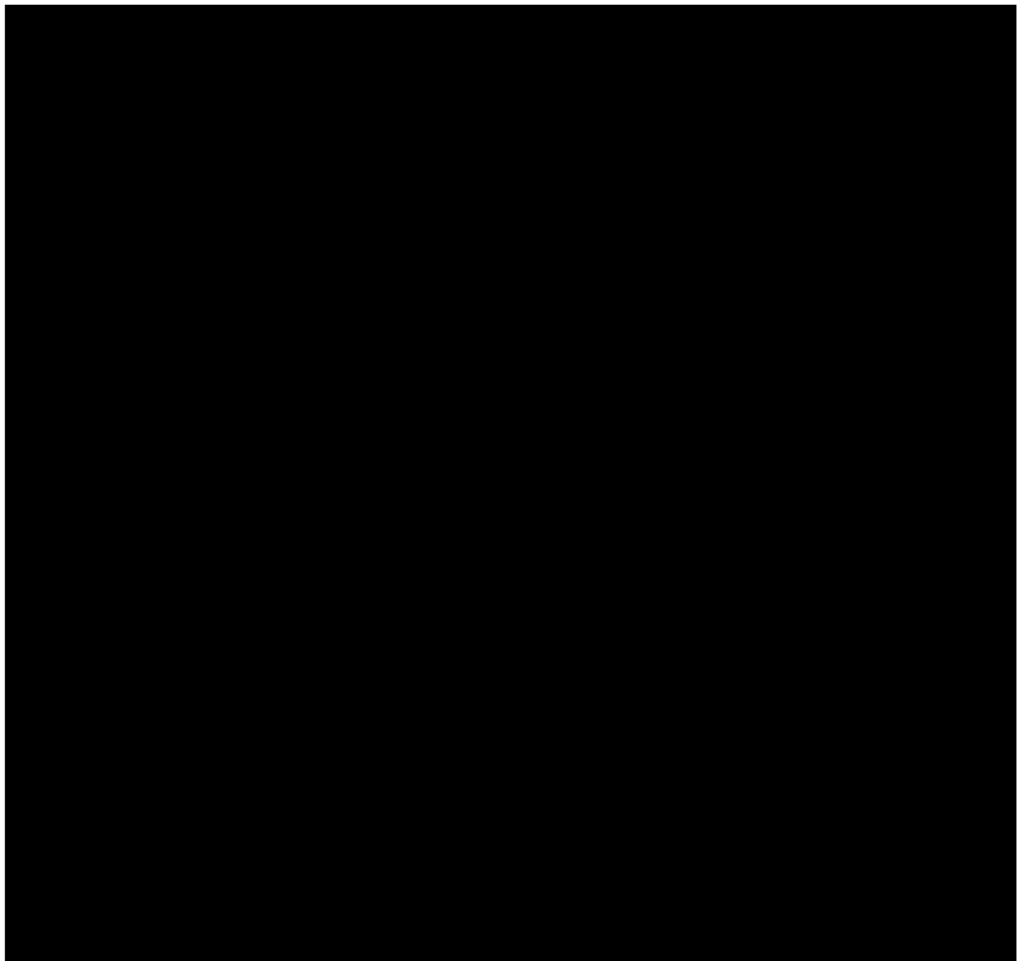
9.1.2 Records (e.g., ROV observations) demonstrate that field joint cuts did not release plastic debris to the marine environment.





While the

excavator was unable to cut the spool section after several attempts, no coating material separated from the spool during the attempted cut



Carbon Steel Field Joint Trial Cut

Trial Cut 1

A carbon steel field joint test cut was carried out on March 17th onboard the Seven Sisters. However, some key issues arose that made the results inconclusive. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

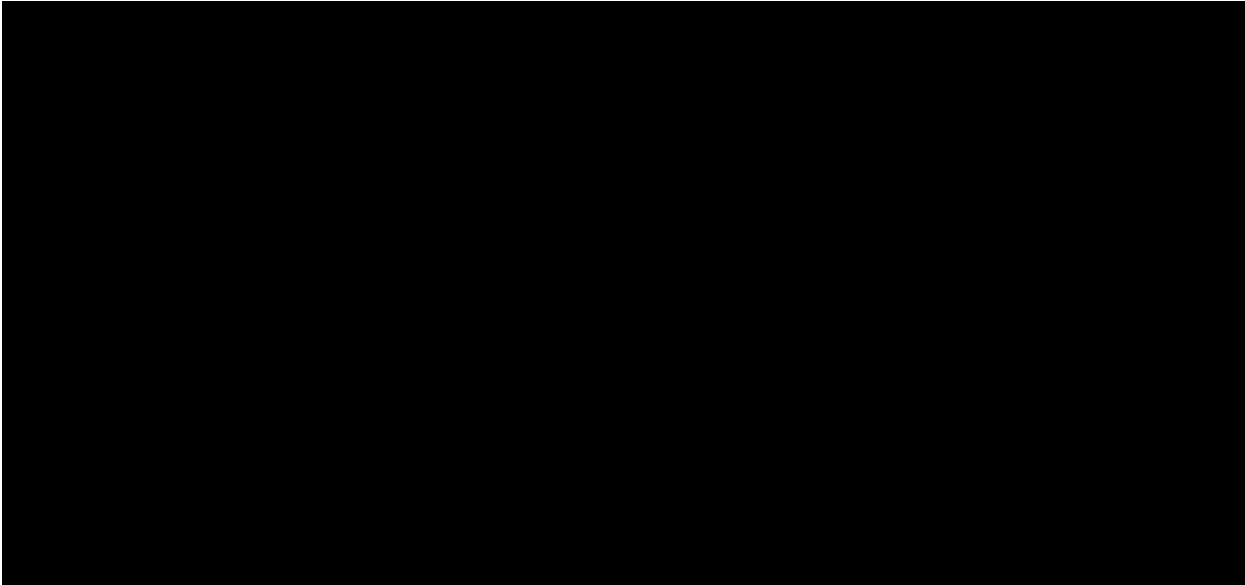
[REDACTED]

Trial Cut 2

A second carbon steel field joint test cut was performed on March 27th onboard the Seven Sisters. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

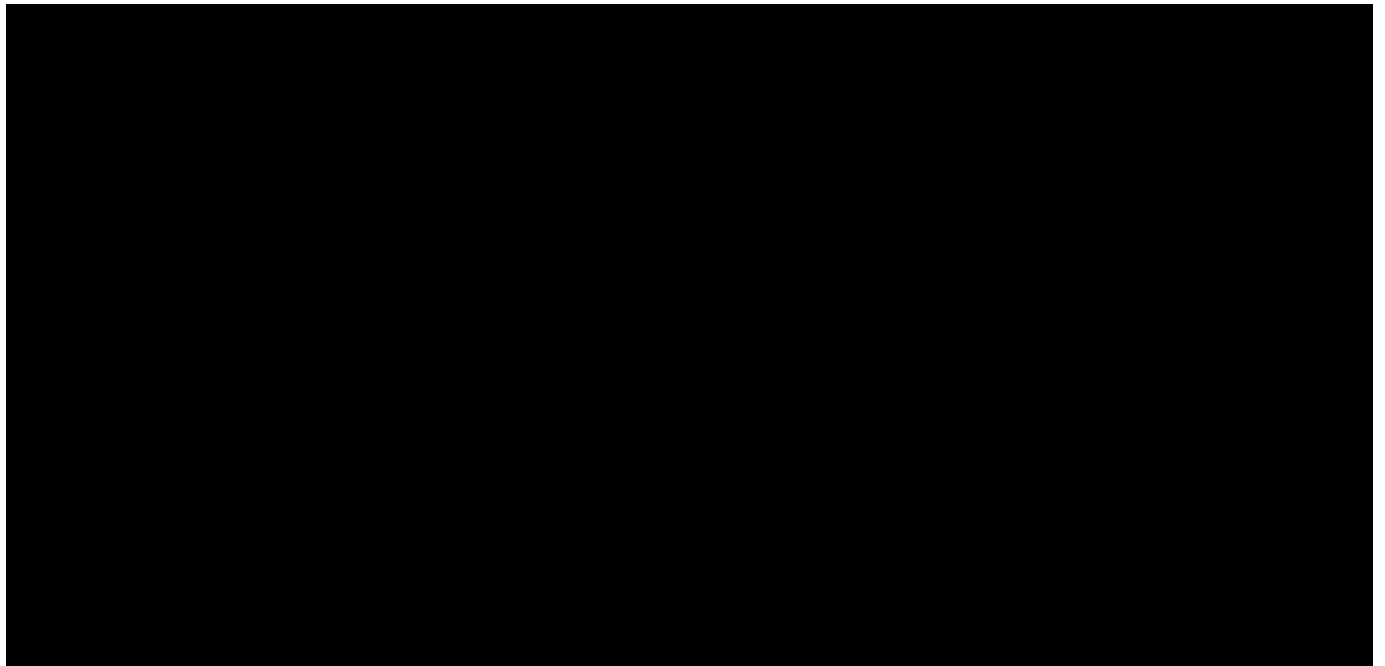


Comparison



Based on this and the trial cut at the duplex pipe field joint, cutting at the field joints will release the same if not less plastic debris as cutting at the concrete section.





[REDACTED] Moreover, cutting at the field joint should be considered the preferred option to achieve other operational benefits while minimising plastic debris.

