

REGULATOR

Issue 2: 2016



From the CEO

Recently, NOPSEMA published its *Annual offshore* performance report providing 10 years of industry and regulatory performance data. I am pleased to see that despite a challenging year of declining oil and gas prices industry has maintained high safety and environment management practices. While the report is a reflection of the good work done so far to improve safety and environmental outcomes, it is also a reminder that there is still work to do.



For the first time in two years, the number of OHS hydrocarbon release decreased from 20 to 12. This result is encouraging as NOPSEMA has consistently called on industry to reduce the number and volume of hydrocarbon releases. It is especially pleasing given the number of hours worked offshore increased from 14.3 to 14.4 million. It is imperative that duty holders remain vigilant in this area as a single hydrocarbon release carries with it the risk of ignition and potentially serious OHS and environmental consequences.

The number of reportable environmental incidents decreased from 22 to 13 in 2015. Conversely, the number of OHS reportable incidents comprising accidents (serious injuries) and dangerous occurrences was comparable to 2014. Preventive maintenance and procedures once again rank in the top three root causes for dangerous occurrences with many reported as 'unplanned events requiring emergency response plan (ERP) implementation' and 'damage to safety-critical equipment'. Many of our existing measures are lagging indicators and the value of such measures in managing major accident events is limited at best and may be contributing to complacency. To drive improvement in offshore safety, we need better information on how we're currently performing and we need leading indicators which tell us more, particularly in regard to process safety. NOPSEMA is up for the challenge and we're looking to industry and the workforce to join us in tackling this issue.

While there has been a 41% reduction in environment plan submissions, the number of environmental management inspections has more than doubled from 30 to 69. In fact, NOPSEMA conducted 195 inspections in 2015; the highest yet for the regulator. This data reflects a phased implementation of environmental management regulation since 2012 and the natural progression of assessment to inspection.

Thankfully, there were no fatalities reported in 2015 and no reported incidents warranted a major investigation. However, injuries increased across most facility types after almost a decade of continuous decline. While the majority of these injuries were medical treatment or alternative duties injuries, this data highlights the need for duty holders to define and implement processes and procedures that are fit-for-purpose and responsive to changing circumstances. Factors like the nature of the task, timing of the work, the nature of the facility, and its location, determine which processes and procedures are best suited to protect the offshore workforce.

As the national regulator, NOPSEMA is committed to providing the industry, offshore workforce and wider community with a clear understanding of industry performance. I encourage all duty holders to use their own data, alongside the industry performance data published by NOPSEMA, to identify emerging trends and areas where resources may be best directed. I also ask that you be candid and share your learnings with industry. By sharing information, including lessons learned, together we can drive improved outcomes in safety and environmental management.

Stuart Smith, CEO



Collaborative opportunities for oil spill preparedness and response

NOPSEMA's Head of Environment Division, Mr Cameron Grebe, recently highlighted the importance for industry to maintain its focus on adequate oil spill preparedness and response capacity in a presentation at Australia's premier oil spill conference (Spillcon). This is made all the more important as time from the last major incident passes and the industry responds to economic pressures.

Mr Grebe's presentation stressed the importance of titleholders acknowledging worst case scenarios and focusing on the consequences rather than the likely probabilities when contingency planning. Identifying and fixing barriers to a timely response and considering the independence, limitations and effectiveness of oil spill response controls were also highlighted.

NOPSEMA continues to work with industry on the areas highlighted by Mr Grebe through participation in government-industry forums and through compliance activities such as targeted inspections. Titleholders should be aware that NOPSEMA's environmental inspection program will continue to target whether oil spill response capabilities are commensurate to risk, appropriately tested, and provide for a timely and effective oil spill response.

Mr Grebe also noted the importance of industry sharing their experiences and expanding the use of collaborative approaches to oil spill response resources to increase capabilities while making them more cost effective overall. This note reflected a common theme observed through the conference with presenters from all parts of the sector reflecting the need for industry to seek and implement opportunities to 'do more with less' through collaboration and cooperation in the area of oil spill preparedness and response.

NOPSEMA supports and encourages collaborative initiatives to reduce costs provided oil spill preparedness and response capacity is maintained or improved as a result. For this improvement to be achieved it is important that there are open discussions about opportunities and early regulatory input to ensure that proposed actions provide the desired capacity and regulatory compliance impact.

Inspecting environmental consultation performance

In the second half of 2016, NOPSEMA will increase the number of inspections that include checking titleholder compliance with consultation requirements under the Environment Regulations. All planned environmental petroleum inspections of short term activities will include the consultation inspection topic. Titleholders will be notified of the objectives and scope of the inspection by the usual inspection brief issued closer to the proposed inspection date.

This notification forms part of NOPSEMA's strategic approach to improving compliance with the consultation requirements. Through the <u>Stakeholder Engagement and Transparency work program</u>, NOPSEMA seeks to ensure compliance with the requirements and also enhance industry-wide promotion of current environmental consultation performance. The inspections will also provide NOPSEMA with information to measure improvement since the completion of a similar inspection program in 2014-15.

Promotion of inspection learnings will be analysed and findings reported to industry on NOPSEMA's website at nopsema.gov.au. NOPSEMA may take enforcement action where non-compliance is detected to assist in returning the titleholder to compliance and to raise awareness of the important role that consultation plays in the environmental management of petroleum activities.



Exclusion of major accident events in safety cases

NOPSEMA has recently rejected a number of safety cases where certain hazards with the potential to cause a major accident event had not been appropriately considered.

In many cases, the formal safety assessment description simply excluded these hazards on the basis they were not considered to be 'credible' due to the control measures in place. For example, operators of facilities have previously argued that 'accommodation fire' is not a major accident event because it is not considered credible due to combustion-proof construction of accommodation modules, fire protection equipment etc. Accommodation fire, however, is known to occur in the offshore petroleum industry and the type of construction material and fire protection equipment installed are simply technical controls to reduce the risk of an accommodation fire major accident event.

Operators may be tempted to exclude major accident events because they are perceived to be extremely unlikely. The exclusion of events can often result from an assumption that existing controls are highly effective and therefore the occurrence of such an event is not considered possible. This type of exclusion is undesirable for the following reasons:

- The principle of identifying hazards with the potential to lead to a major accident event, and then demonstrating that sufficient controls are in place to reduce the risks associated with those hazards to a level that is as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP), is fundamental to both the safety case concept and the objectives-based offshore petroleum OHS regulatory regime.
- The control (that was thought to eliminate the risk) may not be as robust as first thought. For example, controls can deteriorate over time and the effectiveness of new controls is often unproven the effectiveness of technical controls should be regularly tested, where practicable.
- Controls may not be adequately managed if their importance is not recognised.
- The initial assessment may not be based on appropriate grounds, and a further detailed assessment may indicate that the risk is higher due to site-specific considerations.
- Knowledge of all potential events is essential for emergency planning.

NOPSEMA's <u>Hazard identification guidance note</u> (GN0107) provides further information on hazard identification. Operators are reminded that a safety case must contain a detailed description of the formal safety assessment, being an assessment or series of assessments, which:

- a) identifies <u>all hazards</u> having the <u>potential</u> to cause a major accident event
- b) is a detailed and systematic assessment of the risk associated with <u>each</u> of those hazards, including the likelihood and consequences of each potential major accident event
- c) identifies the technical and other control measures that are <u>necessary</u> to reduce that risk to a level that is as low as reasonably practicable.





Deciding on environmental consultation requirements

NOPSEMA continues to progress initiatives as part of the stakeholder engagement and transparency improvement program. These initiatives include publication of the NOPSEMA guideline 'Assessment of Environment Plans: Deciding on Consultation Requirements'. This guideline describes NOPSEMA's consideration of consultation requirements when assessing environment plans. It identifies NOPSEMA's position on key regulatory requirements and establishes the factors that influence the regulator's decision-making. These factors include things such as deciding what constitutes 'relevant persons', providing 'sufficient information' and a 'reasonable period' to make an informed assessment.

NOPSEMA continues to work with APPEA in the development of a consultation methodology to improve consistency of consultation practices employed by titleholders to meet the requirements, reduce burden to all parties and build confidence in the environment plan process. APPEA expects this work to be available for use in the third quarter of 2016.

NOPSEMA will then update its guideline to specify that if the APPEA method is used to support consultation, this may in part comply with the NOPSEMA guideline to undertake effective consultation and the Environment Regulations. From 1 January 2017, titleholders will be obliged to identify if the method is not being applied prior to commencing consultation in preparation of an environment plan. NOPSMEA will only consent to apply a different method where titleholders provide evidence to demonstrate that the alternative approach is necessary in order to comply or substantive consultation has already been completed by the time the APPEA method becomes available. Transition provisions will be in place to recognise the status of consultation for individual environment plans. From mid-2017, NOPSEMA expects that all titleholders will be in a position to comply with the NOPSEMA guideline for consultation through application of the APPEA consultation method. Titleholders are encouraged to engage with NOPSEMA (environment@nopsema.gov.au) early to discuss how these changes will apply to individual environment plans.

NOPSEMA also continues to progress other initiatives to improve consultation practices and decision-making transparency for 2016. To provide feedback or for further information please visit the <u>Stakeholder engagement and transparency page at nopsema.gov.au</u>.



Appropriate medical and first aid services

NOPSEMA was recently notified of a patient requiring urgent medical treatment being sent by an operator to a small regional airport, by way of a normal crew transfer, and subsequently transferred to the local hospital. On medical examination, the patient was immediately sent back to the airport and put on the first available scheduled commercial passenger flight to Perth and then to the Royal Perth Hospital for major surgery. Doctors involved in this instance expressed concerns to NOPSEMA about the delays in the timely provision of appropriate medical care associated with the decision to transfer the patient by normal crew transfer rather than dedicated medivac.

Operators should be aware that the medical facilities available in small regional towns may have limited facilities and will likely be ill-equipped to deal with patients requiring major surgery and the associated aftercare. Operators are also reminded that any delays in patients receiving appropriate medical care and treatment may have a significant impact on the patient's immediate well-being and long-term recovery.

Operators must ensure their emergency response arrangements for members of their workforce, who suffer an illness or injury, appropriately consider options which minimise delays in medical care and treatment. For example, the option to medivac a patient from a facility operating in the Carnarvon Basin directly to Karratha hospital rather than via a regular crew change to Learmonth, and then Exmouth Hospital, could limit potential delays in appropriate treatment due to:

- Karratha heliport being much closer to the Karratha Hospital than Learmonth heliport is to the Exmouth Hospital.
- Karratha hospital being better equipped than the Exmouth Hospital, having superior medical facilities for stabilising patients and some access to surgical staff.
- Karratha hospital having access to dedicated medical transport services to expedite transfer of urgent medical cases to Perth, and therefore a patient can be taken to the Royal Perth Hospital much quicker from Karratha than they could from Exmouth.

NOPSEMA reminds operators of their duty to take all reasonable practicable steps to implement and maintain appropriate procedures and equipment for the control of, and response to, emergencies at the facility.



Joint industry workshop on oil spill preparedness and response

In May, 2016 the International Offshore Petroleum Regulators (IOPER) joined forces with the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA) to organise and stage a joint regulator/industry workshop on the oil spill preparedness topic of 'How Much is Enough?'

The half-day workshop was held in conjunction with the Spillcon conference in Perth, Western Australia. During the workshop, industry and government stakeholders working in oil spill preparedness and response discussed national and international perspectives on how much preparedness and response is appropriate in the context of offshore oil and gas activity. Topics discussed included the key role of risk assessment in determining risk-based need, the development of tactical response plans, the use of semi-quantitative approaches to measuring capability, and the role the ALARP principle plays in the Australian context. Further, alternative terminology for NEBA (Net Environmental Benefit Analysis) was proposed by the industry representatives IPIECA in the form of 'SIMA' (Spill Impact Mitigation Analysis) to more accurately describe the trade-off nature of the analysis.

The workshop furthered the work undertaken by IOPER members to develop a number of internationally-recognised 'guiding principles' for regulating oil spill response preparedness in the offshore oil and gas industry. These principles aim to ensure proper and systematic risk identification and management processes and drive identification, implementation and maintenance of the right spill planning, preparedness and response arrangements. The principles are described in the <u>guiding principles</u> document and its <u>accompanying introduction</u> published at ioper.org.au. NOPSEMA expects IOPER's advocacy in this area to continue with plans for more detailed exploration of "how much is enough" in May as part of the <u>2017 International Oil Spill Conference</u> to be held in the USA.

Monitoring financial assurance compliance

NOPSEMA monitors titleholder compliance with the regulatory requirements for financial assurance through its assessment and inspection activities.

Since 1 January 2015, NOPSEMA has implemented a range of financial assurance compliance activities beginning with ensuring that no environment plan is accepted until NOPSEMA is reasonably satisfied that the titleholder is compliant with their financial assurance obligations. In June 2016, NOPSEMA published updates to its Financial assurance for petroleum titles guideline (GL1381) to assist titleholders in demonstrating their compliance with financial assurance obligations under the OPGGS Act.

The Australian Petroleum Producers Association (APPEA) developed a method to calculate financial assurance required for particular petroleum activities. NOPSEMA recognises circumstances may arise where a titleholder will propose a petroleum activity that falls outside the scope of the APPEA method. NOPSEMA's guideline clarifies that, whilst a titleholder may choose to adopt another method to determine the level of financial assurance required, it will usually require independent validation and endorsement by NOPSEMA. To ensure the approval process is not unnecessarily delayed, NOPSEMA encourages titleholders to engage with the regulator early to allow sufficient time to complete the validation process for what could be more complex assurance arrangements.

NOPSEMA's updated financial assurance guideline and Petroleum environment inspection policy (PL0973) explain how titleholders can comply with their duty under the OPGGS Act without having had an environment plan accepted under the amended Environment Regulations. The inspection policy also clarifies how NOPSEMA monitors titleholder compliance with financial assurance requirements through petroleum environmental inspections. NOPSEMA continues to focus the inspection program on petroleum activities with the greatest oil spill consequence where it is imperative that appropriate financial assurance is in place. NOPSEMA inspectors will continue to inspect compliance with financial assurance requirements including checking that titleholders continue to implement processes to maintain financial assurance throughout the life of the activity. Graduated enforcement will usually commence with inspection report findings and recommendations where titleholder(s) cannot demonstrate compliance. Where more serious breaches of failing to maintain sufficient financial assurance are detected, NOPSEMA may escalate compliance to ensure the titleholder complies with their duty.

For advice on how to demonstrate financial assurance compliance, titleholders are advised to read the updated quideline and policy. For more information see the Financial assurance page at nopsema.gov.au.

NOPSEMA releases its Annual offshore performance report

On 10 June, NOPSEMA released its Annual offshore performance report for the 2015 calendar year. The report provides the offshore petroleum industry, its workforce and the wider community with key industry performance data covering occupational health and safety, well (structural) integrity and environmental management. Highlights of the report include a marked decrease in hydrocarbon releases. Most importantly, there were no offshore fatalities reported. The data also showed some areas of concern with an increase in the number of injuries, although many were minor. To read the full report see the Data reports and statistics page at nopsema.gov.au. Requests for a hard copy of can be made to communications@nopsema.gov.au.

NOPSEMA's corporate plan and compliance with the Regulator Performance Framework

NOPSEMA's corporate plan sets the direction for NOPSEMA from 2015 through to 2020 and is reviewed annually. The plan was prepared under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*, and for paragraph 35(1)(b) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rules 2014.

The key performance indicators (KPIs) in NOPSEMA's corporate plan are aligned with the KPIs of the Regulator Performance Framework (RPF). The RPF, which came into effect 1 July 2015, is an important part of the Commonwealth Government's commitment to reduce the cost of unnecessary or inefficient regulation. The RPF sets out six outcomes-based KPIs covering reducing regulatory burden, communications, risk-based and proportionate approaches, efficient and coordinated monitoring, transparency, and continuous improvement. For more information or to view the RPF see the Cutting Red Tape website at cuttingredtape.gov.au.

The alignment of NOPSEMA's KPIs with the requirements of the RPF will allow NOPSEMA to provide a clear and consistent single report on its performance as a regulator to stakeholders each year. The first annual reporting period for the RPF concludes on 30 June 2016, after which NOPSEMA will publish an assessment of its performance against the RPF in its annual report.

<u>NOPSEMA's corporate plan 2015-2020</u> can be found at <u>nopsema.gov.au</u>. Should you have any queries regarding the above please forward them to communications@nopsema.gov.au.



CORPORATE PLAN 2015-20

Reporting period 2015-16

The NOPSEMA Corporate Plan 2015-20 (reporting period 2015-16) is prepared under the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006, and for paragraph 35(1)(b) of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rules 2014; and sets the direction for NOPSEMA over the next 5 years, from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2020.

Our Vision

Safe and environmentally responsible Australian offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas storage industries.

Our Purpose

To independently and professionally regulate offshore safety, integrity and environmental management.

Our Values

- Professionalism we will be accountable, consistent, reasonable and act in accordance with the law.
- Ethics we will demonstrate respect and integrity in all we do.
- Impartiality we will make our decisions on the merits of the circumstances.
- Leadership we will be proactive, inclusive and decisive in our conduct as a pre-eminent regulator.

	FUNCTIONS	OBJECTIVES	DELIVERY STRATEGIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target	RPF
COMPLIANCE	Develop and implement effective monitoring and enforcement strategies to secure compliance	Provide expert, consistent, and independent regulatory actions and decisions in accordance with the legislation. Determine and facilitate compliance with the law.	Implement risk-based assessment procedures for all legislated submissions.	Legislated assessment timeframes are published and meet policy targets.	92%	2
			Implement risk-based inspection programs for all offshore petroleum activities.	Inspections are conducted to meet policy targets.	90%	3,4
			Take proportionate enforcement actions that facilitate compliance.	Enforcement actions are undertaken in accordance with the Enforcement Management Model (EMM).	100%	3,4
			Provide regulatory decisions in a timely manner, clearly articulating reasons for decisions.	Regulatory decisions reversed by the external reviewing authority on appeal.	0%	2,3,5
	Investigate accidents, incidents, dangerous occurrences and circumstances		Undertake investigations in response to potential non-compliances.	Incidents are investigated in accordance with investigation policies.	100%	3
IMPROVEMENT	Promote and advise on safety, well integrity and environmental management matters	Communicate information and regulatory perspective to stakeholders regarding industry-wide safety and environment performance. Assist stakeholder understanding of regulatory requirements. Effective stakeholder relationships.	Analyse regulatory intelligence to identify and prioritise current and emerging issues and communicate lessons learned to industry.	Data is analysed and topical lessons distilled from regulatory activities are communicated to industry via 'Regulator' newsletter publications.	Quarterly	2,5
			Publish policies and guidance on NOPSEMA's administration of the legislation.	Demonstrated feedback is sought from stakeholders on guidance provided where relevant.	100%	2
			Implement the stakeholder engagement framework.	Feedback from stakeholders is sought annually.	100%	1,4,5
			Participate in relevant stakeholder events to communicate targeted messages.	All relevant stakeholder events where NOPSEMA has actively participated are published.	Quarterly	2,3

NOPSEMA participates at APPEA Conference

NOPSEMA recently participated in the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA) annual conference and exhibition, held in Brisbane from 5-8 June. The conference is the Australian oil and gas industry's premier event and the southern hemisphere's largest upstream oil and gas conference. With more than 2000 delegates and 155 exhibitors, the conference provided an opportunity for the petroleum industry to share best practice and discuss common challenges.

Under the Commonwealth government offshore petroleum banner, NOPSEMA exhibited alongside the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, Geoscience Australia and the National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator. NOPSEMA's stand was host to many industry stakeholders taking advantage of the opportunity to engage with NOPSEMA's executive staff and to pick up a copy of the regulator's newly published *Annual offshore performance report*.

Human error tolerant safety critical control systems

Recently a vessel undertaking construction activities had an unplanned movement (inadvertent loss of position) while diving activities were being conducted on hydrocarbon infrastructure.

The loss of position was caused by an operator unintentionally activating a button on the control panel twice in a short space of time causing an inadvertent deselection of the 'Auto Position' mode of the Dynamic Positioning (DP) system. The vessel drifted off location by over 40 metres, initially noticed by a diver when his umbilical started to become taut. Fortunately, the diver was able to walk with the vessel and keep his umbilical clear of any obstacles. Loss of vessel position is a serious event when diving and has the potential to cause fatalities.

NOPSEMA inspectors identified that the DP system was not human error tolerant and effectively allowed a single inadvertent act to cause loss of position. The reliance solely on a double-press selection method to deactivate the 'Auto Position' mode of the DP system on the vessel was considered to be an inadequate method for deactivation of this safety critical control.

The operator, with assistance from the manufacturer, is currently upgrading the DP systems software to provide a separate dialogue box confirmation requirement when deactivating the 'Auto Position' mode.

Further information on this incident is contained in Safety Alert 62. NOPSEMA safety alerts are published on the Safety Alerts page at nopsema.gov.au.

NOPSEMA supports WA strategy for marine science collaboration

In June, NOPSEMA joined the launch of the Blueprint for Marine Science: 2016-18 Implementation Strategy. The strategy guides the development of a unique collaboration across industry, government, community and science sectors formed to ensure industry and community confidence in the sustainable development of the marine environment off Western Australia.

The strategy outlines 32 activities that will remove barriers to collaboration both within and across sectors, deliver efficiencies in science activities and community engagement, and design programs to deal with key issues facing multiple sectors such as decommissioning, marine noise, environmental baselines, productivity and resource access.

"The Blueprint participants agreed that after a period of rapid development, often with an internal focus, we now have an important opportunity to think about working more collaboratively and efficiently on activities that will underpin good policy, good regulation, and good investment," NOPSEMA CEO Stuart Smith said.

Mr Smith provided input to the strategy as part of the 18 member WA Premier's Roundtable for marine science, which was supported by the Western Australian Marine Science Institution (WAMSI). Mr Smith was joined by leaders from WA regulators the Environmental Protection Authority and Department of Mines and Petroleum, industry partners Woodside Energy, Chevron and APPEA, and key stakeholders from fishing, government and community sectors.

"From our perspective, and those of other regulators at the table, we see this as a good pathway to support independent and broadly accepted investigation into those areas of uncertainty that are making it increasingly difficult for proponents and regulators alike to make timely and defensible decisions. I'd encourage others interested in this process to engage," Mr Smith said.

The implementation strategy is the third stage of a two year, end-user led Blueprint process, supported by WAMSI.

"It has been important to have these senior science end-users from across all key sectors in the same room and not only agreeing the need for change, but also embarking on such a broad multi-sector collaboration, and taking leadership of the process," CEO WAMSI Patrick Seares said. "The willingness to work together in areas they have not previously is already creating spin off opportunities beyond science in terms of collectively engaging with communities and improving policy debate."

The Blueprint Strategy can be found at www.marinescienceblueprint.org.au and prospective participants are encouraged to contact the Initiative at info@marinescienceblueprint.org.au.





Updated industry guidance on arrangements for marine oil pollution in Western Australia

The Western Australian Department of Transport (DoT) has updated its Offshore Petroleum Industry Guidance Note, in consultation with NOPSEMA and other stakeholders, to reflect recent revisions to the WestPlan Marine Oil Pollution (WestPlan MOP). The guidance note informs titleholders, including those operating in Commonwealth waters, of their obligations under the Western Australian emergency management arrangements in respect to marine oil pollution (MOP) emergencies in state waters.

The updated guidance note provides titleholders with additional details of the respective roles and responsibilities of DoT, the titleholder and other key agencies/organisations involved in the event of a MOP emergency in state waters. The changes include important clarification of the control agency for activities in state waters and proposed structures for incident management to be agreed through consultation by titleholders during the preparation of an environment plan. The guidance note also sets out the DoT's expectations for consultation during the preparation of an environment plan that includes activities in state waters and ongoing consultation where relevant. A transition process is in place to support implementation of the revised arrangements and expectations.

Titleholders are advised to read the revised state arrangements in conjunction with the OPGGS Act and supporting regulations. Should there be an escape of petroleum in relation to a petroleum activity, under Commonwealth legislation the titleholder is required to eliminate or control the escape, clean up the escaped petroleum and remediate any resulting damage to the environment and carry out environmental monitoring of the impact of the escape on the environment.

For a copy of the Offshore Petroleum Industry Guidance Note, or to make an enquiry relating to MOP emergency management arrangements in Western Australia, email marine.pollution@transport.wa.gov.au.

New OHS guidance

NOPSEMA has recently published OHS guidance in relation to:

- emergency planning
- navigating NOPSEMA's safety case guidance notes
- vessels subject to the Australian offshore petroleum safety legislation.

The Emergency Planning guidance note (GN1053) completes a long term project to provide industry with a comprehensive, structured suite of guidance to assist in the preparation of safety cases as required by the Safety Regulations. As with the other guidance notes in the suite this new guidance explicitly addresses specific content requirements as well as providing options for how the requirements could be satisfied.

NOPSEMA has also published a cross-reference to assist industry in identifying which guidance note(s) addresses which safety case content requirements.

Most recently, NOPSEMA has published a guidance note in the form of a single page flowchart designed to assist industry in establishing when a vessel is subject to Schedule 3 of the OPGGS Act and Safety Regulations and equivalent state and Northern Territory legislation where functions and powers have been conferred. The flowchart leads a reader through the definitions contained in OPGGS Act and Reg. 1.6 and 1.7 of the Safety Regulations to assist in establishing if the vessel will be a facility or associated offshore place based on the activities it will be undertaking.

For more information to read the new OHS guidance see the Safety Case Guidance Notes page at nopsema.gov.au.



Data reports and statistics

NOPSEMA continuously collects and receives data on the safety, well integrity and environmental management performance of the offshore petroleum industry, as well as its own regulatory performance. This data is regularly analysed and converted into a series of datasets. The latest datasets are published both quarterly and annually under the 'Resources' tab at nopsema.gov.au. They contain many familiar performance indicators such as incident rates, injury rates, hydrocarbon releases and international benchmarks.







Schedule of events

Events listed below are those at which NOPSEMA is presenting or exhibiting or has an organisational role.

• 10 - 16 July IOPER AGM & Aquatic Noise Conference, Dublin, Ireland

• 17-20 October International Regulators Offshore Petroleum Health and Safety Forum, Auckland, NZ

Feedback

NOPSEMA welcomes your comments and suggestions. Please direct media enquiries, requests for publications, and enquiries about NOPSEMA events to communications@nopsema.gov.au. Operators and other employers are encouraged to circulate this newsletter to their workforce. Past issues of this newsletter are available at nopsema.gov.au.

Subscribe

NOPSEMA has recently expanded its online subscription service. To receive the latest news and developments from Australia's national regulator for the oil and gas industry please complete the online <u>subscription form</u>. NOPSEMA's services include news and information on environmental management, well integrity, HSRs, media releases, safety alerts and *the Regulator* newsletter.

The information provided in this publication is intended to provide general information and guidance only and should not be treated as a substitute for professional advice. Please read NOPSEMA's <u>disclaimer</u>.

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