

Issue 3 : 2017

# the **REGULATOR**

National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority



**NOPSEMA**

[nopsema.gov.au](http://nopsema.gov.au)

## About NOPSEMA

The National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) is Australia's independent expert regulator for health and safety, structural and well integrity, and environmental management for offshore petroleum facilities and activities in Commonwealth waters.

By law, offshore petroleum activities cannot commence before NOPSEMA has assessed and accepted detailed risk management plans documenting and demonstrating how an organisation will manage the risks to health and safety to as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP) and the risk to the environment to ALARP and with acceptable environmental impacts.

For more information visit our website at [www.nopsema.gov.au](http://www.nopsema.gov.au).

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## Feedback

NOPSEMA welcomes feedback from our stakeholders. Please direct all enquires and requests relating to this publication to [communications@nopsema.gov.au](mailto:communications@nopsema.gov.au).

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# Message from the Chief Executive

The Australian offshore petroleum industry is changing and facing new challenges. The past two years have been characterised by cost pressures. These pressures have coincided with the entrance of new market participants using different business models for managing field life. In addition, there has been a massive lift in production as multiple new global-scale projects move from the construction to production stage.

Getting the job done during this unprecedented period of change is challenging, particularly when combined with cost pressures. Duty holders must ensure they have an awareness of risk and translate that awareness into the effective management of risk. In an effort to meet project and investor milestones, NOPSEMA cautions duty holders against any compromise to effective and functioning risk controls. Project performance indicators should be comprehensive and chosen with an appropriate focus on long-term risk management and reliable operation. Risk controls should also be carefully monitored and adjusted where appropriate as the risk changes.

In an industry that has seen the tragic consequences of inadequate risk prevention, NOPSEMA has and will continue to hold to account any parties that have failed in their responsibility to do all that they can to provide a safe place for people to work.

Getting the job done right also applies to the regulator. Crucial to achieving this objective and maintaining community confidence in the regulatory regime is ensuring rigour in our approach. NOPSEMA's approach to its assessments, inspections, investigations and enforcement activities must be characterised by independence, professionalism and respect for due process, and reinforced through a strong commitment to promotion and advisory activities for duty holders and other stakeholders.

We recognise that effective regulation benefits from meaningful communication and engagement and over the past few years, we have taken a more proactive approach in this area. We have initiated meetings, workshops and open days with stakeholders and accepted invitations to participate in conferences, forums and hearings. We have also continued to reinforce our international standing and access to leading regulatory practice through our participation in the International Regulators' Forum (IRF) and International Offshore Petroleum Environment Regulators (IOPER) group.

It is through our international interactions that we learned more about how community expectations are shifting globally. In Australia, there remains a clear disconnect between the expectations of industry and of some environment groups, fisheries and local communities. We know that this disconnect is fostering an ever stronger interest in industry activity, particularly in frontier areas like the Great Australian Bight. While NOPSEMA and duty holders might be familiar with the regulatory regime, many of our stakeholders are not. We therefore have responsibility to work with these stakeholders to improve understanding which will inform our actions and improve acceptance.

There remains a substantial amount of work to do to improve community confidence. It will likely take time and resources that duty holders may prefer go towards managing their operations. While work to improve community confidence must be done, in other areas NOPSEMA continues to seek out opportunities to remove unnecessary regulatory burden on duty holders. This includes pursuing opportunities for further approvals reform, environmental streamlining, conferral of regulatory responsibilities from the states and Northern Territory, and projects that seek to reduce the size and complexity of environment plans.

While we have come a long way, the process of continuous improvement demands sustained effort and cooperation. The community expects NOPSEMA and industry to rise to the challenge and deliver better outcomes. We should be seeking input from others, challenging and reviewing our planning and approach, sharing lessons learned and collaborating with one another. Working together has never been more important.



Stuart Smith, CEO







## Pathways to improvement

NOPSEMA's recently published compliance strategy ([www.nopsema.gov.au/about/compliance-strategy](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/about/compliance-strategy)) is driving a more systematic approach to the way regulatory activities are undertaken, with greater emphasis being placed on promoting best practice, monitoring and enforcing compliance.

Three pathways - past, present and future - are being used to identify, promote and enforce better practices that will lead to improved safety and environmental outcomes. Going forward, NOPSEMA's assessment, inspection, investigative, enforcement and promotional activities will increasingly be framed through looking at learnings from previous events, current regulatory activities and evolving trends.

**Past:** Factors that contribute to major incidents and poor safety or environmental outcomes can be identified by examining events leading up to the incident. By using the knowledge already held by NOPSEMA and industry we can identify contributing factors and take steps to prevent incidents from re-occurring. NOPSEMA will also explore opportunities to use 'big data' to map industry trends and enable analysis.

**Present:** With a 'find one, fix many' approach, NOPSEMA is seeking to leverage experience from current incidents and share regulatory intelligence industry-wide. NOPSEMA will use various tools and mechanisms to influence behavioural change across the industry in support of safer and more environmentally responsible outcomes.

**Future:** Opportunities to improve often come from outside our existing sphere of interest and are driven by external change to the industry. NOPSEMA will work with stakeholders to identify and respond to evolving trends such as community expectations for increased transparency, adopting better practices found in other industries and adjusting our regulatory approach in response to changing risk profiles.

As always, we will prioritise our efforts on the areas of highest risk, focusing on preventing major accidents, preventing and preparing to respond to loss-of-containment events, appropriate well control, source control practices and oil spill preparedness.

## Annual inspection focus topics

Each year NOPSEMA identifies a series of focus topics for annual inspections. The focus topics will continue to supplement broader compliance initiatives and will drive improved safety and environmental outcomes. Here are our inspection priorities for 2017-18.

### Environment

#### *Oil spill preparedness*

NOPSEMA will ensure that a titleholder's oil spill response arrangements are being implemented and, maintained and are suitable to deal with spill consequences. Inspections will focus on ensuring that titleholders:

- can respond to spills in a timely manner
- will be able to control the source of the spill
- have appropriate arrangements in place for oil spill dispersants including their selection, supply, application and monitoring.

#### *Managing invasive marine species*

NOPSEMA will pay attention to risk management controls to prevent the introduction of invasive marine species to Commonwealth waters. NOPSEMA will also continue last year's inspection focus on planned waste discharges and the titleholder's capability to implement operational and scientific monitoring programs.

#### *Implementation strategy: Management systems that ensure environmental impacts and risks continue to be identified and reduced to ALARP.*

Inspections will focus on determining how titleholders ensure that environmental impacts and risks continue to be identified and reduced to as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP). This assurance needs to be acceptable for the duration of the activity. NOPSEMA inspectors will also verify how titleholders' apply their environmental management systems, and how they use these systems to enhance environmental performance. The petroleum activities that are selected for this inspection focus topic will include seismic surveys, production operations and drilling campaigns.

### Safety and Integrity

#### *Assets and ageing facilities*

NOPSEMA will focus on ensuring titleholders continue appropriate monitoring and maintenance of well barriers, and that the current market conditions do not impede this. Further, as some facilities are approaching the end of their economic life, NOPSEMA will ensure that decommissioning activities are conducted in a safe and environmentally responsible manner.

#### *Third-party equipment*

NOPSEMA inspectors will continue to verify that titleholders have completed appropriate quality assurance checks and audits on third-party equipment. This is to ensure that equipment is fit-for-purpose and does not pose any risk to the health and safety of workers at or near a facility.

#### *Safety assurance*

NOPSEMA will continue to inspect safety-critical equipment to ensure it meets design and maintenance standards. We will also focus on safety management systems, to determine if they are working effectively and as they were intended. NOPSEMA believes that an effective safety assurance regime will contribute to a strong safety culture.





## Qualifications of medical personnel on offshore facilities: Draft guidance note open for comment

During routine inspections at offshore facilities, NOPSEMA inspectors identified that some operators employed offshore medical personnel with insufficient qualifications to competently deal with medical emergencies, including major accident events (MAEs).

To ensure that operators are aware of their obligations in relation to this matter, NOPSEMA has published a draft *Qualifications of medical personnel on offshore facilities guidance note* (GN1744) ([www.nopsema.gov.au/safety/safety-case/safety-case-guidance-notes/](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/safety/safety-case/safety-case-guidance-notes/)) for industry comment.

Facility operators are reminded they have a duty of care to ensure that the risks associated with medical emergencies are reduced to a level that is as low as reasonable practicable (ALARP). The *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* and associated Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Safety) Regulations 2009 stipulate that operators must provide appropriate medical services at a facility, and that personnel must have the necessary skills, training and ability to undertake routine and non-routine tasks.

Offshore medical personnel should possess a current medical professional registration with a relevant regulatory body, and have work experience in emergency medical settings. In determining the required number of medical personnel and the qualifications they should possess, operators should apply a risk-based approach that considers:

- potential MAEs and occupational injuries
- possible illnesses and health concerns
- number of personnel onboard
- medical evacuation response times in the range of expected conditions (including storm/cyclone and night flights)
- risks associated with medical evacuations.

We are now seeking feedback on the draft guidance note. Please provide comments, with or without a marked-up copy of the document, to [safetycaseguidance@nopsema.gov.au](mailto:safetycaseguidance@nopsema.gov.au) by 31 October 2017.



# Continuous improvement of oil spill response preparedness through international engagement

The objective-based regime under which NOPSEMA regulates Australia's offshore oil and gas industry provides a framework for government, industry and the community to work together to ensure environmental impacts and risks are ALARP. The regime also encourages continuous improvement in industry environmental performance.

Continuous improvement can be challenging to maintain, particularly for infrequent activities such as oil spill response. This is because there are so few opportunities to gain real-world experience. Subsequently, training and simulation exercises are an important part of building capability and maintaining expertise.

NOPSEMA takes an active role in pursuing opportunities to gain expertise and to learn lessons from other jurisdictions. For example, NOPSEMA is represented on the Australian Maritime Safety Authority's National Response Team for oil spill response, which provides staff with opportunities to train for and work on incidents outside of our jurisdiction and be part of an incident management team.

NOPSEMA also participates in national and international conferences on oil spill response, including Spillcon, the International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC), and Interspill, to share insights and experiences. In addition to presenting at these events, NOPSEMA also collaborates with other organisations to develop technical papers which outline solutions for common industry challenges. A recent example is the 'How much is enough?' paper ([www.nopsema.gov.au/resources/presentations/](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/resources/presentations/)) which identifies solutions for determining and regulating appropriate oil spill response preparedness. A key finding of the paper was that response capability is best designed to fit the risk of the activity. This is done through a three-part process of risk assessment, strategic and tactical planning, and preparedness planning. Drafts of the paper were presented at conferences in Brisbane (2015), Perth (2016), and Long Beach, USA (2017). The paper was further developed following discussions at these conferences. Additional input was also provided at the dedicated International Offshore Petroleum Environment Regulators (IOPER) workshop at the 2016 Spillcon conference in Perth.

NOPSEMA is an active participant of the IOPER and thus has regular opportunities to discuss challenges faced by similar regulators from around the world. In recent years, NOPSEMA staff have worked with IOPER colleagues to develop 'Guiding principles for regulating preparedness for offshore oil spills' ([www.ioper.org/assets/Report-IOPER-Guiding-Principles-for-Regulating-Oil-Spill-Response-Preparedness-for-Offshore-Petroleum-November-2014.pdf](http://www.ioper.org/assets/Report-IOPER-Guiding-Principles-for-Regulating-Oil-Spill-Response-Preparedness-for-Offshore-Petroleum-November-2014.pdf))

NOPSEMA has joined together with IOPER members to create an oil spill working group. The group has identified the following key areas of work:

- the role of the regulator in industry exercises and training
- opportunities for pre-approval of dispersants for offshore use
- improving the finance model for oiled wildlife response
- defining the key elements of oil spill contingency plans
- how to manage the introduction of new technologies during an oil spill
- transparency in offshore regulation.

Earlier this year, NOPSEMA representatives met with international regulatory counterparts in the USA to discuss best practice regulation of oil spill preparedness. Staff from NOPSEMA's spill risk team worked closely with staff from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). NOPSEMA also attended the IOSC held in Long Beach, California which provided an opportunity for staff to extend discussions with fellow regulators and explore alternative approaches to contingency planning and regulation. Titleholders will see outcomes from this invaluable opportunity in updates to guidance, enhancements to the way inspections are scoped and conducted and via the Spill Risk Cooperative Forum.

NOPSEMA will continue to engage with national and international counterparts in a variety of forums to ensure Australia remains at the forefront of international best practice.

# Newly established spill risk forum

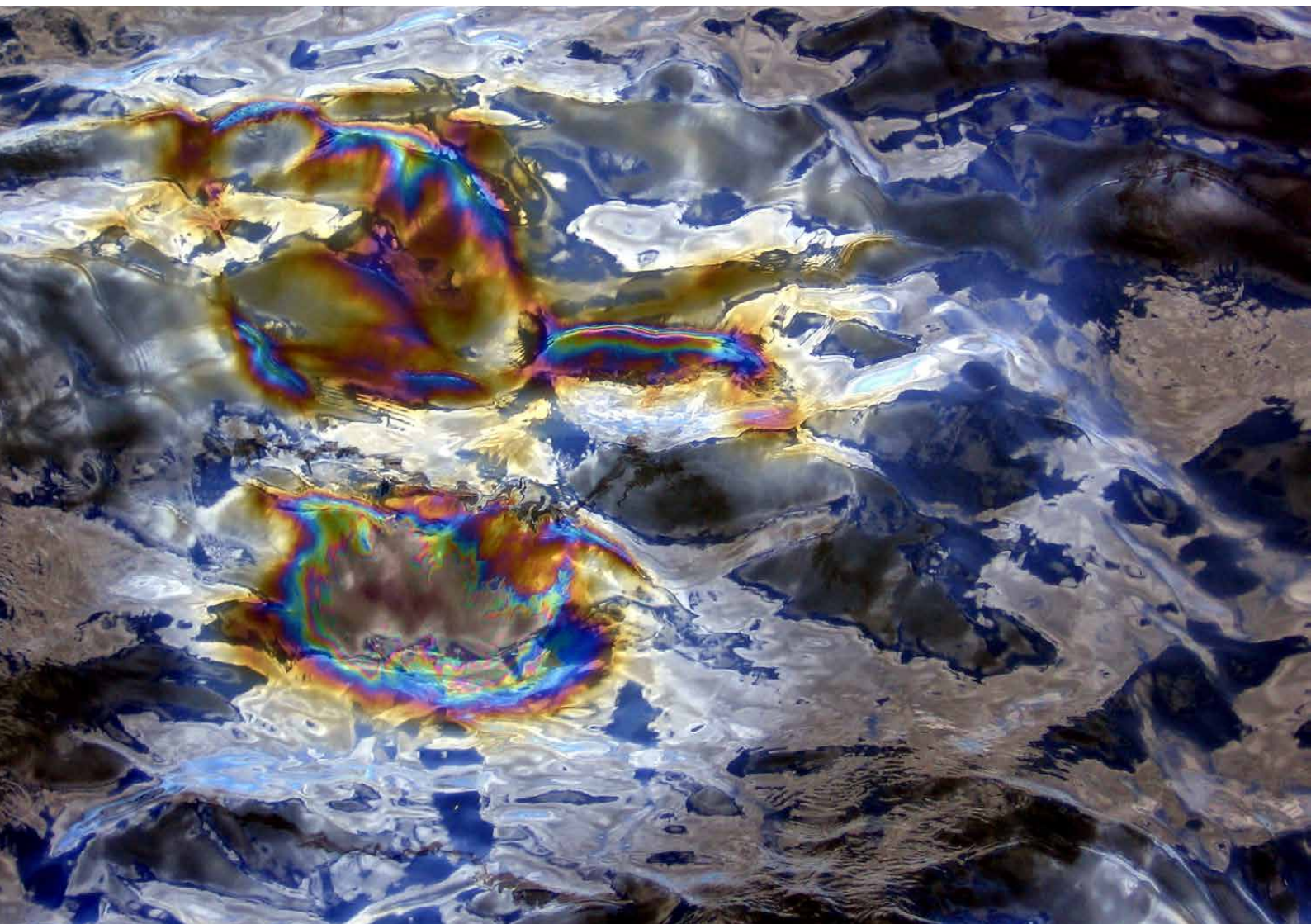
Earlier in 2017, NOPSEMA established a Spill Risk Cooperative Forum to facilitate ongoing engagement between titleholders and regulators regarding environmental management of oil spill preparedness and response.

This represents a consolidation and evolution of a range of engagements that NOPSEMA and titleholders have pursued since 2012 and will become the primary platform for strategic-level interactions outside of formal regulatory liaison.

Since its inaugural meeting in February 2017, the forum has met three times. It has focused on proactively identifying and acting on opportunities for continuous improvement in oil spill preparedness and response, while also sharing lessons learned and highlighting compliance issues identified through inspections.

The forum is open to offshore petroleum titleholders with planned or active drilling or production operations. Invitations are also extended to relevant oil spill preparedness and response stakeholders on the basis of items for discussion. So far, the forum has included representation from the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association, the Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, Oil Spill Response Limited and the Western Australian Department of Transport.

The forum has discussed strategic compliance areas and identified opportunities for gains in performance and efficiency that may be achieved through cooperative efforts. These will be explored further via industry working groups. NOPSEMA and industry have also supported efforts to prepare more accessible information for stakeholders on oil spill topics, which are available on NOPSEMA's website at [www.nopsema.gov.au/resources/publications/](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/resources/publications/).



# Noise management systems

Over the past four years, NOPSEMA has focused on noise management arrangements at offshore petroleum facilities to ensure any health risks from noise exposure are reduced. NOPSEMA's inspections have identified a series of common deficiencies in some operators' noise management arrangements:

- no noise policy
- no noise control plan
- no health risk assessments
- no assessment for some work groups e.g. surface preparation and ultra-high pressure blasters
- no noise hazard register
- failure to close out noise survey recommendations
- lack of maintenance and inspection programs for noise control equipment
- noise hazard training does not fulfil the requirements of the *National Code of Practice for Occupational Noise*
- no re-evaluation of noise levels following actions to attenuate noise
- noise management plans executed ineffectively
- auditing program not established.

The Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Safety) Regulations 2009 require the operator to take all reasonable steps to protect the health and safety of persons at or near a facility. This includes any risks to health that may arise through exposure to noise. Operators are reminded that they need to manage noise exposure exceeding the standard in a manner consistent with the provisions of the *National Code of Practice for Occupational Noise* [NOHSC:2009 (2004)].

## Vessels subject to external hydrocarbon hazards

Following an extended comment period and subsequent consideration and incorporation of industry feedback, NOPSEMA has published a new safety case guidance note for vessel facilities subject to external hydrocarbon hazards (GN1733).

The guidance was developed to assist vessel facility operators to more effectively document in their safety cases how they will address external hydrocarbon hazards and reduce the risks to as low as reasonably practicable. The new guidance supplements the *Safety case content and level of detail guidance note* (GN0106) and is available on our website at <https://www.nopsema.gov.au/assets/Guidance-notes/A533582.pdf>







# Finished the petroleum activity? How to end your environment plan

You've finished the seismic survey, the drilling rig is long gone, so the construction project is done and dusted! But wait, your work is not complete until you notify NOPSEMA that your environment plan (EP) is at the end of operation. This means formally declaring that all the obligations of the titleholder have been met, all reports have been submitted, inspection recommendations are closed out and all levies are paid.

In October 2016, NOPSEMA initiated a formal process for ending EPs using the provisions of regulation 25A of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009 and communicated it widely to industry. Since that time, titleholders have successfully ended more than 90 EPs—an excellent response to this new regulatory process.

However, NOPSEMA's records show that there are still over 120 petroleum activities with accepted EPs, where the petroleum activity has been completed but the titleholder has not yet notified NOPSEMA to formally end the plan. Some of these outstanding EPs are approaching five years since their acceptance. This means a proposed revision will soon be required, unless the EPs are ended properly under regulation 25A. NOPSEMA will continue to monitor and enforce compliance with this regulation, including the collection of levies that are due.

NOPSEMA seeks the cooperation of titleholders to submit notification of completed EPs. Please use the form *Regulation 25A – Notification of end of operation of environment plan form* (FM1408) ([www.nopsema.gov.au/environmental-management/environment-resources/](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/environmental-management/environment-resources/)). The *End of the operation of an environment plan guideline* (GL1691) explains how these notifications will be handled, including how NOPSEMA will confirm with titleholders that their notification has been accepted.

## Improved transparency in environment plan submissions

NOPSEMA now requires that titleholders provide more information about their EP for inclusion on our website. This will result in greater transparency for stakeholders using NOPSEMA's website to identify those activities that are of interest to them. Titleholders are now required to provide a map that clearly shows locations, activities and features referred to in the EP, including nearest coastal areas, environmentally sensitive locations, Commonwealth marine reserves, relevant zoning and state, Territory, Commonwealth and international boundaries.

The *Making submissions to NOPSEMA guideline* (GL0225) and accompanying *EP submission cover sheet* (FM1257) have been updated to reflect these changes. To access the revised documents visit [www.nopsema.gov.au/environmental-management/environment-resources/](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/environmental-management/environment-resources/)



## Environment plan reference cases

NOPSEMA recently held a series of stakeholder briefings in Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne to introduce the environment plan 'reference case' concept and provide an update on current work. The project seeks to deliver increased transparency while simultaneously delivering productivity gains. Feedback from stakeholders indicated there is strong support for the concept with several attendees expressing interest in contributing to its development.

Phase one is nearing completion and will deliver four reference cases as a 'proof of concept'. The cases are expected to be released for public comment at the end of October. If you would like to contribute ideas or resources to the project please contact [environment@nopsema.gov.au](mailto:environment@nopsema.gov.au) or, for more information visit [www.nopsema.gov.au/environmental-management/stakeholder-engagement-and-transparency/](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/environmental-management/stakeholder-engagement-and-transparency/)

## Digital transformation

In line with the Australian Government's digital transformation agenda, NOPSEMA is ensuring that regulatory activities will meet digital information goals while also complying with relevant laws.

NOPSEMA's digital project has two aspects. The first includes introducing the use of electronic signatures, incorporating an electronic pen imprint and/or a unique signature authorisation number. The second is the requirement for NOPSEMA to obtain consent from duty holders to receive correspondence electronically.

From 2 October 2017, NOPSEMA will implement two concurrent pilots to trial different methods for generating and issuing electronic correspondence. One pilot will involve vessel facility operators and the other will include selected titleholders for environment plan submissions.

After the pilot phase, NOPSEMA will seek feedback and evaluate which is the best option. Following this, NOPSEMA will seek consent from all remaining duty holders to receive correspondence electronically and roll out the project. For more information about this project please contact our Chief Information Officer, John Townsend at [information@nopsema.gov.au](mailto:information@nopsema.gov.au).

# WORK PLACE SAFETY



## Inspecting and maintaining Ex equipment

Electrical equipment (Ex equipment) on offshore facilities is subject to many factors which affect its deterioration. These factors include bad weather conditions, the age of the facility, mechanical vibration and mechanical damage.

During a production facility inspection, NOPSEMA inspectors discovered that the operator had not inspected Ex equipment (internally) and consequently could not demonstrate that it was fit-for-purpose. Such equipment has the potential to provide an ignition source, such as in the event of an uncontrolled release of flammable material, and could result in fire or an explosion.

AS/NZS 60079 sets out the grades of inspections that should be conducted on Ex equipment in part 17:2009, under section 4.3.3 on types of inspection.

Failure to undertake detailed (internal) inspection is a contravention of clause 9(2)(c) of schedule 3 of the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*. Specifically, 'the operator of a facility is taken to be subject, under subclause (1), to each of the following requirements (c) to take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure that any plant, equipment, materials and substances at the facility are safe and without risk to health.'

NOPSEMA will continue to assess operator compliance with inspection and maintenance requirements. We will also encourage good industry practice for managing Ex equipment integrity. If NOPSEMA inspectors discover that operators are not complying with their requirements to maintain safety-critical equipment, they will undertake appropriate enforcement action. For further information refer to:

- UK HSE Offshore information sheet no. 1/2011 – Inspection and maintenance of explosion protected (Ex) electrical equipment in hazardous areas ([www.hse.gov.uk/offshore/infosheets/is1-2011.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/offshore/infosheets/is1-2011.htm))
- Energy Institute – Guidelines for managing inspection of Ex electrical equipment ignition risk in support of IEC 60079-17 ([www.publishing.energyinst.org/](http://www.publishing.energyinst.org/)).



## Australian Government agencies' expectations for titleholder consultation

The requirement for titleholders to undertake consultation when preparing and implementing environment plans is a fundamental provision of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009. The Regulations require titleholders to consult with 'relevant persons' which includes government agencies.

The Australian Government has published guidance to assist titleholders in determining which agencies may be relevant to their activity and under what circumstances these agencies should be consulted.

The *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Activities: Consultation with Australian Government agencies with responsibilities in the Commonwealth Marine Area* guidance ([www.industry.gov.au/resource/UpstreamPetroleum/OffshorePetroleumEnvironment/Pages/Environment-Plans-Consultation-with-Australian-Government-Agencies.aspx](http://www.industry.gov.au/resource/UpstreamPetroleum/OffshorePetroleumEnvironment/Pages/Environment-Plans-Consultation-with-Australian-Government-Agencies.aspx)) outlines agencies' and titleholders' roles and circumstances that should trigger consultation. The guidance also includes contact details for the following Commonwealth agencies:

- Department of Environment and Energy
- Director of National Parks
- Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
- Australian Fisheries Management Authority
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- Department of Defence
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The guidance highlights the importance of titleholders conducting their own assessment of relevant agencies, as the information provided may not cover all circumstances. It replaces a previous version that was hosted on the Department of Environment and Energy's website.







# Quarterly performance dataset – Q2 2017

## Industry activity and performance

Submissions		
Category	Type of assessment	Number
Safety	Safety cases	29
	Scopes of validation	12
	Diving start-up notices	6
Well integrity	Well operations management plans	9
	Well activity applications	28
	Final abandonment reports	3
Environment	Environment plans	11
	Environment plan summaries	8
	End of an environment plan (Reg 25A)	6
Other	Petroleum safety zone application	3
	NOPTA request for title related information	8
Total submissions		123

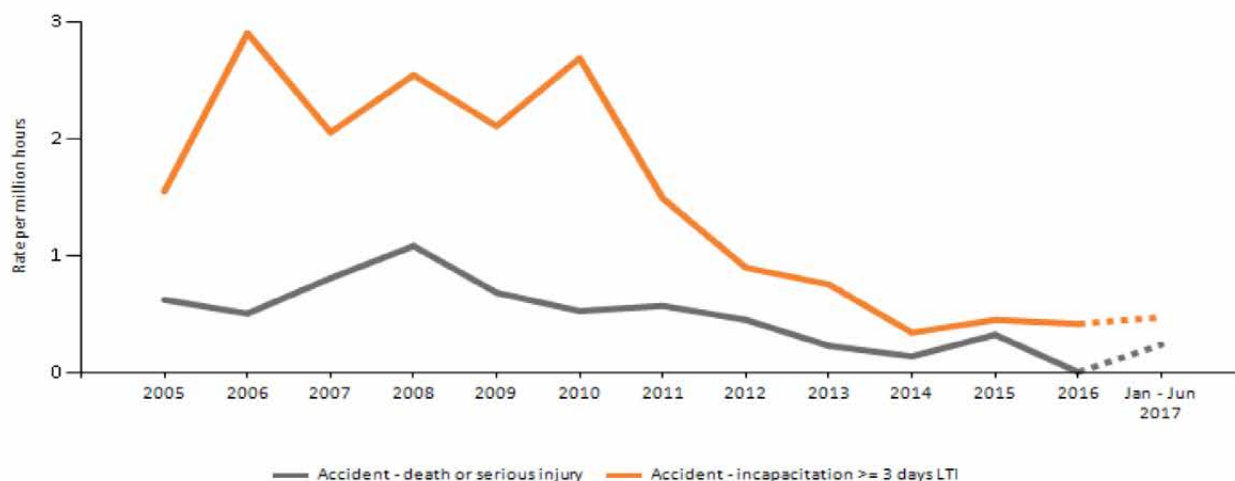
Incidents		
Category	Type of incident	Number
People safety	Accidents	
	Death or serious injury	1*
	Incapacitation >= 3 days LTI	1
	Injuries (TRC)	4
	Total injuries	6
	Dangerous occurrences	
	Could have caused incapacitation >= 3 days LTI	1
	Total dangerous occurrences (people safety)	1
Process safety	Dangerous occurrences	
	Damage to safety critical equipment	24
	Other kind needing immediate investigation	5
	Uncontrolled HC release >1 - 300 kg	6
	Unplanned event - implement emergency response plan (including false alarms)	33
	Total dangerous occurrences (process safety)	68
	Total dangerous occurrences (people and process safety)	69
Well integrity	Well integrity incidents	
	Well-related equipment damage or failure	1
	Potential well-related equipment damage or failure	3
	Loss of well control - any other unplanned occurrence	1
	Total well integrity incidents	5
Environment	Reportable environmental incidents	
	Hydrocarbon vapour/petroleum liquid release	1
	Chemical release	1
	Fauna incident	1
	Total reportable environmental incidents	3

Notes: Uncontrolled hydrocarbon releases/spills may have been reported both as an OHS and environmental incident.  
Injuries may have been reported both as a Total Recordable Cases (TRC) and as an accident.

\* The serious injury relates to an incident on a platform facility where a scaffolding worker suffered a serious leg fracture during a crane operation.

## Industry performance indicators

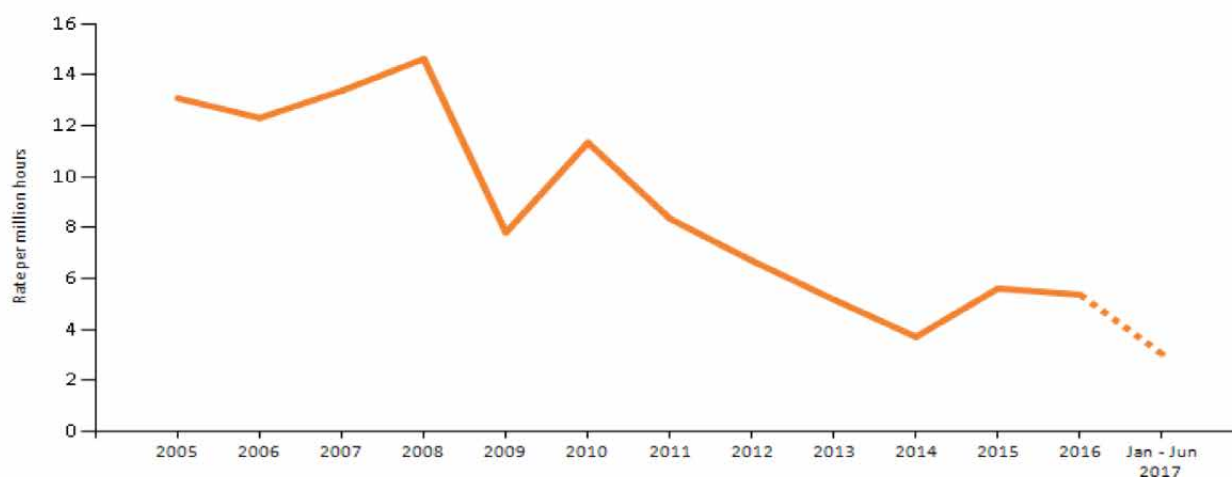
### Accidents



During the quarter, two accidents on platform facilities were reported to NOPSEMA.

The overall annual rate of accidents per million hours worked has been low and relatively stable in recent years, but has increased from 0.41 in 2016 to 0.70 at the end of Q2 2017.

### Total recordable cases - injuries



During the quarter, four injuries were reported to NOPSEMA including one serious injury, one lost time injury resulting in five days off work, one alternative duties injury and one medical treatment injury.

The annual overall injury rate (based on total injuries reported to NOPSEMA on a monthly basis) has declined from 5.36 per million hours worked in 2016 to 3.04 at the end of Q2 2017.

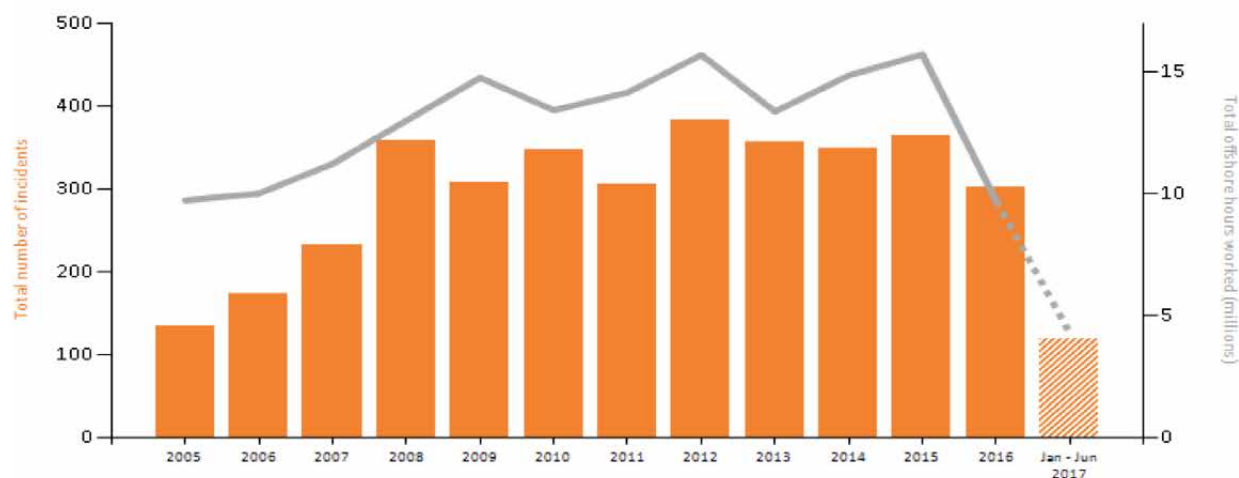
## OHS hydrocarbon releases



Note: Hydrocarbon releases may have been reported as an OHS and environmental incident; this chart only includes those notified under OHS reporting criteria.

During the quarter, NOPSEMA was notified of six low-level (>1 – 300kg) hydrocarbon gas releases (maximum 36kg).

## Dangerous occurrences



During the quarter, 69 dangerous occurrences were reported to NOPSEMA, which is consistent with the quarterly average of 70 for the last two years. The majority of these dangerous occurrences were unplanned events triggering emergency response plan implementation (48%), followed by damage to safety-critical equipment (35%).

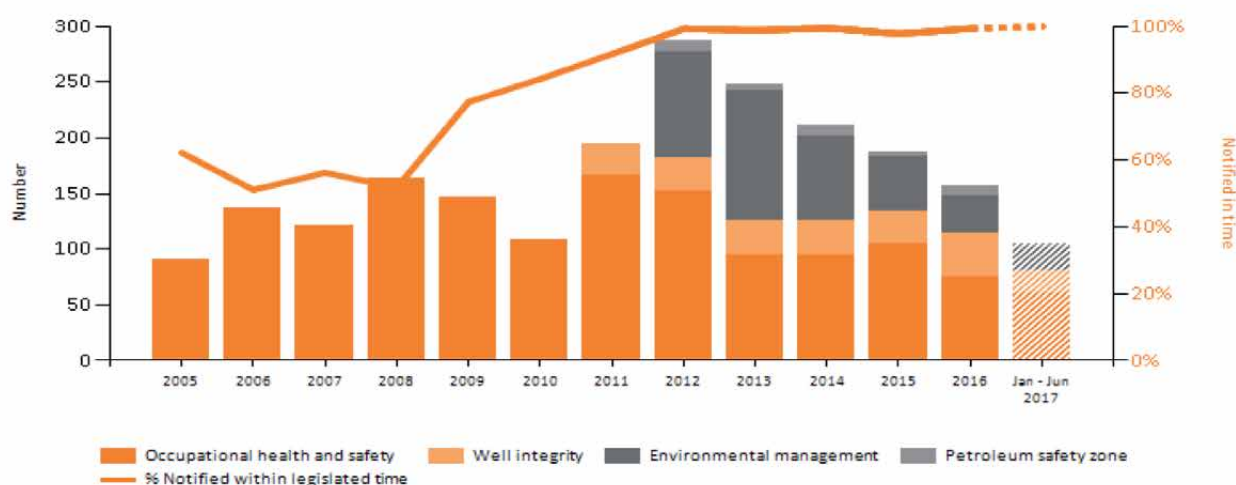


## NOPSEMA activity and performance

Regulatory activity		
Type of activity	Category	Number
Inspections	Occupational health and safety	21
	Well integrity	1
	Environmental management	4
Enforcement actions	Occupational health and safety	18
	Environmental management	10

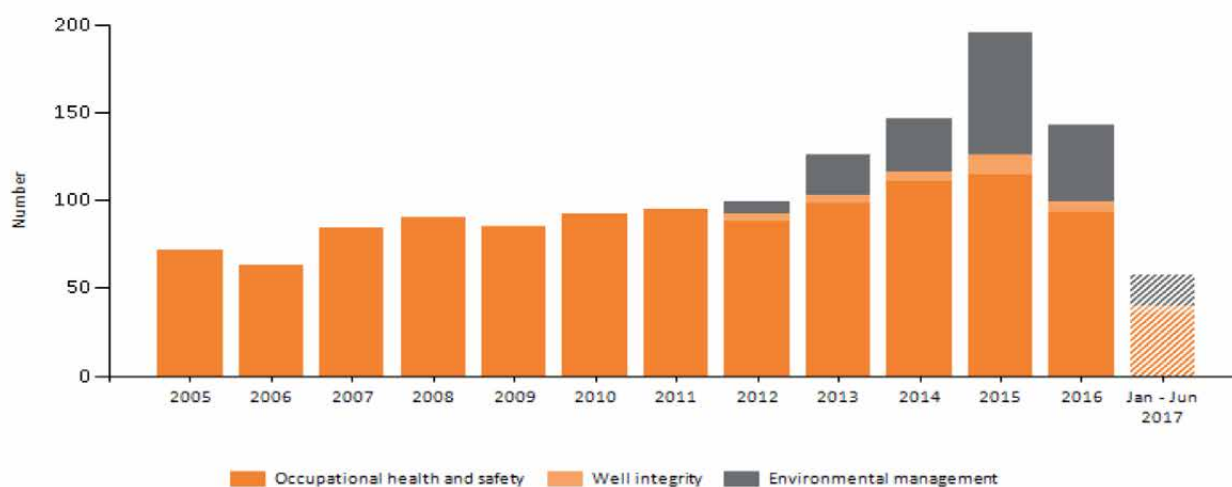
## NOPSEMA performance indicators

### Notified assessments



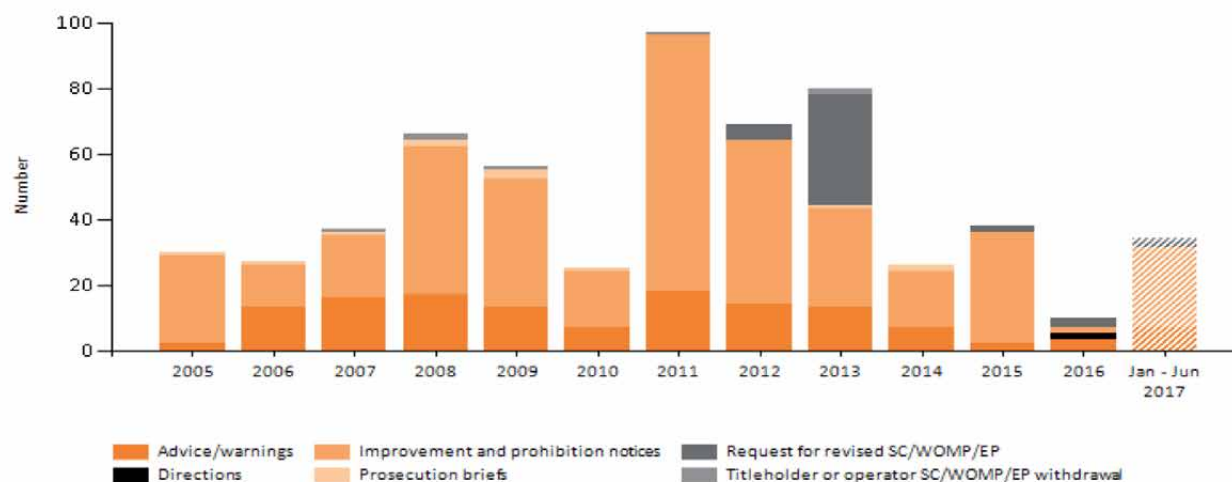
During the quarter, 100% of all assessments were notified within legislated timeframes. Only assessment types with legislated timeframes are included in the 'notified in time' data, however, it is NOPSEMA policy to apply a specified timeframe on all assessment types.

## Inspections



During the quarter, NOPSEMA conducted 26 inspections across 37 facilities and petroleum activities (a single inspection may cover multiple facilities).

## Enforcement actions



During the quarter, 28 enforcement actions were issued by NOPSEMA. The enforcement actions included 17 OHS improvement notices, one notice of intent to withdraw safety case acceptance, three environmental management (EM) improvement notices, one request for a revision to an environment plan and six EM written advice/warnings.







## Schedule of events

### October

- 2-4 October** International Regulators' Forum Annual General Meeting, Copenhagen
- 10-11 October** Marine Technology Society's Dynamic Positioning 2017 Conference, Houston
- 25-26 October** 2017 Australian Petroleum Production Exploration Association Health, Safety & Environment Conference, Perth

### November

- 16 November** INSTOK Well & Reservoir Technologies Conference, Perth

### December

- 7 December** Reference Case Briefing: Past, present and future, Perth

Events listed are those at which NOPSEMA is presenting or exhibiting or has an organisational role.  
Published presentations from past events are available at [www.nopsema.gov.au/resources/presentations](http://www.nopsema.gov.au/resources/presentations).