

Advice and promotion

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1. Purpose

This policy provides an overview of the general principles that the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) applies in advising on and promoting safety, structural integrity and environmental management for offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas operations in Commonwealth waters and in coastal waters where state and territory regulatory powers and functions have been conferred.

2. Scope

Section 646 of the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* (OPGGSA) describes NOPSEMA's functions. These functions include the promotion of the occupational health and safety of persons involved in offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas operations and the provision of advice on occupational health and safety, structural integrity and environmental management of offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas operations.

This policy applies to all advice and promotion activities undertaken by NOPSEMA in connection with its other functions under the OPGGS Act and seeks to support the effective delivery of those functions.

3. Relevant Legislation

- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006 (OPGGSA)
- *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Safety) Regulations 2009*
- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Resource Management and Administration) Regulations 2011
- Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009
- Regulatory Powers (Standard Provisions) Act 2014.

4. Policy Statements

Through its advice and promotion activities NOPSEMA aims to:

- enhance stakeholder understanding of regulatory requirements and obligations
- encourage and promote dutyholders' compliance with regulatory requirements and obligations
- encourage and promote continuous improvement in safety, structural integrity and environmental management outcomes
- communicate emerging safety, structural integrity and environmental management issues and lessons learned from the conduct of its regulatory activities
- supplement and support broader compliance and enforcement activities and initiatives.

NOPSEMA will seek to achieve the above aims through:

- development and implementation of proactive advice and promotion campaigns and work programs
- publication and maintenance of a comprehensive suite of policies, guidance, alerts and other information to assist dutyholders in complying with their obligations under the legislation
- implementation and maintenance of a stakeholder engagement framework
- participation in relevant stakeholder events to communicate targeted messages
- active utilisation of various communication and media channels.

NOPSEMA's advice and promotion activities will be designed and implemented in a manner that recognises the responsibility of the dutyholder to identify and manage risks generated by their activities. As such the above activities are focused on encouraging compliance through education and providing assistance to stakeholders to help them understand the regulatory requirements. The extent to which NOPSEMA will provide advice will take into account the requirement to maintain objectivity in its entire regulatory decision making.