



# Resource Management and Administration (RMA) Regulations 2025: Guidance on Part 5 Changes

Information Session February 2026



# New Resource Management and Administration Regulations Information Session Series

January 28

- General overview of RMA Regulation changes
  - Why the regulations have been remade
  - What the key changes are
  - What NOPSEMA is doing and how can you be engaged

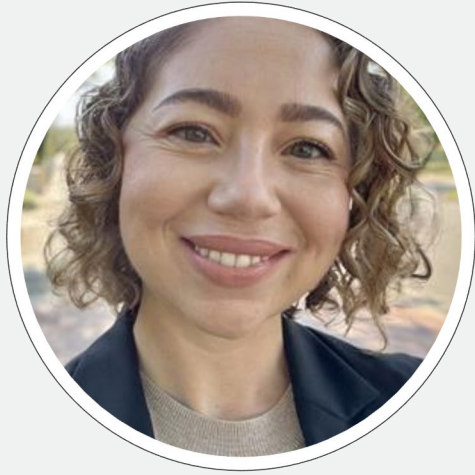
February 10

- Guidance on Part 5 changes
  - WOMP requirements
  - Incident Reporting
  - Annual Well Integrity Reporting

February 25

- Further Clarifications and FAQ
  - Getting ready for March 31

# NOPSEMA Well Integrity Leadership



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# Areas to be covered today

- WOMP changes
  - New inclusions
  - New acceptance criteria for WOMPs
  - Concept design
  - Competency Assurance
- Reporting
  - Changes to the 3-day and 30-day reporting requirements
  - New Annual Well Integrity Report

# Part 5 of the *new* RMA Regulations

Makes explicit what was previously implicit:

The object of Part 5 is to maintain the integrity of offshore wells by ensuring risks to well integrity is reduced to ALARP and an acceptable level

- Confirms integrity is an ongoing condition, not a one-off approval
- Integrity must be maintained, and evidence may be required to demonstrate that risks remain ALARP over time

What changes is how evidence of that ongoing duty is obtained, not the duty itself

Role of the Regulator - Assures the public interest that titleholders are managing integrity risks in accordance with the law

# WOMPs – s81 Criteria for Acceptance

81b now adds the requirement for wells not only to be of similar risk but also that the monitoring and control measures implemented should be similar

81c gives a clearer link to the type of well and well activities and the contents of the plan

81d requires that the plan not only demonstrates that the risk are ALARP but also acceptable

NOPSEMA is carefully considering what these new acceptance criteria mean for WOMP assessments and will be developing new guidelines. NOPSEMA will engage with industry on the content prior this being applied to assessments

Existing decision-making processes will continue while this work is completed

# WOMPs – s82 Content

Section 82.3(a) a description of the well activities and 82.4(b) Basis of design will assist in the assessment of 82.4(c) that the processes described are appropriate for the well(s)

82(4)(b)Basis of Design - This has been introduced to provide greater clarity that the WOMP must include a description and explanation of the concepts considered in relation to the well, how they impact the risk management associated with the well and the instigation of the Risk Register that will develop as the planning progresses

‘Concept’ used in this context is intended to mean an explanatory overview of the various well types and construction methodology considered

The purpose of change is to formalise ‘safer by design principles’ into well design, operations and management.

These principles apply to every stage in the life cycle of a well and involve eliminating hazards or minimising risks as early in the life cycle as possible

# WOMPs – s82 Content

Section 82.5 simplifies the original Sections 5.09(1)(d) to (g) by using industry wording and linking to the processes described in 82.4(c).

This also aligns with the use of Well Acceptance Criteria used in the programme and then in the Final Abandonment Report.

An Example of this is below

Well Outcome:	Confirmation that casing is appropriate to use as a barrier
Control Measure:	Pressure test casing
Performance Standard:	Drilling barrier and qualification
Acceptance Criteria:	Pressure test according to standard
Verification/Evidence:	Pressure test chart signed by qualified person



# WOMPs – s82 Content

82(7) The purpose of this requirement is to provide NOPSEMA with additional information with regard to the titleholder's proposed competency assurance system.

Competency assurance is defined as the formal systems, tools and processes which ensure that personnel are competent to complete assigned tasks to an accepted standard (NOPSEMA Document N-06300-IP1038 Human Factors: Competency Assurance)

There are various documents available in the public domain that can assist generating a framework for competencies and training including:

- IOGP Report 476 Recommendations for enhancements to well control training, examination and certification
- OEUK Guidelines on Competency for Wells Personnel

# Notice – s97 Well activities for which advance notice is required

This has a new requirement under 97(1)(v) titleholder must give notice of a well activity that changes the performance standards or barrier elements used to maintain the integrity of a well

NOPSEMA may request additional information

(5) The request must be in writing and state:

- (a) that, if the titleholder has not begun the well activity, the well activity must not begin until the written information has been provided to NOPSEMA; and
- (b) that, if the titleholder has begun the well activity, the written information must be provided to NOPSEMA within a specified reasonable period.

# Notice – s98 Updating information given about a well activity

Before the titleholder starts carrying out the well activity, if the information in the notice is no longer materially accurate, the titleholder must provide NOPSEMA with accurate written information in relation the change as soon as practicable and in a time frame that provides NOPSEMA with a reasonable opportunity to consider the information before the commencement of the activity.

Materially accurate - "means that the technical and safety information provided is correct to a degree that allows NOPSEMA to make an informed decision about well integrity and safety."

# Reporting – 3 and 30 day reporting

There is now the additional requirement 100(d) to report damage to, or failure of, well related equipment that is used to monitor or verify the integrity of the well

For example (but not limited to):

- **Downhole Equipment:** Casing, tubing, packers, and tubing hangers.
- **Safety Valves:** Christmas tree valves and Subsurface Safety Valves (SSSV), including their control lines.
- **Wellhead Systems:** The wellhead itself and any associated pressure-control components like side pocket mandrels.
- **Well Control Systems:** Equipment leading to or including **Blow-out Preventers (BOPs)** and diversion systems.

This is a **new requirement** that builds on the 3-day report that is required under Regulation 102

103 - If the 3-day report does not close out the investigation, then the Titleholder must provide an update report every 30 days until the investigation is closed

104 - This now defines the retention time for the report. The titleholder must retain a copy for a period of 5 years after the report is given to NOPSEMA

# Reporting – Annual Well Integrity Report

New reporting requirement that is required on the anniversary of acceptance of the WOMP defined in 87

Under 258 this report requirement applies to WOMPs that are already In-Force and will commence from 1 April 2026

NOPSEMA is currently preparing a draft Annual Well Integrity Report template along with some examples that will be made available for consultation

# Transitional Arrangements - Reminder

- If a **revision** of a WOMP (that was accepted under the old regulations) is submitted **before** 31 March 2026, it will continue to be assessed under the old regulations
- If a **revision** of a WOMP (that was accepted under the old regulations) is submitted on or **after** 31 March 2026, it will be assessed under the remade regulations
- If a **new** WOMP is submitted and NOPSEMA is unable to complete the assessment **before** the 31 March 2026, NOPSEMA must then assess the WOMP under the remade regulations
- WOMPs accepted under the old regulations will continue to remain in force
- Any WOMP accepted by NOPSEMA with an anniversary date from 31 March 2026, will need to submit an Annual Well Integrity Report by 14 days after the anniversary date



# What is NOPSEMA doing and how can I stay informed?

- Updating our guidance material
- Engaging with stakeholders
- Providing sources of information and FAQ

## **Dedicated NOPSEMA RMA Regulations page:**

[Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage \(Resource Management and Administration\) Regulations | NOPSEMA](#)

## **Next Information sessions**

- 25 February 2026 - Further clarifications and FAQ

NOPTA information [News: Consultation on new and revised guidelines, factsheets and forms](#)



Questions?







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