

WA-523-P drilling exploration and appraisal environment plan

This document provides notification of NOPSEMA's decision made under regulation 10 of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009 (Environment Regulations). In this instance, NOPSEMA is providing an opportunity to modify and resubmit the environment plan as it is not reasonably satisfied that the plans meets the acceptance criteria set out in the regulations].

Submission information

Titleholder¹:	Carnarvon Petroleum Ltd
Environment plan:	WA-523-P drilling exploration and appraisal, BUF-ENV-PLN-0001, Revision 0
Petroleum title(s)/Application number(s):	WA-523-P
Date submitted to NOPSEMA:	13/09/2018
Activities type(s)²:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drilling
Activity overview: <i>As described on the NOPSEMA website.</i>	<p>Carnarvon Petroleum Ltd. (CVN) has an active exploration focus on Australia's North Western Shelf (NWS), Western Australia (WA). Holding over 35,000 km² of exploration acreage, including the 2009 awarded Phoenix blocks (WA-435-P, WA-436-P, WA-437-P and WA-438-P), which contain the Phoenix South, Roc and Dorado discoveries.</p> <p>CVN intend to undertake drilling of one exploration well (Buffalo East-1) and up to two appraisal wells Buffalo East 2 and 3) in the Buffalo field in Australian waters, directly adjacent to the Joint Petroleum Development Area (JDPA). The wells will be drilled within permit area WA-523-P, approximately 560 km north-west of Darwin. Drilling is planned to be completed in Q3 2020.</p> <p>CVN are the titleholder of permit area WA-523-P and will be the operator for the proposed activity.</p>
Decision:	Not reasonably satisfied
Decision date:	15/10/2018
Resubmission due date³:	14/11/2018
Decision made by:	Representative of NOPSEMA: Environment Manager - Drilling & Developments

Basis of decision

NOPSEMA has assessed the environment plan in accordance with its assessment policies and procedures. On completion of assessment, NOPSEMA has decided that it is not reasonably satisfied that the environment plan meets the criteria below as set out in regulation 10A of the Environment Regulations:

- (b) demonstrates that the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be reduced to as low as reasonably practicable
- (c) demonstrates that the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be of an acceptable level
- (e) includes an appropriate implementation strategy and monitoring, recording and reporting arrangements

Titleholder requirements

In accordance with regulation 10, the titleholder is required to modify and resubmit the environment plan. Upon resubmission of the plan, NOPSEMA will continue to assess the submission in accordance with its assessment policies and make a decision under regulation 10. After a titleholder has been provided with reasonable opportunity to modify and resubmit an environment plan, NOPSEMA will make a final decision on whether to accept or refuse to accept the environment plan.

How to get further information

If you have any further questions regarding the activity it is suggested you contact the titleholder's nominated liaison person for the activity.

If you would like to access any further information regarding this decision, or would like to contact NOPSEMA please email environment@nopsema.gov.au.

¹ A titleholder includes an applicant for a petroleum access authority, petroleum special prospecting authority, pipeline licence, greenhouse gas search authority or greenhouse gas special authority under sub-regulation 9(2).

² Activity type as listed in the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Regulations 2004

³ NOPSEMA sets the proposed timeframe for resubmission; after which NOPSEMA may determine a reasonable opportunity has been given and NOPSEMA may refuse to accept the plan. Titleholders can request an extended timeframe.