Report on proposals approved, approved with conditions, withdrawn or varied under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for Australia's World Heritage properties

For the period 1 December 2025 to 28 February 2026, six proposed actions were accepted, three proposals were withdrawn and a proposal was determined to be "clearly unacceptable".

Accepted

World Heritage Property: Ningaloo Coast

NOPSEMA Number: 8442

Title: Gorgon Gas Development Jansz Umbilical

Category: Offshore Oil and Gas

On 4 December 2025, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for Gorgon Gas Development Jansz Umbilical activity by Chevron Australia Pty Ltd. The proposed action is located approximately 130 kilometres off the north-west coast of Western Australia.

The proposed action is to install a fibre-optic and electrical control umbilical between the offshore Jansz and Gorgon Central Distribution Units to support the reliability of the offshore gas gathering systems for the existing Gorgon Foundation Project. The umbilical will provide electrical power and fibre optic communications to the Jansz gas field.

The Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area is within the hydrocarbon Environment that May be Affected of the proposed action, located approximately 130 kilometres southwest of the operational area of the proposed action.

The decision notice is available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/720/show_public.

World Heritage Property: Ningaloo Coast

NOPSEMA Number: 8523

Title: Cash Maple Geophysical and Geotechnical Survey

Category: Offshore Oil and Gas

On 18 December 2025, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for the Cash Maple Geophysical and Geotechnical Survey by INPEX Cash Maple Pty Ltd. The proposed action is located in the Bonaparte Basin off the northwest coast of Western Australia.

The proposed action includes vessel-based geophysical and geotechnical surveying of the seabed and along four possible export pipeline routes to establish a preferred route. It is also to collect marine baseline data to support future environmental approvals.

The Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area is located in the Environment that May Be Affected by the proposed action.

The decision notice is available at:
https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/727/show_public.

World Heritage Property: Ningaloo Coast; Murujuga Cultural Landscape

NOPSEMA Number: 8208

Title: North West Shelf Phase 1 Plug and Abandonment and TPA03 Well Intervention

Category: Offshore Oil and Gas

On 23 December 2025, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for the North West Shelf Phase 1 Plug and Abandonment and TPA03 Well Intervention activity by Woodside Energy Ltd. The proposed action is located in the Northern Carnarvon Basin, with the closest point approximately 125 kilometres north of Dampier, Western Australia.

The proposed action is to undertake permanent plug and abandonment and well intervention activities for subsea wells associated with the North West Shelf Development. It also includes well intervention activity on one of the wells. The activity is expected to require between 14 to 57 days in 2026 to complete.

The plugging and abandonment and well intervention will be undertaken using a moored or hybrid (mooring and dynamic positioning capability) semi-submersible mobile offshore drilling unit, supported by vessels.

The Ningaloo Coast and the Murujuga Cultural Landscape World Heritage Areas are located in the Environment that May Be Affected by the proposed action. Ningaloo Coast is located 251 kilometres southwest of the operational areas while Murujuga Cultural Landscape is 97 kilometres southeast of the operational areas, at their closest points respectively.

The decision notice is available at:
https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/696/show_public.

World Heritage Property: Budj Bim Cultural Landscape; Tasmanian Wilderness;

NOPSEMA Number: 8500

Title: Annie 2 Development Drilling

Category: Offshore Oil and Gas

On 8 January 2026, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for the Annie 2 Development Drilling activity by Cooper Energy (CH) Pty. Ltd. The proposed action is located off Victoria's southwest coast in the Otway Basin.

The proposed action is to undertake survey and well construction activities, including development drilling. The proposed action is expected to take up to 60 days.

No World Heritage properties were identified within the operational or monitoring areas of the proposed action. However, the area is located in proximity to Budj Bim Cultural Landscape World Heritage Area to the north-west and the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area to its southeast.

The decision notice is available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/724/show_public.

World Heritage Property: Ningaloo Coast, Murujuga Cultural Landscape

NOPSEMA Number: 8270

Title: Wandoo Field Geotechnical and Geophysical Survey

Category: Offshore Oil and Gas

On 4 February 2026, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for the Wandoo Field Geotechnical and Geophysical Survey activity by Vermilion Oil & Gas Australia Pty Ltd. The proposed action is located in the Carnarvon Basin off the northwest coast of Western Australia, approximately 80 kilometres northwest of Dampier and 110 kilometres northeast of Barrow Island.

The proposed action is to undertake geotechnical and geophysical surveys near existing facilities to acquire and assess geotechnical data and geological data to support the safe placement of a Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit. The activity is expected to take up to 10 days in 2026.

The Ningaloo Coast and Murujuga Cultural Landscape World Heritage Areas are located in the Environment that May Be Affected by the proposed action.

The decision notice is available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/573/show_public.

Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

World Heritage Property: Kakadu National Park

NOPSEMA Number: 8444

Title: Eos 3D Marine Seismic Survey

Category: Offshore Oil and Gas

On 17 February 2026, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for the Eos 3D Marine Seismic Survey by Santos Offshore Pty Ltd. The proposed action is located in the Bonaparte Basin, approximately 107 kilometres from the nearest Western Australia coastline and approximately 102 kilometres from the nearest Northern Territory coastline.

The proposed action is to acquire a three-dimensional marine seismic survey to facilitate future carbon dioxide injection activities and define future injection well locations. A seismic survey vessel will tow a seismic source array and a series of streamers within the operational area. The seismic source will emit pulses of low-frequency sound. The survey is estimated to take up to 50 days to complete.

The Kakadu National Park World Heritage Area is located approximately 40 kilometres east of the Environment that May Be Affected by the proposed action.

The decision notice is available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/580/show_public.

Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Withdrawn

World Heritage Property: Great Barrier Reef

EPBC Number: 2024/09789

Title: Proserpine Wind Farm

Category: Energy Generation and Supply (renewable)

This proposal to construct, operate and decommission a wind farm to the west of Peter Faust (Lake Proserpine) Dam in Queensland was withdrawn on 3 February 2026.

Details are available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=efe7efa0-13c6-ee11-9079-000d3acb1769.

World Heritage Property: Great Barrier Reef

EPBC Number: 2024/09824

Title: Miriam Vale Renewable Energy Hub

Category: Energy Generation and Supply (renewable)

This proposal to develop a solar farm and a battery energy storage system at Miriam Vale in Queensland was withdrawn on 9 February 2026.

Details are available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=315b8e24-e4e4-ee11-904c-00224893ddd8.

World Heritage Property: Great Barrier Reef

EPBC Number: 2025/10157

Title: Discovery Drive, Agnes Water Residential Development

Category: Residential Development

This proposal for a multi-precinct residential development at Agnes Water in Queensland was withdrawn on 16 February 2026.

Details are available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=8f9f79b3-cd0a-f011-bae3-7c1e5289daa9.

Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Clearly unacceptable

World Heritage Property: Australian Convict Sites - Old Government House and Domain

EPBC Number: 2024/10005

Title: Hunter and Macquarie Streets Build-to-rent

Category: Residential Development

On 15 December 2025, a delegate for the Minster for the Environment and Water determined that the Hunter and Macquarie Streets Build-to-rent proposal by Southern Han Parramatta Pty Ltd would have clearly unacceptable impacts on Old Government House and Domain, in accordance with Part 3 of the EPBC Act.

The proposed action is to develop a mixed-use development over two towers (one 39 storeys and one 40 storeys) with approximately 1,505 square metres of open space and built-to-rent housing for mixed residential and commercial use. This includes demolishing existing non-heritage buildings and structures while maintaining three state heritage listed cottages. The proposed action is located in Parramatta, New South Wales.

The proposed action area is located adjacent to the buffer zone of Old Government House and Domain, which is part of the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage property. The proposed action area is within the Highly Sensitive Area identified in the 2015 Conservation Agreement entered into by the Commonwealth of Australia, New South Wales Government, and Parramatta City Council, which aims to protect and conserve the values of Old Government House and Domain.

The decision notice is available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=f5a52175-e37b-ef11-ac20-00224895901e