Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Attachment A

Report on new proposals referred under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for Australia's World Heritage properties

For the period 1 June to 31 August 2025, five proposals were identified as requiring further assessment under the EPBC Act.

World Heritage Property: Ningaloo Coast

EPBC Number: 2025/10180

Title: Tantabiddi Boating Facility

Category: Transport - Water

The proposed action is for the construction and operation of a marine boating facility, proposed to harbour recreational and commercial vessels. The site of the proposed action is located approximately 15 kilometres west of Exmouth, Western Australia.

The proposed action includes the construction of Rubble-mound breakwaters and revetments (3.5 hectares) and dredging of the harbour basin and entrance channel (9.7 hectares). Marine facilities will include up to six boat ramp, jetties and boat pens to service recreational and commercial boating. Land based facilities will include an entrance road, utilities area, parking, amenities and open space (9 hectares, including 5.5 hectares of vegetation clearing).

The proposal requires a disturbance footprint of up to 22.6 hectares within a 58.4 hectares Development Envelope. The proposed action is located in the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area.

On 20 June 2025, the proposed action is determined to be a controlled action to be assessed under the EPBC Act, due to the potential impacts on nationally protected matters, including the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area. The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the Department) will assess potential impacts of the action on this World Heritage property.

The decision notice is available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=463275a8-e81f-f011-9989-000d3acc425c.

Attachment A

World Heritage Property: Lord Howe Island Group

EPBC Number: 2025/10188

Title: Lord Howe Island Critical Infrastructure Project

Category: Transport - Water

The proposed action is to undertake the construction, operation, and long-term maintenance of critical infrastructure on Lord Howe Island. The proposed action is located on the western side of Lord Howe Island at the northern and southern edges of the Lord Howe Island lagoon.

The main infrastructure includes marine facilities such as landing facilities and cargo loading/offloading areas. It also includes a waste management facility, and biosecurity infrastructure and associated measures. The total disturbance of the North and South Zones of the proposed action is 6.08 hectares.

On 7 July 2025, the proposed action is determined to be a controlled action to be assessed under the EPBC Act, due to the potential impacts on nationally protected matters, including Lord Howe Island Group World Heritage Area. The Department will assess potential impacts of the action on this World Heritage property.

The decision notice is available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=0f7c600d-ba2b-f011-8c4e-00224895632e.

World Heritage Property: Greater Blue Mountains Area

EPBC Number: 2025/10211

Title: Sunny Corner Wind Farm

Category: Energy Generation and Supply (renewable)

The proposed action is to undertake the construction, operation and decommissioning of a wind farm and associated infrastructure. The proposed action is located in the Sunny Corner State Forest, approximately 37 kilometres east of Bathurst, New South Wales.

The proposed action will involve the development and operation of additional electricity infrastructure and ancillary activities, including up to 80 wind turbine generators with a top height of 285 metres and a hub height of 185 metres and approximately 500 megawatts of battery energy storage. It will supply electricity to the national electricity grid via the existing electricity transmission network.

The operational area of the proposed action is located approximately 14 kilometres west of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

Attachment A

On 21 August 2025, the proposed action is determined to be a controlled action to be assessed under the EPBC Act, due to the potential impacts on nationally protected matters, including the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The Department will assess potential impacts of the action on this World Heritage property.

The decision notice is available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=8b407344-fa3f-f011-877a-00224897dc45.

World Heritage Property: Ningaloo Coast, Murujuga Cultural Landscape

NOPSEMA Number: 7675 / 8409

Title: Goodwyn Alpha Geophysical and Geotechnical Surveys

Category: Offshore Oil and Gas

The original proposal was submitted to the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) on 15 December 2023. The original proposal was to conduct a series of geotechnical and geophysical surveys in early 2025 which would collectively form the Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Activities Program to support future activities within multiple title areas.

A revised proposal was submitted on 7 July 2025. The revised proposal is to conduct the same activities but now commencing in early 2026. The revised proposal notes that the Survey Program could also occur at any time throughout the year to provide operational flexibility on project schedule changes and project vessel availability.

The proposed action is to collect high resolution geotechnical and geophysical data to inform the design of flowlines and umbilical routes, design of subsea structure foundation locations and planning for mobile offshore drilling unit anchoring or jack-up location associated with the Goodwyn A infill development, plug and abandonment activities and future exploration for greenhouse gas and petroleum activities. The operational area of the proposed action is located 32 kilometres from the nearest shoreline (Montebello Islands) and approximately 123 kilometres to Dampier on mainland Western Australia.

The Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area is 355 kilometres southwest of Operational Area C and the Murujuga Cultural Landscape World Heritage Area is 90 kilometres southwest of Operational Area C. NOPSEMA will not accept an environmental plan that proposes activities that will contravene a plan of management for a World Heritage property or proposes unacceptable impacts to the World Heritage values of a World Heritage property.

Further information on this proposal is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/717/show_public.

Attachment A

World Heritage Property: Ningaloo Coast

NOPSEMA Number: 8442

Title: Gorgon Gas Development Jansz Umbilical

Category: Offshore Oil and Gas

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 proposed action is located approximately 130 kilometres off the north-west coast of Western Australia.

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. NOPSEMA will not accept an environmental plan that proposes activities that will contravene a plan of management for a World Heritage property or proposes unacceptable impacts to the World Heritage values of a World Heritage property.

Further information on this proposal is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/720/show_public.