Australian Government
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Attachment B

Report on proposals approved, approved with conditions, withdrawn or varied under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for Australia's World Heritage properties

For the period 1 September to 30 November 2024, three proposed actions were accepted, and two proposed actions were withdrawn.

Accepted

World Heritage Property:	Lord Howe Island Group
NOPSEMA Number:	7695
Title:	Jack-Up Rig Plug and Abandonment
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 8 October 2024, the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) gave regulatory approval for Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd to conduct plug and abandonment activities of 21 platform wells and five subsea wells, at 12 locations in the Gippsland basin. The subsea and platform-based wells are located in Bass Strait.

The proposed action will conduct activities to permanently abandon the wells by installation of cement plugs as barriers, followed by the removal of trees and wellheads. The activity is due to commence in the fourth quarter of 2024 with the earliest date of arrival expected to be 1 October 2024, with an estimated total program duration of approximately 12-16 months.

The proposed action is approximately 1,474 kilometres south-west of the Lord Howe Island Group.

The decision notice is available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/534/show_public

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World Heritage Property:	Budj Bim Cultural Landscape
NOPSEMA Number:	7780
Title:	Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 14 October 2024, NOPSEMA gave regulatory approval for Woodside Energy (Victoria) Pty Ltd to undertake subsea decommissioning activities for the Minerva Field, located approximately 11 kilometres south-southwest of Port Campbell, Victoria.

The proposed action includes ongoing field management activities until final decommissioning, removal of the Minerva gas pipeline bundle, and removal of Minerva subsea infrastructure within Commonwealth waters. Equipment removal activities are planned to commence as early as Quarter 4 2024 and require approximately 3-5 months, subject to vessel availability and weather constraints.

The proposed action is approximately 5 kilometres south of the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape.

The decision notice is available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/541/show_public

World Heritage Property:	Kakadu National Park
NOPSEMA Number:	7878
Title:	Barossa Darwin Pipeline Duplication Project
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 16 October 2024, NOPSEMA gave regulatory approval for Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd to install approximately 123 kilometres of pipeline, of which approximately 23 kilometres are in Commonwealth waters, along with supporting subsea infrastructure, and undertake pre-commissioning activities. This forms part of the Darwin Pipeline Duplication Project.

The proposed action is located approximately 95 kilometres north-west of Darwin, Northern Territory, and approximately 25 kilometres south-west of the Tiwi Islands, Northern Territory.

The project area is approximately 220 kilometres north-west of Kakadu National Park.

The decision notice is available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/546/show_public

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Withdrawn

World Heritage Property:	Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park
EPBC Number:	2012/6602
Title:	Ayres Rock Resort Golf Course Development NT
Category:	Tourism and Recreation

This proposal to develop an 18 hole, international-standard golf course was withdrawn on 15 October 2024.

Details are available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=9db97218-4c67-e511-b4b8-005056ba00ab

World Heritage Property:	Great Barrier Reef
EPBC Number:	2023/09470
Title:	Nerimbera Quarry Extension
Category:	Mining

This proposal to extend the Nerimbera Quarry to increase the footprint of the quarry pit and facilitate access to additional quarriable resources was withdrawn on 11 November 2024.

Details are available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=45ee8472-b5ad-ed11-83fe-0022481867fa