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Report on proposals approved, approved with conditions, withdrawn or varied under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for Australia's World Heritage properties

For the period 1 December 2024 to 28 February 2025, 10 proposed actions were accepted, and 2 proposed actions were withdrawn. During this period, a final Environmental Impact Assessment was released for one additional proposal.

Accepted

World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast
NOPSEMA Number:	7811
Title:	Wheatstone Deep-1 Exploration Drilling
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 19 December 2024, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for Chevron Australia Pty Ltd to conduct exploration drilling within the Northern Carnarvon Basin between 2024 and 2025. The operational area is located approximately 175 kilometres northwest of Dampier Port, Western Australia, and approximately 65 kilometres north-northwest of the Montebello Islands, Western Australia.

The proposed action includes drilling, formation evaluation, and well abandonment. Exploration drilling activities will be undertaken by a semi-submersible mobile offshore drilling unit. Vessels will also be used during the petroleum activity for various support functions.

The Ningaloo Coast World Heritage property is approximately 220 kilometres southwest of the operational area of the proposed action.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/669/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast
NOPSEMA Number:	7812
Title:	Dino South-1 Exploration Drilling
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 19 December 2024, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for Chevron Australia Pty Ltd to conduct exploration drilling in a dry gas reservoir within the Northern Carnarvon Basin between 2024 and 2025. The operational area is located approximately 150 kilometres northwest of Onslow, Western Australia, and approximately 100 kilometres west-northwest of Barrow Island, Western Australia.

The proposed action includes drilling, formation evaluation, and well abandonment. Exploration drilling activities will be undertaken by a semi-submersible mobile offshore drilling unit. Vessels will also be used during the petroleum activity for various support functions. The proposed action is estimated to take approximately 50 days to complete.

The Ningaloo Coast World Heritage property is approximately 114 kilometres south of the operational area of the proposed action.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/543/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast
NOPSEMA Number:	7828
Title:	Scarborough Offshore Facility and Trunkline (Operations)
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 19 February 2025, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for Woodside Energy Scarborough Pty Ltd to undertake gas production and associated activities approximately 375 kilometres west-northwest of Dampier, Western Australia.

The proposed action includes the hook-up of the Scarborough Floating Production Unit (FPU) to pre-installed moorings and subsea gathering system; startup and commissioning activities of the FPU and associated subsea wells, flowlines and infrastructure; routine production and associated activities for up to 13 subsea wells (up to 8 wells in phase 1 and 5 wells in phase 2); and export of dry gas to the onshore gas plant through the gas export trunkline. The proposed action is estimated to commence in late 2025 with a planned field life from startup of operations of approximately 30 years.

The Ningaloo Coast World Heritage property is approximately 178 kilometres south of the operational area of the proposed action.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/544/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast; Shark Bay
NOPSEMA Number:	7911
Title:	Varanus Island Hub Operations
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

The proposed action is to produce gas and condensate in gas fields in offshore Commonwealth waters on the Northwest Shelf of Western Australia. The gas and condensate from the John Brookes, Halyard, Spartan and GES reservoirs are processed in the onshore VI Hub processing plant. The operational area is approximately 127 kilometres north-west of Karratha, Western Australia.

The original application from Santos WA Southwest Pty Ltd was approved by NOPSEMA on 11 September 2014. A revision was accepted on 23 December 2024 to incorporate the commissioning, start up and operations associated with Halyard-2 well which replaces the Halyard-1 well to allow gas supply to continue at Varanus Island.

The environment that may be affected by the proposed action is 111 kilometres southwest of the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage property and 473 kilometres southwest from the Shark Bay World Heritage property.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/680/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast
NOPSEMA Number:	7924
Title:	Ningaloo Vision Cessation of Production and Floating Asset Removal
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 23 December 2024, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for Santos WA PVG Pty Ltd to recover oil in production licence area WA-35-L in Western Australia using the Ningaloo Vision floating production, storage and offloading vessel. The operational area is approximately 58 kilometres north-northwest of Exmouth, Western Australia.

Activities of the proposed action include onboard processing of production fluids (and associated discharges), ongoing vessel-based inspection and intervention activities, as well as periodic disconnection of the vessel, typically in response to cyclones or other operational (e.g., maintenance) requirements.

The Ningaloo Coast World Heritage property is located approximately 27 kilometres south of the operational area of the proposed action.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/683/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast; Shark Bay
NOPSEMA Number:	7632
Title:	Ngujima-Yin FPSO Operations
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 19 December 2024, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for Woodside Energy Ltd to operate the Ngujima-Yin floating production, storage and offloading Facility Operations activity. The operational area is located approximately 43 kilometres north of North-West Cape, Western Australia.

The proposed action is to undertake oil production and associated activities from 19 existing subsea wells, crude oil offloading, inspection, monitoring, maintenance and repair of the facilities.

The operational area of the proposed action is approximately 8.6 kilometres northeast of the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage property and 357 kilometres southwest of the Shark Bay World Heritage property.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/649/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Kakadu National Park
NOPSEMA Number:	7892
Title:	Beehive Multi-Well Exploration Drilling
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 2 January 2025, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for EOG Resources Australia Pty Ltd to drill up to 3 wells, exploration and/or appraisal, into the Beehive structure within a defined activity area approximately 45 square kilometres in size. The proposed action is located in the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf, approximately 77 kilometres off the Western Australian coastline. The proposed action is to be commenced after 2024 and completed by 2030 within a five-year period.

The wells will target the Sunbird and/or Tanmurra formations, with a planned total depth up to about 6,000 metres. At the completion of drilling, each well could be temporarily abandoned for future use, or permanently plugged and abandoned.

The Kakadu National Park World Heritage property is located approximately 400 kilometres northeast of the environment that may be affected by the proposed action.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/548/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Lord Howe Island Group
NOPSEMA Number:	7916
Title:	Jack-Up Rig Kipper Stage 1B Drilling
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 9 January 2025, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd to drill a single subsea gas production well Kipper A3 or Kipper A1. The drilling will take place at the Kipper subsea facility located in the Production Licence VIC/L25, approximately 45 kilometres from Gippsland, Victoria. The earliest date of commencement of the prosed action is expected to be in 2025 and take approximately 90 days.

The proposed action includes jack-up rig positioning, drilling, completion installations, subsea tree installation, flying lead installation, support vessels activities, remotely operated vehicle activities and use of helicopters.

Lord Howe Island Group World Heritage property, located approximately 700 kilometres northeast of Sydney, New South Wales, is within the spill environment that may be affected by the proposed action.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/549/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Tasmanian Wilderness
NOPSEMA Number:	7734
Title:	Offshore Gas Victoria Drilling and P&A Activities
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 6 February 2025, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval for Beach Energy (Operations) Limited to undertake drilling and plug-and-abandon activities within Commonwealth waters of the Otway and Bass Basins. The proposed action includes drilling of up to 5 wells in the Otway Basin, plugging, abandonment, and removal of well infrastructure above the mudline for five legacy suspended subsea exploration wells.

The proposed action will take approximately 300 days and will be undertaken within the period of 1 January 2025 to the 31 December 2028.

The Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area is 183 kilometres south-east of the closest to the nearest operational area of the proposed action.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/538/show_public.

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World Heritage Property:	Shark Bay, Ningaloo Coast, Kakadu National Park
NOPSEMA Number:	6921
Title:	WA-20-L (Decommissioning of a petroleum related activity)
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 10 February 2025, NOPSEMA provided regulatory approval with conditions for Santos WA Northwest Pty Ltd to undertake an evaluation of the ongoing gas seepage in the Legendre Hub and remove the Legendre-1 wellhead, which is located approximately 105 kilometres north of Dampier, Western Australia.

After the decommissioning activities of WA-20-L facilities were performed before 2011, a survey recorded a gas seepage in the form of small bubbles emanating from the seabed into the water column at the Legendre Hub, Legendre South-1 and Legendre South-3 locations. Also, the Legendre-1 wellhead has been in situ since the well was permanently plugged and abandoned in 1968.

In 2021, NOPSEMA requested that Santos remove the Legendre-1 wellhead and any other remaining property in the title area and perform an evaluation of the impacts and risks associated with the identified seeps/leaks. The proposed action by Santos was approved in 2025 with conditions on reporting the outcomes of the proposed action to NOPSEMA.

The operational area of the proposed action is adjacent to the Shark Bay World Heritage property in the southwest and northwest, while the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage property is located in the northwest. The Kakadu National Park World Heritage property is within the combined environment that may be affected by the proposed action.

The decision notice is available on the NOPSEMA website: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/477/show_public.

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Withdrawn

World Heritage Property:	Great Barrier Reef
EPBC Number:	2014/7155
Title:	Iwasaki Capricorn Integrated Resort Development, Yeppoon, QLD
Category:	Tourism and Recreation

The proposed action to construct an integrated resort community including tourism, recreational and residential precincts on the Capricorn Coast, approximately 9 kilometres north of Yeppoon, Queensland, was withdrawn on 5 December 2024.

Details are available at: https://epbcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=7d7b7a12-4c67-e511-b4b8-005056ba00ab.

World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast
NOPSEMA Number:	7515
Title:	Wheatstone Project - Wheatstone-2 Wellhead Decommissioning
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

The proposed action to remove the wellhead left in situ during abandonment for the Wheatstone-2 well was withdrawn on 24 December 2024. An assessment found that the leave in situ decommissioning option was preferred over the removal option as it delivers equal or better environmental outcomes, eliminates any potential cultural heritage risks by minimising seabed disturbance and delivers better health and safety outcomes.

Details are available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/640/show_public.