Report on proposals approved, approved with conditions, withdrawn or varied under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for Australia's World Heritage properties

For the period 1 December 2023 and 29 February 2024, three proposals were accepted, two proposals were withdrawn, and one has been determined not to be a Controlled Action.

Accepted

World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast
NOPSEMA Number:	6807
Title:	Scarborough Drilling and Completions
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 1 December 2023, the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) gave regulatory approval for the proposal from Woodside Energy Scarborough Pty Ltd to drill up to ten development wells in the offshore title WA-61-L.

The project site is located approximately 374 kilometres west-northwest of Dampier, Western Australia. The project includes drilling and subsea tree installation activities for eight planned development wells and the potential for a further two additional contingency wells. Subsea inspection, monitoring, maintenance and subsea infrastructure repair activities may also be undertaken.

The project area is approximately 187 kilometres north-east of the Ningaloo Coast.

The decision notice is available at:
https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/565/show_public

World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast
NOPSEMA Number:	7384
Title:	Activity - WA-61-L and WA-62-L Subsea Infrastructure Installation
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 8 December 2023, NOPSEMA gave regulatory approval for the proposal from Woodside Energy Scarborough Pty Ltd to install subsea infrastructure, carry out survey activities, infrastructure testing, and inspection, monitoring, maintenance and repair (IMMR) activities for installed infrastructure.

The Petroleum Activities Program is located approximately 374 kilometres west-northwest of Dampier, Western Australia. The program has an estimated cumulative duration of 18 months, excluding IMMR activities, with activities occurring in multiple campaigns over three years.

The project area is approximately 187 kilometres north-east of the Ningaloo Coast.

The decision notice is available at: https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/517/show_public

World Heritage Property:	Ningaloo Coast
NOPSEMA Number:	7479
Title:	Gorgon Gas Development Gorgon Umbilical
Category:	Offshore Oil and Gas

On 17 January 2024, NOPSEMA gave regulatory approval for the proposal from Chevron Australia Pty Ltd (on behalf of the Gorgon Joint Venture) to install an additional control and electrical umbilical to the existing feed gas pipeline system that extends between the offshore Gorgon field and the facility on Barrow Island.

The Gorgon gas field is located approximately 130 kilometres off the north-west coast of Western Australia, and approximately 65 kilometres north-west of Barrow Island. The additional control and electrical umbilical bundle will support the reliability of the offshore gas gathering systems. Temporary power supply will be required during the transition to the new system.

The project area is approximately 130 kilometres north-east of the Ningaloo Coast.

The decision notice is available at:
https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/634/show_public

Withdrawn

World Heritage Property:	Greater Blue Mountains Area
EPBC Number:	2017/7940
Title:	Warragamba Dam Raising Project
Category:	Natural Resources Management

This proposal to raise the height of the Warragamba Dam by 17 metres for temporary flood storage and installation of an environmental flows structure was withdrawn on 20 February 2024.

Details are available at: https://epbcpublicportal.awe.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=555e87a2-5434-e711-b32b-005056ba00a7

World Heritage Property:	Greater Blue Mountains Area
EPBC Number:	2022/09399
Title:	Great Western Highway upgrade - Blackheath to Little Hartley
Category:	Transport - Land

This proposal to build new twin tunnels between Blackheath and Little Hartley, New South Wales, was withdrawn on 14 February 2024.

Details are available at: https://epbcpublicportal.awe.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=5b7d17d1-005c-ed11-9562-00224818abd2

Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Attachment B

Determined not to be a Controlled Action

World Heritage Property:	Australian Convict Sites - Kingston and Arthurs Vale Historic Area
EPBC Number:	2023/09677
Title:	Bounty Street Bridge Conservation Works
Category:	Commonwealth

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts proposes to reinforce the Bounty Street Bridge (the Bridge). The development site is located on Bounty Street, within Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (KAVHA) on Norfolk Island.

In a recent safety hazard report, the Bridge was identified as one structure in Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (KAVHA) posing a very high risk of loss of structural integrity. To address this risk, it is proposed to carry out structural reinforcement of the Bridge through installation of a structure concrete arch beneath it. The reinforcing arch would protect the structural integrity and heritage value of the Bridge, including its contribution to the heritage values of the KAVHA.

On 21 December 2023, the proposal was determined to be not a Controlled Action, provided it is taken in a required manner, which includes measures to avoid significant impacts on the World Heritage property and releasing contaminated water into Emily Bay, among other conditions.

The decision notice is available at: https://epbcpublicportal.awe.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/project-decision/?id=5508204d-f678-ee11-8179-000d3a794100