



## CONSOLIDATED APPROVAL NOTICE

### Van Gogh Petroleum Field Development, North-West Shelf (EPBC 2007/3213)

The attached notice (Attachment A) is provided to consolidate the approval conditions for the above project, approved on 20 August 2008. The approval conditions were subject to variation at various times during the post approval phase. These decisions are publicly available on the Department's website at [http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/epbc/epbc\\_ap.pl?name=current\\_referral\\_detail&proposal\\_id=3213](http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/epbc/epbc_ap.pl?name=current_referral_detail&proposal_id=3213).

The publication of this notice does not alter the dates of: effect for the approval; the variations to conditions; the expiry date of the approval; or any other dates mentioned in conditions. The consolidated approval notice is for ease of reference only.

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#### Name and position

Shane Gaddes  
Assistant Secretary  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch

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#### Date of Consolidated Approval Notice

18 / 9 / 2015

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**Van Gogh Petroleum Field Development, North-West Shelf (EPBC 2007/3213)**

This decision is made under sections 130(1) and 133 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

**Proposed action**

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<b>person to whom the approval is granted</b>	Quadrant Energy Australia Limited (formerly Apache Energy Limited)
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<b>proponent's ABN</b>	39 009 301 964
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<b>proposed action</b>	To develop the Van Gogh petroleum field (WA-155-P(1)) for oil production, and associated infrastructure, offshore from Exmouth, Western Australia [See EPBC Act referral 2007/3213].
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**Approval**

Controlling Provision	Decision
Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A)	Approved
Listed migratory species (sections 20 & 20A)	Approved
Commonwealth marine areas (sections 23 & 24A)	Approved

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**conditions of approval**

This **approval** is subject to the conditions specified below.

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**expiry date of approval**

This approval has effect until 31 December 2023.

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## Decision-maker

name and position	Michelle Wicks Acting Assistant Secretary Environment Assessment Branch
signature	<b>SIGNED</b>
date of decision	20 August 2008

## Conditions attached to the approval

1. The person taking the action must submit, for the **Minister's** approval, a plan (or plans) for managing the offshore impacts of the action. The plan (or plans) must include measures for:
  - a) **Offshore construction and installation**, including:
    - i. design and construction that considers the **decommissioning** of all structures and components above the sea floor;
    - ii. details of the anchor type and placements, methods for connection of mooring lines to the DTM buoy, installation of the risers and flowline paths;
    - iii. measures to minimise seabed disturbance;
    - iv. hydrotest fluid type, handling and disposal methods;
    - v. cetacean interaction procedures for supply vessels and aircraft that are consistent with Part 8 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000;
    - vi. cetacean and whale shark sightings reporting; and
    - vii. measures for reporting environmental incidents.
  - b) **Operations**, including:
    - i. offtake tanker vetting procedures;
    - ii. produced formation water and naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORMs) monitoring and management;
    - iii. measures to reduce artificial lighting and noise associated with the development;
    - iv. cetacean interaction procedures for supply vessels and aircraft that are consistent with Part 8 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000;
    - v. cetacean and whale shark sightings reporting; and
    - vi. measures for reporting environmental incidents.

The plan (or plans) for **offshore construction and installation** activities must be submitted at least one month prior to the commencement of these activities. The plan (or plans) for **operations** must be submitted at least two months prior to the commencement of these activities. Individual offshore activities may not commence until the plan (or plans) for that specific activity has been approved. The approved plan (or plans) must be implemented.

2. The person taking the action must submit for the **Minister's** approval an oil spill contingency plan to mitigate the environmental effects of any hydrocarbon spills. The oil spill contingency plan must be for the North West Shelf and Exmouth region and include:



- a) a description of resources available for use in containing and minimising impacts in the event of an oil spill and arrangements for accessing these;
- b) a demonstrated capacity to deploy oil spill response equipment within 12 hours of a spill occurring;
- c) training of staff in oil spill response measures and identifying roles and responsibilities of personnel during a spill response;
- d) identification of sensitive areas, in particular, Ningaloo Marine Park, and specific response measures for these areas;
- e) procedures for reporting oil spill incidents.

The plan must be submitted at least one month prior to the commencement of **offshore construction and installation**. **Offshore construction and installation** may not commence until the plan is approved. The approved plan must be implemented.

3. The person taking the action must submit a **decommissioning** plan (or plans) for approval by the **Minister** one year prior to **decommissioning** of the floating production, storage and offtake vessel, and three months prior to **decommissioning** any subsea wells, flowlines, or any associated infrastructure. The plan (or plans) must consider the complete removal of all structures and components above the sea floor. The approved plan must be implemented.
4. Between eight and twelve months after the commencement of offshore construction, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted. The independent auditor must be approved by the **Minister**. The audit criteria must be agreed by the **Minister** and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the **Minister**.
5. Note: Condition 5 was revoked on the date of this consolidated notice.
6. The person taking the action may choose to revise a management plan approved by the **Minister** under conditions 1 and 2 without submitting it for approval under section 143A of the EPBC Act, if the taking of the action in accordance with the revised plan would not be likely to have a **new or increased impact**. If the person taking the action makes this choice they must:
  - i. notify the **Department** in writing that the approved plan has been revised and provide the **Department** with an electronic copy of the revised plan;
  - ii. implement the revised plan from the date that the plan is submitted to the **Department**; and
  - iii. for the life of this approval, maintain a record of the reasons the person taking the action considers that taking the action in accordance with the revised plan would not be likely to have a **new or increased impact**.
- 6A. The person taking the action may revoke their choice under condition 6 at any time by notice to the **Department**. If the person taking the action revokes the choice to implement a revised plan, without approval under section 143A of the Act, the plan approved by the **Minister** must be implemented.
- 6B. If the **Minister** gives a notice to the person taking the action that the **Minister** is satisfied that the taking of the action in accordance with the revised plan would be likely to have a **new or increased impact**, then:
  - i. Condition 6 does not apply, or ceases to apply, in relation to the revised plan; and
  - ii. The person taking the action must implement the plan approved by the **Minister**

To avoid any doubt, this condition does not affect any operation of conditions 6 and 6A in the period before the day the notice is given.



At the time of giving the notice the **Minister** may also notify that for a specified period of time that condition 6 does not apply for one or more specified plans required under the approval.

- 6C. Conditions 6, 6A, and 6B are not intended to limit the operation of section 143A of the Act which allows the person taking the action to submit a revised management plan to the **Minister** for approval.
7. Note: Condition 7 was revoked on the date of this consolidated notice.
8. If, at any time after five years from the date of this approval, the **Minister** notifies the person taking the action in writing that the **Minister** is not satisfied that there has been substantial commencement of the development of the Van Gogh Petroleum Field, the development of the Van Gogh Petroleum Field must not thereafter be commenced.
9. Within 3 months of the date of this notice, the person taking the action must arrange for a field test to be conducted to verify that the requirements of condition 2(b) (i.e. the capacity to deploy oil spill response equipment within 12 hours of a spill occurring) can be fulfilled. The test results must be provided to the **Department** within 14 days of the test being conducted.

Note. The date stated in condition 9 relates to the date of the variation decision (3 May 2012).

10. Within 3 months of the date of this notice, the person taking the action must conduct an assessment to identify the following:
- a) any nonessential lighting on board the Floating Production, Storage and Offloading Vessel (FPSO);
  - b) measures to minimise nonessential lighting on board the FPSO.

The person taking the action must implement the measures identified in condition 10 b).

Note. The date stated in condition 10 relates to the date of the variation decision (3 May 2012).

11. Within 3 months of the date of this notice, the person taking the action must ensure that all staff on board the FPSO have undertaken the environmental induction training referred to in the Van Gogh Operations Environment Plan (Document no. TV-00-RI-004 Revision 1).

Note. The date stated in condition 11 relates to the date of the variation decision (3 May 2012).

12. The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the management plans required by the approval, and make them available upon request to the **Department**. Such records may be subject to audit by the **Department** or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the **Department's** website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.
13. Within 6 months of the date of this notice, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with conditions 9, 10, 11 and 12 is conducted. The independent auditor and the audit criteria must be approved by the **Minister** at least 1 month before the audit and the audit report addressing the criteria must be submitted to the **Minister** within 2 months of the audit taking place. The audit report must be approved by the **Minister**.

Note. The date stated in condition 13 relates to the date of the variation decision (3 May 2012).

14. A plan required by condition 1, 2 or 3 is automatically deemed to have been submitted to, and approved by, the **Minister** if the measures (as specified in the relevant condition) are included in an **environment plan** (or **environment plans**) relating to the taking of the action that:
- a) was submitted to **NOPSEMA** after 27 February 2014; and
  - b) either:
    - i) is **in force** under the **OPGGS Environment Regulations**; or
    - ii) has ended in accordance with regulation 25A of the **OPGGS Environment Regulations**.
- 14A. Where a plan required by condition 1 or 2 has been approved by the **Minister** and the measures (as specified in the relevant condition) are included in an **environment plan** (or **environment plans**) that:
- a) was submitted to **NOPSEMA** after 27 February 2014; and
  - b) either:
    - i) is **in force** under the **OPGGS Environment Regulations**; or
    - ii) has ended in accordance with regulation 25A of the **OPGGS Environment Regulations**,
- the plan approved by the **Minister** no longer needs to be implemented.
- 14B. Where an **environment plan**, which includes measures specified in the conditions referred to in conditions 14 and 14A above, is **in force** under the **OPGGS Environment Regulations** that relates to the taking of the action, the person taking the action must comply with those measures as specified in that **environment plan**.

## Definitions

**Decommissioning:** means the removal of production equipment and facilities and therefore a discontinuation of operations.

**Department:** the Australian Government Department or any other agency administering the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) from time to time.

**Environment Plan:** an environment plan as existing from time to time which has the meaning given in the **OPGGS Environment Regulations**.

**In force:** in relation to an **environment plan**, has the meaning given in the **OPGGS Environment Regulations**.

**Minister:** the Minister administering the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) and includes a delegate of the Minister.

**New or increased impact:** A new or increased impact on any matter protected by the controlling provisions for the action, when compared to the plan that has been approved by the **Minister**.

**NOPSEMA:** the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority or any other agency that administers the **OPGGS Environment Regulations** from time to time.

**Offshore Construction and installation:** means all activities related to the installation and commissioning of the Van Gogh Petroleum Field Development.

**Operations:** means the commencement of oil extraction and transfer from subsea wells to FPSO and offtake tankers.

**OPGGS Environment Regulations:** Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009 (Cth) as in force or existing from time to time.