OFFSHORE PETROLEUM AND GREENHOUSE GAS STORAGE ACT 2006

If your project involves petroleum or greenhouse gas (GHG) storage activities in Commonwealth waters, you must obtain approvals and comply with the health and safety, well integrity and environmental management requirements of the Act.

1. What approvals do I need?
All petroleum and greenhouse gas activities in Commonwealth waters require a Petroleum or GHG Title (Titles). Titleholders have exclusive rights to apply for approvals for exploration surveys and well appraisal and drilling operations.

You may need to submit the following documentation to NOPSEMA for assessment:
- Safety case
- Well operations management plan (WOMP)
- Environment plan
- Offshore project proposal
- Diving safety management system
- Diving project plan

2. Who provides approvals?
The National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator (NOPTA) administers Titles under the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006. The decision maker is the relevant offshore Joint Authority (petroleum) or the responsible Commonwealth Minister (GHG).

The National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) regulates offshore petroleum and GHG storage operations in Commonwealth waters under the same Act.

Petroleum activities that occur within three nautical mile limit are regulated by the relevant state authorities.

3. How do I get Commonwealth approval?
Titles
Guidance is available on the NOPTA website.

Documents
Guidelines and applications for Safety Cases, WOMP and Environment Plans are available from the NOPSEMA website.

WOMPs should also be submitted to NOPTA in accordance to the regulations.

4. More information
Commonwealth
For more information on Titles, visit the NOPTA website.
For more information on safety, well integrity and environmental management compliance requirements, visit the NOPSEMA website.

Major Projects Facilitation Agency
If you would like assistance to identify the regulatory obligations for your project, please visit our Online Tool or contact us:
Phone: 02 6243 7121
Email: contact@mpfa.gov.au