

## Public record pursuant to s. 39 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

**Proposal title:** Browse Carbon Capture and Storage Project

**Proposal description:** Proposal by Woodside Energy Ltd to develop infrastructure to transport, inject and permanently sequester up to 14,200 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) per day into the Calliance Storage Formation at an expected annual average injection rate of 3-4 million tonnes per annum. Calliance is an underground, rock formation located offshore, 4 kilometres (km) below the seabed and about 425 km north of Broome.

Details of the proposal are further set out in *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* Referral (EPBC Number: [2024/10028](#)).

**Proposal location:** Offshore, about 425 km north of Broome.

**Application number:** APP-0029032

**Date referral received:** 08-05-2025

**Date final information received:** 24-10-2025

**Referrer:** Conservation Council of Western Australia (WA) and Greenpeace Australia Pacific Limited

**Proponent:** Woodside Energy Ltd

**Potential significant effects:** There are potential impacts on marine fauna from invasive marine species, underwater noise (seismic surveys), vessel strikes and artificial light; and benthic communities and habitats and marine environmental quality from seabed disturbances, construction activities, marine discharges (waste) and potential CO<sub>2</sub> and potential hydrocarbon releases.

**Preliminary environmental factors:** benthic communities and habitat, marine environmental quality and marine fauna.

### Public comment on referral information:

|                                            |             |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Do not assess:                             | 18          |
| Assess: a) Referral information            | 12          |
| b) Environmental review - no public review | 7           |
| c) Public environmental review             | 1203        |
| <b>Total submissions:</b>                  | <b>1240</b> |

**Decision:** s. 38G(1) – Not assess

### Summary of reasons pursuant to s. 38G(1)(c)

The EPA notes the marine values adjacent to the proposal and the level of interest regarding these values through comments received during the public comment period and third-party referrers.

The EPA has decided not to assess the proposal because:

- the entire proposal is located in Commonwealth waters, is authorised under the Commonwealth *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* (OPGGs Act); and the proposal's associated environmental impacts are subject to regulation under the OPGGS Act,

- the EPA has taken into account the ability for the OPGGS Act to mitigate impacts through:
  - a broad environmental assessment of the proposal; and
  - an environment plan and other plans approved by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) under the OPGGS Regulations.
- the EPA notes that NOPSEMA may only accept an environment plan under r. 33(1)(a) if it meets the acceptance criteria in r. 34, namely that the plan:
  - (a) is appropriate for the nature and scale of the activity; and
  - (b) demonstrates that the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be reduced to as low as reasonably practicable; and
  - (c) demonstrates that the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be of an acceptable level; and
  - (d) provides for appropriate environmental performance outcomes, environmental performance standards and measurement criteria; and
  - (e) includes an appropriate implementation strategy and monitoring, recording and reporting arrangements; and
  - (f) does not involve the activity or part of the activity, other than arrangements for environmental monitoring or for responding to an emergency, being undertaken in any part of a declared World Heritage property; and
  - (g) demonstrates that:
    - (i) the titleholder has carried out the consultations required by s. 25; and
    - (ii) the measures (if any) that the titleholder has adopted, or proposes to adopt, because of the consultations are appropriate.

It is also noted that NOPSEMA will not accept an environment plan that is inconsistent with a recovery plan or threat abatement plan for a listed threatened species or ecological community (*Streamlining Offshore Petroleum Environmental Approvals* (2014)),

- the proposal's environmental impacts may also be regulated under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), and has been referred pursuant to this legislation by the proponent,
- these Commonwealth Acts include comprehensive assessments and regulatory requirements which will adequately mitigate the risk of potential indirect environmental impacts to State lands and waters.

### Material information considered by the EPA in this decision

The EPA has considered the following material information in making its decision:

- Third party Referral (8 May 2025).
- Conservation Council of WA and Greenpeace Australia Pacific Limited supporting documentation, dated 7 May 2025.
- EPBC Act referral (2024/10028) supporting documentation:
  - Application Number 02625 Referral Form
  - Att. 1 - Proposed Browse Carbon Capture and Storage Project, EPBC Act Referral Supporting Information Document (Rev 0, October 2024).
- Woodside Energy Ltd additional information dated 29 May 2025 and 3 October 2025.
- Conservation Council WA and Greenpeace Australia Pacific Limited additional information dated 23 and 24 October 2025.
- EP Act s. 3, s. 4, and Part IV, Admin Procedures, EPA factor and technical guidance.
- Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- Commonwealth *Environmental Protection Reform Bill 2025*.
- Commonwealth *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*.
- Commonwealth *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2023*.

**Appeals:** There are no rights of appeal under the EP Act in respect of this decision.



**Darren Walsh**

Chair

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

**Date:** 17 November 2025