



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Ass #	868
Bull #	732
State #	349

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

**STATEMENT TO AMEND CONDITIONS APPLYING TO A PROPOSAL
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 46 OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)**

PROPOSAL: EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAMME WITHIN
PERMIT AREA TP/3 PART 1, OFFSHORE ONSLOW
(575/868)

CURRENT PROPONENT: WEST AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM PTY LTD

CONDITIONS SET ON: 25 OCTOBER 1991

Conditions 1 and 2 are amended to read as follows:

1 Proponent Commitments

The proponent has made a number of environmental management commitments in order to protect the environment.

In implementing the proposal, the proponent shall fulfil the commitments made in the Consultative Environmental Review for all wells proposed as part of the programme specified in the Consultative Environmental Review, as amended on 15 February 1994 and reported on in Environmental Protection Authority Bulletin 732, provided that the commitments are not inconsistent with the conditions or procedures contained in this statement. (A copy of the commitments, including the addendum of 15 February 1994, is attached).

2 Implementation

Changes to the proposal which are not substantial may be carried out with the approval of the Minister for the Environment.

Subject to the conditions in this amended statement, the manner of detailed implementation of the proposal shall conform in substance with that set out in any designs, specifications, plans or other technical material submitted by the proponent to the Environmental Protection Authority with the proposal. Where, in the course of that detailed implementation, the proponent seeks to change those designs, specifications, plans or other technical material in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines on the advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

Condition 6 is deleted.

Condition 7 is deleted to allow refuelling procedures in accordance with the addendum to the commitments dated 15 February 1994.

Published on

17 MAR 1994

The following condition and procedure are inserted following condition 12:

13 Compliance Auditing

In order to ensure that environmental conditions and commitments are met, an audit system is required.

- 13-1 The proponent shall prepare periodic "Progress and Compliance Reports", to help verify the environmental performance of this project, in consultation with the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Minerals and Energy.

Procedure

- 1 The Environmental Protection Authority is responsible for verifying compliance with the conditions contained in this statement, with the exception of conditions stating that the proponent shall meet the requirements of either the Minister for the Environment or any other government agency.
- 2 If the Environmental Protection Authority, other government agency or proponent is in dispute concerning compliance with the conditions contained in this statement, that dispute will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.

Kevin Minson MLA
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

16 MAR 1994

PROPONENT'S COMMITMENTS

INCLUDING THE ADDENDUM OF 15 FEBRUARY 1994

EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAMME WITHIN PERMIT AREA TP/3
PART 1, OFFSHORE ONSLOW (575/868)

WEST AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM PTY LTD

LIST OF COMMITMENTS

West Australian Petroleum Pty Limited (WAPET) undertakes to abide by all of the commitments made in the Consultative Environmental Review (CER) for the Permit Area TP/3 Part 1 Five Year Exploration Drilling Programme, and in all cases will fulfil those commitments to the satisfaction of the appropriate statutory authority(s).

The major commitments given within the CER are listed in the following sections.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- (1) Before commencement of their duties, each worker or contractor (including workboat and supply vessel crews) will be given an induction course including advice on the sensitive nature of the environment in which the drilling rig is located.

SAFETY AND OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY

- (1) To improve operational safety, commercial and recreational vessels will not be permitted closer than 500 m to the drilling rig during the construction phase.
- (2) The drilling rig to be contracted will be capable of withstanding cyclonic wind and wave conditions. Detailed procedures which set out the various levels of responses to cyclones will be contained in the operator's Emergency Procedures Manual.
- (3) WAPET will abide by all procedures detailed in the Permit Area TP/3 Part 1 Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSCP).
- (4) An oil spill containment boom will be present at the site during drilling. A vessel will be in the vicinity of the drilling rig at all times to deploy the boom and skimmer in the event of an oil spill.
- (5) During any spill event, WAPET would make available oil spill equipment, vessels, aircraft and personnel to help with containment and clean-up measures.
- (6) Existing WAPET and rig operator procedures for cyclone response will be followed to safeguard the wells, rig, offshore structures, vessels and personnel.

- 2
- (7) With regard to any oil spill or discharge resulting from the drilling of any wells in the Permit Area WAPET makes the following commitments:
- (a) to be fully responsible for the cost of operations conducted by it or any Governmental agency aimed at containing or dispersing or recovering any such petroleum or cleaning up any areas polluted by such petroleum;
 - (b) to promptly pay to any person, company or Government (Federal, State or Local) any damages to which any of those entities is lawfully entitled from WAPET.

DRILLING RIG OPERATIONS

- (1) Prior to spudding in, the rig operator will conduct surveys and tests in accordance with Department of Mines regulations to ensure stability of the rig and to minimise the risk of abnormal penetration of the seabed during storm conditions.
- (2) The blowout preventer (BOP) stack will be tested in accordance with Department of Mines regulations after the surface casing has been installed.
- (3) All casing strings installed below the BOP stack will be pressure tested in accordance with Department of Mines regulations before drilling is resumed.
- (4) Drilling fluids used will be those approved for offshore use by the Department of Mines.
- (5) Chrome lignosulphates will not be used in drilling any well.
- (6) At prospects within 500 m of sensitive marine resources drillers will only drill 17.5" and 36" holes during times when the tidal currents will transport the cuttings away from sensitive resources. Drill cuttings and excess fluids produced after the 36" hole will be disposed of between the down hole casings and into the lost circulation zone. If this zone is not available, drilling of the hole will only continue during favourable tidal conditions.
- (7) At prospects within 500 m and 2 km of sensitive marine resources, cuttings will be separated on board the rig and continuously discharged overboard through a conductor pipe to the seabed. Drilling fluid will be stored and discharged down the conductor pipe on tides that will carry the fluids away from sensitive marine resources.
- (8) At prospects more than 2 km from sensitive marine resources, cuttings will be separated and disposed overboard continuously. Drilling fluids will be

3

stored and released at a controlled rate during tide and wind conditions that will move the plume away from the closest sensitive resources.

- (9) Deck drainage and other oily wastes will be collected and transported to Port Hedland for recycling.
- (10) Sanitary wastes from the kitchen, showers and laundry will be passed through a sewage treatment plant for comminution and disinfection before being discharged overboard. Solid food waste will be macerated before disposal overboard. Biodegradable detergents will be used for cleaning functions. Combustible materials will be burnt on the rig. All non-combustible material will be returned to the shore base for disposal at an approved land site.

OPERATION OF VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT

- (1) Helicopter pilots will be instructed not to overfly islands.
- (2) Regular crew transfers between the drilling rig, Thevenard Island and Perth will use existing routes involving helicopter/light aircraft transfers to Barrow Island, and chartered commercial flight direct to Perth.
- (3) All refuelling operations for the supply vessels will be conducted in accordance with strict Port Authority requirements, including continuous visual monitoring and the use of reinforced hoses and fail-safe valves and fittings.
- (4) It will be a contractual requirement for the supply vessels and rig to comply with all State and Commonwealth legislation for the control of pollution and dumping at sea.
- (5) Masters of supply vessels will be instructed not to allow crew to disturb islands or wreck sites, nor to anchor close to coral reefs.



West Australian
Petroleum
Pty. Limited

A.C.N. 009 085 367

24th Floor QV1
250 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000
Australia.

Postal Address
Box S1580 GPO Perth WA 6001
Australia

Telephone (09) 263 6000
Facsimile (09) 263 6699
Telex AA92008 WAPET

ADDENDUM OF 15 FEBRUARY 1994

15 February 1994

The Chief Executive Officer
Department of Environmental Protection
Westralia Square
141 St George's Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

ATTENTION: MR WARREN TACEY

Dear Sir

SUBJECT: RIG REFUELLING PROCEDURES WITHIN ONSLOW PORT LIMITS

We refer to our letter to WA Department of Marine and Harbours dated 2 July 1993 on the above subject (copy attached).

WAPET requests the Department of Environmental Protection review the refuelling procedures outlined in that letter and if they are found suitable, recommend changes to the Ministerial conditions to reflect those new procedures.

Yours faithfully
WEST AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM PTY. LIMITED

R J B Young

for R J B YOUNG
Managing Director

Attachment: Letter to Marine and Harbours 2/7/93

2 July 1993

Superintendent Navigation and Pilotage
WA Department of Marine and Harbours
PO Box 402
FREMANTLE WA 6959

ATTENTION: CAPTAIN PJM EVELLEIGH

Dear Sir

SUBJECT: RIG REFUELLING PROCEDURES WITHIN ONSLOW PORT
LIMITS

Following your telephone conversation with Captain C J Sutton and Kellie Pendoley of West Australian Petroleum Pty Limited could you please confirm, in writing, your agreement to the following conditions for refuelling drilling rigs within the Onslow port limits.

1. The rig fuel transfer hoses to be fitted with dry break couplings.
2. A vacuum breaking system to be in place to drain the fuel left in the hose, after completing the transfer, back into the supply vessel tanks.
3. Drip trays to be provided on the supply vessel and rig beneath refuelling hose connections.
4. Suitable absorbent material to be held on the supply vessel and rig to mop up any small spills.
5. The entire refuelling operation will be visually monitored from the supply vessel and from the rig.
6. Transfer of fuel will take place only when the masters of the supply vessel and the rig agree that it is safe to do so and will not take place;
 - (i) for deep water vessels, when winds are greater than 25 kts and swell in excess of 1 m, or
 - (ii) for shallow water supply vessels, when winds are greater than 15 kts and swell in excess of 0.5 m,and providing the supply vessel Master may postpone the transfer should he consider conditions unsuitable for its safe completion.

.../2

If you have any questions please contact Kellie Pendoley on Tel No 263 6663.

Yours faithfully
WEST AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM PTY. LIMITED

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
R.A. BOWIE

R J B YOUNG
Managing Director

KLP:jst