



[REDACTED]
Chevron Australia Pty Ltd

Sent by email: [REDACTED]

Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
Released through an application under the FOI Act

Dear [REDACTED]

NOTICE OF DECISION: CO2 INJECTION – GORGON PROJECT – PIPELINE LICENCE NUMBER PL 93 – EXTENSION OF TIME FOR COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATION OF PRESSURE MANAGEMENT WELLS

The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (the Department) has assessed the request from Chevron Australia Pty Ltd (Chevron) for a further extension of time from 31 December 2020 to 30 June 2021 for commencement of operations of all the pressure management (PM) wells, pursuant to Condition (a) as noted in the DMIRS letter dated 27 May 2020, granting conditional Consent to Operate PL 93 to the licensee pursuant to section 36(2) of the *Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969*.

I note that this is the third request for a further extension of time to Condition (a) since the initial conditional consent to operate was granted on 30 July 2019.

I have considered Chevron's request in conjunction with a review of the additional risks and potential impacts associated with the ongoing delays to the PM wells becoming operational.

I, as delegate of the [REDACTED], consent to the request for an amendment to Condition (a) to extend the time by 6 months for all the PM wells at Drill Centre-D (DC-D) and Drill Centre-E (DC-E) to be operational by **30 June 2021**.

This conditional consent is subject to the following revised and additional conditions:

Condition (a) - Revised

All the pressure management wells at Drill Centre-D (DC-D) and Drill Centre-E (DC-E) to be operational by **30 June 2021**, unless otherwise approved by the [REDACTED]

Condition (b) - Revised

The Licensee provide a project timeline and weekly reports (to be submitted on the Friday of the following week) on the status of remediation of the pressure management wells and the installation of the water de-sanding facilities at DC-D and DC-E drill centres.

Condition (c) - Completed - September 2019

Further to the acceptance of the Interim Validation Statement for the Gorgon CO₂ Injection System Pipeline on 13 June 2019, the Licensee to provide the required certified "As Built" P&ID and other engineering drawings relevant to the DC-E wells and piping systems before commencement of operations of the DC-E wells in compliance with condition 5.2 of PL 93.

Condition (d) – Existing

The Licensee inform the Department at least a fortnight before the date when all the wells at DC-D and DC-E are anticipated to become fully operational i.e. commence operations.

Condition (e) - Completed – August 2020

Three months after the date of this letter, the Licensee to provide DMIRS with a revised risk assessment and predicted impacts to reservoir pressures and CO₂ plume migration arising from the delay in commencement of the pressure management system using an updated history matched model.

Condition (f) - New

The total rate of CO₂ injection must not exceed 70 MMscf/d. The daily rate of injection is to be reported weekly and included in the weekly report submitted under Condition (b).

Condition (g) - New

The Licensee must commence ramp down of CO₂ injection rates if microseismicity magnitude (M_L) exceeds 1.7, and notify the Department within 24 hours via petroleum.reports@dmirs.wa.gov.au. Thereafter, the Licensee to submit a microseismicity mitigation plan within 2 days to the Department for approval.

Condition (h) - New

The Licensee to submit a monthly microseismic summary report and monitoring data, to the Department on the first Friday of each month, commencing in January 2021.

Condition (i) – New

The Licensee to upgrade the microseismic monitoring network to cover all five Drill Centres (DC-A, DC-B, DC-C, DC-D and DC-E) by 30 June 2021. The status of the procurement and installation of the additional microseismicity monitoring instrumentation is to be included in the weekly report submitted under Condition (b).

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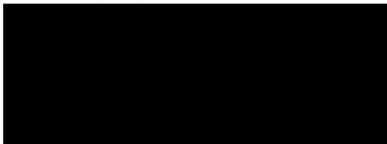
The Department will review the injection rate limit of 70 MMscf/d [Condition (f)] once the pressure management wells are fully operational and the microseismic monitoring network is upgraded in accordance with Conditions (a) and (i) respectively.

This conditional approval takes effect on the date of this letter. Please note that this approval does not remove the need for any other approvals under any other legislation or agreements.

The Licensee is also required to maintain insurance against expenses and liabilities for the carrying out of work or the doing any other activities under the licence.

By signing this document, I declare that I have no conflict of interest as outlined in the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety Conflict of Interest Policy relating to this decision.

Yours sincerely



Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
18 December 2020

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