

# Gnarlyknots-1 Exploration Well, EPP-29: Addendum to Environment Plan

## Introduction

Woodside Energy Ltd. (Woodside) proposes to drill the Gnarlyknots-1 exploration well within the north eastern sector of Permit Area EPP-29 using the dynamically positioned drill ship the Jack Ryan, operated by Global Sante Fe. The Environment Plan (EP) has been previously prepared by Woodside Energy Ltd and submitted to PIRSA in December 2002. This document is an Addendum to the EP and presents the results of the key stakeholder consultation undertaken, as stated in section 6.9 of the Environment Plan.

## Consultation Details

Phase I - meetings were held in Adelaide and Canberra on 26 – 27 November 2002, with the following organisations:

- PIRSA, Petroleum and Fisheries Groups
- Department of Environment & Heritage
- Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources - Resources and Petroleum & Electricity Divisions
- Geoscience Australia
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- Australian Fisheries Management Authority
- Environment Australia – Marine Protected Areas and Assessments and Approvals Branches
- Environment Australia – Director of National Parks

Phase II – meetings were held in Adelaide and Port Lincoln on 22- 24 January 2003, with the following organisations:

- Meeting for Environment and Conservation groups, government also attended
  - Marine & Coastal Community Network
  - Australian Conservation Foundation/Conservation Council SA
  - Dept of Environment and Heritage
  - Office for Coast and Marine
  - Wilderness Society
  - PIRSA, Petroleum Group
  - University of SA, Geology Dept
  - Adelaide Advertiser Newspaper
  - South Australian Fishing Industry Council
  - Port Lincoln City Council
  - Local Member for Port Lincoln
  - State Emergency Service
  - Flinders Ports
  - P & O Ports Corporation
  - Seafood Council SA
  - Eyre Regional Development Board
  - Department of Environment and Heritage – Regional Manager
  - Port Lincoln Times Newspaper
  - Investigator Medical Clinic
  - Port Lincoln Hospital

**\*Please Note:** invitations to the above meeting were also extended to representatives of the following organisations - Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, National Threatened Species Network, Marine Life Society of SA, Australian Marine Conservation Society and the Australian Dolphin Research Foundation. Some of these representatives declined, others were happy to receive information through their colleagues who attended the meeting.

Brian Jeffriess from the Tuna Boat Owners Association was contacted, but was unable to attend any meetings on the scheduled dates. He, however, advised that he did not expect there to be any issues with the Tuna fishing operators from the drilling activities, but would like to be kept up-to-date. Mr Jeffriess was sent a copy of the GAB Exploration Update publication, Woodside will also ensure he is advised of our vessel movements and vice versa, with Brian advising WEL on the location of tuna farms being towed into port at the time of our drilling activities to mitigate against any potential incidents.

Short news articles are being produced for the SAFIC publication "Let's Fish SA" and the AFMA publication, "AFMA News" advising fishing operators about the drilling activities due out shortly. Advertisements will also be placed in the *Port Lincoln Times* before, during and after the drilling program to advise the community of the drilling activities. Updates will be published before, during and after the drilling campaign for distribution to all stakeholders.

## Consultation Results

During both Phases of the consultation there were no major issues raised that were not already covered in the EP. A summary of some of the questions/issues raised are detailed below in the following tables.

**Stakeholder:** PIRSA, Petroleum & Fisheries Divisions, 26 November 2002

Issue	Control & Mitigation Measures	Environment Plan Reference
Oil leaking probability	Explanation provided on the closed mud system and WEL emergency response procedures.	Section 3.6.2 and 6.4.2
Well blow-out probability	BOP in place.	Section 3.6.2
Cuttings dispersal volumes	Cuttings are discharged directly to the sea floor when drilling riserless with WBM. When using SBM cuttings are returned to rig and flushed with seawater through a direct overboard drain.	Section 1.3.2 and 3.4.1, Table 5

**Stakeholder:** Department of Environment & Heritage, 26 November 2002

Issue	Control & Mitigation Measures	Environment Plan Reference
Major spill/discharge from the mud system	Explanation provided on the closed mud system and WEL emergency response procedures.	Section 3.4.1 and Table 5
Mud density at 1313m	Explanation provided on dispersal.	Section 1.3.2 and 3.4.1
Cuttings dispersal	Cuttings are discharged directly to the sea floor when drilling riserless with WBM. When using SBM cuttings are returned to rig and	Section 1.3.2 and 3.4.1, Table 5

Issue	Control & Mitigation Measures	Environment Plan Reference
	flushed with seawater through a direct overboard drain.	
Who regulates the levels of bioaccumulation?	International standards for testing are used. Levels are below acceptable limits.	Section 3.4.1 and Appendix C

**Stakeholder:** DITR and Geoscience Australia, 27 November 2002

Issue	Control & Mitigation Measures	Environment Plan Reference
- no issues	-	-

**Stakeholder:** Environment Australia, 27 November 2002

Issue	Control & Mitigation Measures	Environment Plan Reference
Is the mud biodegradable?	Mud biodegradation rate is below internationally acceptable levels.	Section 3.4.1 and Appendix C

**Stakeholder:** Australian Fisheries Management Authority, 27 November 2002

Issue	Control & Mitigation Measures	Environment Plan Reference
What would be left on the seabed.	The well head assembly may be left in place on the seafloor at the completion drilling. In 1313 m of water this is not anticipated to have significant impact.	Section 1.3.2

**Stakeholder:** Environment and Conservation Group Meeting, 22 January 2003

Issue	Control & Mitigation Measures	Environment Plan Reference
What is the toxicity of the synthetic based mud?	Only low toxicity SBM's used.	Section 3.4.1 and Appendix C
Request by NGO to PIRSA and industry to de-gazette the pipeline corridor in the GAB Marine Park Management Plan.	Issue not applicable to drilling of Gnarlyknots-1 Well.	NA
What are the noise levels of the drilling operations.	No significant noise is generated from drilling activities.	Section 3.8.1
What is the total volume of mud?	Detail of mud volumes included in the Environment Plan.	Section 1.3.2 and 3.4.1
Where does the water-based mud go?	WBM is disposed overboard. It is not toxic. This is standard practice for WBM.	Section 1.3.2 and 3.4.1
Any modelling of the plumes	No specific modelling for	Section 3.4.1

Issue	Control & Mitigation Measures	Environment Plan Reference
from water based-mud?	Gnarlyknots-1, but some general information in the EP	
Has any Oil Spill Modelling been conducted?	No, modelling has not been conducted. Woodside has the ability to initiate real-time modelling through the Special Services Unit of the Bureau of Meteorology. Also an OSCP is in place.	Section 3.6.3 and 6.4.2