

Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings.

Portfolio:	Resources
Witness:	Mr Anthony Hurst
Committee Member:	Mr Sam Hibbins
Page/s of transcript:	12

Relevant text:

Mr HIBBINS: Okay. And what processes will Beach Energy go through in relation to each of those approvals?

Mr HURST: I might take the detail on notice if you do not mind, but there are a number of steps to work through in terms of them submitting plans for approval to each of the relevant authorities—DELWP, NOPSEMA, us—on each particular element, and that also coincides with a number of consultation steps, some of which are underway.

Answer:

Beach Energy's proposal to produce gas near Port Campbell is subject to a broad suite of legislative requirements designed to enable development to high environmental standards and community expectations.

On 20 April 2022, Beach Energy was granted an offshore production licence for the Enterprise gas field under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2010*. Any inference that this project will impact the Twelve Apostles, more than 7 kilometres away is completely false.

Beach Energy has lodged a well operation management plan to the National Offshore Petroleum and Safety Management Authority (NOPSEMA), who will assess the plan for well integrity matters. NOPSEMA is an independent statutory authority established under the Commonwealth *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*.

Beach Energy will need to submit an environment plan to the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) for its offshore production operations under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Regulations 2021*.

In addition, Beach Energy will need to obtain approval under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Regulations 2021* for a rate of recovery of petroleum.

In relation to the onshore area, Beach Energy will need to obtain a new special drilling authorisation under the *Petroleum Act 1998*. No further drilling is needed to produce gas from the Enterprise well, which was drilled 1.3km below the ground during the exploration period to ensure the absolute safety and protection of the Port Campbell National park.

Assuming approval, Beach Energy will then be required to seek acceptance of an operation plan under the *Petroleum Act 1998* for the onshore petroleum operations.

Consent to carry out petroleum operations under the *Petroleum Act 1998* may then be given subject to the above approvals being in place.

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee | Into the Inquiry of 2022-23 Budget Estimates

Approvals for a new pipeline to connect the Enterprise-1 well to the Otway Gas Plant would need to be granted under the *Pipelines Act 2005* and regulated by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Energy Safe Victoria.

The decisions under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2010* and the *Petroleum Act 1998* are subject to the *Climate Change Act 2017*. The impacts of this project on climate, and the impacts from climate change on this project, will continue to be taken into consideration in each decision.

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Mr HIBBINS: Okay. Thank you. I just want to go back to one of my previous questions. Previously you mentioned 12 onshore gas production licences. Are you able to provide the committee a list of those licences?

Mr HURST: Yes, we can. They are also published on our website.

Answer:

Tenement number	Tenement Type	Tenement holder	Granted
PPL1	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Lochard	1985
PPL2	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Lochard	1990
PPL3	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Boggy Creek	1993
PPL4	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Lochard	1999
PPL5	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Lochard	2000
PPL6	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Lochard	2001
PPL7	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Lochard	2001
PPL9	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Lochard	2001
PPL10	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	Lochard	2001
PPL11	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	CO2CRC	2002
PPL13	Onshore Petroleum Production Licence	CO2CRC	2006