



Decision on proposed action – assessment approach

Apache Energy / Van Gogh Petroleum Field Development/ North-west Shelf / WA / EPBC Reference: 2007/3213

This decision is made under Section 87 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Proposed action

designated person proposing to take the action Mr Tim Wall, Managing Director, Apache Energy Ltd

proposed action The proposed action is to install sub-sea well production equipment and connection to and operation of a Floating Production, Storage and Off-take (FPSO) vessel for the recovery of hydrocarbons from the van Gogh oil pool, offshore, 50km northwest of Exmouth, Western Australia. The proposed development includes construction, operating and decommissioning activities.

Referral decision: Controlled action

status of proposed action The proposed action was made a controlled action on 15 January 2007.

The project will require assessment and approval by the Australian Government before it can proceed.

relevant controlling provisions The project is likely to have a significant impact on:

- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A)
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A).
- Marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)

Decision on assessment approach

assessment approach The project will be assessed by Public Environment Report (PER).

Person authorised to make decision

Name and position Mr Tim Kahn
Acting Assistant Secretary
Environment Assessment Branch

signature

SIGNED

date of decision 26 April 2007

