

General Policy Review Bulletin # 14

December 2010

Dear Stakeholders,

Welcome to the General Policy Review Bulletin No. 14. The purpose of this series of bulletins is to advise interested parties on policy issues and developments related to the offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas storage regulatory regime.

Consolidation of Offshore Resources Regulations

The Department is now seeking comments on the consultation draft of the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Resource Management and Administration) Regulations 2010* (the draft Regulations). Written submissions should be sent to belinda.josey@ret.gov.au by **14 January 2011**. Given project time constraints, submissions received after this date will not be able to be considered.

The draft Regulations represent the final stage of significantly consolidating and streamlining the regulations currently enabled under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*. The draft regulations incorporate the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Regulations 1985*, *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Data Management) Regulations 2004*, *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Management of Well Operations) Regulations 2004*, *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Pipelines) Regulations 2001*, draft *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Resource Management Regulations 2006* and the remaining active standing set of directions contained in the *Schedule of Specific Requirements as to Offshore Petroleum Exploration and Production in Waters under Commonwealth Jurisdiction*.

A document that outlines the historical background as well as underlying decisions, principles and concepts used in consolidating the Regulations is also available for reference. This document and the consultation draft of the Regulations are attached to this email.

Consultation Workshops

A workshop to consult directly with stakeholders on the Regulations will take place on **Thursday 16 December 2010** from 10:30am until 5:30pm in Adelaide - this session will incorporate a working lunch. This workshop will focus on the Regulations as a whole, and provide an opportunity to discuss the changes that have been made and provide an opportunity for stakeholders to give initial feedback.

Due to the complex and technical nature of the data management aspects of the Regulations, a separate consultation workshop focused on these aspects only will take place on **Monday 13 December 2010** in Canberra. While data management will be included in the broader consultation workshop on 16 December, that workshop is not intended to address the specific and technical details of data management issues. Those with a specialist interest in data should attend the 13 December workshop.

Contact

Please contact Belinda Josey on (02) 6213 7736 to register your interest in attending either workshop or to discuss the draft Regulations.