

Santos Qnt Pty Ltd
Level 22, Santos Place32 Turbot Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
Attn: [REDACTED]

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Notification of grant of activity approval

Notification of assessment of security deposit (Assessed Deposit)

NOTICE OF GRANT OF ACTIVITY APPROVAL

Your application has been assessed and I advise that pursuant to section 31A of the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*, a delegate of the Minister has decided to grant the activity approval on the terms set out in the activity approval. The activity approval is attached at **Annexure A** to this letter.

This activity approval is effective from **31 October 2022**.

You are reminded that the conditions of PEL 1 set out obligations in respect of the *Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation* (NSW Department of Planning and Environment, July 2015). One of the obligations is to provide to the Secretary, no later than 14 days prior to the commencement of any surface disturbance activity associated with an assessable prospecting operation:

- a. a copy of specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria for activities associated with that activity, developed in consultation with relevant landholders, and
- b. if associated with higher risk prospecting operations, a copy of a Rehabilitation Management Plan which provides for the effective rehabilitation of areas disturbed by that activity.

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT OF SECURITY DEPOSIT (ASSESSED DEPOSIT)

Approval of *Seismic Surveys - Petroleum Exploration Licence 1* has triggered assessment of the security deposit required to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations under PEL 1.

An assessment of the security deposit required under PEL 1 has been made under section 106E of the *Petroleum Act 1991* by a delegate of the Secretary. The reason for this assessment is to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations under PEL 1 in relation to *Seismic Surveys - Petroleum Exploration Licence 1*.

The Assessed Deposit for PEL 1, including fulfilment of obligations in connection with *Seismic Surveys - Petroleum Exploration Licence 1* is \$2,177,000.

This will require an additional payment of \$1,492,000 (being the difference between the "Assessed Deposit" and the current security deposit held by the Department).

Notice of the change in the security deposit condition for PEL 1 related to this approval will be provided separately by Assessments and Systems within the Mining, Exploration and Geoscience division.

In accordance with s.106E of the *Petroleum Act 1991*, I determine the assessed deposit for PEL 1 to be \$2,177,000.

REVIEW OF THE ASSESSED DEPOSIT

If you disagree with the assessment of the security deposit, you may apply to the Minister for a review of the Assessed Deposit.

Applications for review of this assessment must be made using Form AD17, and lodged **within 28 days of receipt of this letter**. Form AD17 is available on the Resource Regulator's website at the following address:

<https://www.resourcesregulator.nsw.gov.au/environment/forms>

OTHER

You are reminded of your obligations under the *Petroleum Act 1991* to provide and maintain a security deposit to secure funding for the fulfilment of obligations under the authorisation, including obligations under the authorisation that may arise in the future.

ANNEXURE A ACTIVITY APPROVAL OF ASSESSABLE PROSPECTING OPERATIONS PEL 1 (1991)

Activity: Seismic Surveys - Petroleum Exploration Licence 1 Application Reference: MAAG0014844, LETT0007702

ACTIVITY APPROVAL

Pursuant to section 31A of the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*, activity approval is granted to carry out the assessable prospecting operations, which form part of the Activity on PEL 1 (1991), from the date specified in the 'Notice of grant of activity approval' given for this approval, on the following terms by reference to the definitions below:

General

1. The licence holder must carry out the Activity in accordance with the Application.

Exploration Code of Practice: Environmental Management

2. When carrying out the Activity, the licence holder must comply with Part B of the Exploration Code of Practice: Environmental Management (NSW Department of Planning and Environment, July 2015, as amended from time to time).

Note: Part B of the Exploration Code of Practice: Environmental Management (NSW Department of Planning and Environment, July 2015) prevails in the event of any inconsistency in it and the Application.

DEFINITIONS Words in this instrument have the meaning given to those terms in PEL 1 (1991), unless otherwise specified below.

PEL 1 (1991) means Petroleum Exploration Licence No. 1.

Activity Seismic Surveys - Petroleum Exploration Licence 1 means the activities described in the Application.

Application means: The original Application Form ESF4 (Application to conduct exploration activities for assessable prospecting operations) and supporting documents (Reference MAAG0014844) prepared by Santos QNT Pty Ltd (Santos) dated 22 August 2022 and Australian Coalbed Methane Pty Limited dated 10 August 2022 [ESF4 Application Form – signed certification - Section 18]

Signed under delegation from the Minister for Regional NSW

If you require additional information, please contact the Resources Regulator [REDACTED] via email at nswresourcesregulator@service-now.com.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Murray
Director Compliance
Resources Regulator

31 October 2022