

Santos QNT Pty Ltd
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Environment Division
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Northern Territory Government
Level 1, Arnhemica House
16 Parap Road, Parap NT 0820
GPO Box 3675 , Darwin NT 0801

16 May 2019

Dear Mr. Purdon,

Thank you for your letter dated 2 May 2019 regarding Santos' Macarthur Basin Groundwater Monitoring Bore Installation Program in EP161. Santos QNT Pty Ltd (Santos) is the operator of exploration permits (EP) 161, located approximately 350 km south-east of Katherine in the Northern Territory (NT). In 2018, Santos received formal advice that two separate Environmental Management Plans relating to Santos' water bore monitoring program had been approved:

- *Tanumbirini North Water Bore Monitoring Program* (Document Number: MAB-PLN-005, DPIR ref: E2018/0019-0034)
- *Water Bore Monitoring Program - Tanumbirini South, Inacumba North & Inacumba South* (Document Number: MAB-PLN-004, DPIR ref:E2018/0024-0010)

In accordance with Regulation 22 of Petroleum (Environment) Regulations, Santos proposes to modify the regulated activity for the above EMPs and is writing to the Minister to give notice and specify details of the proposed modification.

Details of the proposed modification

The modification of the regulated activity relates actions Santos will take to seal between the Gum Ridge Formation and the Bukulara Sandstone. Specifically the proposed actions comprise the following.

For Bore RN040930:

- Mill out the base of the casing guide shoe and clean out the base of hole to Total Depth (i.e. 205 m depth).
- Plug up the base of the hole using cement-bentonite grout (to <187m depth).
- Airlift bore until clean and take water sample for analysis.

For Bore RN040931:

- Cut weld rings between 12" and 8" production casing, and pull up the first 18m of casing.
- Cut and suspend 8" casing from 12" casing.
- Plug up the base of the hole using cement-bentonite grout (to <104m depth).

- Airlift bore until clean and take water sample for analysis.

Modification has not caused a new or an increase in environmental impact or risk

The modification has not caused a new environmental impact or environmental risk and has not resulted in an increase in an existing environmental impact or environmental risk. The works are downhole remedial works that will not result in any additional land disturbance. There will be no increase in the water required for the project and no alteration of the monitoring program. Santos has reviewed the EMP and the proposed modification will not result in an increase in likelihood, consequence or overall risk ranking for any activities proposed.

Stakeholder Engagement

Santos QNT Pty Ltd has continued to engage with key stakeholders on an ongoing basis. Contact has been maintained as per the existing Land Access Agreement (LAA) and in accordance with the LAA, the landholder will be notified of these remedial works.

If you require any further information or have any queries please don't hesitate to contact myself or Mitch Bird, Senior Environmental Adviser, at mitch.bird@santos.com or (07) 3838 3799.

Yours Sincerely,



David Close
General Manager – Onshore New Ventures