

**COMMISSION OF INQUIRY  
MONTARA WELL HEAD PLATFORM  
UNCONTROLLED HYDROCARBON RELEASE**

PTTEPAA

TERM OF REFERENCE NO 4

*“Review the adequacy and effectiveness of monitoring and enforcement by regulators of relevant persons under the regulatory regime.”*

**A      What monitoring and enforcement was done by the regulators?**

- 1      The relevant regulators all considered and approved the relevant plans required under the regulatory regime and approved any changes to those plans.
  - 2      PTTEPAA was informed by Atlas Drilling (S) Pte Ltd/Seadrill, the operator of the *West Atlas* drilling rig (**Atlas Drilling**), that NOPSA conducted an inspection of the *West Atlas* Facility on 6-9 October 2008.
  - 3      Otherwise, no other regulators conducted any on-site audits or inspections of the drilling work being conducted in the Montara oil field.
  - 4      DEWHA wrote to PTTEPAA on 22 January 2009 advising that it may audit the Montara 4, 5 and 6 Oil Production Wells Project as part of the DEWHA strategic audit program for projects approved under the EPBC Act. No such audit had been conducted to PTTEPAA’s knowledge at the time of the Uncontrolled Release.
  - 5      PTTEPAA had issued an invitation the NTDRDPIFR to conduct an onsite audit of the Montara oil field prior to the Uncontrolled Release , but arrangements for such an audit to take place had not occurred prior to the Uncontrolled Release.
  - 6      PTTEPAA was informed by Atlas Drilling that Atlas Drilling was served with a NOPSA Improvement Notice in 2008 relating to the voltage of electrical equipment being used on the *West Atlas*.
  - 7      No enforcement action had been taken by any regulator in relation to the drilling work being conducted in the Montara oil field prior to the Uncontrolled Release.
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