

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999

DECISION TO APPROVE THE TAKING OF AN ACTION

Pursuant to section 133 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, I, GERARD PATRICK EARLY, First Assistant Secretary, Approvals and Wildlife Division, Department of Environment and Heritage, a delegate of the Minister for the purposes of that section, approve the taking of the following action:

To drill and operate Montara 4, Montara 5 and Montara 6 wells for the purpose of oil production and to re-complete and operate Montara 3 for use as a gas re-injection well in Permit Area AC/RL3, in the Timor Sea approximately 200km from the coast of Western Australia, (EPBC 2002/755).

by Newfield Australia (Ashmore Cartier) Pty Ltd subject to the conditions set out in ANNEXURE 1.

This approval has effect for:

Sections 23 and 24A(Marine environment) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

This approval has effect until 1 September 2028.

Dated this *third* day of *September* 2003


GERARD EARLY

ANNEXURE 1

1. Newfield must submit for the Minister's approval an Oil Spill Contingency Plan detailing the strategy to mitigate the environmental effects of any hydrocarbon spills. The plan must include the equipment to be used, mode of storage and deployment. Operations must not commence until the plan is approved. The approved plan must be implemented.
2. Newfield must submit a decommissioning plan for the approval of the Minister one year prior to decommissioning of any components of the floating production, storage and offtake vessel, subsea wells, flowlines, or any associated infrastructure. The plan must address the removal of all structures and components above the sea floor. The approved plan must be implemented.
3. Newfield must monitor produced formation water in accordance with criteria described on pages 15, 16 and 33, 35 & 36 of the Preliminary Information. If monitoring indicates that Newfield exceeds the modelled amount of produced formation water (as stated on pages 15 and 33 in the Preliminary Information) during operations, Newfield must inform the Minister and submit a plan advising of the likely environmental impacts and measures to mitigate them.
4. On 1 July of each year after the commencement of construction the Managing Director of Newfield must provide a certificate stating that Newfield has complied with the conditions of this Approval.
5. Newfield may submit for the Minister's approval a revised plan under conditions 1, 2 or 3. If the Minister approves a revised plan so submitted, Newfield must implement the revised plan.
6. If the Minister believes that it is necessary or desirable for the better protection of the environment to do so, the Minister may request Newfield to make specified revisions to a plan approved pursuant to condition 1, 2 or 3, and to submit the revised plan for the Minister's approval. Newfield must comply with any such request. If the Minister approves a revised plan pursuant to this condition, Newfield must implement the revised plan.

Definitions

Preliminary Information means the document "Newfield Australia (Ashmore Cartier) Pty Ltd Montara Field development" by URS Australia Pty Ltd dated 4 April 2003, prepared and made available publicly in accordance with Division 4, Part 8 of the

Newfield means Newfield Australia (Ashmore Cartier) Pty Ltd.