

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Barossa
Date: Tuesday, 4 October 2022 3:41:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Hi [REDACTED]

Some more detailed points on Barossa as promised. Let me know if you have any questions.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

- On 21 September 2022 His Honour Justice Bromberg of the Federal Court set aside NOPSEMA's decision to accept the Barossa Project Development Drilling and Completions environment plan, effective from 6 October 2022 and subject to Santos extending their previous undertaking (not to hit the reservoir or to commence any new drilling. Santos has extended that undertaking.
- The delayed effective date provided time for Santos to carry out necessary operations to safely suspend the well and remove the drilling rig.
- NOPSEMA has confirmed that the well has been suspended in accordance with the well operations management plan and poses no safety or environmental risk. Monitoring of the well is not required in the near term.
- NOPSEMA has been advised by Santos that the drilling rig has departed the title area and that there are no longer any petroleum activities taking place in the title area.
- On 6 October the status of the environment plan will revert to 'under assessment' and NOPSEMA will issue a request for further written information.
- Santos have advised they will commence further consultation on the environment plan and intend to submit it sometime in early 2023.

For media:

The Barossa Project Development Drilling and Completions environment plan will cease to be in force as of 6 October when NOPSEMA's decision to accept the EP will be set aside in accordance with the Federal Court ruling.

The well has been suspended and presents no further safety or environmental risk.

The drilling rig has departed and there is no further activity in the title area at this time.

It is a matter for Santos as to whether or when they might seek acceptance of a new or revised environment plan.

Should Santos submit further environment plans NOPSEMA will assess them in accordance with the law.

Santos has filed an appeal and the court has agreed to expedite the hearing of the appeal. NOPSEMA is the Second Respondent in the appeal and will continue to assist the court as it did in the first proceeding.



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Acknowledgement of Country

NOPSEMA recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge First Nations Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.