

## **Engaging with NOPSEMA**

This table has been prepared to assist titleholders in getting the most out of engagement with NOPSEMA. For further advice, see NOPSEMA's <u>Duty holder Liaison Policy</u>.

Not a titleholder but would like to talk to NOPSEMA about an environmental management matter? Please direct your enquiry to <a href="mailto:information@nopsema.gov.au">mailto:information@nopsema.gov.au</a> for further assistance.

I want to talk to NOPSEMA about	my current assessment / inspection	an environmental management issue,	my company's performance this year	a complex or unforeseen circumstance
		interpretation of the Environment Regulations or future submission		
How can I best prepare?	<ul> <li>Have a list of items you need clarity on rather than offering solutions to issues</li> <li>If meeting, propose an objective and agenda items for discussion</li> <li>Attend with an open mind seeking to understand NOPSEMA's perspective</li> <li>Ensure the audience is across the details of the circumstance</li> <li>Focus on understanding the key issues that need clarification</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Discuss the subject of the meeting with the NOPSEMA focal point who can ensure the right people get involved</li> <li>Work with the focal point to agree an agenda and objective, specify particular regulations to be discussed</li> <li>Prepare examples to aid discussion and provision of advice</li> <li>For those new to NOPSEMA, there are resources on the Environment Page that will assist you in understanding NOPSEMA's regulatory approach. It is suggested that these are considered in preparing for a meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Your focal point will gather feedback from the division and our records</li> <li>An agenda will be proposed by the focal point</li> <li>Gather feedback on experiences of NOPSEMA's Environment Division</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Discuss the contextual details with an Environment Manager</li> <li>Interpret and consider the legislation as it applies to your circumstance</li> <li>Have a desired outcome that can be worked towards</li> </ul>
What can I expect at a meeting if it is required?	<ul> <li>Clarification on regulatory decisions and communications</li> <li>Specific advice about regulatory interpretation</li> <li>No regulatory endorsement of proposed solutions to issues</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Direct access to NOPSEMA's experts</li> <li>General advice, often generated from written guidance</li> <li>An open dialogue about how to proceed in predictable circumstances</li> <li>No regulatory endorsement of a proposal</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Data and statistics about titleholder specific environmental performance</li> <li>Comparison of environmental performance across industry</li> <li>An opportunity to share observations on performance (two-way feedback)</li> <li>To understand the future priorities of the Environment Division</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>NOPSEMA to provide you options and considerations for progressing the situation in compliance with the Environment Regulations</li> <li>An opinion on the simplest route to protect the environment from a regulatory perspective</li> </ul>
What is a common objective for these meetings?	<ul> <li>To clarify aspects of NOPSEMA's written communication on particular issues</li> <li>To understand why the decision was made</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To seek mutual understanding on how NOPSEMA interprets the Environment Regulations</li> <li>To understand things NOPSEMA considers relevant to particular circumstances</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To share information on performance and provide feedback</li> <li>To foster a constructive relationships with the Environment Division</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To understand regulatory implications for particular pathways to resolve the particular circumstance</li> </ul>
How often can you request these meetings?	As many times as it takes to receive clarity	<ul><li>As and when substantive issues arise</li><li>Prior to a submission</li></ul>	Annually is ideal to allow a useful data set	- As needed
Can I schedule these meetings in advance during the year?	<ul> <li>No, these meetings only occur during assessments and after inspections</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Not normally as they tend to be issue driven</li> <li>For companies with multiple activities can request quarterly placeholders be established</li> </ul>	- Yes, this is encouraged, contact your focal point	- No
Who do I need to contact?	Your assigned Lead Assessor or Lead Inspector	<ul> <li>Your assigned focal point         The relevant A&amp;I Environment Manager if no focal point has been assigned. See <u>NOPSEMA</u>         Organisational Chart     </li> </ul>	- Your assigned focal point	- The relevant A&I Environment Manager
Who is likely to attend?	Your full assessment or inspection team and an Environment Manager where required	<ul> <li>The relevant experts from NOPSEMA</li> <li>An Environment Manager</li> </ul>	<ul><li>The focal point</li><li>The relevant A&amp;I manager</li><li>The Head of Division</li></ul>	<ul><li>The focal point</li><li>The relevant A&amp;I Environmental Manager</li></ul>