

From: [REDACTED]
To: [oilgasinfrastructure](#)
Subject: Nopsema emails
Date: Sunday, 15 February 2026 12:28:28 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

What up, in the hearing these emails were asked for:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, 2 Feb 2026, 2:52 pm
Subject: RE: Response from NOPSEMA on your query on wells [SEC=OFFICIAL]
To: zavier evans [REDACTED]
Cc: Environmental Management (Shared Mailbox) [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

Hi Zavier

The international standards that are applicable for oil and gas wells are:

- NORSOK D-010 – Well Integrity in Drilling and Well Operations
- OEUK/OGUK Well Decommissioning Guidelines
- ISO 16530-1 & 2 – Well Integrity for the Life Cycle of the Well

Further information on how NOPSEMA regulate wells in Commonwealth waters is available on our website here: [Well integrity | NOPSEMA](#)

Regards

[REDACTED] | Director Decommissioning – Environment
Regulatory Operations | Decommissioning - Environment

National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority

W: nopsema.gov.au

To assure the protection of lives and the environment offshore.

For the latest news and information [subscribe here](#).

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.

OFFICIAL

From: zavier evans [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 18 December 2025 3:26 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Response from NOPSEMA on your query on wells [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hey [REDACTED],

I suspect I'm going to have quite a few questions incoming. Please don't take it personally.

For now, let's start with the international standards of which you mentioned. I suppose firstly, I'm aware of the 1952 Geneva convention regulations, and the 1982 law of the sea regulations that pertain to the decommissioning of offshore structures, but I'm not aware of any international guidelines or standards that pertain to AOG wells. What are the international regulations or standards that you mentioned?

NOPSEMA acknowledge that there is a need to ensure containment, and we know that containment failure has a decent chance of occurring. What is the reasoning for no ongoing monitoring? Is it just a lack of domestic regulation and legislation to ensure these wells

stay plugged? I know you guys are underfunded and under resourced. If someone did need to monitor them, it would make sense that that would fall under NOPSEMA's wheelhouse, correct?

If someone like me wished to fund and input a monitoring program, Esso assures me that it's got nothing to do with them, and that any problems once they're plugged are between me and NOPSEMA, so would I be free to take equipment out there and check in on them?

You guys are the authority on this, but here's a great study showing exactly why monitoring programs are important, and if it's not up to Esso, and NOPSEMA don't do any monitoring, as far as I'm aware, that leaves us with particularly conservation-aware dolphins as our primary resource for ensuring containment.

<https://academic.oup.com/nsr/article/12/7/nwaf249/8169901?login=false>

Sorry to be pesky, I know us environmentalists are a snide and righteous bunch. Just trying to get to the bottom of things without just taking Esso's word for it all.

Patience is appreciated,

Zave Evans

OFFICIAL

On Thu, 18 Dec 2025, 1:59 pm [REDACTED] wrote:

OFFICIAL

Dear Zavier

Thanks for your email and apologies for the delay in response.

NOPSEMA require wells to be abandoned in accordance with international standards, which negate the requirement for ongoing monitoring.

A very low seep of hydrocarbon gas has been reported to NOPSEMA for one of the Esso wells. NOPSEMA inspected the activity and has requested Esso to complete diagnostic work. Further flow rate and gas sampling work is ongoing and planned.

The potential for petroleum wells to leak is something NOPSEMA takes very seriously. Where we have the power to do so, we will require titleholders to consider all available remedial measures.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Regards

[REDACTED] | Decommissioning Specialist
Environmental Management - Decommissioning



National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority

[REDACTED] | W: nopsema.gov.au

To assure the protection of lives and the environment offshore.

For the latest news and information [subscribe here](#).

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.

OFFICIAL

From: zavier evans [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 11 November 2025 7:34 PM

To: Environmental Management (Shared Mailbox) [REDACTED]

Subject: a point of curiosity

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

i love these emails because i get to do away with all grammar and email decorum.

heyo,

i'm a local from near barry's beach terminal, where esso is decommissioning it's oil rigs. naturally, i've been a big part of the community consultation sessions. one thing i was curious about, was what sort of monitoring programs are in place for plugged and abandoned wells. we know they have a pretty high chance at leaking, and it's pretty important given methane's high greenhouse effect, so surely there'd be some requirement, right? well, the answer i got from them was proudly that they don't do any monitoring, and that it's up to the regulatory body (i'm gonna assume that's you guys) to make sure there's no future leaks. they did sheepishly admit that one such leak has already occurred since 2020 in their decommissioning works in bass strait, which i'm sure has been reported through all the right channels, that also presumably exist.

so my question here, and i'm guessing the answer is going to be there are no legal requirements, or even precedents, but what monitoring programs for P&A offshore gas wells are there in place on your end?

is it all left up to conservation groups to go check, or unis that have some kid in marine management to go check on it?

what a headache.

big wheels keep on turnin',

zave evans

p.s. i do have the project lead recorded saying theres been a leak in their P&A campaign since 2020, if they're meant to report that and haven't, hit me up