



Australian Government

National Offshore Petroleum
Titles Administrator

Application criteria and submission process for acreage release bids

**APPEA Connect Series:
2020 Offshore Petroleum Acreage Release**

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www.nopta.gov.au

Key application criteria to be observed

[Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006](#) (OPGGGS Act)

Section 104 subsection (1)

[2020 Acreage Release Gazette - Notice of Invitation for Work-bid Petroleum Exploration Permit](#)

- Release areas and block listings
- Closing time and date and submission of applications
- [Prescribed Application Form - Work-bid petroleum exploration permit](#)
- [Application fee](#) and [how to pay](#)
- Application submission requirements

Section 104 subsection (3)

An application must be accompanied by details of

- the applicant's proposal for work and expenditure in relation to the block or blocks specified in the application
- the technical qualifications of the applicant and of the applicant's employees
- the technical advice available to the applicant; and
- the financial resources available to the applicant

[Offshore Petroleum Exploration Guideline: Work-bid](#)

- **Part 1 - Obtaining a petroleum exploration permit** provides the publicly available assessment criteria

Bid package checklist

- ☐ A completed and correctly signed application form (see [Signatures–Execution of NOPTA forms by companies](#))
- ☐ Proof of payment of fee (see [Schedule of fees](#))
- ☐ Technical evaluation of the release area
- ☐ Exploration strategy
- ☐ Work program proposal including expenditure for each activity
- ☐ Technical qualifications
- ☐ Technical advice available
- ☐ Financial resources available
- ☐ Information supporting stated financial capacity
- ☐ Statement as to past performance
- ☐ Any other matters that the applicant wishes to be considered
- ☐ One bound paper copy and one electronic copy in text search format (on CD, DVD or USB)

Common requests for clarification

Section 258 subsections (2) and (3) of the OPGGS Act

Once the bid has been submitted, the composition and timing of the work program cannot be amended through provision of further information, however, NOPTA can seek clarification about certain details.

Work programs – examples of common requests for clarification:

- The description of the work program or costs differing between the application form and the supporting documentation
 - Be clear about the work program commitments and include separate indicative costs for each item
 - Do not include contingent work, environmental planning or proposed site surveys as listed work program items
- Seismic data
 - the amount and type of acquisition or reprocessing **within** the release area
 - whether the proposal is to: acquire new data, licence new data, licence existing data, proprietary or multi-client acquisition/reprocessing etc
 - the type of processing or reprocessing to be undertaken
- Studies
 - what are they?

Financial – examples of common requests:

- The most recent financial statements (audited where possible with notes to the accounts)
- Where an applicant relies on a parent entity's accounts to demonstrate financial capacity, the details of funding methods and any guarantees between the entities.
- Where an agreement is cited in the application, please provide the signed copy

Need any help?

Contact NOPTA's Titles Team

- titles@nopta.gov.au
- Titles Hotline – 08 6424 5317

Visit the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources website

- [2020 Offshore Petroleum Exploration Acreage Release](#)