Australian Government National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator

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New voluntary model templates for Annual Title Assessment Reports

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to consult industry on the design and implementation of *voluntary* Annual Title Assessment Report (ATAR) model templates for Exploration Permits, Retention Leases and Production Licences.

Consultation process

NOPTA invites initial industry submissions to the proposed draft model templates by Friday **2 October 2015**.

Submissions can be emailed to reporting@nopta.gov.au

Final model templates will take into account industry feedback and will be available on the NOPTA website at <u>www.nopta.gov.au</u> in late-2015.

Why have ATAR model templates?

ATAR model templates seek to clarify expectations and ensure consistency of reporting for Exploration Permit, Retention Lease and Production Licence ATARs.

The model templates are intended as a guide for industry to ensure key data for a compliant ATAR is submitted. This industry consultation seeks a practical format that is achievable and clear on NOPTA's expectations and regulatory requirements.

ATARs are submitted to NOPTA under Part 3 of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Resource Management and Administration) Regulations 2011 (the Regulations).

Most ATARs submitted to NOPTA comply with the minimum reporting requirements under the Regulations – but vary significantly in terms of their quality and content. NOPTA seeks additional information and/or clarification from these titleholders resulting in additional regulatory burden for those titleholders. NOPTA has also observed some title holders providing excess amounts of information beyond the requirements of the Regulations.

What areas is NOPTA focussing on?

The templates seek to provide further clarity to reporting under Part 3 of the Regulations. Key areas that NOPTA seeks improvement to includes:

- improved details and greater consistency in the reporting of work program activities undertaken
- greater detail in relation to future work to be undertaken
- increased consistency in the information reported in relation to prospects
- consistent resource reporting
- for Retention Leases, how an activity has contributed to reducing uncertainty and informed potential commerciality.

How does NOPTA use ATARS?

ATARs are a primary source of information on the activities undertaken by titleholders and detail progress against title conditions and work programs. NOPTA uses ATARs in assessing the compliance of titleholders with the Act, Regulations and title conditions.

NOPTA also uses ATAR information in preparing advice to the Joint Authorities, the Responsible Commonwealth Minister and the Offshore Resources Branch in the Department of Industry and Science.

A key outcome of seeking to implement ATAR templates is to have consistent information to enable better comparisons and analysis. This will also contribute toward NOPTA's Resource Management responsibilities.



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Consistent resource reporting

The ATAR model templates include the reporting of resources in standardised tables consistent with the Society of Petroleum Engineers Petroleum Resource Management System (SPE-PRMS).

This initiative is a part of a broader objective by NOPTA to standardise units of measure and nomenclature for all title and data resource reporting.

The ATAR model template resource tables will improve the consistency of resource reporting, provide clarity to titleholders on how resource and reserves should be reported and help to reduce potential errors in the compilation and interpretation of these data by NOPTA.

The resource tables include the most relevant resource characteristics. Petroleum fluids associated with reserves and contingent resources are reported with respect to the defined reference point (see SPE PRMS (2007) for more information). In some cases parameters will not be entered in parts of the resource tables due to the characteristics (e.g., no actual or planned natural gas liquids sales) or state of knowledge of the resource.

Attachments

- Draft Exploration Permit ATAR template
- Draft Retention Lease ATAR template
- Draft Production Licence ATAR template

More information

For further information please contact <u>michael.nagajek@nopta.gov.au</u> or call 08 6424 5335.

Submissions can be emailed to reporting@nopta.gov.au by 2 October 2015.

Further information on SPE PRMS can be found at <u>http://www.spe.org/industry/reserves.php</u>.

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