

Commercial Fishers Information Sheet

Varanus Island Hub Operations Environment Plan (Commonwealth)



Activity Overview

Santos is proposing to revise the in-force the Varanus Island (VI) Hub Operations Environment Plan (EP) to accommodate future production from a proposed additional well (John Brookes-7) at the John Brookes Wellhead Platform, which is in Commonwealth waters approximately 131 km north of Onslow, Western Australia.

The scope of the EP revision comprises commissioning and start-up of John Brookes-7 and associated production from all infrastructure within Commonwealth waters, including the transport of hydrocarbons via an existing pipeline network to Santos' VI Hub processing facilities. A map with an overview of the VI Hub infrastructure is in **Figure 2**.

The VI Hub processing facilities are within State waters and are managed under separate approvals regulated by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration.

Location

The **operational area (OA)** is situated within production licence areas WA-29-L, WA-63-L, WA-45-L and WA-13-L, with the nearest point being approximately 107 km north of Onslow and 156 km from Karratha (see **figure 2**).

Timing

The revised EP will have a validity of five years from the date of Regulator acceptance. Production facilities operate 24 hours a day, every day of the year; and routine activities may occur at any time during any season.

Duration

Operations are continuous over the life of the asset. Individual inspection, maintenance, monitoring and repair campaigns are expected to take approximately 7 to 30 days, although actual durations may vary depending on activity scope, vessel availability, weather conditions and operational requirements.



Figure 1. Regional activity location map.

Well commissioning and start-up activities (e.g. JB-7) are expected to occur Q3/Q4 2027 subject to obtaining all regulatory and business approvals.

Spartan and some Greater East Spar infrastructure are nearing end of field life, i.e. cessation of production is likely to occur within the next five years.

Consultation and feedback

All petroleum activities in Commonwealth waters must have an EP accepted by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) before any activities can take place.

Under Commonwealth environment regulations, Santos is required to consult with relevant persons about proposed activities in the course of preparing an EP. Santos consults to further ascertain, understand and assess potential environmental impacts and risks of a proposed activity and what, if any measures should be implemented to reduce these to 'as low as reasonably practicable' and to an acceptable level.

A relevant person includes Commonwealth and State agencies and authorities to which the proposed activity may be relevant, and persons or organisations whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the proposed activity.

If you consider you may be a relevant person, please contact us as soon as possible to initiate consultation with you and so you can tell us how you would like to be consulted throughout the consultation process or if you need additional information.

The consultation period for this EP closes **19 August 2026**.

More details on consultation and providing feedback can be found in the consultation section of this Information Sheet.

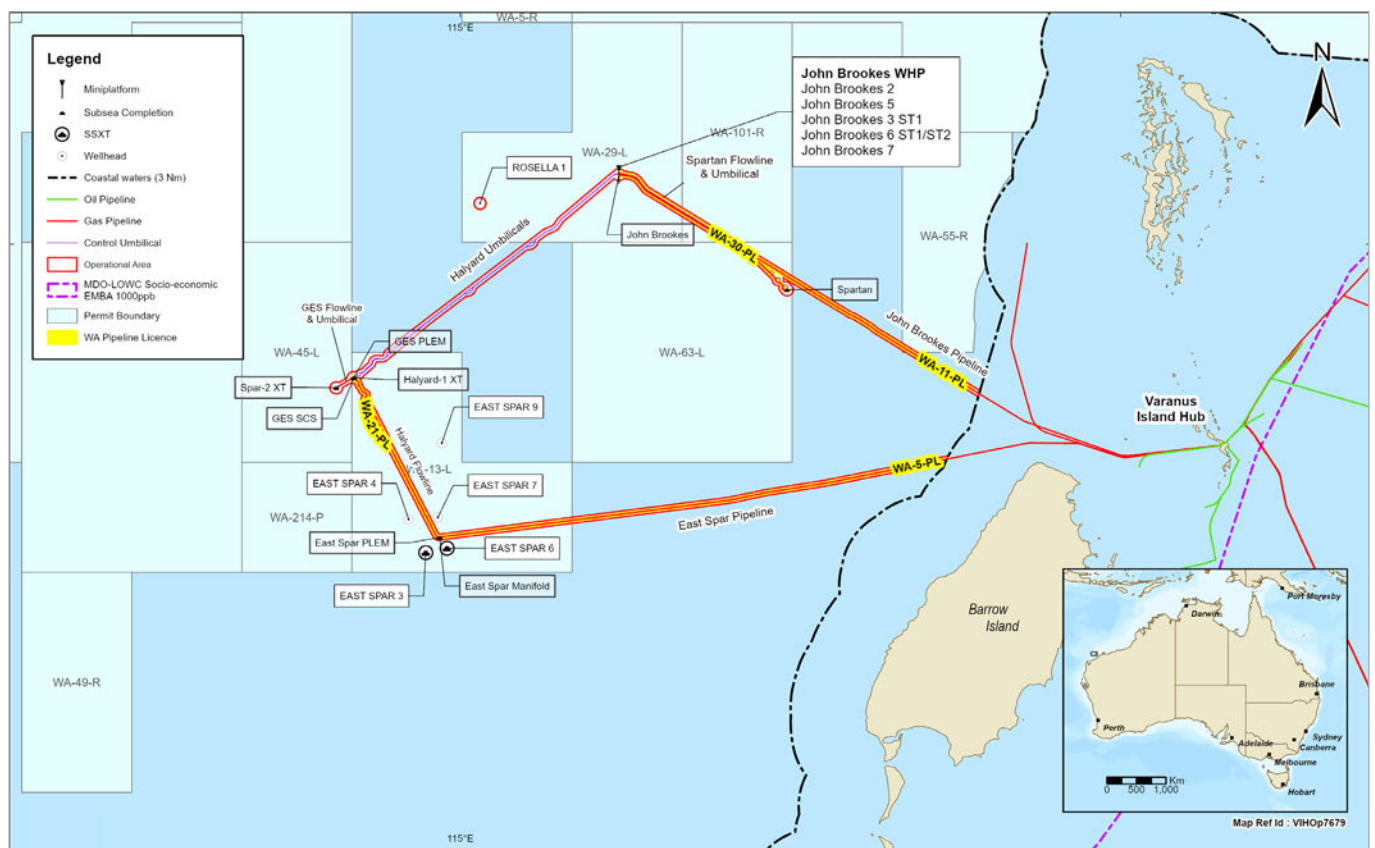


Figure 2. Proposed Drilling Activity in Relation to Existing Offshore Infrastructure

Table 1. Activity description

Activity details	
Proposed activity	Routine activities • Production and export of hydrocarbons from John Brookes, Spartan and GES facilities to Varanus Island. Well commissioning and start-up • Commissioning and start-up of the JB-7 well, including testing of valves, instruments and control systems. • Well clean-up to Varanus Island via the John Brookes pipeline (no discharge to marine environment). Inspection, Maintenance, Monitoring and repair (IMMR) • General inspections of topsides and subsea infrastructure. • Integrity and corrosion control. • Plant and subsea infrastructure installation, cleaning, repair and modification. • Marine growth removal. • Inline inspections of pipelines (pigging). • Installation of replacement equipment/parts. • Pipeline stabilisation and installation of additional secondary stabilisation. • Topsides cleaning of facilities (both maintenance and for suspension). • Flexible riser annulus vacuum testing. • Rigless well servicing or intervention. Well intervention (as required) • Maybe required in response to well servicing activities planned on JB wells, Spartan-2, Spar-2 and Halyard-2. • JB WHP bird deterrent system. • Bird deterrent activities.
Operational area	• A 500 m radius around the John Brookes WHP. • A 250 m buffer either side of all subsea infrastructure. • A 500 m radius around the Rosella-1 wellhead.
Vessels, aircraft and other equipment	• Support vessels for routine visits, maintenance and logistics • Dedicated equipment-specific vessels as required (e.g. dive support vessels, Remote Operating Vehicle (ROV) support vessels, or a support vessel equipped with ROV and Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) or SSS equipment) • Helicopters for crew changes, critical equipment supply and emergency response.
Exclusion and cautionary zones	• 500 m safety exclusion zone around the John Brookes WHP. • A 2.5 nautical mile cautionary zone around the WHP. • A gazetted petroleum safety zone around the East Spar infrastructure.

Table 2. Activity coordinates

Infrastructure	Coordinates (Datum/Projection: GDA 94 Zone 50)			
	Latitude	Longitude	Easting (m E)	Northing (m N)
John Brookes field infrastructure				
John Brookes WHP	20°26'50″S	115°07'13″E	303,892.90	7,737,890.25
John Brookes Pipeline	Approximately 45 km between John Brookes WHP and VI			
John Brookes 2 Well	20°26'50.44″ S	115°07'12.47″ E	303,890.7 7	737,890.2
John Brookes 3 (ST 1) Well	20°26'50.51″ S	115°07'12.47″ E	303,890.6 7	737,887.8
John Brookes 5 Well	20°26'50.44″ S	115°07'12.56″ E	303,893.1	7,737,890.2
John Brookes 6 (ST 1) Well	20°26'50.52″ S	115°07'12.64″ E	303,895.5	7,737,887.8
John Brookes 7	20°26'50.52″ S	115°7'12.56″ E	303,893.1	773,7887.8
Halyard Umbilical	Approximately 28 km between GES manifold and John Brookes WHP			
Spar-Halyard Replacement Umbilical (electrical only)	Approximately 28 km between GES manifold and John Brookes WHP			
Rosella-1 (ST 2) Well*	20°28'08.90″ S	115°00'54.10″ E	292,952.0	7,735,347.7
Spartan field infrastructure				
Spartan-2 Well	20° 32' 4.47″ S	115° 14' 52.90″ E	317,288.4	7,728,372.4
Spartan Flexible Flowline	Approximately 17 km between Spartan-2 well and John Brookes WHP			
Spartan Umbilical	Approximately 17 km between Spartan-2 well and John Brookes WHP			
GES field infrastructure				
Spar-2 Well	20°36'31.98″S	114°54'2.09″E	281,788.82	719,733.4
Spar-2 Flowline	Approximately 1.9km long, from Spar-2 well to GES PLEM			
GES Umbilical	Approximately 1.9km long, from Spar-2 well to GES PLEM			
GES PLEM	20°36'04.88	114°55'09.71	283,156.82	7,720,584.72
GES Subsea Cooling Skid (and tie-in spool)	20°36'05.70	114°55'10.18	283,170.76	7,720,559.56
Halyard-1 Well	20°36'04.06″S	114°55'09.67″E	283,156.50	7 720 611.58
Halyard-2 Well	20°35'49.62″S	114°54'32.12″E	283,145.55	7,720,606.49
Halyard Production Flowline	Approximately 16 km long, between the GES Subsea cooling skid and the East Spar PLEM			

Table 2. Activity coordinates ... continued

Infrastructure	Coordinates (Datum/Projection: GDA 94 Zone 50)			
	Latitude	Longitude	Easting (m E)	Northing (m N)
East Spar PLEM and PLET (and tie-in spool)	20°43'20.25"S	114°9'03.36"E	290,089.71	7,707,279.49
East Spar Manifold	20°43'19.91"S	114°59'04.01"E	290,108.26	7,707,290.32
East Spar Pipeline	Approximately 65 km between East Spar Manifold and intersection with State water boundary.			
Gravity base and clump weight	20°43'23.216"S	114°59'08.879"E	290,228	7,707,196
East Spar-3 Well*	20°44'01.227" S	114°58'26.15" E	289,028.628	7,706,005.986
East Spar-4 Well* XT	20°42'35.04" S	114°57'34.95" E	287,513.1	7,708,630.2
East Spar-6 Well*	20°43'49.310" S	114°59'23.98" E	290,697.29	7,706,393.4
East Spar-7 Well*#	20°42'25.334" S	114°58'58.998" E	289,942.2	7,708,967.1
East Spar-9 Well*	20°39'02.150" S	114°59'10.01" E	290,183.77	7,715,220.71
East Spar 6	20°43'49.307" S	114°59'23.982" E	290,697.312	7,706,393.455



Figure 3. Image of a jack up drill rig

Commercial fishery implications

Santos has undertaken an assessment to define the environmental, social, economic and cultural features that may be affected by proposed activities. To do this we have considered the totality of the area where activity impacts and risks may occur.

The widest extent of this area is called the Environment that May Be Affected (EMBA), which for this activity considers potential spills from a loss of well control during production, a loss of containment from the East Spar subsea pipeline and a loss of marine diesel from a vessel collision.

As part of the assessment process, Santos has identified commercial fisheries that have been active in the OA where temporary physical displacement of fishing operations from preferred fishing grounds may take place.

Commercial fisheries

Table 3 provides an overview of fisheries that have a spatial overlap with the OA and EMBA. Note the fisheries shaded blue are those that have recent fishing effort in the OA based on Government fisheries data.

Operational Area access

Commercial fishers and other marine users can access the 2.5 nautical mile cautionary zone around the John Brookes WHP.

- Commercial fishers are not permitted to enter the 500 m radius safety exclusion zone around the John Brookes WHP nor the 500 m gazetted petroleum safety zone around the East Spar-1 Well, East Spar-3 Well and East Spar Manifold.

Table 3. Commercial Fisheries Identified

Commercial fishing	Fishery spatial overlap with the OA	Fishery spatial overlap with the EMBA
Commonwealth fisheries		
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	No	Yes
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	Yes	Yes
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	No	Yes
Western Skipjack Tuna Fishery	Yes	Yes
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Yes	Yes
State fisheries		
Abalone Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Mackerel Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Marine Aquarium Fish Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pearl Oyster Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Crab Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Fish Trawl Interim Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Line Fishery	Yes	Yes
Pilbara Trap Limited Fishery	Yes	Yes
Shark Bay Crab Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery	No	Yes
Shark Bay Prawn Limited Fishery	No	Yes
South-West Coast Salmon Fishery	Yes	Yes
Specimen Shell Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery	Yes	Yes
West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery	No	Yes

Consultation

Consultation is an important part of EP development as it allows Santos to receive feedback from relevant persons (agencies/ authorities, persons and organisations) whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by proposed petroleum activities.

This feedback may help Santos to refine or change the management measures we are proposing to address activity impacts and risks.

Santos will assess the merits of any objection or claim about the adverse impact of the activities proposed provided through the consultation process, with any responses summarised and included in the EP submitted to the Regulator for assessment.

Under government environment regulations Santos is required to provide relevant persons with:

- **Sufficient information** to allow them to make an informed assessment of the possible consequences of the activity on their functions, interests or activities.
- A **reasonable period** for the consultation.

More information

More information about how community members can participate in environmental approvals for activities proposed in Commonwealth waters has been published in a [brochure](#) by NOPSEMA.

Contact us

Engaging with this consultation will help Santos better understand the values and sensitivities of the environment and inform evaluation of the potential impacts and risks associated with the activity, and how to manage them properly.

To engage with our consultation or request for further information, please contact Santos on details provided below. If you are aware of other stakeholders who may be affected by this activity, we encourage you to forward this information to them or notify us of their contact details so we may engage with them at the earliest opportunity.

You may request that particular information you provide during consultation not be published. If you choose to do so, Santos will ensure that it is included in a separate report which is not published on NOPSEMA's website. Please let us know if you would like your personal/organisation details or, any information you provide not to be published. Please refer to below links on privacy.

[Santos' Privacy Statement](#)

[NOPSEMA Privacy Policy](#)

Consultation dates for proposed activities are published on Santos' Consultation Hub website.

Consultation on this EP closes **19 August 2026**.

Our contact and Hub details are

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W: [santos.com/offshoreconsultation](https://www.santos.com/offshoreconsultation)

