

## Consultation

**ConocoPhillips Australia is planning to undertake exploration activities in offshore permits VIC/P79 and T/49P located in Commonwealth waters.**

The proposed exploration program will consist of seabed surveys and the drilling of up to six exploration wells.

This is a continuation of our exploration program in the offshore Otway Basin which aims to identify commercially viable natural gas reserves to help meet Australia's energy needs.

ConocoPhillips Australia has commenced preparation of an Environment Plan (EP) that will seek acceptance from the regulator for this exploration program. As part of EP development we will undertake consultation in line with a prescribed regulatory process.

This information sheet outlines a consultation process we are proposing to undertake and we are inviting feedback on this process.

### KEY INFORMATION

- ConocoPhillips Australia is planning to undertake an exploration program in the offshore Otway Basin, off the coast of Victoria and King Island, Tasmania subject to EP acceptance and rig availability. Any decision to proceed to development will be dependent on a conducive investment environment.
- Consultation will inform the identification, assessment and management of environmental impacts and risks during the development of the EP.
- ConocoPhillips Australia is seeking to identify authorities, individuals and organisations who may have functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the proposed Otway Exploration Drilling Program that would like to be consulted as part of this process.

### Have we missed anyone?

**If there is someone you believe to be affected by the proposed activities, please have them contact us using the details below.**

**E:** [otway@conocophillips.com](mailto:otway@conocophillips.com)

**T:** 07 3182 7122

PO BOX 1243, MILTON, QLD, 4064

[conocophillips.com.au](http://conocophillips.com.au)



## Our Approach

**The purpose of consultation is to ensure authorities, individuals and organisations that are potentially affected by the proposed Otway Exploration Drilling Program are consulted and that their input is considered in both the development of the consultation processes and in the EP for this activity.**

Consultation provides an avenue to receive information, ask questions, provide feedback, identify additional environmental values and sensitivities, and raise issues and concerns about the activity and its environmental impacts and risks.

Consultation informs our understanding of the environment in which our activity will take place. We are particularly interested to hear from individuals and organisations who may be affected by the proposed activity in areas including: people and communities, heritage values, and ecological, social and cultural features. This information provides valuable insight and local context that supports us identifying, assessing and effectively managing environmental impacts and risks.

ConocoPhillips Australia is proposing to use various consultation methods and communication tools to identify and provide sufficient information for relevant persons to make an informed assessment of the possible consequences of the activity on them.



**Our Approach** *continued*

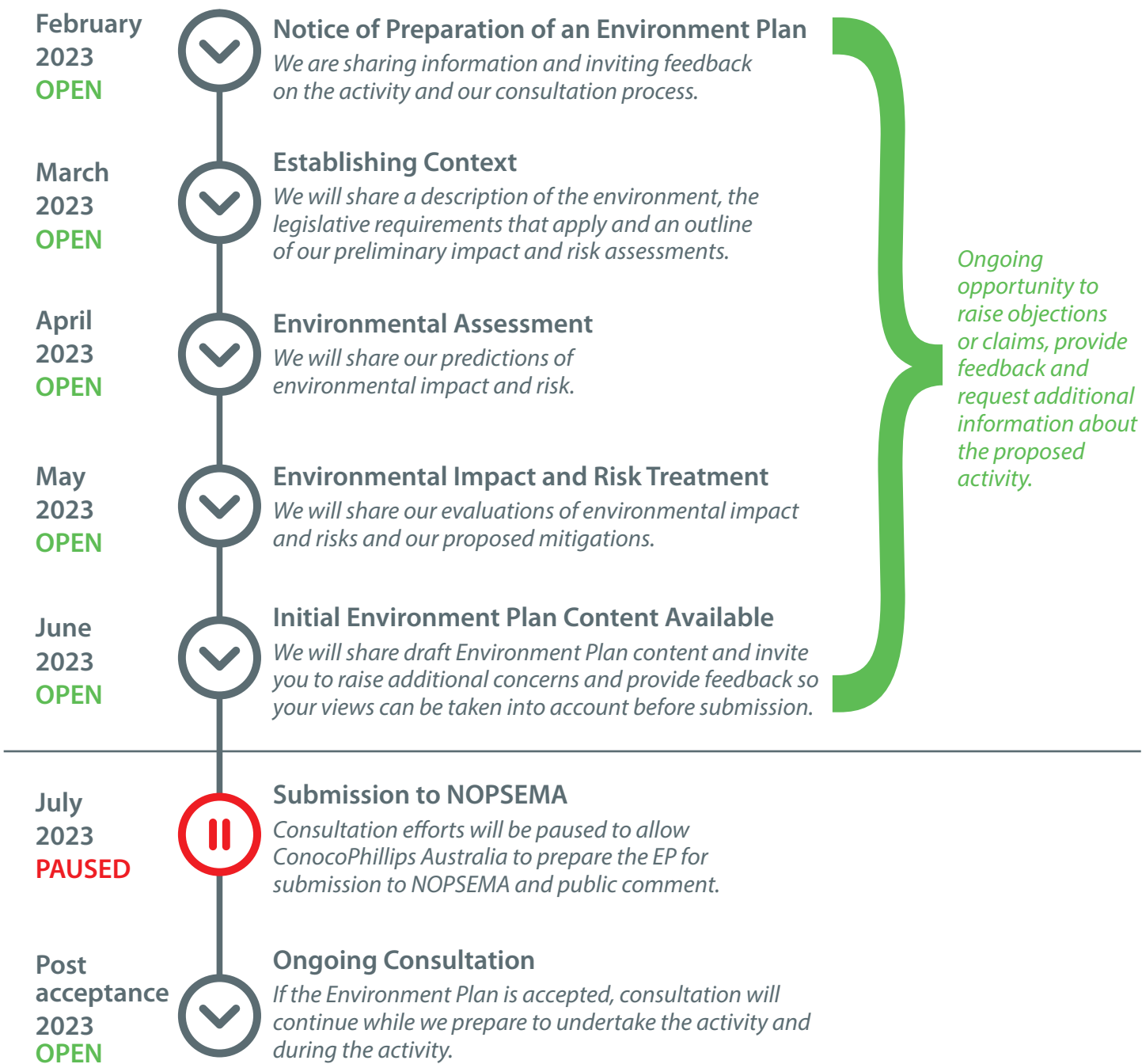
**These consultation methods may include:**

- Community pop-ups and drop in sessions
- Workshops
- Technical committees/ groups
- Meetings and briefings (in person and/or online)
- Interactive forums
- Information sheets
- Telephone conversations
- Email and letters
- Website content
- Advertising

The way we plan to consult is outlined below. We welcome and invite feedback on the proposed approach.

Throughout EP development and consultation ConocoPhillips Australia will continue to identify and consult potentially affected authorities, individuals and organisations.

**Environment Plan Preparation and Consultation Timeline**



## Understanding the environment

**During the development of the EP for the Otway Exploration Drilling Program, we will undertake to identify environmental values and sensitivities and how these may be affected by the proposed activity.**

We will be seeking input through the consultation process to validate and better understand the environment we are proposing to work in. This will improve our predictions of impacts and risks and help to identify any additional measures that could be considered for adoption to manage environmental impacts and risks more effectively.

Environmental values and sensitivities typically include rare, important and/or sensitive physical, biological, ecological, social, economic and/or cultural features of the environment.

**Examples that are often referred to in EPs for offshore activities include:**

- Benthic (sea floor) communities and habitats, marine fauna and the quality of the water, sediment and biota (animal and plant life of a region or habitat)
- World Heritage Values, National Heritage Values, the ecological character of declared RAMSAR wetlands, listed threatened species and ecological communities, listed migratory species and Marine Parks, and
- Social and economic features of the environment including the rights of other users.

Other examples may include biologically important areas, habitats critical to the survival of listed species, key ecological features, marine and coastal industries, marine tourism and recreation, Commonwealth and State managed commercial fisheries, and cultural heritage features and values.

## Understanding your functions, interests and activities

**ConocoPhillips Australia is seeking to understand functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the proposed Otway Exploration Drilling Program. This information, along with the assessment of impacts and risks, determines if an individual or organisation is a 'relevant person'. A relevant person is a mandatory consultee under the Regulations and this information guides:**

- a) the degree to which a relevant person may be affected.
- b) the type and form of information that should be provided to a relevant person to support their assessment of the possible consequences of the activity on them.
- c) an assessment of the level of participation in the consultation process required.

**To assist you determining if you are a relevant person, we have adopted the following definitions of functions, interests, and activities:**

- A function refers to a power or duty to do something.
- Interests are any interest possessed above that of the general public.
- Activities are things a person or group already does.

The level of participation required in the consultation process will vary (depending on, for example, the extent of the affect) and will be appropriate for the relevant person and the type of function, activity or interest.

### Are you a relevant person?

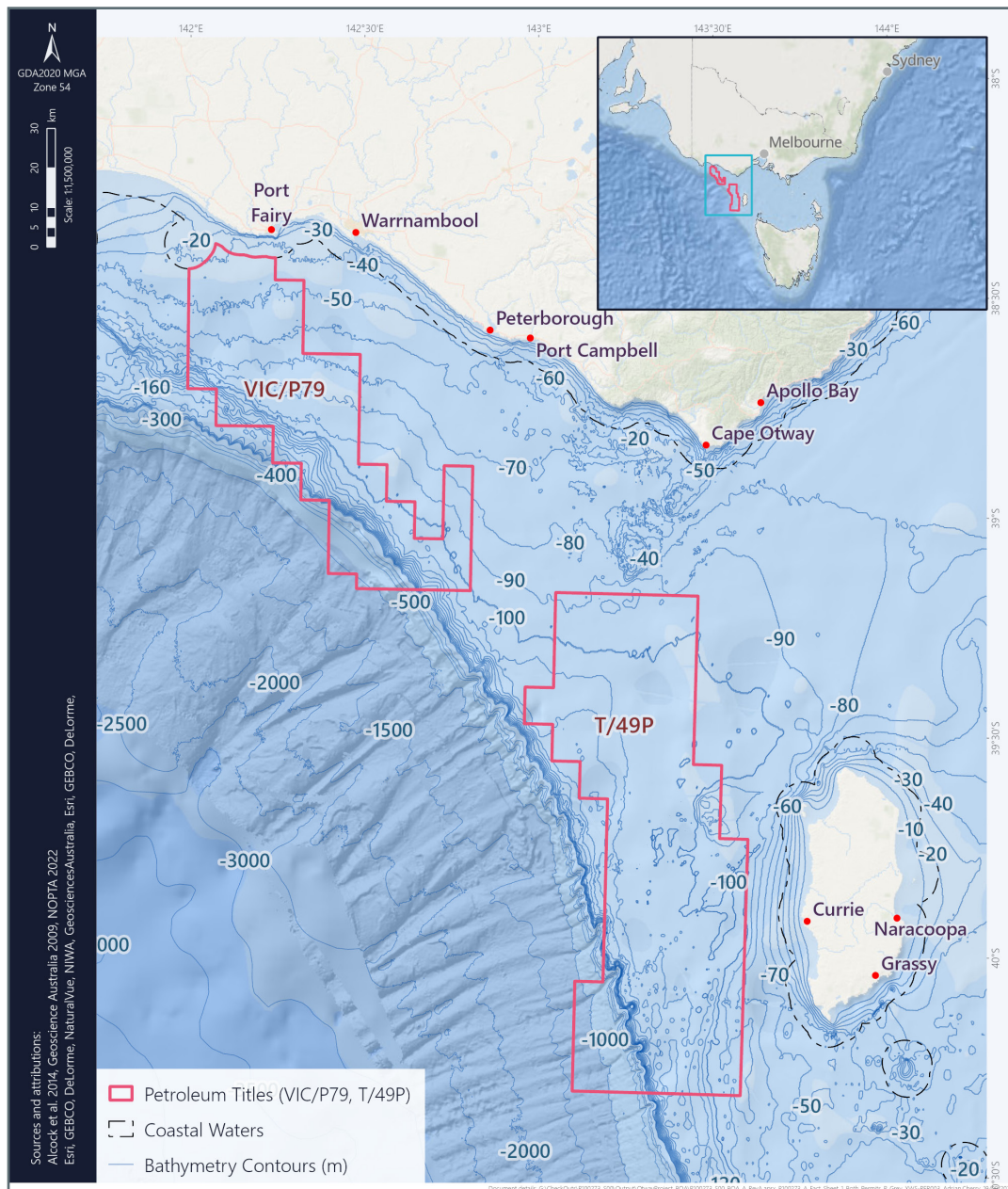
Take our consultation survey to determine if you may be a relevant person.

You can also use the QR code to provide instant feedback





## Map of Permit Areas



## Preparation of the EP

**ConocoPhillips Australia has a regulatory requirement to consult potentially affected authorities, individuals and organisations as part of the development of an EP.**

In preparing the EP, ConocoPhillips Australia is required to keep all records of all interactions and correspondence which includes but is not limited to letters, emails, phone calls and records of meetings. This is submitted to NOPSEMA with the EP for assessment but is not available for public review as part of public comment.

Within the EP ConocoPhillips Australia may choose to include a log of all interactions to demonstrate the extent of consultation undertaken in preparation of the EP. In this instance, key identifying information of individuals participating in consultation is removed and only a summary of the interaction is provided.

In addition, a relevant person may request that information they provide throughout consultation not be published in the EP and ConocoPhillips Australia must comply with this request.

# Questions

## and Answers

### ***Why have I been sent this information sheet?***

You are receiving this information sheet because ConocoPhillips Australia identified you or your organisation as potentially having a function, interest or activity that may be affected by our proposed Otway Exploration Drilling Program. We have a regulatory requirement to consult relevant persons as part of the development of an EP.

### ***How did ConocoPhillips Australia identify me?***

ConocoPhillips Australia undertook a global search for relevant persons to find authorities, organisations, or persons that may have functions, interests and activities potentially affected by the proposed activity. Increased efforts have been made closer to the activity location where the largest possible geographical area exposed to risks from the activity was searched through desktop investigation, database queries, online research, and other targeted search methods.

We will also place paid advertisements throughout the development of the EP across a range of media platforms to encourage potentially affected authorities, individuals and organisations to self-identify.

### ***What should I do if I want to be included in consultation?***

If you want to be consulted, you will need to provide us with contact details and an indication of your functions, interests or activities that may be affected by the proposed Otway Exploration Drilling Program. Through the course of EP development, we will work with you to ensure the provision of sufficient information so you can make an informed assessment of the potential consequences of the activity to you. You will then need to provide ConocoPhillips Australia with feedback on the information provided.

### ***What happens if I don't respond to the information provided to me throughout the consultation process?***

ConocoPhillips Australia will attempt to contact you multiple times using multiple methods to gather your feedback. Your feedback is important to us, this is why we ask you to provide a number of contact methods.

### ***I think someone I know should be a relevant person, what should I do?***

Please share this information sheet with them and encourage them to contact us.

### ***What should I do if I don't want to be consulted?***

If you don't want to be consulted as part of EP development, please contact us. It's important to note that you can opt out of consultation by telling us that you no longer wish to be consulted for the EP. This decision can be reversed at any time by opting back into the consultation process by advising us.

### ***How do I arrange a meeting with ConocoPhillips Australia?***

Contact us using any of the contact points listed below.

#### **Contact us**

ConocoPhillips Australia values consultation and feedback and invites consultation with individuals, groups and organisations potentially affected by the proposed activities to help inform the development of the EP.

You are invited to provide feedback, request a meeting and ask questions on the proposed activity by contacting us in one of the following ways:

**E:** [otway@conocophillips.com](mailto:otway@conocophillips.com)

**T:** 07 3182 7122

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**ConocoPhillips**  
Australia