

Decommissioning of the Minerva Pipeline in Victorian state waters

Application Number: **02403**

Commencement Date:
17/05/2024

Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Decommissioning of the Minerva Pipeline in Victorian state waters

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Natural Gas pipeline

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

28/10/2024

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

31/03/2025

1.2 Proposed Action details

1.2.1 Provide an overview of the proposed action, including all proposed activities. *

Woodside Energy (Victoria) Pty Ltd (Woodside) proposes to undertake subsea decommissioning activities for the Minerva field (previously operated by BHP Petroleum (Victoria) Pty Ltd (BHP)). Removal of the Minerva pipeline bundle and stabilisation materials in Pipeline Licence VIC/PL33(v), in Victorian State Waters, is proposed to occur approximately 5.5 km south-southwest (SSW) of the township of Port Campbell, Victoria and in water depths of approximately ~20 – 60 m. The 10-inch steel pipeline is proposed to be recovered up to the horizontal directional drill (HDD) location, approximately 800 m from shore.

Production commenced from the Minerva field in the VIC/L22 title area in 2005 with reservoir fluids transported to shore via the Minerva production pipeline in VIC/PL33 and VIC/PL33(V). Production from the field ceased in September 2019, and the pipeline was depressurised, cleaned, and flushed of hydrocarbons.

A joint decommissioning campaign of the Minerva field is planned following acceptance of the Environment Plans (outlined below). The campaign will involve the removal of the 10km Minerva pipeline (5km in Commonwealth waters and 5km in State waters) to commence in Q4 2024. The timing of the joint decommissioning campaign is driven by the General Direction (outlined below) imposed on the Minerva infrastructure in Commonwealth waters and the operational synergies in completing the pipeline removal decommissioning activities in one mobilisation. It is anticipated that the joint decommissioning campaign will take approximately three to five months to complete, subject to factors including vessel availability and weather constraints. The planned timeframe from late October 2024 to March 2025 aligns with the best weather window and has been chosen to avoid migration of southern right whales who are seasonally present from in shallow coastal reproductive areas annually from May to October. Depending on weather the decommissioning activities may encroach on the period between January and March 2025, which is a peak foraging period for pygmy blue whales in the region.

Woodside has applied the impact mitigation hierarchy to identify avoidance, mitigation and adaptive management measures for managing the potential impact of this action on migratory whale species (in particular endangered southern right and pygmy blue whales). A temporary avoidance measure will be in place from May until August, during this critically importance calving season when peak numbers of southern right whales will be present in the region. Several adaptive management measures will be adopted for the entire campaign including dedicated trained marine fauna observers on vessels to monitor for whale presence and vessel speed limitations to apply within the operational area. Woodside considers these mitigation and adaptive management measures to be sufficient to reduce the risk of whale displacement occurring during the activity.

The pipeline removal campaign will be conducted using a Multipurpose Construction Vessel (MCV), under an approved NOPSEMA Vessel Safety Case. The campaign may also include a supply vessel and/or a small size dive air vessel for operations near the shoreline, should diving operations be required. The proposed action involves the deburial, cutting and retrieval the Minerva Gas Field pipeline bundle within Victoria State waters from the horizontal directional drilled (HDD) location to the Commonwealth/State waters boundary, a length of approximately 5 km. The pipeline will be cut with hydraulic shears and recovered after deburial using a control flow excavator tool. Recovery methods may use diver assist and/or Remote Operated Vessel (ROV) in the shallow water. Stabilisation structures will be recovered by reverse install method by the MCV crane, as required. The project area includes the area encompassing an approximate 1,000 m corridor along the pipeline route. It is intended that a temporary 500 m exclusion zone will apply around the MCV and the associated project vessels during removal activities. The disturbance footprint of the proposed action is approximately 10,034 m², including a 1 m buffer around the pipeline bundle. The project area for the purpose of this referral is defined by an area of approximately 11.4 km², which includes the 1000 m buffer around the pipeline bundle.

Woodside completed a self-assessment to determine if the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance (MNES) or other protected matter (Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 5, p 30-44). Woodside does not consider that the elements of this proposed action is likely to have a significant impact upon MNES as the proposal will not interfere with the recovery of the Southern Right Whale and is consistent with the objectives and specific actions outlined in the draft National Recovery Plan for Southern Right Whales and the Conservation Management Plan for Pygmy Blue Whales.

Therefore, the proposal is not expected to require assessment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

Field management activities that may be performed during the proposed action include:

- inspection, maintenance and repair activities
- visual inspection surveys
- post-decommissioning sediment sampling
- For a full description of activity details required for the proposed action refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 2, pp 6-7.

The proposed action may result in direct and indirect impacts to the environment, through planned and unplanned events associated with the activities described above, including:

- Planned events:
 - Physical presence of project vessels and interaction with other marine users
 - Physical presence – disturbance to the benthic habitat from removal activities, ROV operations and post-decommissioning sediment sampling
 - Routine discharges from project vessels and discharges from decommissioning activities
 - Light emissions from project vessel operations
 - Atmospheric noise emissions from helicopter operations and underwater noise emissions from project vessel operations and the use of hydraulic shears for cutting the pipeline
 - Atmospheric emissions from project vessels
- Unplanned events:
 - Hydrocarbon release from vessel collision
 - Chemical and hydrocarbon spills - deck spills and bunkering
 - Unplanned discharge of solid hazardous waste/non-hazardous waste/equipment
 - Unplanned interactions with Marina Fauna
 - Disturbance to the seabed from dropped objects
 - Accidental introduction of invasive marine species into the marine environment
- For additional information on impacts from planned and unplanned events refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Table 4-4.

This EPBC referral relates only to the decommissioning of the 5 km Minerva pipeline in Victorian state waters. All activities in Commonwealth waters are not within the scope of this referral. Activities in Commonwealth Waters are being assessed separately, with two Environment Plans (EPs) currently with the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) for assessment the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management (Commonwealth) and the Minerva Plug and Abandonment and Field Maintenance Environment Plans (NOPSEMA, 2024a, NOPSEMA, 2024b). On 28 February 2014, following Australian Government decisions under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act), the process for streamlined environmental approvals for offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas storage activities in Commonwealth waters came into effect. As such an EPBC referral is not required for decommissioning activities in Commonwealth waters.

An EPBC referral is required in Victorian state waters as the Victorian Regulator Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) doesn't have a similar streamlining arrangement in place for environmental approvals of offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas activities. Decommissioning activities in Victorian State Waters are being assessed by DEECA concurrently with this referral through the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management (State) Environment Plan.

The timing of the joint decommissioning campaign is being driven by General Direction 831 issued to BHP by NOPSEMA in 30 August 2021 under section 574 of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas (OPGGS) Act 2006. The General Direction relates to decommissioning of property within VIC/PL33 and adjacent licence VIC/L22. All property within these titles is planned to be removed no later than the 30 June 2025 in accordance with the timeframes outlined in the General Direction 831.

1.2.2 Is the project action part of a staged development or related to other actions or proposals in the region?

Yes

1.2.3 Is the proposed action the first stage of a staged development (or a larger project)?

No

1.2.4 Related referral(s)

1.2.5 Provide information about the staged development (or relevant larger project).

The project action is related to other actions or proposals in the region.

Referral of the proposed action is split into two components:

- Components offshore in Victorian state waters (in VIC/PL33(v) (this referral); and
- Components offshore in Commonwealth waters (in VIC/PL22). Streamlining arrangements for environmental approvals of offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas activities are in place for Commonwealth waters. Components relevant to activities in Commonwealth waters are being assessed separately by NOPSEMA.

1.2.6 What Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents are relevant to the proposed action, and how are they relevant? *

Commonwealth legislation

Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006 (Cth) (OPGGS Act)

The OPGGS Act provides the regulatory framework for all offshore exploration and production activities in Commonwealth waters (those areas beyond three nautical miles from the Territorial Sea baseline and with the Commonwealth Petroleum Jurisdiction Boundary). The Environment Regulations have been made under the OPGGS Act to ensure 'that any petroleum activity or greenhouse gas activity carried out in an offshore area is:

- carried out in a manner consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development set out in section 3A of the EPBC Act
- carried out in a manner by which the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be reduced to as low as reasonably practicable
- carried out in a manner by which the environmental impacts and risks of the activity will be of an acceptable level'.

Section 572 of the OPGGS Act provides for maintenance and removal of equipment and property brought onto title. Under section 572(3) of the OPGGS Act, a titleholder must remove from the title area all structures that are, and all equipment and other property that is, neither used nor to be used in connection with the operations. Under section 572(7), property removal requirements are subject to any other provision of the OPGGS Act, the Environment Regulations, directions given by NOPSEMA or the responsible Commonwealth Minister, and any other law. These sections require removal of property when it is neither used nor to be used, unless NOPSEMA has accepted alternative arrangements.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act)

The EPBC Act protects and manages nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities, and heritage places in Australia. Many of these are defined in the EPBC Act as Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES). Activities that will, or are likely to, have a significant impact on MNES must be referred for assessment under the EPBC Act. The Act also protects all cetaceans in Commonwealth waters and provides protections for Australian Marine Parks (AMPs).

NOPSEMA, through the Streamlining Offshore Petroleum Environmental Approvals Program, implements the requirements of the EPBC Act with respect to offshore petroleum activities in Commonwealth waters, however this doesn't apply in Victorian State waters.

EPBC Policy and Guidance

Due to the potential of MNES occurring within the Proposed Area, or in relatively close proximity to the Proposal, the following EPBC policy and guidance documents are considered relevant:

- Matters of National Environmental Significance Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (CoA, 2013).
- National Strategy for reducing vessel strike on cetaceans and other marine megafauna (DCCEEW, 2017)
- Conservation Management Plan for the Blue Whale (DCCEEW 2015)
- Conservation Management Plan for the Southern Right Whale (DCCEEW, 2012)
- Draft National Recovery Plan for the Southern Right Whale (DCCEEW, 2022).
- Interim Engaging with First Nations People and Communities on Assessments and Approvals under the EPBC Act (DCCEEW, 2023).

Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981 (Cth)

The Sea Dumping Act regulates the loading and dumping of waste at sea and the creation of artificial reefs in Australian waters. Australian waters stretch from the low-water mark of the Australian shoreline out to 200 nautical miles (nm). The Sea Dumping Act will not apply to this referral as the proposed action includes removal of all property, with no plans for the dumping of waste at sea.

Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989 (Cth)

The Act regulates the export and import of controlled wastes in and an out of Australia by applying to the Minister of the Environment for a permit. Woodside will manage the disposal of the recovered subsea infrastructure in accordance with applicable legislation.

State legislation

Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2010 (Victorian OPGGS Act)

The Act provides the legislative framework for regulation offshore oil and gas exploration and development activities within State waters (located within three nautical miles – or 5.56 km – of the Victorian coast).

This referral to the Commonwealth Department of the Climate Change, the Environment, Energy and Water (DCCEEW) has been undertaken concurrently with the submission of the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management (State) Environment Plan to DEECA, as required under the Victorian OPGGS Act.

Environmental Protection Act 2017 (Vic).

The Environment Protection Regulations 2021 (Vic) made under the Act provides for the classification and management of waste material. The proposed action will generate waste material from the recovery of the subsea infrastructure. Preliminary investigations of the Minerva subsea infrastructure indicate there may be low levels of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) in the pipeline. Waste generated from the proposed action will be classified in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2021 (Vic) and managed accordingly. Waste generated from the proposed action is an indirect impact from proposed action and will be managed under the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management (State) Environment Plan. Waste will be managed onshore at an existing facility in compliance with the Act and is not included in this referral.

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (Vic)

The Act provides for the conservation of Victoria's native flora and fauna. Part 3 of the Act provides to listing of threatened taxa and communities, and potentially threatening processes. This referral is being submitted concurrently with the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management (State) Environment Plan (EP). No planned activities in the EP/this referral are threatening processes. The EP demonstrates how impacts and risks to threatened species and unplanned events that any threatening processes are managed to a level that is acceptable and as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP).

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (Victoria)

The main Victorian legislation governing the conservation of threatened species and ecological communities and addresses the management of processes that threaten native flora and fauna, including endangered blue pygmy and southern right whales.

1.2.7 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken regarding the project area, including with Indigenous stakeholders. Attach any completed consultation documentations, if relevant. *

Woodside takes community and stakeholder consultation seriously. We acknowledge there may be persons who hold rights or interests that may be impacted by our activities, and we seek to understand who those persons are, engage with them in an inclusive and respectful manner, and manage our activities in a way that will avoid or minimise risks and impacts to them. In many cases the stakeholder feedback we receive builds upon our established understanding of the areas and communities in which we operate as well as the potential impacts and risks of our activities and supports continuous improvement of our processes and activities. Woodside supports meaningful consultation, which includes inclusive engagement with First Nations communities.

Woodside's aim is to ensure the activity is carried out in a manner that is consistent with the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD), by which the environmental impacts and risks of the activity are reduced to As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP) and are of an acceptable level in accordance with requirements under the OPGGS Act. We want relevant persons whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the proposed activity to have the opportunity to provide feedback on our proposed activity, in accordance with the intended outcome of consultation.

Woodside Energy (Victoria) Pty Ltd (Woodside) consults stakeholders in the course of preparing an Environment Plan (EP) to notify them, obtain their input and to assist Woodside to confirm current measures or identify additional measures, if any, that could be taken to lessen or avoid potential adverse effects of the proposed activity on the environment. This is the intended outcome of consultation.

Woodside's objective is to build long term and meaningful relationships in the communities that we work. Woodside has undertaken targeted stakeholder consultation for the decommissioning of the Minerva pipeline in Victorian state waters. Woodside has been conducting extensive consultation with relevant persons and other parties for this EP since May 2023 when consultation commenced with interested and affected stakeholders as part of a planned, integrated and consistent approach to stakeholder engagement for Woodside's proposed opportunities. A broad consultation process has been undertaken with relevant persons for the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management Environment Plan (Victoria). Consultation aims to be inclusive, transparent, voluntary, respectful and two-way. Consultation was undertaken by email, letter, phone call and/or meeting.

Woodside advertised the planned activities proposed for this EP in national, state and relevant local newspapers including The Australian, Herald Sun, Colac Herald, Cobden Times and Warrnambool Standard on the 17 May 2023.

Regional newspapers do not require subscription and are available (and in some cases delivered) directly to households. All communities within or adjacent to the Operational Area had access to this information via this media. No direct comments or feedback were received from the advertisements.

An Environment Plan (EP) Consultation Information Sheet and Activity Update outlining the proposed action activities was made available to relevant persons whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the proposed project action. Persons were invited to provide feedback.

Since the commencement of the initial consultation period (May 2023), the stakeholder Consultation Information Sheet has been available on Woodside's website and the activity update Consultation Information Sheet since January 2024. The Woodside Consultation Information Sheets include a toll-free 1800 phone number and Woodside's feedback email address (feedback@woodside.com). Where appropriate, Woodside conducted

phone calls and meetings with relevant Persons. The Consultation Information Sheet outlines the proposed action activities was made available to relevant persons whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the proposed project action. Persons were invited to provide feedback.

For activities to be managed under the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management (State) Environment Plan, Woodside reassessed the relevancy of previously consulted persons based on the offshore location, and nature and scale of activities. As part of this assessment process, Woodside sought advice from State government agencies, local government, representative organisations and other operators with interests in the region. Woodside also reviewed relevant regional Environment Plans by other operators and conducted desktop person identification and analysis.

Additional activities were undertaken with relevant Traditional Custodians, which were specifically designed to provide for effective engagement with Traditional Custodians and so that information was provided in a form that was readily accessible and appropriate.

Direct engagement with nominated representative bodies via the contact listed on the Office of the Register of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) website, requesting advice on how they would like to be engaged and asking whether other members and/or individuals should be consulted. Ongoing efforts were made to engage and develop relationships with these bodies via a variety of means such as email, phone calls, alternative contacts, texts and in some cases physical visits. Consultation meetings with attendees decided by Traditional Custodian groups, supported by senior Woodside representatives, subject matter experts, First Nations Relations advisors with skills and experience in community engagement. Meetings are developed through a two-way consultation process to ensure effective information sharing. In addition meeting costs such as sitting fees, travel, legal support and executive support and other support where covered as required.

Woodside has employed a diverse range of techniques to allow Indigenous stakeholders to become aware of the proposed activity and how it may affect their functions, activities or interests, and to understand their ability to provide feedback. The combination of Prescribed Body Corporate engagement meetings and traditional print media was designed with input from Indigenous representatives and adapted to the audience, so that it provides a wide-ranging opportunity to consult.

Refer to Att 2 Consultation Summary for a detailed list of participants and a summary of tables of responses and comments received during the course of consultation.

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

Privacy Notice:

Personal information means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

By completing and submitting this form, you consent to the collection of all personal information contained in this form. If you are providing the personal information of other individuals in this form, please ensure you have their consent before doing so.

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) collects your personal information (as defined by the Privacy Act 1988) through this platform for the purposes of enabling the department to consider your submission and contact you in relation to your submission. If you fail to provide some or all of the personal information requested on this platform (name and email address), the department will be unable to contact you to seek further information (if required) and subsequently may impact the consideration given to your submission.

Personal information may be disclosed to other Australian government agencies, persons or organisations where necessary for the above purposes, provided the disclosure is consistent with relevant laws, in particular the Privacy Act 1988 (Privacy Act). Your personal information will be used and stored in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles.

See our Privacy Policy to learn more about accessing or correcting personal information or making a complaint.

Alternatively, email us at privacy@awe.gov.au.

Confirm that you have read and understand this Privacy Notice *

1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details	
ABN/ACN	12006466486
Organisation name	WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD
Organisation address	Mia Yellagonga, 11 Mount Street, Perth WA 6000
Referring party details	
Name	Kaitlyn Sprigg
Job title	Environment Adviser
Phone	0477889318
Email	kaitlyn.sprigg@woodside.com
Address	Mia Yellagonga Karlak, 11 Mount St Perth WA 6000

1.3.2 Identity: Person proposing to take the action

1.3.2.1 Are the Person proposing to take the action details the same as the Referring party details? *

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details

ABN/ACN 12006466486

Organisation name WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD

Organisation address Mia Yellagonga, 11 Mount Street, Perth WA 6000

Person proposing to take the action details

Name Kaitlyn Sprigg

Job title Environment Adviser

Phone 0477889318

Email kaitlyn.sprigg@woodside.com

Address Mia Yellagonga Karlak, 11 Mount St Perth WA 6000

1.3.2.14 Are you proposing the action as part of a Joint Venture? *

Yes

Joint Venture Name	Business Address	ABN/ACN	Responsible Person	Email
Cooper Energy (MF) Pty Ltd	Level 8, 70 Franklin Street, Adelaide SA 5000	37615354955	Andrew Thomas	andrew.thomas@cooperenergy.com.au

1.3.2.15 Are you proposing the action as part of a Trust? *

No

1.3.2.17 Describe the Person proposing the action's history of responsible environmental management including details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against the Person proposing to take the action. *

Woodside

Woodside is a global energy company, founded in Australia, with a spirit of innovation and determination. Our focus in operations remains on safety, reliability, efficiency and environmental performance, leveraging more than 35 years of operating experience. Our approach to environmental management is detailed in its Health,

Safety & Environment Policy.

Integrity, accountability and transparency drive our environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspirations and guide decision making at all levels of our business.

We strive to operate responsibly across our business activities. Enduring and meaningful relationships with communities are fundamental to our social performance.

We engage with our workforce regularly to communicate safety information and to understand current and emerging safety issues. Regular communication channels include site based pre-start meetings, safety event bulletins, safety learning meetings, performance updates and reports. Our formal site based health, safety and environment (HSE) representatives meet at operated sites each month to discuss workplace HSE risks and raise priority issues with site management

Further information is available at <https://www.woodside.com/sustainability>.

Historic performance

The following provides a list of prior development referrals submitted by Woodside:

2023/09559- H2Perth hydrogen and ammonia project

2022/09365 – H2TAS

2022/09328 – Woodside Solar Facility

2018/8335 – NWS Project Extension

2018/8319 – Proposed Browse to NWS Development

2013/7079 – Browse FLNG Development

2011/5980 – Greater Western Flank Phase 1 Gas Development

2011/5936 – Julimar Brunello Gas Development Project

2008/4111 – Development of Browse Basin Gas Fields (Upstream)

2006/2968 – Pluto Gas Project Including Site B

2005/2258 – Pluto Gas Project

2007/3436 – North West Shelf Gas Venture Phase VI Expansion

2006/3191 – Woodside Project Facilities Increase

2005/2500 – North Rankin B gas compression facility

2005/2464 – Western Flank Gas Development

2004/1805 – Angel

In addition, the list below details the most recent EPBC Act referrals for exploration programs undertaken by Woodside as Operator:

2013/7081 – Babylon 3D Marine Seismic Survey

2012/6618 – Outer Canning exploration drilling program off NW coast of WA

2012/6493 – Rosebud 3D Marine Seismic Survey in WA-30-R and TR/5

2011/5959 – Tridacna 3D Ocean Bottom Cable Marine Seismic Survey

2010/5720 – Vincent M1 and Enfield M5 4D Marine Seismic Survey

2010/5420 – Koolama 2D Seismic Survey Dampier Basin

2010/5415 – Laverda 3D Marine Seismic Survey and Vincent M1 4D Marine Seismic Survey

2009/5037 – Drill and Profile Exploration Well Somerset 1, License Area T34P 2008/4558 – Enfield M4 4D Marine Seismic Survey

2008/4430 – Torosa-5 Appraisal Well, WA-30-R

2000/13 - Woodside Geotechnical Investigation Sunrise Bank.

1.3.2.18 If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

Woodside has a corporate Health, Safety, Environment Management System (HSE MS). It aims to be recognised as an industry leader in HSE through managing activities in a sustainable manner, giving regard to Woodside's workforce, communities and the environment. Woodside is committed to managing activities to minimise adverse health, safety or environmental impacts, incorporating the 'right first time' approach to quality.

The principles of Woodside's HSE policy are found within the following documents:

Woodside Health and Safety Policy (refer to Att 3 Woodside Health and Safety Policy) recognises that at Woodside we believe that process and personal safety related incidents, and occupational illnesses are preventable. We strive to be an industry leader in health and safety and are committed to managing our activities to minimise adverse health and safety risk related impacts.

The **Woodside Environment and Biodiversity Policy** (refer to Att 4 Woodside Environment and Biodiversity Policy) recognises the intrinsic value of nature and the importance of conserving biodiversity and ecosystem services to support the sustainable development of our society. We are committed to doing our part. We understand and embrace our responsibility to undertake activities in an environmentally sustainable way.

Lastly, the **Woodside Quality Policy** (refer to Att 5 Woodside Quality Policy) recognises that outstanding quality performance is essential to sustainably meeting business and stakeholder objectives and obligations. We apply quality management principles to ensure that development and operational opportunities are realised to create value and that associated risks are controlled to protect value.

Responsibility for the application of these Policies rests with Woodside employees, contractors and joint venturers engaged in the relevant activities under Woodside operational control. Woodside managers are also responsible for promotion of this Policy in non-operated joint ventures. This Policy will be reviewed regularly and updated as required.

1.3.3 Identity: Proposed designated proponent

1.3.3.1 Are the Proposed designated proponent details the same as the Person proposing to take the action? *

Yes

Proposed designated proponent organisation details

ABN/ACN 12006466486

Organisation name WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD

Organisation address Mia Yellagonga, 11 Mount Street, Perth WA 6000

Proposed designated proponent details

Name Kaitlyn Sprigg

Job title Environment Adviser

Phone 0477889318

Email kaitlyn.sprigg@woodside.com

Address Mia Yellagonga Karlak, 11 Mount St Perth WA 6000

1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

Confirmed Referring party's identity

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN 12006466486

Organisation name WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD

Organisation address Mia Yellagonga, 11 Mount Street, Perth WA 6000

Representative's name Kaitlyn Sprigg

Representative's job title Environment Adviser

Phone 0477889318

Email kaitlyn.sprigg@woodside.com

Address Mia Yellagonga Karlak, 11 Mount St Perth WA 6000

Confirmed Person proposing to take the action's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

Same as Referring party information.

✔ Confirmed Proposed designated proponent's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

1.4 Payment details: Payment exemption and fee waiver

1.4.1 Do you qualify for an exemption from fees under EPBC Regulation 5.23 (1) (a)? *

No

1.4.3 Have you applied for or been granted a waiver for full or partial fees under Regulation 5.21A? *

No

1.4.5 Are you going to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under EPBC Regulation 5.21A?

No

1.4.7 Has the department issued you with a credit note? *

No

1.4.9 Would you like to add a purchase order number to your invoice? *

No

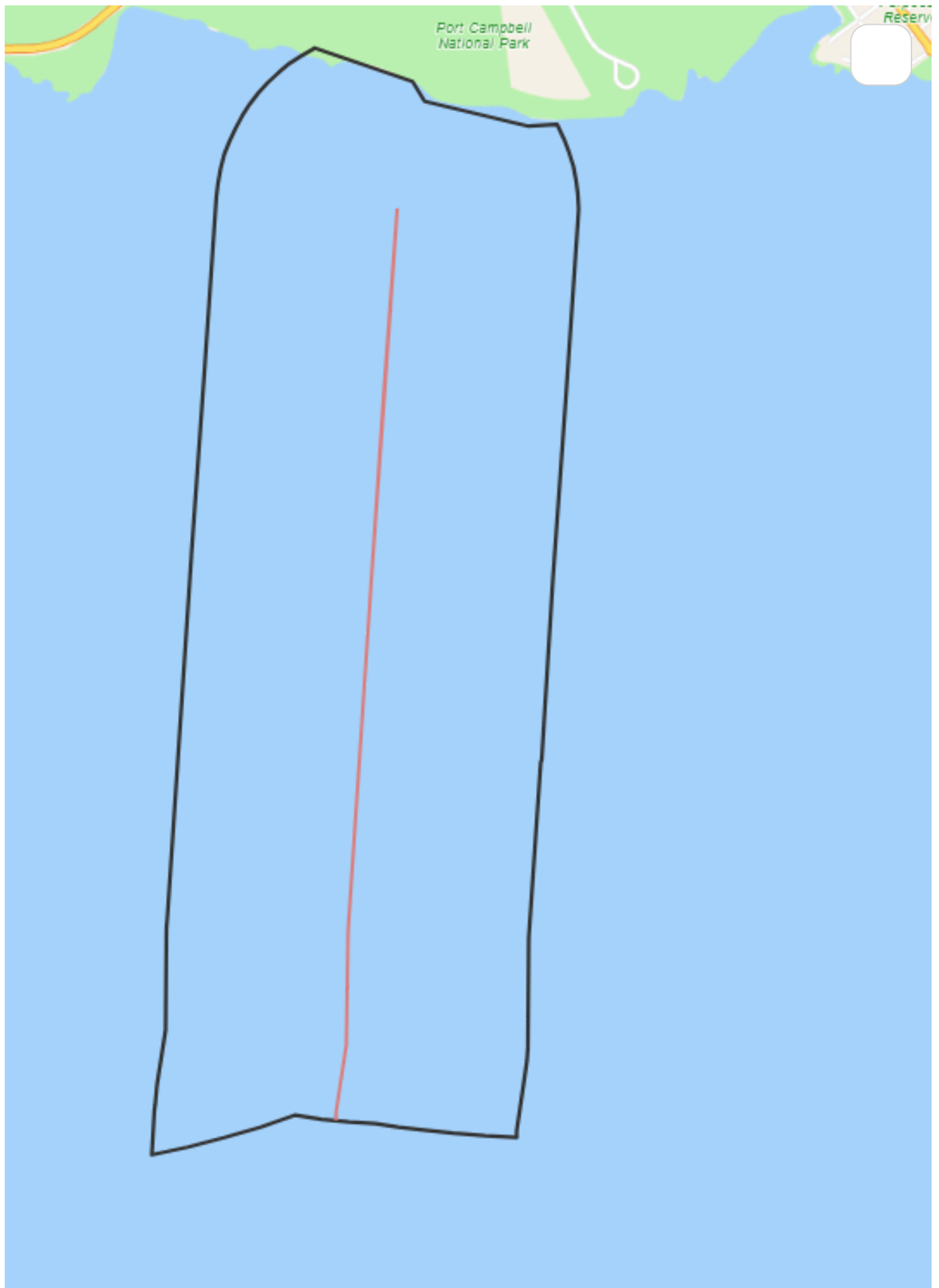
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Person proposing to take the action

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint



2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

State waters off Victoria.

2.2.2 Where is the primary jurisdiction of the proposed action? *

Victoria

2.2.3 Is there a secondary jurisdiction for this proposed action? *

No

2.2.5 What is the tenure of the action area relevant to the project area? *

The Minerva pipeline is within State waters and is covered by pipeline license VIC/PL33(v) issued under the Victorian OPGGS Act.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

3.1.1 Describe the current condition of the project area's environment.

Bathymetry

The project area is characterised by generally flat bathymetry. Benthic habitats within the project area are characterised by rocky reef and unconsolidated sandy sediments, which are mobile (e.g., burial of the pipeline bundle over time, changes in the burial state of the pipeline bundle). Such habitat is widely represented in the region and is not particularly unique or sensitive to disturbance.

Sediment and Water Quality

Advisian carried out sediment sampling in the Minerva field around wellheads, the pipeline, and at several reference sites (in Commonwealth waters). Sediments were characterised by sand-sized fractions (62.5 µm–2 mm), with little finer or coarser sediments at most sites sampled. Concentrations of metals in sediments were generally consistent across all sites sampled by Advisian. None of the metals exceeded the default guideline values for toxicants in the Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC/ARCAMZ, 2000). Concentrations of hydrocarbons (total petroleum hydrocarbons, total recoverable hydrocarbons, aromatic hydrocarbons, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) were below laboratory limits of detection in all samples. Radioactivity of sediments was measured for a suite of radionuclides, which were generally consistent across all sites, several sites were below the laboratory limits of detection.

Sampling by Advisian (2021) in late summer showed a thermocline between approximately 30 m and 50 m water depth, which may be the result of solar heating and reduced wind-driven mixing, as the preceding months have relatively long day lengths, maximum temperatures, and low winds, compared to the rest of the year. Turbidity was low in the upper part of the water column and increased near the seabed.

Water quality sampling by Advisian (2021) showed no evidence of contamination. Samples at sites near Minerva subsea infrastructure were consistent with samples at reference sites, with no evidence of elevated levels of potential contaminants. Hydrocarbons (TPH, TRH, PAH and BTEXN) were below laboratory limits of reporting in all samples. Nutrients were consistent across all sites sampled.

Protected Areas

There are no Australian or Victorian protected areas overlapping the project area. The closest Australian Marine Park to the project area is Apollo Marine Park, located 53 km from the project area. The Twelve Apostles Marine National Park and the Arches Marine Sanctuary are the closest Victorian Protected Areas, located 5 km and 2 km respectively from the project area. No Key Ecological Features (KEFs) overlap the project area.

3.1.2 Describe any existing or proposed uses for the project area.

Existing uses that overlap the proposed project area include commercial fishing. Other uses occur adjacent/in proximity to the project area but are not expected to be interfered by the proposed action.

Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal cultural heritage within Victorian State waters is protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Vic). The waters within the project area, and waters are identified as “areas of cultural heritage sensitivity” within the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Information System (ACHRIS) online mapping tool. For the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management (State) Environment Plan (EP), an Application for Advice for the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register was submitted. Three Aboriginal Places were identified adjacent to the project area; however First Peoples State Relations confirmed these Places are not located within the project area. Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 3.4, pp 10-18.

A search of the Australasian Underwater Cultural Heritage Database, which records known Maritime Cultural Heritage (shipwrecks, aircraft, relics, and other underwater cultural heritage) in Australian waters does not contain records of sites within the project area.

Commercial Fisheries

The project area overlaps 1 commercial fishery and 3 State-managed fisheries. Vessels in the Shark Gillnet and Hook sector of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF), the Victorian Rock Lobster Fishery, Wrasse Fishery and Multi-species Ocean Fishery are known to operate within the project area.

Tourism and Recreation

Tourism and recreation activities are valuable foundations for the local and regional economy. Key activities include sight-seeing, surfing, and fishing. However, these are generally land-based or near-shore activities and given the project area is located approximately 800 m offshore, in approximate water depths of 20-60 m, these activities are not expected to overlap the project area.

Commercial Shipping

The South-east Marine Region is one of the busiest shipping regions in Australia and Bass Strait is one of Australia's busiest shipping routes. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) indicates that there are no designated shipping lanes in the vicinity of the Minerva field, with the main shipping channel for vessels (e.g. cargo tankers) travelling between major Australian and foreign ports located south of the Minerva field, about 75 km (40 nm) south of Warrnambool. Although a dedicated shipping lane is not present, commercial and local vessels utilise the region surrounding the project area frequently.

Oil and Gas Activities

Adjacent oil and gas production fields to the Minerva Field include the Otway Gas Field Development, operated by Beach Energy and the Casino, Henry, Netherby (CHN) gas field operated by Cooper Energy. Both operations do not overlap the project area.

Defence

The Department of Defence uses offshore areas for training operations including live firing, bombing practice from aircraft, air-to-air and air-to-sea or ground firing, anti-aircraft firing, firing from shore batteries or ships, remote controlled craft firing, and rocket and guided weapons firing. The closest training and practice areas to the project area are located to the east in and around Port Phillip Bay and Western Port Bay areas. Mine fields were laid in Australian waters during World War II. Post-war minefields were swept to remove mines and to make marine waters safe for maritime activities however areas of unexploded ordnance (UXO) still exist. The closest areas to the operational area that have been identified as dangerous due to UXO, are located south and east of Wilson's Promontory (approximately 300 km east of the project area).

3.1.3 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values that applies to the project area.

There are no Australian or Victorian protected areas overlapping the project area. The closest Australian Marine Park to the project area is Apollo Marine Park, located 53 km from the project area. The Twelve Apostles Marine National Park and the Arches Marine Sanctuary are the closest Victorian Protected Areas, located 5 km and 2 km respectively from the project area.

There are no Key Ecological Features (KEF) identified within the project area. The nearest KEF is the Bonney Coast Upwelling, located approximately 78 km west of the project area stretching from Portland, Victoria to Robe, South Australia. The Bonney Coast Upwelling event occurs from November-April on an annual basis. Pygmy blue whales are seasonally present in this region between January and March, which coincides with higher productivity in the water column due to the Bonney Upwelling. The project area overlaps the pygmy blue whales foraging biologically important area (BIA) associated with this KEF (Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 3.3, pp 8-9)

No listed World or National heritage places overlap project area. One National Heritage Place identified in the Protected Matter Search Tool (PMST) report overlaps the project area, however, it is a terrestrial feature and therefore excluded from this referral (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Supporting Document, Section 3.3, pp 9).

The project area overlaps the BIA of 11 species, including the foraging and distribution BIA of the endangered pygmy blue whale. Refer to section 3.2.1 of this referral for further information on BIAs that intersect the project area.

3.1.4 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

The Minerva pipeline decommissioning activities will occur at a depth range of 20 m(LAT) at the Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) exit to 60 m(LAT) at the 3nm state boundary.

3.2 Flora and fauna

3.2.1 Describe the flora and fauna within the affected area and attach any investigations of surveys if applicable.

The following species have been identified as in the general area from the EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) and was used to identify listed threatened and migratory species that may occur within the project area (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Appendix A and Appendix B). The PMST report identified a total of 47 species listed with a threatened status and 42 listed as migratory that may potentially occur, or have habitat, within the project area.

A search of the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) database indicates that 270 fauna species have been recorded in the environment surrounding the proposed project area. 260 of the identified fauna species include seabirds, shorebirds and terrestrial bird species that have reported sighting within this area. 10 of the identified species were marine fauna species such as the killer whale, sperm whale, southern sei whale, rockhopper penguin and the little penguin.

Biologically Important Areas and Habitat Critical to the Survival of a Species

Biologically important areas (BIAs) are those locations where aggregations of members of a species are known to undertake biologically important behaviours, such as breeding, resting, foraging or migration. BIAs have been identified using expert scientific knowledge about species abundance, distribution, and behaviours. BIAs are not recognised by the EPBC Act but are identified by DCCEEW to aid in the management and protection of threatened fauna.

A review of the PMST Report identified BIAs for 11 protected species that intersect with the project area. Identified protected species and their BIAs are shown in Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Table 3-1.

Critical Habitats

Habitats critical for the survival of a species, referred to as critical habitats, are recognised under the EPBC Act as MNES. Critical habitats may be identified in species recovery plans made under the EPBC Act or listed on the register of critical habitat maintained by the minister under the EPBC Act. Woodside considers critical habitats carry greater weight than BIAs.

There are no habitats critical to the survival of a species identified within the project area at the time of this submission, however, the Draft National Recovery Plan for the Southern Right Whale (*Eubalaena Australis*) (not yet in effect) identifies reproductive BIAs of the southern right whale, which overlaps the project area, as critical habitats. Woodside therefore has considered this as a critical habitat within this referral. To address this critical habitat, a temporary avoidance measure will be in place from May until August, during this critically importance calving season when peak numbers of southern right whales will be present in the region.

Threatened Ecological Communities

No Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC), as listed under the EPBC Act occur within the project area. The closest TEC to the project area is the Giant Kelp Marine Forests of South-East Australia (1 km from project area) and Assemblages of species associated with open-coast-salt-wedge estuaries of western and central Victoria ecological community (1 km from project area).

3.2.2 Describe the vegetation (including the status of native vegetation and soil) within the project area.

The project area lies over seabed at depths from approximately 20 m to 60 m, and therefore contains no vegetation. The seabed in the project area is characterised by unvegetated soft sediment and rocky reef substrates.

3.3 Heritage

3.3.1 Describe any Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

There are no World Heritage places of historic heritage or Aboriginal heritage within the project area. The project area overlaps the Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs place of National Heritage, however, this is a terrestrial National Heritage property and therefore will not be impacted by the proposed action, thereby, is excluded from this report (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 3.3, pp 9 for further information). No shipwrecks were identified within the project area. The closest wreck to the project area

is the Napier, which is located 1 km from the Minerva pipeline corridor and is protected under the Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018 (Cth). Woodside recognises its obligations under the Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018 (Cth) to manage underwater heritage that may be discovered during activities.

3.3.2 Describe any Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

Woodside acknowledges the unique connection between Aboriginal peoples and the land and sea in which the company operates. Woodside also understands that while marine resources used by Indigenous people are generally limited to coastal waters for activities such as fishing, hunting and maintenance of culture and heritage, many Aboriginal groups have a direct cultural interest in decisions affecting the management of deeper offshore waters.

Indigenous groups inhabited the southwest Victorian coast as is evident from the terrestrial sites of Aboriginal archaeological significance throughout the area. During recent ice age periods (the last ending approximately 14,000 years ago), sea levels were significantly lower, and the coastline was a significant distance seaward of its present location, enabling occupation and travel across land that is now submerged.

Given its remote offshore location, there are no known or suspected Aboriginal heritage values within the project area. However, there are known Aboriginal spiritual connections to the wider Sea Country and a history of marine resource affiliated with the Twelve Apostles Marine National Park and the Arches Marine Sanctuary, located 5 km from the project area.

The coastline hosts numerous culturally significant sites, including sites that contribute to the heritage value of the Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs national heritage listed place and adjacent coastal marine national parks including Point Addis Marine National Park, the Twelve Apostles Marine National Park and the Arches Marine Sanctuary. The coastal region and sea country in this region is a cement central element of Indigenous cultural heritage in south-western Victoria and as such has a high concentration of Aboriginal heritage sites.

Aboriginal cultural heritage within Victorian State waters is protected under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006. The waters within the project area, and waters are identified as “areas of cultural heritage sensitivity” within the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Information System (ACHRIS) online mapping tool. For the Minerva Decommissioning EP, an Application for Advice for the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register was submitted. 3 Aboriginal Places were identified adjacent to the project area; however First Peoples State Relations confirmed these Places are not located within the project area.

No archaeological sites within the project area were identified by Traditional Custodians.

The following cultural heritage values have been identified and addressed in the Environment Plans:

- Deen Mar Island (also known as Lady Julia Percy Island) - 85km from the Minerva field.
- Kooyang (short-finned eel) migrate out of the Budj Bim World Heritage Area through deep waters of the Otway Basin and up to the Coral Sea.
- Karntubul (southern right and pygmy blue whales) Female southern right whales are seasonally present in sheltered waters close to shore between May and October, where they give birth and nurse calves for two to three months. Pygmy blue whales are seasonally present in the region between December and April, during which time they forage. To address critical southern right whale habitat, a temporary avoidance measure will be in place from May until August, during this critically importance calving season when peak numbers of southern right whales will be present in the region. To further mitigate unplanned interactions with whales, two dedicated Marine Fauna Observers (MFOs) will be stationed aboard the project vessel to implement adaptive management measures to observe marine fauna to reduce the risk of displacement of blue whale and southern right whales during the activities.
- The Bonney Upwelling is generally recognised to occur between Kangaroo Island and Portland, to the west of the operational area. The seasonal peak in pygmy blue whale foraging in the region coincides with

the timing of the Bonney Upwelling. The Minerva decommissioning activities are not anticipated have an impact on the physical processes that drive the Bonney Upwelling.

Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 3.4.1, pp 10-17 for further information on Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

3.4 Hydrology

3.4.1 Describe the hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area and attach any hydrological investigations or surveys if applicable. *

Sub-tropical high-pressure systems dominate this region in the summer with sub-polar low-pressure systems in the winter. The low-pressure systems are accompanied by strong westerly winds and rain-bearing cold fronts that move from south-west to north-east across the region, producing strong winds from the west, northwest and southwest. Meanwhile, the day-to-day variation in weather conditions is caused by the continual movement of the highs from west to east across the Australian continent roughly once every 10 days. The Bass Strait is located on the northern edge of the westerly wind belt known as the Roaring Forties. In winter, when the subtropical ridge moves northwards over the Australian continent, cold fronts generally create sustained west to south-westerly winds and frequent rainfall in the region (McInnes & Hubbert, 2003). In summer, frontal systems are often shallower and occur between two ridges of high pressure, bringing more variable winds and rainfall.

Winds in this section of the Otway basin and western Bass Strait generally exceed 13 knots (23.4 km/hr) for 50% of the time and are typically between the range of 10-30 km/hr. Winds contribute to the predominant moderate to high wave-energy environment of area and are predominantly south-westerly cycling to north-westerly. Occasionally, intense mesoscale low-pressure systems occur in the region, bringing very strong winds, heavy rain, and high seas. These events are unpredictable in occurrence, intensity, and behaviour, but are most common between September and February (McInnes & Hubbert, 2003).

Tides in this region are semi-diurnal with some diurnal inequalities (Wijerantne et al., 2012), generating tidal currents along a north-east/south-west axis with speeds generally ranging from 0.1 to 2.5 m/s (Baines and Fandry, 1983). The tides in the Otway are considered microtidal with a range of approximately 0.8 to 1.2 m, however the tidal ranges and velocities vary rapidly in the western entrance to Bass Strait (DNP, 2013).

It is anticipated that the joint decommissioning campaign will take approximately three to five months to complete, based on weather constraints. A wave height of less than 2 metres is required to safety cut and lift the pipeline sections onto the Multipurpose Construction Vessel (MCV).

4. Impacts and mitigation

4.1 Impact details

Potential Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to your proposed action area.

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S12	World Heritage	No	Yes
S15B	National Heritage	No	Yes
S16	Ramsar Wetland	No	Yes
S18	Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	Yes	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	Yes	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	No	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	No	Yes

4.1.1 World Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.1.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.1.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

There are no World Heritage Areas within the proposed action area.

4.1.2 National Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	National heritage
No	No	Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs

4.1.2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.2.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The PMST Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs Heritage place overlaps the proposed project area.

As per Section 2.2.1 of the referral, the project area for the proposed action consists of a 1000 m corridor extending either side of the pipeline, which overlaps the coast at the closest point (800 m from shore). Given the distance offshore of the proposed action, planned and unplanned events associated with the proposed action will not impact the Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs place of National Heritage. Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 3.3, pp 9.

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.3.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.3.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

There are no Ramsar Wetlands within the proposed action area.

4.1.4 Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Threatened species

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Antechinus minimus maritimus</i>	Swamp Antechinus (mainland)
No	No	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater
Yes	No	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>	Sooty Shearwater
Yes	No	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Sei Whale
Yes	No	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blue Whale
Yes	No	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Fin Whale
Yes	No	<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Australasian Bittern
Yes	No	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
Yes	No	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot, Knot
Yes	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo
Yes	No	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	White Shark, Great White Shark
Yes	No	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead Turtle

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
Yes	No	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Turtle
No	No	<i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i> (SE mainland population)	Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population)
Yes	No	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth
Yes	No	<i>Diomedea antipodensis</i>	Antipodean Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>	Southern Royal Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wandering Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	Northern Royal Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	Southern Right Whale
No	No	<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon
Yes	No	<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>	School Shark, Eastern School Shark, Snapper Shark, Tope, Soupfin Shark
Yes	No	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	<i>Glycine latrobeana</i>	Clover Glycine, Purple Clover
Yes	No	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	Blue Petrel
No	No	<i>Haloragis exalata</i> subsp. <i>exalata</i>	Wingless Raspwort, Square Raspwort
Yes	No	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail
No	No	<i>Isodon obesulus obesulus</i>	Southern Brown Bandicoot (eastern), Southern Brown Bandicoot (south-eastern)
Yes	No	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot
Yes	No	<i>Limosa lapponica baueri</i>	Nunivak Bar-tailed Godwit, Western Alaskan Bar-tailed Godwit
No	No	<i>Lissolepis coventryi</i>	Swamp Skink, Eastern Mourning Skink
No	No	<i>Litoria raniformis</i>	Southern Bell Frog,, Growling Grass Frog, Green and Golden Frog, Warty Swamp Frog, Golden Bell Frog
Yes	No	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel
Yes	No	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Northern Giant Petrel
No	No	<i>Mastacomys fuscus mordicus</i>	Broad-toothed Rat (mainland), Tooarrana
No	No	<i>Miniopterus orianae bassanii</i>	Southern Bent-wing Bat

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Nannoperca obscura</i>	Yarra Pygmy Perch
Yes	No	<i>Neophema chrysogaster</i>	Orange-bellied Parrot
Yes	No	<i>Neophema chrysostoma</i>	Blue-winged Parrot
Yes	No	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew
Yes	No	<i>Pachyptila turtur subantarctica</i>	Fairy Prion (southern)
No	No	<i>Petaurus australis australis</i>	Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)
Yes	No	<i>Phoebetria fusca</i>	Sooty Albatross
No	No	<i>Potorous tridactylus trisulcatus</i>	Long-nosed Potoroo (southern mainland)
No	No	<i>Prasophyllum spicatum</i>	Dense Leek-orchid
No	No	<i>Prototroctes maraena</i>	Australian Grayling
No	No	<i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i>	New Holland Mouse, Pookila
Yes	No	<i>Pterodroma leucoptera leucoptera</i>	Gould's Petrel, Australian Gould's Petrel
Yes	No	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>	Soft-plumaged Petrel
No	No	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox
Yes	No	<i>Pterostylis chlorogramma</i>	Green-striped Greenhood
No	No	<i>Pterostylis cucullata</i>	Leafy Greenhood
No	No	<i>Pterostylis tenuissima</i>	Swamp Greenhood, Dainty Swamp Orchid
Yes	No	<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe
No	No	<i>Senecio psilocarpus</i>	Swamp Fireweed, Smooth-fruited Groundsel
Yes	No	<i>Seriolella brama</i>	Blue Warehou
No	No	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail
Yes	No	<i>Sternula nereis nereis</i>	Australian Fairy Tern
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche bulleri</i>	Buller's Albatross, Pacific Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche bulleri platei</i>	Northern Buller's Albatross, Pacific Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche carteri</i>	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>	Shy Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche chrysostoma</i>	Grey-headed Albatross

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche impavida</i>	Campbell Albatross, Campbell Black-browed Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	Black-browed Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche salvini</i>	Salvin's Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Thalassarche steadi</i>	White-capped Albatross
No	No	<i>Thelymitra epipactoides</i>	Metallic Sun-orchid
Yes	No	<i>Thinornis cucullatus cucullatus</i>	Eastern Hooded Plover, Eastern Hooded Plover
Yes	No	<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>	Southern Bluefin Tuna
Yes	No	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Common Greenshank, Greenshank
No	No	<i>Xerochrysum palustre</i>	Swamp Everlasting, Swamp Paper Daisy

Ecological communities

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4.1.4.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.4.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

A report was generated from the EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) to identify threatened species and ecological communities that may occur within the project area (See Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Appendix A). No Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) are known or likely to occur within the project area. The PMST report identified a total of 47 species listed as threatened within the project area. Terrestrial species (such as terrestrial mammals, reptiles, and bird species) that appear in the PMST results and do not have habitats along shorelines are not relevant to the proposed actions impacts and risks and have therefore been excluded from this referral.

36 threatened bird species are considered to have the potential to occur within the project area, including:

- *Lathamus discolor* (Swift Parrot) – critically endangered
- *Neophema chrysogaster* (Orange-bellied Parrot) – critically endangered
- *Calidris ferruginea* (Curlew Sandpiper) – migratory, critically endangered
- *Numenius madagascariensis* (Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew) – migratory, critically endangered
- *Thalassarche chrysostoma* (Grey-headed Albatross) – migratory, endangered
- *Tringa nebularia* (Common Greenshank, Greenshank) – migratory, endangered
- *Macronectes giganteus* (Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel) – migratory
- *Pterodroma leucoptera leucoptera* (Gould's Petrel, Australian Gould's Petrel) – endangered
- *Diomedea sanfordi* (Northern Royal Albatross) – migratory, endangered
- *Limosa lapponica baueri* (Nunivak Bar-tailed Godwit, Western Alaskan Bar-tailed Godwit) - endangered

- *Botaurus poiciloptilus* (Australasian Bittern) – endangered
- *Rostratula australis* (Australian Painted Snipe) – endangered
- *Thalassarche cauta* (Shy Albatross) – migratory, endangered
- *Hirundapus caudacutus* (White-throated Needletail) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Macronectes halli* (Northern Giant Petrel) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Diomedea epomophora* (Southern Royal Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Thalassarche melanophris* (Black-browed Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Phoebastria fusca* (Sooty Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Neophema chrysostoma* (Blue-winged Parrot) – vulnerable
- *Calidris canutus* (Red Knot, Knot) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Diomedea antipodensis* (Antipodean Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Calidris acuminata* (Sharp-tailed Sandpiper) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Thalassarche impavida* (Campbell Albatross, Campbell Black-browed Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Sternula nereis nereis* (Australian Fairy Tern) – vulnerable
- *Thalassarche steadi* (White-capped Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Thalassarche carteri* (Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Thalassarche bulleri* (Buller's Albatross, Pacific Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Thalassarche salvini* (Salvin's Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Thinornis cucullatus cucullatus* (Eastern Hooded Plover, Eastern Hooded Plover) - vulnerable
- *Thalassarche bulleri platei* (Northern Buller's Albatross, Pacific Albatross) - vulnerable
- *Pachyptila turtur subantarctica* (Fairy Prion (southern)) - vulnerable
- *Halobaena caerulea* (Blue Petrel) – vulnerable
- *Gallinago hardwickii* (Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Diomedea exulans* (Wandering Albatross) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Ardenna grisea* (Sooty Shearwater) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Pterodroma mollis* (Soft-plumaged Petrel) – vulnerable

The proposed action may have direct and/or indirect impacts on the threatened bird species listed above, including:

- Noise emissions from non-routine helicopter operations (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Table 4-4).
- Light emissions from vessel operations in the project area (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Table 4-4).
 - Impacts are expected to be localised to within the project area and may potentially impact individuals or small numbers of listed threatened bird species overflying or opportunistically resting on the sea surface during migrations or solitary individuals foraging within the project area. Impacts are expected to be limited to temporary behavioural disturbances, such as attraction or avoidance.
- Accidental hydrocarbon discharge resulting from unplanned events associated with the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - The likelihood of unplanned hydrocarbon discharge is low, as all subsea infrastructure has undergone hydrocarbon flushing, eliminating the risk of loss of containment. With the exception of the risk of vessel collision resulting in a release of diesel, no other potential causes of major hydrocarbon release have been identified.

4 threatened marine mammal species are considered to have the potential to occur within the project area, including:

- *Eubalaena australis* (Southern Right Whale) – migratory, endangered
- *Balaenoptera musculus* (Blue Whale) – migratory, endangered
- *Balaenoptera borealis* (Sei Whale) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Balaenoptera physalus* (Fin Whale) – migratory, vulnerable

The proposed action may have direct impacts on the threatened marine mammal species listed above, including:

- Noise emissions from project vessels, acoustic survey equipment and infrastructure recovery operations in the project area. (Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Independent underwater noise modelling has been conducted by Jasco for the proposed activity and measured against established thresholds. The modelling found no credible risk of permanent or temporary hearing impairment to whales. Impacts are expected to be localised to within the project area and unlikely to impact whales or obstruct migratory patterns of large groups of whales.
 - Adaptive management measures have been implemented to reduce the risk of whale displacement in the pygmy blue water foraging BIA occurring during the proposed action.
 - Anthropogenic underwater noise from the activity has been planned for late October to March at a time when Southern Right Whales will not be present in the reproductive BIA.
- Accidental hydrocarbon discharge resulting from unplanned events associated with the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
- Unplanned interaction with marine mammals during the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - To further mitigate unplanned interactions, two dedicated Marine Fauna Observers (MFOs) will be stationed aboard the project vessel at all times. The MFOs will be tasked with implementing adaptive management measures to reduce the risk of displacement of blue whale and southern right whales during the activities.
 - Given the project vessel will be operating at slow speeds and will be stationary for a majority of the time will conducting activities (e.g. when making cuts in the pipeline or lifting equipment) there is reduced likelihood of vessel strike with marine mammals in the project area.
 - To address critical southern right whale habitat the activity has been planned for late October to March at a time when Southern Right Whales will not be present in the reproductive BIA.

3 threatened turtle species are considered to have the potential to occur within the project area, including:

- *Caretta caretta* (Loggerhead Turtle) – migratory, endangered
- *Dermochelys coriacea* (Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth) – migratory, endangered
- *Chelonia mydas* (Green Turtle) – migratory, vulnerable

The proposed action may have direct impacts on the turtle species listed above, including:

- Noise emissions from project vessels, acoustic survey equipment and infrastructure recovery operations (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
- Light emissions from vessel operations in the project area (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Impacts are expected to be localised to within the project area and unlikely to impact turtles or obstruct migratory patterns. Impacts are expected to be limited to temporary behavioural disturbances, such as attraction or avoidance.
- Accidental hydrocarbon discharge resulting from unplanned events associated with the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
- Unplanned interaction with turtles during the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Given the project vessel will be operating at slow speeds and will be stationary for a majority of the time will conducting activities (e.g. when making cuts in the pipeline or lifting equipment) there is reduced likelihood of vessel strike with marine mammals in the project area

4 threatened fish species are considered to have the potential to occur within the project area, including:

- *Carcharodon carcharias* (White Shark, Great White Shark) – migratory, vulnerable
- *Seriola lalandi* (Blue Warehou) - conservation dependant
- *Thunnus maccoyii* (Southern Bluefin Tuna) - conservation dependant

- *Galeorhinus galeus* (School Shark, Eastern School Shark, Snapper Shark, Tope, Soupfin Shark) - conservation dependant

The proposed action may have direct impacts on the threatened fish species listed above, including:

- Noise emissions from project vessels, acoustic survey equipment and infrastructure recovery operations (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Impacts are expected to be localised to within the project area and include potential nuisance noise during the proposed activity. Impacts are expected to be limited to temporary behavioural response (avoidance).
- Accidental hydrocarbon discharge resulting from unplanned events associated with the proposed action.

Temporary impacts to water quality within a portion of the Bass Strait, which may affect individuals or small numbers of sharks and fish but is unlikely to affect large numbers of species.

4.1.4.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

No

4.1.4.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

An assessment of potential significant impacts on relevant matters of national environmental significance (MNES) occurring within the proposed Minerva Pipeline Decommissioning project area was completed in accordance with the MNES Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 (CoA, 2013). (Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 5, pp 38-53).

The proposed action is unlikely to have a significant on vulnerable seabird, marine mammal, turtle and shark species that may occur within the project area as it is unlikely to:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species
- reduce the area of occupancy of an important population
- fragment an existing important population into two or more populations
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species
- disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population
- modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline
- result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat
- introduce disease that may cause the species to decline, or
- interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

The proposed action is unlikely to have a significant impact on endangered pygmy blue and southern right whales, as it is unlikely to:

- increase mortality and/or cause a decline in population abundance
- disrupt the breeding cycle or reduce the reproductive success of breeding females
- reduce the area of occupancy of endangered whale species that includes preventing the re-occupation of historic high use areas and
- adversely affect habitat of critical to the survival potentially through decreasing the availability or quality of the habitat.

The proposed action:

- does not prevent any whale from utilising the area
- does not cause injury including temporary or permanent hearing impairment
- is unlikely to cause disturbance or displacement of whales undertaking biologically important behaviours

The proposed action is unlikely to have a significant on critically endangered and endangered seabird, marine mammal and turtle species that may occur within the project area as it is unlikely to:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population
- reduce the area of occupancy of the species
- fragment an existing population into two or more populations
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline
- result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered species becoming established in the endangered or critically endangered species' habitat
- introduce disease that may cause the species to decline, or
- interfere with the recovery of the species.

4.1.4.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.4.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

The proposed action is not considered a controlled action, as it is unlikely to:

- Impact large numbers of seabirds, marine mammals, marine reptiles and sharks
- Reduce the area of occupancy of an important population
- Fragment an important population into two or more populations
- Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species are likely to decline
- Interfere with the recovery of the species
- Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the species
- Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population
- Result in invasive species that are harmful to the species becoming established in the species' habitat
- Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline.

Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 5, pp 38-53 for the assessment of significant impact in accordance with the MNES Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 (CoA, 2013).

4.1.4.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Woodside proposes to undertake the proposed action in accordance with permitting documents that are reviewed and accepted by Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), including:

- Vessel Safety Case, prepared and reviewed from Q2 2024, acceptance anticipated in Q3 2024
- Minerva State Decommissioning and Field Management Environment Plan (EP), prepared and reviewed from Q2 2024, acceptance anticipated in Q3 2024.

The Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management EP will be the overarching management document for the proposed action. The EP details the environmental risks and management measures relating to the environmental aspects and impacts and demonstrates that risks have been reduced to acceptable and As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP). The EP will include avoidance, reduction, and mitigation measures to manage environmental risks.

Woodside has applied the impact mitigation hierarchy to identify avoidance, mitigation and adaptive management measures for managing the potential impact of this action on migratory whale species (in particular endangered southern right and pygmy blue whales). A temporary avoidance measure will be in place from May until August, during this critically importance calving season when peak numbers of southern right whales will be present in the region. To further mitigate unplanned interactions with whales, two dedicated Marine Fauna Observers (MFOs) will be stationed aboard the project vessel to implement adaptive management measures to observe marine fauna to reduce the risk of displacement of blue whale and southern right whales during the activities.

The proposed avoidance and mitigation measures to be implemented during the proposed action are outlined in Att 1 Minerva EPBC Supporting Document, Table 4-4, pp 22-29.

4.1.4.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

No offsets are proposed as the proposed action is unlikely to cause significant impacts to EPBC Act listed threatened species.

4.1.5 Migratory Species

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
Yes	No	Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper
Yes	No	Apus pacificus	Fork-tailed Swift
Yes	No	Ardenna carneipes	Flesh-footed Shearwater, Fleshy-footed Shearwater
Yes	No	Ardenna grisea	Sooty Shearwater
Yes	No	Balaenoptera borealis	Sei Whale
Yes	No	Balaenoptera musculus	Blue Whale
Yes	No	Balaenoptera physalus	Fin Whale

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
Yes	No	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
Yes	No	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot, Knot
Yes	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
Yes	No	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper
Yes	No	<i>Caperea marginata</i>	Pygmy Right Whale
Yes	No	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	White Shark, Great White Shark
Yes	No	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead Turtle
Yes	No	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Turtle
Yes	No	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth
Yes	No	<i>Diomedea antipodensis</i>	Antipodean Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>	Southern Royal Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wandering Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	Northern Royal Albatross
Yes	No	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	Southern Right Whale
Yes	No	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
Yes	No	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail
Yes	No	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	Dusky Dolphin
Yes	No	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle, Mackerel Shark
Yes	No	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit
Yes	No	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel
Yes	No	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Northern Giant Petrel
Yes	No	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Humpback Whale
No	No	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Yellow Wagtail
No	No	<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>	Satin Flycatcher
Yes	No	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew
Yes	No	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Killer Whale, Orca
Yes	No	<i>Phoebetria fusca</i>	Sooty Albatross

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Rhipidura rufifrons	Rufous Fantail
Yes	No	Sternula albifrons	Little Tern
Yes	No	Thalassarche bulleri	Buller's Albatross, Pacific Albatross
Yes	No	Thalassarche carteri	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross
Yes	No	Thalassarche cauta	Shy Albatross
Yes	No	Thalassarche chrysostoma	Grey-headed Albatross
Yes	No	Thalassarche impavida	Campbell Albatross, Campbell Black-browed Albatross
Yes	No	Thalassarche melanophris	Black-browed Albatross
Yes	No	Thalassarche salvini	Salvin's Albatross
Yes	No	Thalassarche steadi	White-capped Albatross
Yes	No	Tringa nebularia	Common Greenshank, Greenshank

4.1.5.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.5.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

42 migratory species have been recorded or are predicted to occur within the proposed project area. Terrestrial species (such as terrestrial mammals, reptiles, and bird species) that appear in the PMST results and do not have habitats along shorelines are not relevant to the proposed actions impacts and risks and have therefore been excluded from this referral.

29 migratory bird species are considered to have the potential to occur within the project area, including:

- *Numenius madagascariensis* (Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew)
- *Thalassarche chrysostoma* (Grey-headed Albatross)
- *Tringa nebularia* (Common Greenshank, Greenshank)
- *Macronectes giganteus* (Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel)
- *Diomedea sanfordi* (Northern Royal Albatross)
- *Hirundapus caudacutus* (White-throated Needletail)
- *Macronectes halli* (Northern Giant Petrel)
- *Diomedea epomophora* (Southern Royal Albatross)
- *Thalassarche melanophris* (Black-browed Albatross)
- *Phoebastria fusca* (Sooty Albatross)
- *Diomedea antipodensis* (Antipodean Albatross)
- *Calidris acuminata* (Sharp-tailed Sandpiper)
- *Thalassarche impavida* (Campbell Albatross, Campbell Black-browed Albatross)

- *Thalassarche steadi* (White-capped Albatross)
- *Thalassarche carteri* (Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross)
- *Thalassarche bulleri* (Buller's Albatross, Pacific Albatross)
- *Thalassarche salvini* (Salvin's Albatross)
- *Thalassarche cauta* (Shy Albatross)
- *Gallinago hardwickii* (Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe)
- *Diomedea exulans* (Wandering Albatross)
- *Ardenna grisea* (Sooty Shearwater)
- *Actitis hypoleucos* (Common Sandpiper)
- *Apus pacificus* (Fork-tailed Swift)
- *Sternula albifrons* (Little Tern)
- *Limosa lapponica* (Bar-tailed Godwit)
- *Calidris melanotos* (Pectoral Sandpiper)
- *Ardenna carneipes* (Flesh-footed Shearwater, Fleshy-footed Shearwater)
- *Calidris canutus* (Red Knot, Knot)
- *Calidris ferruginea* (Curlew Sandpiper)

The proposed action may have direct impacts on the threatened bird species listed above, including:

- Noise emissions from non-routine helicopter operations (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
- Light emissions from vessel operations in the project area (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Impacts are expected to be localised to within the project area and may potentially impact individuals or small numbers of listed threatened bird species overflying or opportunistically resting on the sea surface during migrations or solitary individuals foraging within the project area. Impacts are expected to be limited to temporary behavioural disturbances, such as attraction or avoidance.
- Accidental hydrocarbon discharge resulting from unplanned events associated with the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - The likelihood of unplanned hydrocarbon discharge is low, as all subsea infrastructure has undergone hydrocarbon flushing, eliminating the risk of loss of containment. With the exception of the risk of vessel collision resulting in a release of diesel, no other potential causes of major hydrocarbon release have been identified.

8 migratory marine mammal species are considered to have the potential to occur within the project area, including:

- *Lagenorhynchus obscurus* (Dusky Dolphin)
- *Orcinus orca* (Killer Whale, Orca)
- *Megaptera novaeangliae* (Humpback Whale)
- *Caperea marginata* (Pygmy Right Whale)
- *Balaenoptera borealis* (Sei Whale)
- *Balaenoptera physalus* (Fin Whale)
- *Eubalaena australis* (Southern Right Whale)
- *Balaenoptera musculus* (Pygmy Blue Whale)

The proposed action may have direct impacts on the migratory marine mammal species listed above, including:

- Noise emissions from project vessels, acoustic survey equipment and infrastructure recovery operations in the project area. (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Independent underwater noise modelling has been conducted by Jasco for the proposed activity and measured against established thresholds. The modelling found no credible risk of permanent

- or temporary hearing impairment to whales. Impacts are expected to be localised to within the project area and unlikely to impact whales or obstruct migratory patterns of large groups of whales.
- Adaptive management measures have been implemented to reduce the risk of whale displacement in the pygmy blue water foraging BIA occurring during the proposed action.
 - Anthropogenic underwater noise from the activity has been planned for late October to March at a time when Southern Right Whales will not be present in the reproductive BIA.
 - Accidental hydrocarbon discharge resulting from unplanned events associated with the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Unplanned interaction with marine mammals during the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - To further mitigate unplanned interactions, two dedicated Marine Fauna Observers (MFOs) will be stationed aboard the project vessel at all times. The MFOs will be tasked with implementing adaptive management measures to reduce the risk of displacement of blue whale and southern right whales during the activities.
 - Given the project vessel will be operating at slow speeds and will be stationary for a majority of the time will conducting activities (e.g. when making cuts in the pipeline or lifting equipment) there is reduced likelihood of vessel strike with marine mammals in the project area.
 - To address critical southern right whale habitat the activity has been planned for late October to March at a time when Southern Right Whales will not be present in the reproductive BIA.

3 migratory turtle species are considered to have the potential to occur within the project area, including:

- *Caretta caretta* (Loggerhead Turtle)
- *Dermochelys coriacea* (Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth)
- *Chelonia mydas* (Green Turtle)

The proposed action may have direct impacts on the turtle species listed above, including:

- Noise emissions from project vessels, acoustic survey equipment and infrastructure recovery operations (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
- Light emissions from vessel operations in the project area (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Impacts are expected to be localised to within the project area and unlikely to impact turtles or obstruct migratory patterns. Impacts are expected to be limited to temporary behavioural disturbances, such as attraction or avoidance.
- Accidental hydrocarbon discharge resulting from unplanned events associated with the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
- Unplanned interaction with turtles during the proposed action (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).

2 migratory shark species are considered to have the potential to occur within the project area, including:

- *Lamna nasus* (Porbeagle, Mackerel Shark)
- *Carcharodon carcharias* (White Shark, Great White Shark)

The proposed action may have direct impacts on the migratory shark species listed above, including:

- Noise emissions from project vessels, acoustic survey equipment and infrastructure recovery operations (refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section Table 4-4).
 - Impacts are expected to be localised to within the project area and include potential nuisance noise during the proposed activity.
- Accidental hydrocarbon discharge resulting from unplanned events associated with the proposed action.

- Temporary impacts to water quality within a portion of the Bass Strait, which may affect individuals or small numbers of sharks and fish but is unlikely to affect large numbers of species.

4.1.5.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

No

4.1.5.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

An assessment of potential significant impacts on relevant matters of national environmental significance (MNES) occurring within the proposed Minerva Pipeline Decommissioning project area was completed in accordance with the MNES Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 (CoA, 2013). (Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 5, pp 53-61).

The proposed action is unlikely to have a significant on migratory seabird, marine mammal, turtle and shark species that may occur within the project area as it is unlikely to:

- substantially modify (including by fragmenting, altering fire regimes, altering nutrient cycles or altering hydrological cycles), destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for a migratory species
- result in an invasive species that is harmful to the migratory species becoming established in an area of important habitat for the migratory species, or
- seriously disrupt the lifecycle (breeding, feeding, migration or resting behaviour) of an ecologically significant proportion of the population of a migratory species.
- displace a whale from a foraging or reproductive area due to underwater anthropogenic noise (Action A.2.3 from the Blue Whale CMP)

4.1.5.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.5.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

The proposed action is not considered a controlled action, as it is unlikely to:

- substantially modify (including by fragmenting, altering fire regimes, altering nutrient cycles or altering hydrological cycles), destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for a migratory species
- result in an invasive species that is harmful to the migratory species becoming established in an area of important habitat for the migratory species, or
- seriously disrupt the lifecycle (breeding, feeding, migration or resting behaviour) of an ecologically significant proportion of the population of a migratory species.

Refer to Att 1 Minerva EPBC Referral Supporting Document, Section 5, pp 53-61 for the assessment of significant impact in accordance with the MNES Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 (CoA, 2013).

4.1.5.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Woodside proposes to undertake the proposed action in accordance with permitting documents that are reviewed and accepted by NOPSEMA and the Victorian Government Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), including:

- Vessel Safety Case, prepared and reviewed from Q2 2024, acceptance anticipated from NOPSEMA in Q3 2024

- Minerva State Decommissioning and Field Management (State) Environment Plan (EP), prepared and reviewed from Q2 2024, acceptance anticipated in Q3 2024.

The Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management (State) EP will be the overarching management and environmental approval permissioning document for the proposed action. The EP details the environmental risks and management measures relating to the environmental aspects and impacts and demonstrates that risks have been reduced to acceptable and As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP). The EP will include avoidance, reduction, and mitigation measures to manage environmental risks. The proposed avoidance and mitigation measures to be implemented during the proposed action are outlined in Att 1 Minerva EPBC Supporting Document, Table 4-4.

4.1.5.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

No offsets are proposed as the proposed action is unlikely to cause significant impacts to EPBC Act listed migratory species.

4.1.6 Nuclear

4.1.6.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.6.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

There are no nuclear actions within the proposed action.

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

4.1.7.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.7.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

There are no Commonwealth Marine Areas within the proposed action area. The proposed action area is adjacent to Australia's Commonwealth Marine Area (i.e. the Commonwealth/state boundary), but does not overlap.

Potential impacts to the Commonwealth Marine Area are assessed in the Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management EP (Clth). Streamlining arrangements for environmental approvals of offshore petroleum and greenhouse gas activities are in place for Commonwealth waters and this EP is under assessment with NOPSEMA.

Therefore, the proposed action (this referral) will not have direct or indirect impacts on the Commonwealth Marine Area.

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

4.1.8.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.8.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

No aspect of the proposed action will have direct or indirect impacts on the Great Barrier Reef.

4.1.9 Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas

4.1.9.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.9.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

No aspect of the proposed action is related to large coal mining development or coal seam gas.

4.1.10 Commonwealth Land

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

4.1.10.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.10.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

No aspect of the proposed action will have direct or indirect impacts on the Commonwealth Land.

4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.11.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.11.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

No aspect of the proposed action will have direct or indirect impacts on the Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

4.1.12.1 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency? *

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will likely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

None

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will unlikely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)
- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)
- Migratory Species (S20)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

4.3 Alternatives

4.3.1 Do you have any possible alternatives for your proposed action to be considered as part of your referral? *

No

4.3.8 Describe why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible. *

Alternative Timeline

Woodside considered not undertaking activities during the peak pygmy blue whale foraging period (January to March) and southern right reproductive period (May to October) which overlaps this action. This posed an unacceptable schedule risk to removing the Minerva subsea infrastructure before 30 June 2025 as required by General Direction 831. Whilst the general direction timeframe only applies to the section of Minerva pipeline in Commonwealth waters (which is out of scope of this referral), a single mobilisation and campaign for the removal of the 10km Minerva pipeline has better environmental outcomes for the region.

The reproduction BIA of the southern right whale is considered habitat critical to the survival of the species. Conducting activities during the calving and nursing period (between May and September), greatly increases the potential for the species to be impacted. To address critical southern right whale habitat, a temporary avoidance

measure will be in place for May until August, during this critically importance calving season when peak numbers of southern right whales will be present in the region.

The planned timeframe from late October 2024 to March 2025 aligns with the best weather window and has been chosen to avoid migration of southern right whales who are seasonally present from shallow coastal reproductive areas annually from May to October. Depending on weather conditions, the decommissioning activities may encroach on the period between January and March 2025, which is a peak foraging period for pygmy blue whales in the region.

Metocean analysis by Woodside confirms the need to work during the summer months, which provide the most suitable weather conditions. Conducting the campaign during suitable weather conditions is expected to complete the subsea infrastructure removal campaign with fewer weather delays, shortening the duration of the underwater noise sources.

Working in one campaign during suitable weather conditions may also reduce the noise emissions from the equipment removal vessel holding station with dynamic positioning (DP), as the DP system may not need to work as hard to hold position, resulting in a reduction of underwater noise emissions.

Additionally, as described in Section 4.3.3, underwater noise emissions from the project vessel would increase due to unsuitable weather conditions associated with the alternative timeline for activities. The impact of underwater noise on identified MNES within the project would therefore increase.

Due to the above, the impacts of the alternate timeline may pose a significant impact on one or more of the identified MNES.

Based on all these competing factors an alternative timeline for the proposed action is not possible.

Alternative Locations

There are no alternative locations possible as the activity is decommissioning and involves removing existing infrastructure in the Minerva field.

Alternative Activities

The only feasible alternative to pipeline removal is leaving infrastructure in situ. Whilst leaving in situ would eliminate or reduce the risks of the proposed action associated with infrastructure removal activities, this alternative does not comply with the base case for full removal of property under the Victorian Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (OPPGGS) Act 2010.

The Minerva field is also subject to a General Direction 831 which requires Woodside to remove the Minerva subsea infrastructure in Commonwealth waters. Engineering studies indicate removal of the infrastructure is feasible and practicable using well-proven methods.

Leaving infrastructure in situ requires substantial time and effort to secure regulatory approval. Approvals required to abandon subsea infrastructure in situ cannot reasonably be achieved in time to comply with General Direction 831.

Leaving infrastructure in situ is not considered feasible, as this method requires substantial time and effort to secure regulatory approval. Due to regulatory constraints an alternative activity is not possible for this proposed action.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document_Final.pdf Supporting information for this referral	17/05/2024	Low	High
#2.	Link	Minerva Decommissioning and Field Management https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/66..			High
#3.	Link	Minerva Plug and Abandonment and Field Maintenance https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/59..			High

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_2_Consultation_Summary.pdf Consultation records with relevant persons who may be affected by the proposed action.	01/03/2024	Low	High

1.3.2.18 (Person proposing to take the action) If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_3_Woodside_Health_and_Safety_Policy.pdf Woodside's health and safety policy	20/12/2023	Low	High
#2.	Document	Att_4_Woodsides_Environment_and_Biodiversity_Policy.pdf Woodside's environment and diversity policy	20/12/2023	Low	High
#3.	Document	Att_5_Woodside_Quality_Policy.pdf Woodside Quality Policy	20/12/2024	Low	High

3.1.2 Existing or proposed uses for the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document_Final.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024		High

3.1.3 Natural features, important or unique values that applies to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document_Final.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	Low	High

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document				

Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document Final.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High
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3.3.1 Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places that apply to the project area

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1. Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document Final.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High	

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1. Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document Final.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High	

3.4.1 Hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1. Link	A numerical modelling study of storm surges in Bass Strait https://www.researchgate.net/publication/2712021..	01/09/2003	High	
#2. Link	Annual cycle of the density field in Bass Strait https://www.publish.csiro.au/mf/MF9830143	01/01/1983	High	
#3. Link	South-East Commonwealth Marine Reserves Network Management Plan 2013-23 https://Sub-tropical high-pressure systems domin..		High	
#4. Link	Tidal characteristics in Bass Strait, south-east Australia https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/ab..	01/12/2012	High	

4.1.2.3 (National Heritage) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1. Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High	

4.1.4.2 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on the identified protected matters

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1. Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High	

4.1.4.6 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why you do not consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High	
#2.	Link	Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 - Matters of National Environmental Significance https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publi..		High	

4.1.4.9 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High	
#2.	Link	Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 - Matters of National Environmental Significance https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publi..		High	

4.1.4.10 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High	

4.1.5.2 (Migratory Species) Why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on the identified protected matters

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	High	

4.1.5.6 (Migratory Species) Why you do not consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	No	High

4.1.5.9 (Migratory Species) Why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1_Minerva_EPBC_Act_Referral_Supporting_Document.pdf Supporting information for this referral	16/05/2024	No	High

4.1.5.10 (Migratory Species) Avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence

5.2 Declarations

✔ Completed Referring party's declaration

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	12006466486
Organisation name	WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD
Organisation address	Mia Yellagonga, 11 Mount Street, Perth WA 6000
Representative's name	Kaitlyn Sprigg
Representative's job title	Environment Adviser
Phone	0477889318
Email	kaitlyn.sprigg@woodside.com
Address	Mia Yellagonga Karlak, 11 Mount St Perth WA 6000

- Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *
- I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *
- By checking this box, I, **Kaitlyn Sprigg of WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. *
- I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

✔ Completed Person proposing to take the action's declaration

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

Same as Referring party information.

- Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

I, **Kaitlyn Sprigg of WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf or for the benefit of any other person or entity. *

I, **Kaitlyn Sprigg of WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD**, the Person proposing the action, consent to the designation of **Kaitlyn Sprigg of WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD** as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

Completed Proposed designated proponent's declaration

The Proposed designated proponent is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

I, **Kaitlyn Sprigg of WOODSIDE ENERGY (VICTORIA) PTY LTD**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *