



Our ref: AA1000620  
Contact officer: Penny Bigham  
Contact phone: (07) 3052 1221

23 Marcus Clarke Street  
Canberra ACT 2601  
GPO Box 3131  
Canberra ACT 2601  
tel: (02) 6243 1111

17 March 2023

exemptions@acc.gov.au  
www.acc.gov.au

Dear Interested Party

## **WA and NT LNG Producers – application for revocation of authorisation AA1000396 and substitution of AA1000620 – draft determination & interim authorisation**

The ACCC has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for revocation of authorisation AA1000396 and substitution of AA1000620 lodged by Chevron Australia Pty Ltd, INPEX Operations Australia Pty Ltd, Shell Australia Pty Ltd and Woodside Energy Ltd (together, the **Applicants**) on 10 August 2022.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant re-authorisation with a reporting condition to enable the Applicants to continue coordinating the sequencing and timing of scheduled maintenance at their 6 LNG facilities located in Western Australia and the Northern Territory. The ACCC propose to grant re-authorisation for a period of 5 years.

The Applicants have an existing authorisation in effect that is due to expire on 24 March 2023. The ACCC has therefore also granted interim authorisation with a reporting condition to allow the arrangements to continue while the ACCC is considering the substantive application.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and interim authorisation is attached and also available on the [ACCC's public register](#).

### **Next steps**

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

### **Making a submission**

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **31 March 2023**. Submissions should be emailed to [exemptions@acc.gov.au](mailto:exemptions@acc.gov.au) with the subject '*AA1000620 – WA and NT LNG Producers – submission*'. If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Penny Bigham via the details at the end of this letter.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called - see below), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

### Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a pre-decision conference in relation to its draft determination. If a conference is called it will be open to the applicant and interested parties to attend and make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **31 March 2023** by email to [exemptions@acc.gov.au](mailto:exemptions@acc.gov.au).

### Timetable

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
10 August 2022	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
18 August 2022	Public consultation process begins.
17 March 2023	Draft determination and interim authorisation decision
March/April 2023	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
April/May 2023	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact Penny Bigham on (07) 3052 1221 or by email at [exemptions@acc.gov.au](mailto:exemptions@acc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Tony Hilton  
Director  
Competition Exemptions