

26 August 2015

Mr Shane Gaddes
Director Compliance (QLD, VIC, TAS and NT)
Environment Assessment and Compliance Division
Department of the Environment
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Gaddes,

Annual Review Report for Long Term Turtle Management Plan

The Long Term Turtle Management Plan (LTTMP) (the plan) jointly prepared by the three LNG proponents on Curtis island was approved by the Department on 3 July 2014.

The purpose of this correspondence is to submit the Annual Review Report for the LTTMP to the Department of the Environment for the Minister's consideration.

In accordance with EPBC Approval 2008/4057 condition 38, the review report must be provided within 60 days of the anniversary of the approval of the plan and report on the effectiveness of the management measures and operating controls directed at avoiding impacts on marine turtle species.

Please find attached a copy of the *Long Term Turtle Management Plan Annual Review Report – August 2015 Document Number 3310-GLNG-5-1.3-0009* as required by condition 38 of the approval.

Should you have any queries regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact Brad Cartwright, Senior Environmental Advisor on (07) 4844 4020 or brad.cartwright@glng.com.

Yours sincerely,



Brenton Hawtin
General Manager
GLNG Downstream Operations

Attachment – *Long Term Turtle Management Plan Annual Review Report – August 2015 Document Number 3310-GLNG-5-1.3-0009*



Long Term Turtle Management Plan

Annual Review Report – August 2015

Document Number: 3310-GLNG-5-1.3-0009

Author:

Name	Title	Signature	Date
Brad Cartwright	Senior Environmental Advisor		26.8.15

Checked by:

Name	Title	Signature	Date
Deborah Hagenbruch	EHSS&T Manager		26.8.15

Approved by:

Name	Title	Signature	Date
Brenton Hawtin	General Manager Downstream Operations		28/8/15

Date	Rev	Reason For Issue	Author	Checked	Approved

This document contains confidential information and is not to be disclosed to any third parties without prior written permission from the CEO GLNG Operations Pty Ltd.

GLNG is a Santos PETRONAS Total KOGAS project.



UNCONTROLLED IF PRINTED



Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction3
- 2. Continuation of Existing Management Programs and Operating Controls.....3
- 3. LTTMP Implementation3



1. INTRODUCTION

Conditions 34 – 37 of EPBC Approval 2008/4057 required GLNG to develop and implement a Long Term Turtle Management Plan (LTTMP).

The LTTMP was jointly prepared by the three LNG proponents with LNG Facilities on Curtis Island (QCLNG (QGC), APLNG and GLNG) and submitted to Department of the Environment for approval on 16 May 2014. The LTTMP was subsequently approved on 3 August 2014.

EPBC Approval 2008/4057 Condition 38 states:

“Within 60 days of each anniversary of the approval of the plan the proponent must provide a review report (“the Report”) on the effectiveness of the management measures and operating controls directed at avoiding impacts on the marine turtle species.

Note; The review report may be provided by the Gladstone Ports Corporation or another entity on behalf of the proponent.”

2. CONTINUATION OF EXISTING MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND OPERATING CONTROLS

During the past 12 months, the management programs and operating controls covered in the approved Construction Shipping Activities Management Plan have continued to be applied.

Research and monitoring programs under the Western Basin Dredging and Disposal Project’s Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program (ERMP) coordinated by Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) have continued.

3. LTTMP IMPLEMENTATION

In the 12 months since the LTTMP was approved, the three LNG proponents have signed a Collective Acquisition Agreement to collectively acquire the relevant LTTMP Services in accordance with and on the terms of the Agreement. The focus for the last 12 months has been establishing the LTTMP so no results demonstrating the effectiveness of the management measures and operating controls are available.

The LTTMP Services involve the performance of everything necessary to enable the Proponents to implement their obligations under the LTTMP (**see table below**), with the exception of those matters being performed by or on behalf of GPC under the ERMP:

- Gap analysis of the LTTMP and ERMP deliverables to determine which conditions have been met under ERMP scope to date and also to ensure all ERMP scope amendments have been included. One key objective of the LTTMP is to avoid duplication of projects or monitoring in Port Curtis.

Santos

GLNG

- Monitoring of nesting turtles on Curtis Island and Avoid Island (control site)(LTTMP Table 17);
- Monitoring hatchling emergence tracks in the sand on Curtis Island sites for signs of disorientation (LTTMP Table 18);
- Detailed necropsies of up to ten (10) local turtle carcasses per year showing signs of boat strike to determine type of vessel (LTTMP Table 15);
- Necropsies of up to 30 dead stranded turtles per year in the Gladstone region (local) to determine cause of death and identify increases in the prevalence of disease (LTTMP Table 22);
- Health surveillance of live turtles in Port Curtis during capture mark-recapture surveys (LTTMP Table 21);
- Annual statistical reporting to satisfy EPBC 2008/4402 Condition 36 (b) and EPBC 2009/4977 Condition 54 b, to ensure compliance with the LTTMP;
- Compliance with Section 5 (including LTTMP Table 14) of the LTTMP detailed methodology.

The LTTMP Services also includes preparation of the following reports as required by Section 6.0 of the LTTMP:

- Annual review/monitoring reports;
- Audits of performance commitments;
- Bi-annual (minor reviews) of the LTTMP;
- Major reviews after 5 years;
- Completion report after 10 years.

Long Term Turtle Management Plan Implementation Summary

Scope	LTTMP Monitoring Activity	Existing or New Project	Comment	Frequency of Monitoring
1	Monitoring of nesting turtles on Curtis Island and Wild Duck Island (control site)	Existing GPC	LNG funding the continuation of existing long-term monitoring program	Four weeks annually (Nov/Dec) for a minimum of five years. Whole of season monitoring once every five years.
2	Monitoring ambient night time sky glow following commissioning of LNG Facilities	Existing project (ERMP)	Compare with baseline study completed in 2011.	At milestones in the projects development and every two years thereafter for 10 years.

Santos

GLNG

3	Monitoring hatchling emergence tracks in the sand for signs of disorientation	New project	Four weeks field work at Curtis Island during hatching period, across the lunar cycle. Some monitoring currently done by volunteers as part of DEHP coordinated program.	Once a year for a minimum of five years (for a period of four weeks, across the lunar cycle).
4	Turtle tracking - foraging	Existing project (GISERA) & ERMP	LNG-funded radio tracking of turtles to determine foraging home ranges.	Minimum of three years.
5	Turtle tracking – flatback inter-nesting	Enhancement to existing ERMP project	Satellite tracking of 10 flatback turtle females during inter-nesting period to determine habitat use and adjust risk assessment accordingly. Monitoring will be conducted off Curtis Island and the control site at Wild Duck Island.	Annually for five years (or as determined from results of initial monitoring). Increase the commitment of ERMP to include Tracking off Wild Duck Island which is a new task.
6	Detailed necropsy of turtle carcasses showing signs of boat strike to determine type of vessel	New project building on existing DEHP stranding program.	This would involve sending up to 10 turtle carcasses a year to a qualified veterinarian for assessment, for up to 10 years. In association with GLT triage facility.	Ongoing, dependent on the provision of carcasses with boat strike injuries. The systematic necropsy of up to 10 turtles a year is a new task. DEHP undertakes occasional necropsies currently, where resources permit.
7	Necropsies of dead stranded turtles in Gladstone region to determine cause of death and identify increases in the prevalence of disease.	New project building on existing DEHP stranding program.	Funding detailed necropsies by qualified personnel for suitable carcasses. Up to a maximum of 30 per year to a qualified veterinarian for assessment (additional to boat strike numbers above), for up to 10 years.	Ongoing as suitable carcasses become available. The systematic necropsy of up to 30 turtles a year is a new task. DEHP undertakes occasional necropsies currently, where resources permit (Permit required).
8	Assessment of seagrass health	Existing project (ERMP)	LNG funding of ongoing assessment of seagrass health.	Once per year for a minimum of five years (ERMP). Minimum of three years (GISERA).

Santos

GLNG

9	Health surveillance of live turtles	Enhancement to existing DEHP.	Supplement with additional health assessment techniques as an early warning of disease emergence.	Annually for a period of 10 years. Health assessment is a new task.
10	Third Party Statistical reporting for EPBC 2008/4402 Condition 36 (b)	New	Not a ERMP requirement	Year five and year ten.

QGC, acting on behalf of the three LNG proponents, have recently sent out a Request for Pricing (RFP) to suitably qualified consultancies to provide and coordinate the LTTMP services as outlined in the summary table above.

Key Milestones of the RF process are outlined below:

Activity/Milestone	Date
Release Request For Proposal (RFP)	11 August 2015
Final Date to confirm intent to submit a proposal	19 August 2015
Final Date to Submit Proposals	31 August 2015
Target Date for Contract Award	05 October 2015