



Australian Government

Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

Offshore Greenhouse Gas Storage - Legislative Framework & Acreage Release

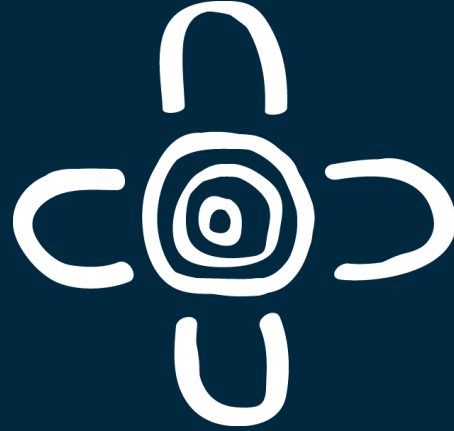
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A/g General Manager, Offshore Resources Branch

Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR)

March 2023

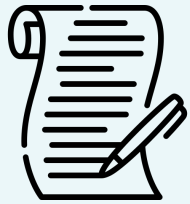
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Acknowledgement of Country

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge First Nations Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Overview

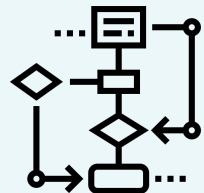


Legislative framework

- [Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006](#) (the legislation)
- [Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage \(Greenhouse Gas Injection and Storage\) Regulations 2011](#) (the GHG Regulations)



Types of offshore greenhouse gas storage titles



Acreage release process



Legislative Framework

The Legislative Framework

OPGGS Act and regulations: administered by the Australian Government

Major features:

- a title system providing access and property rights for exploring for and using GHG storage formations and injection sites
- ensuring safe, secure and permanent storage
- mechanisms for managing interactions with the petroleum industry
- site closure and the treatment of long-term liability
- environmental approvals for GHG operations

Key Institutions and Functions

Department of Industry, Science and
Resources (DISR)
Responsible Commonwealth
Minister (RCM)

- Policy agency for offshore greenhouse gas storage
- RCM is key decision maker
- Offshore greenhouse gas storage acreage release

National Offshore Petroleum Titles
Administrator (NOPTA)

- Direct liaison with industry regarding title requirements
- Administration, compliance monitoring and data management
- Assess applications and provide advice to the decision maker

The National Offshore Petroleum
Safety and Environmental
Management Authority (NOPSEMA)

- Safety, Integrity and Environmental Regulator
- Assess duty holders' permissioning documents
- Monitor and enforce compliance

Department of Climate Change,
Energy, the Environment and Water
(DCCEEW)

- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 – initial approval of site plan and ongoing compliance
- Sea Dumping permits required prior to injection

Offshore Greenhouse Gas Storage Titles

Types of offshore greenhouse gas titles

Assessment Permit

- Initial 6 year term, option for 2 x 3-year renewal terms
- Authorises right to explore for potential GHG storage formations or injection sites
- Key GHG exploration operations require approval by RCM prior to commencement
- Allows titleholder to **apply to declare a storage formation**

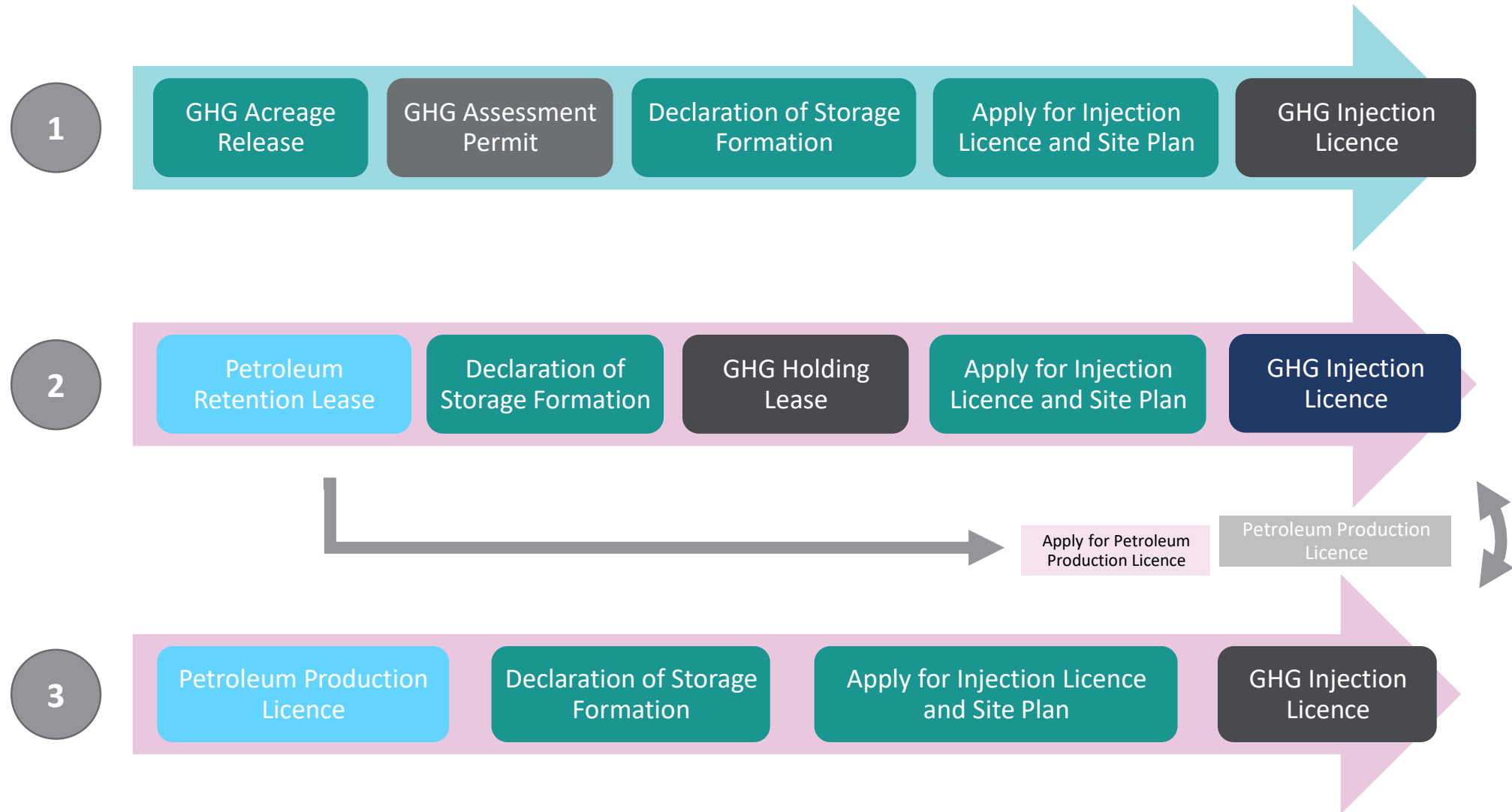
Holding Lease

- Allows titleholder to retain exclusive rights to a GHG storage formation (after obtaining a declaration of storage formation)
- Injection to be viable within a 15 year period
- Five year term, can be for a further five years

Injection Licence

- Authorises injection and permanent storage of GHG substances within title area (after obtaining a declaration of storage formation)
- Requires approval of a Site Plan – RCM deems if safe and permanent storage will occur
- Site Plan requires plume migration modelling, monitoring plan and risk assessment

Pathways to Injection



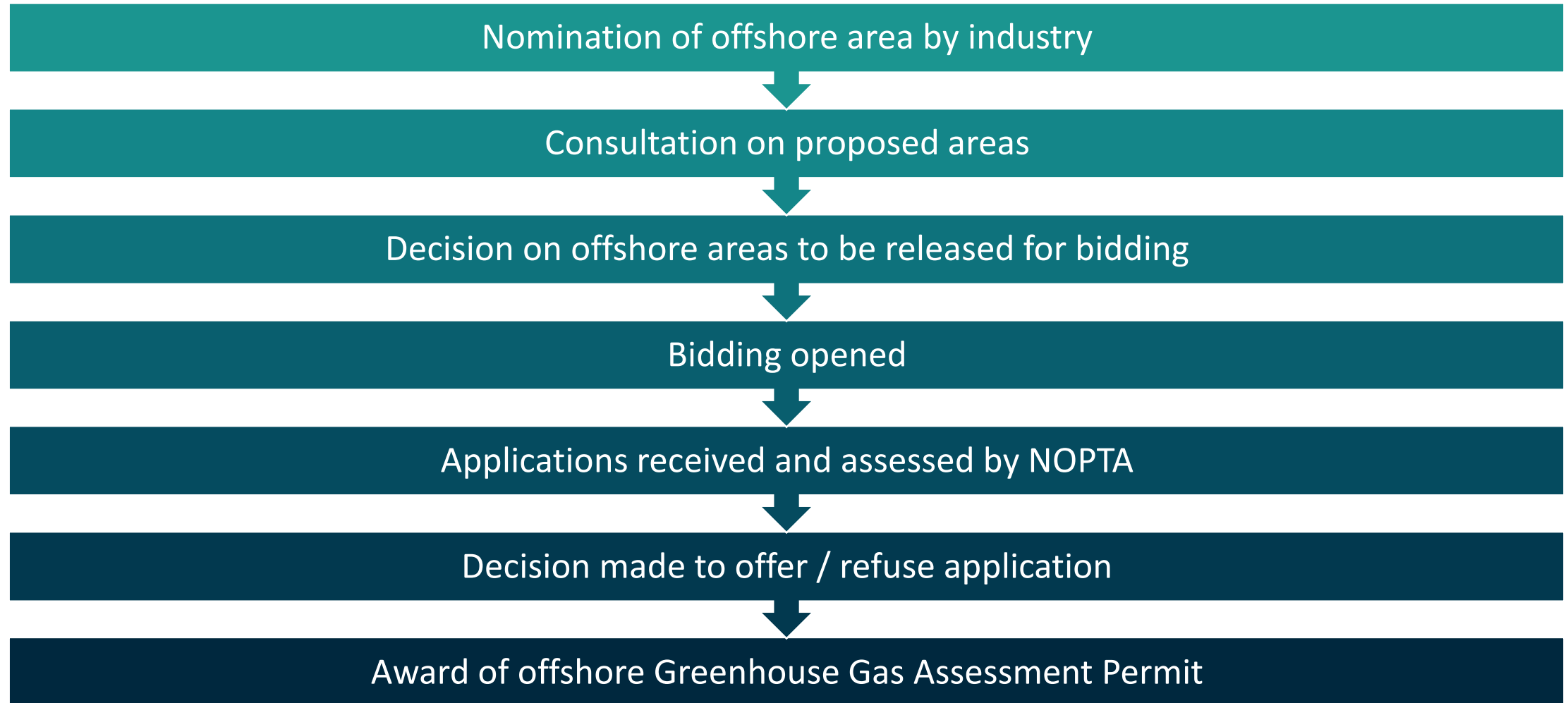
Environmental approvals – indicative timing

Approval	Timeframe
EPBC Act	2 years
Environment plans (EP)	6-12 months
Safety case	3-6 months
Well operations management plans (WOMP)	6-12 months
Sea Dumping permit	6 months
EP/Safety case/WOMP	5 yearly revision

Timeframes are dependent on the complexity of the applications. Some approvals applications may be made in parallel to relevant title applications.

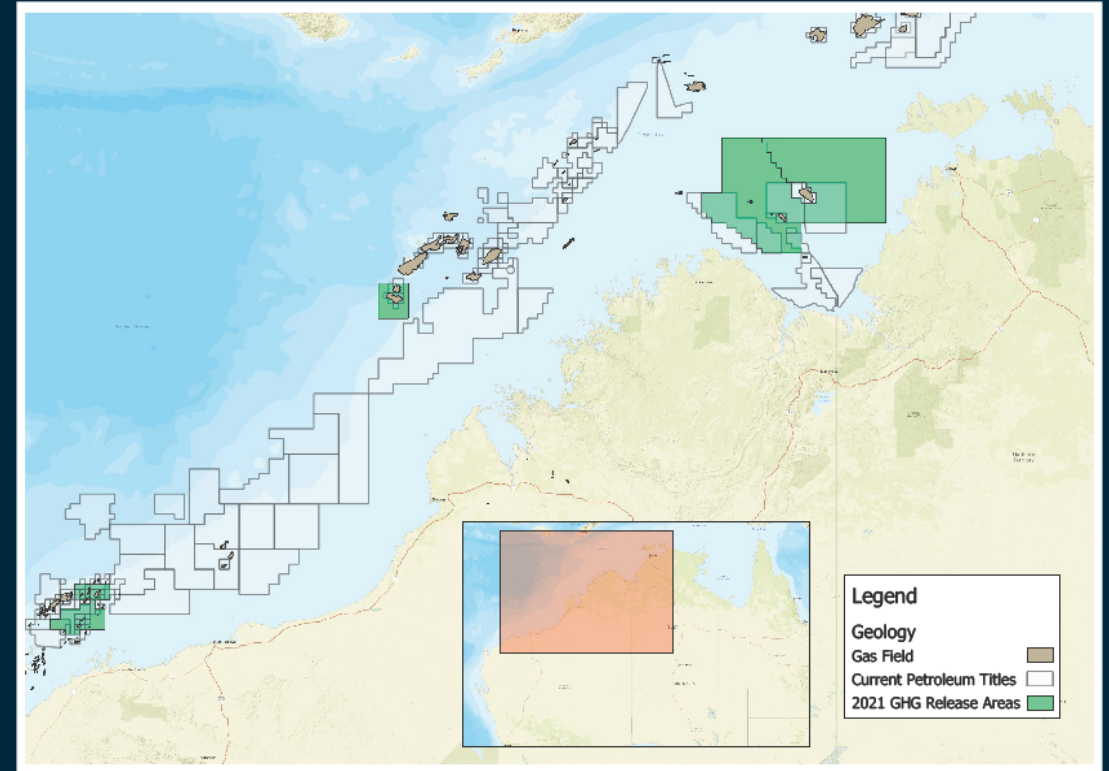
Acreage Release Process

GHG Acreage Release Process



2021 GHG Acreage Release

- First acreage release since 2014.
Driven by significant interest shown by industry.
- Five offshore greenhouse gas assessment permits awarded.
Information on new titles available via neats.nopta.gov.au.
- Planning for next acreage release underway



Contact us

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