

Tamarind development drilling applications

Submission Reference no: 38

as above, **Hamish Gordon**

Submitter Type: Not specified

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

Do you have the authority to make this submission on behalf of the person named on this form?

Position

Yes

Notes

Clause

Do you intend to have a spokesperson who will act on your behalf (e.g. a lawyer or professional advisor)?

Position

No

Notes

Clause

Do you wish to speak to your submission at the hearing?

Position

No I/we do not wish to speak to my/our submission at the hearing

Notes

Clause

Do you wish to receive regular updates from the EPA about the progress of this application?

Position

No I/we only wish to be notified of the decision (and the hearing times and locations if I'm speaking to my submission).

Notes

Clause

What decision do you want the Board to make and why? Provide reasons in the box below.

Position

Grant

Notes

Tamarind's application to undertake production and exploration drilling should be granted. Drilling in offshore Taranaki has been demonstrated to safe and this is not a new activity in the area. I note that the EPA requests information on oil spill modelling and while this is prudent the chances of there being an uncontrolled 45-day oil spin from an offshore well is extremely small. The reason for that is the Mangahewa Group reservoirs (D and F sands) that have been produced from in the Tui Field are not naturally over-pressured, in fact relative to hydrostatic pressure these reservoirs are at normal pressure, so if the only well is opened to seawater ingress and the drilling mud is replaced by sea water the water column in the well would have enough hydraulic head to prevent any reservoir fluid (formation water or oil) reaching the surface. As it is the majority of fluid produced from these wells when they are initially flowed in reservoir formation fluid. I make this statement as an oilfield geologist with over 18-years experience in the industry, a large part of which has been undertaken in the Taranaki region. Tamarind has demonstrated they are a competent operator that complies with good oil field practise and various NZ legislation, so I see no reason to refuse their application which should be granted with no conditions.

The submitter have elected to withhold their personal details from publication.