

File ref: EEZ100019

8 June 2020

Mr Keith Manch
Chief Executive
Maritime New Zealand
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By email to: Mike.Hudson@maritimenz.govt.nz, and nigel.clifford@maritimenz.govt.nz.

Dear Mr Manch

Request for advice under section 56 of the EEZ Act regarding a notified marine discharge consent application by Beach Energy Resources NZ (Holdings) Ltd – EEZ100019 (Canterbury Basin)

The application

On 25 March 2020, Beach Energy Resources NZ (Holdings) Limited (Beach Energy) lodged an application for marine discharge consent with the EPA. Beach is applying to discharge trace amounts of harmful substances from the deck drains of a Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU) as offshore processing drainage (OPD). The MODU will be used to drill exploration and appraisal wells in the Canterbury Basin within Beach Energy's Petroleum Exploration Permit area (PEP38264), although the notified application relates only to the discharge of trace amounts of harmful substances from the deck drains of any MODU used.

The OPD discharge requires public notification under the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012 (EEZ) Act. The EPA notified the application on 22 May 2020 and the submission period closes on Monday 6 July 2020. If any parties request to be heard, a public hearing will be held within 40 working days of this date. A decision on the application will be made by an EPA-appointed Decision-Making Committee (DMC).

Further information about this notified application can be viewed at <https://www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/open-consultations/beach-energy-marine-discharge-consent-application/>.

Beach Energy will need additional EEZ Act consents for any exploration or appraisal drilling to go ahead in the Canterbury Basin. These consents will be considered by a further DMC but, as the EEZ Act regulations classify exploration drilling as a non-notified process, a submission process does not take place for these applications.

Request for advice and information

The DMC requests the following advice and information from Maritime New Zealand under section 56 of the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012 (the EEZ Act) to help it understand the application:

1. Please describe the Maritime New Zealand's responsibilities in relation to Beach Energy's operation of a MODU within Petroleum Exploration Permit (PEP) 38264 in the Canterbury Basin.

2. With respect to (1), please specify Maritime New Zealand's responsibilities in relation to the regulation of:
 - a. Oil spill contingency plans;
 - b. Any structure left in or on the seabed following demobilisation of a drill rig.

Please provide this information to the EPA by **Friday 26 June 2020**. The information will be provided to the applicant as soon as it is received.

Costs

If Maritime New Zealand is minded to charge for this advice, please provide the EPA with an estimate of costs for undertaking this proposed work by **Friday 12 June 2020**. In the estimate please provide a breakdown of staff and hourly rates.

If you have any questions or further queries please don't hesitate to contact the Project Leader, Jillian Kennemore on +64 27 641 7250 or via email at Jillian.Kennemore@epa.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Sandra Balcombe
Acting Manager
Land and Oceans Applications

Cc:

Nigel Clifford, Deputy Director, Safety and Response Systems, Maritime NZ
Mike Hudson, Senior Environmental Advisor, Maritime NZ