

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
2021 - 2022 Supplementary Budget Estimates

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority

OUTCOME: Agencies

TOPIC: Subsequent Inspections - Montara Venture

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Rex Patrick

QUESTION DATE: 05 November 2021

QUESTION No.: SI-89

In the File Note provided to the committee there are 7 Montara Venture specific recommendations given. All are serious non-compliances with Class Rules and procedures. In NOPSEMA's reply of 21 September 2021 "Answers to questions on notice from a public hearing in Canberra on 20 August 2021", page 6, NOPSEMA only mentioned the common findings of the "planned survey programme" as being included in subsequent Inspection Reports.

1. Have the 7 Recommendations contained in the File Note ever been included in any Inspection Report?
 - a. If so, which one?
 - b. If not, why not?

ANSWER

NOPSEMA provided several detailed File Notes containing similar information, to the Committee on 20 July 2021. Based on the limited information provided in this question on notice, NOPSEMA has identified that the file note that may be in question, is dated 24 September 2021 and contains 24 pages. In that document, 7 recommendations about further assurances for the Montara are raised:

1. LR to ensure that if any survey extensions are granted, they are granted in accordance with appropriate LR rules.
2. LR to ensure that information including instructions ensure that if any survey extensions are granted, they are granted in accordance with appropriate LR rules.

NOPSEMA response: For the above two Lloyds assurances, NOPSEMA inspection ID 1703 and further followed-up in inspections ID 1900 and ID 2315 covered the survey of the facility. Relevant and related NOPSEMA inspection recommendations are:

- 1703-3 - PTTEP to ensure that all surveys and permanent repairs are made to the facility so that vessel Classification can be restored by Q4 2018 as committed by PTTEP AA.
- 1703-4 - PTTEP to ensure that cargo tanks 5C and 6C remain out of service until they have been found to within Class rules and fit for service.

3. LR to ensure that instructions given by their head office for the administering of flag state statutory certificates are complied with.
4. LR to ensure that class is automatically suspended in accordance with LR Offshore Rules when the Special Survey has not been completed by the due date.
5. LR to ensure that class is withdrawn in accordance with IACS PRIS when class has been suspended for 6 months.
6. LR to ensure that class certificates and survey reports whilst class is suspended are clearly marked with Class suspended together with appropriate explanation remarks so as to prevent misrepresentation
7. LR to determine reason for the conflicting information contained with the Interim Certificate and the associated Survey Report.

NOPSEMA response: For Lloyds findings outlined in 3 – 7, while these matters directly relate to the conduct of LR, not the Montara facility, NOPSEMA maintained ongoing contact with Lloyds into 2020 on all Lloyds related issues identified. NOPSEMA also wrote to duty holders about Class related assurances and advised duty holders of their obligation under the OPGGS Act to ensure that their engagement of third parties must contribute to risks on the facility being reduced to as low as reasonably practicable.