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5 SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

As a major city, Darwin has a wide variety of infrastructure, including the port, airport, railway, and national highways to other cities, which may all be utilised during construction and operation of the Project.

Oil & gas development in the Northern Territory presents a significant economic opportunity through the establishment of new industries, the expansion of existing industries and the provision of indirect opportunities for supporting industries. The Project would generate major new export income and employment and would strengthen the Northern Territory's economic development. It would be the largest private-sector investment in the history of the Darwin region and would provide opportunities for business and employment for over four decades.

The Project would also deliver substantial tax revenues to Australian governments over a period of 40 years and INPEX will be to contribute to the growth and development of the Australian economy.

A comprehensive economic and social impact assessment will be conducted during the EIA process, to quantify the economic impacts of the Project and characterise the social implications. Community concerns will be addressed throughout the stakeholder consultation process.

5.1 NATIVE TITLE AND ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

The Northern Territory Government, as part of its commitment to provide INPEX with a site for its LNG plant, agreed to conduct archaeological and sacred-site surveys on behalf of INPEX at Blaydin Point.

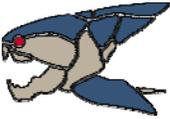
5.1.1 Archaeology

An archaeological survey was commissioned by the Northern Territory Government and carried out by Patricia Bourke. Her report has been peer-reviewed by eminent archaeologists Philip Hughes and Marjory Sullivan. Their review confirms the quality and findings of the Bourke report. No additional archaeological work is required in the area covered by the report. The report found that all of the Aboriginal archaeological sites identified in the Project area at Blaydin Point can be easily avoided with appropriate management.

There is, however, a small area in the vicinity of the ground flare within the Project area at Blaydin Point that was not covered by the Bourke survey (Figure 3-5). Discussions are ongoing with the Northern Territory Government regarding an expansion of the survey to include this area.

5.1.2 Aboriginal sacred sites

The Northern Territory Government has also indicated that a sacred sites survey over the entire proposed Project area will be conducted which will extend into the harbour and cover the proposed nearshore drilling operations.

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An Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority Clearance Certificate has been issued for the Project area (dated 10 March 2008).

In order to manage both Aboriginal archaeological and sacred sites in a culturally sensitive manner, INPEX will develop and implement an Indigenous heritage management plan with the active participation of the Larrakia people.

5.1.3 Maritime archaeology

The Northern Territory Heritage Register, maintained by NRETA, shows that the wreck of the SS *Ellengowan* is located close to the preferred nearshore pipeline alignment in Darwin Harbour. This is the oldest known shipwreck in Darwin Harbour and is one of the earliest examples of shipping associated with European settlement in the area. It is a unique example of nineteenth-century maritime history in the territory and is the only known Norwegian-built iron steamer in Australian waters. Its significance to maritime archaeology is consequently rated highly (NRETA 2008b).

Other marine archaeological sites also occur in the vicinity of the Project area. The wrecks of four Catalina flying boats and the coal barge *Kelat* are located in the vicinity of the ship turning basin and navigation channel.

The Project design process will aim to avoid interference with these heritage sites.

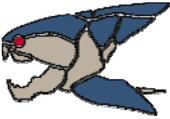
5.2 HUMAN USES OF THE PROJECT AREA

The Project site on Blaydin Point is currently undeveloped unallocated Crown land falling within the jurisdiction of the Litchfield Shire Council. Current use of the land and marine environment on the Middle Arm Peninsula ranges from a power station on Channel Island and ConocoPhillips' LNG plant and offloading facility at Wickham Point to a number of aquaculture ventures and recreational activities such as fishing (URS 2002). Blaydin Point itself is accessible by four-wheel drive vehicles using informal tracks and there is also evidence of camping.

Within the broader Darwin Harbour, the most intensive use of the marine area is for commercial shipping, recreational boating and military activities. Underwater power and communication cables extend across the harbour on the seafloor between Mandorah and Myilly Point, and the existing pipeline to the Wickham Point LNG plant runs down the centre of the harbour (URS 2002).

The water surrounding Blaydin Point is used for recreational fishing, scuba-diving, sailing and general boating. However, tour boats in Darwin tend to avoid the Blaydin Point area and Middle Arm because of navigational hazards in the shallow nearshore waters (URS 2002).

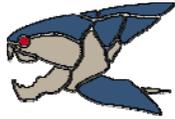
Darwin Harbour is closed to commercial haul net fishing and commercial mud crab fishing. Commercial line fishing and limited gill netting is permitted within the harbour (URS 2002). However, the pipeline corridor between the harbour entrance and the limit of territorial waters traverses several commercial fisheries (LDM 1997):

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- The Commonwealth-administered Northern Prawn Fishery. Most trawling activity takes place well to the north and south of the Bayu-Undan – Darwin pipeline route (and therefore away from INPEX’s Option 2 pipeline route), though INPEX’s Option 1 route passes through an area of some considerable trawling effort. In addition to restricted access to a very small portion of the trawling grounds during pipeline construction.
- The Commonwealth-administered Western Skipjack, Southern Bluefin Tuna, Western Tuna and Billfish fisheries, though these are not known to be active in the Timor Sea region.
- The Northern Territory-administered Demersal, Shark, Spanish Mackerel, Coastal Line and Coastal Net fisheries. A variety of fishing methods are employed, including pelagic gill nets, hook and line, fish traps, cast nets and scoop nets. There may be some temporary limitations to access of some of the fishery areas during pipeline construction, though the only longer-term restrictions are likely to be prohibition of bottom-disturbing activities (such as anchoring) within the pipeline corridor.

Other than commercial fishing activity, water uses outside of Darwin Harbour within the project area are limited to military exercises within pipeline Option 1 and eco-based tourism within coastal and nearshore waters distant from the pipeline route and offshore facility.

Project-related activities will increase the intensity of land and marine activities that already occur in the Darwin Harbour, namely shipping, pipe-laying, and gas production. The cumulative impacts of this more intensive use of the area, and the extent of conflicts it may present to other land and marine users, will be the subject of a socio-economic assessment of the Project during the EIA process. Impacts upon human uses of the marine environment are also likely to feature strongly in the stakeholder consultation process.

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6 STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

6.1 STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY

INPEX recognises stakeholder involvement as an important and ongoing process in the Project. INPEX recognises that a thorough consultation process with government, industry and community stakeholders will be a vital part of the EIA process.

INPEX is currently developing a Stakeholder Involvement Strategy, to plan and secure the effective involvement of all stakeholders throughout the life of the Project. The strategy will provide a sound, fair and transparent process for community engagement.

The stakeholder involvement process consists of a number of elements which, when combined in a planned and robust strategy. These elements are:

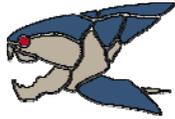
- appropriate timing
- stakeholder identification
- disclosure
- management of expectations
- engagement methods
- Indigenous consultation
- stakeholder education
- grievance communications
- planning, reporting and documentation
- evaluation and independent review.

In order to maintain its relevance over the long term, the Stakeholder Involvement Strategy will be regarded as a “living document”, which will be updated as required.

6.2 POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS

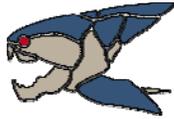
INPEX has commenced initial consultation with a number of government and community stakeholders. At this early stage, it is expected that key stakeholders to the Project are likely to include the following:

- the Northern Territory Government
- the Commonwealth Government
- traditional landowners, including the Larrakia people
- ConocoPhillips and other industrial operators in the area
- local residents, including potential employees

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- environmental groups in the region (e.g. the Environment Centre Northern Territory)
- the Planning Action Network Inc. (PLAN)
- the Amateur Fishermen's Association of the Northern Territory
- the Australian Marine Conservation Society
- the Darwin Port Corporation
- the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee
- the Chamber of Commerce Northern Territory
- Darwin City Council
- Palmerston City Council
- Litchfield Shire Council
- Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines
- Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development
- Department of the Chief Minister, Trade and Major Projects
- Chamber of Commerce of the Northern Territory
- Northern Territory Minerals Council
- Territory Construction Association
- Civil Contractors Federation, Northern Territory
- Engineers Australia
- Seafood Council of the Northern Territory
- Northern Territory Industry Capability Network
- the International Business Council.

INPEX aims to actively consult and engage with these stakeholders throughout the approvals process.

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7 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

7.1 HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROCESS

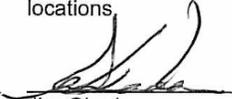
INPEX is committed to delivering energy in a safe and environmentally responsible manner, as shown in the INPEX Environmental Policy in Section 7.2 *Environmental policy*. To assist in meeting this commitment, a Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Management Process has been developed.

The process is based on a continuous improvement model, as defined within the internationally recognised standards *AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004, Environmental management systems—Requirements with guidance for use* and *AS/NZS ISO 4801:2001, Occupational health and safety management systems—Specification with guidance for use*. The Process provides INPEX with a method for managing the aspects and associated impacts of its activities on the environment, as well as providing a structured approach to planning and implementing environment protection measures.

Ownership of the HSE Management Process resides with INPEX's management team who will ensure that adequate resources are provided to guarantee the successful implementation and sustainability of the Process.

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7.2 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

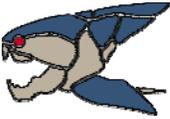
 INPEX BROWSE, LTD.	<h1>ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY</h1>
<p>INPEX is an international oil and gas exploration and development company committed to delivering energy in a safe and environmentally responsible manner.</p> <p>We recognise our responsibility to sustainable development and aim to minimise adverse impacts on the environment.</p> <p>To implement this policy INPEX will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and perform business activities so that negative impacts on the environment are avoided or kept as low as reasonably practicable. • Comply with all applicable laws and regulations, and apply appropriate standards where laws and regulations do not exist or are considered insufficient. • Implement and maintain an environmental management process to ensure compliance with obligations and commitments and drive continual improvement in environmental performance. • Set, measure and review environmental standards, objectives and improvement targets. • Endeavour to prevent pollution and seek continual improvement with respect to emissions, discharges, wastes, energy efficiency, resource consumption and overall environmental footprint. • Actively promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions across our operations in a safe, technically and commercially viable manner • Monitor the environment where we operate and adjust our operational approach if required. • Maintain and regularly test emergency plans to ensure a quick and effective response in the event of emergencies. • Provide training in environmental activities to ensure all employees are aware of their responsibilities and accountabilities in these areas. • Communicate openly on environmental issues with stakeholders. • Ensure that contractors understand and adhere to INPEX's environmental policy and procedures. <p>This policy applies to all INPEX controlled activities in Australia and related project locations</p>	
 Jiro Okada Managing Director, INPEX Perth Office	 Akinori Sakamoto Managing Director, Project Representative Ichthys Project
<p>October 2007</p>	

7.3 ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Responsibilities and accountabilities for the provision of environmental management are assigned to all personnel throughout the organisation by way of management plans, procedures and position descriptions. The roles and responsibilities of those to be involved in the Project are shown in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1: Environmental roles and responsibilities for implementation of the HSE Management Process

Position(s)	Role and responsibility
INPEX Managing Director	Overall responsibility for the environmental policy and activities of the organisation. Ultimate responsibility for achieving objectives, and authorises the environmental policy.
INPEX directors and managers	<p>A commitment to the environmental policy; responsibility for ensuring that employees, under their direction, are aware of the requirements of the HSE Management Process.</p> <p>Ensures employees, under their direction, are trained and resourced to enable them to practise the requirements of the HSE management process.</p>
INPEX Environmental Manager	<p>Provides support services to line managers and employees in the requirements of the HSE management process.</p> <p>Provides environmental training to INPEX departments in support of their continuous improvement requirements.</p> <p>Maintains the environmental legal compliance and requirements register.</p> <p>Prepares operations' environmental management plans (EMPs) and procedures that comply with the requirements of relevant statutes, industry best practice and <i>AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004, Environmental management systems—Specification with guidance for use</i>.</p> <p>Reviews and approves Contractor EMPs being developed as part of the Project i.e. Construction EMPs, Drilling EMPs, etc.</p>
INPEX personnel	<p>Take all reasonable and practical steps to protect the environment.</p> <p>Follows any instructions given by management in relation to the protection of the environment.</p> <p>Participates in identified environmental training.</p>
Contractors	<p>Ensure that they have established and are operating through an EMS/HSEMS that is consistent with the requirement set out by INPEX and the internationally recognised standard <i>AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004, Environmental management systems—Specification with guidance for use</i>.</p> <p>Meet the objectives and targets set out in the Provisional EMPs, and carry out the management measures and controls for the relevant aspect or activity.</p> <p>Preparation of construction and drilling EMPs, etc.</p> <p>Liaise with the INPEX Environmental Department in the development of construction EMPs to ensure that they meet INPEX requirements.</p> <p>Ensure that all services suppliers and subcontractors have an appropriate management system in place and verify the effectiveness of the proposed management and the environmental management controls.</p>
Subcontractors	Required by contractors to have an EMP for their activities and comply with all INPEX environmental requirements applicable to their activities.

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7.4 ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

INPEX has committed to a systematic risk assessment process as a means of achieving best practice in environmental management. Risk assessment methodology will be applied to Project planning, to identify and assess environmental aspects resulting from activities such as air emissions and noise emissions; clearing and rehabilitation. The risk assessment method employed by INPEX has been written in accordance with Australian Standard AS/NZS 4360:2004, *Risk management* and its associated document *Risk management guidelines—Companion to AS/NZS 4360:2004* (Handbook HB 436:2004).

Risk assessment will be carried out through desk-based and workshop-based processes, using predetermined definitions of likelihood and consequence categories to rank each risk identified.

Risks identification and assessment will be undertaken by a multidisciplinary team of ecological specialists, environmental managers, and engineering and construction personnel, utilising internal INPEX staff and external specialist consultants where required.

The risk assessment process for the Blaydin Point Project has already commenced, with a high-level environmental impact identification (ENVID) workshop conducted in February 2008. The ENVID workshop was based on the onshore and offshore components of the Project, and incorporated construction, commissioning and operational phases.

The results of the risk assessment will enable the Project planners to concentrate efforts on those areas that have the greatest potential impact. Some examples of activities that were rated medium or high environmental risk include:

- vegetation clearing and disposal
- earthworks in intertidal and mangrove areas
- traffic impacts, including dust, noise, and disturbance to the public
- marine construction ecological impacts, including noise and vibrations
- marine construction social impacts on access to fishing areas in local creeks
- dredging and associated turbidity impacts
- quarantine risks associated with imported vessels, modules and supplies
- exposure of acid sulfate soil while trenching in the shore crossing area
- water contamination due to disposal of hydrotest water.

Several iterations of risk assessment will be undertaken throughout the Project, beginning at the broader “whole Project” level, and progressively becoming more activity-specific following finalisation of the design of various components, and as the results of EIA studies become available. Stakeholders will also have the opportunity to be involved in the risk assessment through the approvals process.

7.5 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

A suite of environmental management plans (EMPs) will be developed for key environmental aspects that have the potential to impact on the environment from Project activities; from construction through to operation. EMPs will outline the potential impacts, describe INPEX's objectives, targets and key management measures, and detail indicators for monitoring, and reporting and auditing requirements.

7.5.1 Onshore environmental management plans

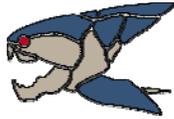
A conceptual list of the EMPs that could be required for the Project at the Blaydin Point site is presented in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2: List of EMPs likely to be required for the Project

Title
Air Emissions Management Plan
Light Management Plan
Noise and Vibration Management Plan
Visual Impact Management Plan
Liquid Discharge and Drainage Management Plan
Waste Management Plan
Dust Management Plan
Fire Management Plan
Clearing and Rehabilitation Management Plan
Acid Sulfate Soils Management Plan
Dredging Management Plan
Onshore Spill Management Plan
Physical Interaction Management Plan
Greenhouse Gas Management Plan
Quarantine Management Plan

INPEX will develop provisional EMPs, which will serve as a guide for the development of more detailed construction EMPs (CEMPs) and eventual operational EMPs (OEMPs). Contracts tendered for the construction, commissioning, operations and decommissioning phases of the Project will detail specifically the requirements for contractors with respect to the implementation of INPEX's requirements.

Contractors will prepare CEMPs relevant to their activities. Prior to commencement, INPEX will review and approve all CEMPs to ensure that they are consistent with the provisional EMPs and as such meet all the commitments made under the environmental approvals process for the Project, and any other legislative requirements and ministerial conditions.

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It is anticipated that each of the Project components will require different combinations of aspect- and activity-based EMPs.

7.5.2 Offshore environment plans

In addition to the onshore EMPs, environment plans (EPs) will be produced for offshore activities in Commonwealth waters as required by the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Management of Environment) Regulations 1999 (Cwlth). Activities that will have EPs include the following:

- drilling
- installation of the offshore facilities (including the flowlines)
- installation of the pipeline (for both Northern Territory and Commonwealth waters)
- operation of the offshore facilities.

Final requirements for the activities to be covered in the EPs will be determined through consultation with the designated authority.

In addition, an oil-spill contingency plan will be prepared to address offshore and inshore risks and will be approved by the appropriate authorities. INPEX currently has an approved plan for the drilling operations being conducted at the Ichthys Field and nearshore in the Kimberley. This plan will be updated to reflect any changes in the Project's scope and will also cover activities in the nearshore environment surrounding Darwin Harbour.

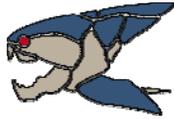
7.6 MONITORING ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

As part of the environmental management program, a monitoring program will be developed for the Project, which will aim to:

- identify environmental change, in particular changes that have occurred as a result of the Project development
- validate modelling results (actual versus predicted results)
- contribute to reviews of environmental management procedures
- provide data for assessing adherence to EMPs and compliance with works approvals and licence conditions.

Indicators to be monitored will be determined according to the extent and nature of potential environmental impacts identified during the EIA process, and in consultation with the Northern Territory Government and other stakeholders.

Detailed environmental monitoring programs will be described within the CEMPs and the OEMPs as appropriate. Each of the programs will be conducted by appropriately qualified personnel in a systematic and scientifically rigorous manner.

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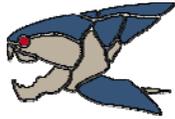
7.7 INCIDENTS AND REPORTING

INPEX uses an incident management and investigation procedure. The objective of this procedure is to ensure that all incidents, including near misses, no matter how minor, are reported, recorded and investigated.

All incidents, investigations and corrective and preventive actions are recorded in INPEX's incident reporting database and tracked until closure. Requirements for reporting to external parties will be determined through consultation with the relevant authorities.

7.7.1 Emergency response capability

Plans and procedures shall be developed for potential crises and/or emergency threats associated with the Project to reduce risks to personnel, the public and the environment. All emergency and crisis management plans shall contain the identification of resources (personnel and equipment), key roles and responsibilities and the procedures to be followed if the plans are activated.

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8 LEGISLATIVE CONSENT AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

8.1 ONSHORE COMPONENTS

8.1.1 Northern Territory legislative requirements

As described in Section 1.2 *This document*, this document represents the Project's application for approval under the *Environmental Assessment Act 1982* (NT). Other legislative consents and licences required by the Project are as follows:

- Sacred sites clearance from the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority under the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* (NT)
- a waste discharge licence from NRETA under the *Water Act 1992* (NT)
- an environmental protection licence from NRETA under the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998* (NT)
- a development consent authority from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) under the *Planning Act 1999* (NT)
- a pipeline licence from the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1981* (NT)
- a pipeline licence from the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines under the *Energy Pipelines Act 1982* (NT).

8.1.2 Commonwealth legislative requirements

Onshore components of the Project will require approval by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts via a referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwlth), because of the potential impacts on matters of national environmental significance.

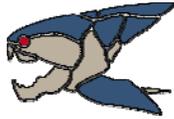
8.2 OFFSHORE COMPONENTS

The Ichthys Field lies in Commonwealth waters but is seaward of Western Australia's coastal waters. The reservoirs lie in exploration permit area WA-285-P and are administered for most matters on behalf of the Commonwealth Government by the Commonwealth Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (DRET) and by Western Australia's Department of Industry and Resources as DRET's "Designated Authority".

8.2.1 Commonwealth legislative requirements

As the pipeline traverses Commonwealth waters, the following approval requirements also apply to the Project:

- Two pipeline licences may need to be issued under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967* (Cwlth):

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- a Commonwealth pipeline licence issued by Western Australia’s Department of Industry and Resources for the section of pipeline running through Commonwealth waters adjacent to Western Australia
- a Commonwealth pipeline licence issued by the Northern Territory’s Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines for the second section running through Commonwealth waters adjacent to Northern Territory waters
- Approval must be granted under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwlth), via a referral from the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.
- A production licence must be obtained from the DRET under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967* (Cwlth).
- Environment plans prepared under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Management of Environment) Regulations 1999* (Cwlth).

(As noted below, a third pipeline licence will need to be issued by the Northern Territory Government for the pipeline section in the territorial waters within three nautical miles of the Northern Territory coast.)

8.2.2 Northern Territory legislative requirements

The Northern Territory’s Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines will act as the Designated Authority for any activity that occurs in waters adjacent to the Northern Territory. A pipeline licence will also be issued under the *Energy Pipelines Act 1981* (NT) for the section of the offshore pipeline that runs through Northern Territory waters (to three nautical miles offshore) up to the shore crossing.

8.2.3 Western Australian Government involvement

The Western Australian Government will have no specific legislative requirements. Its Department of Industry and Resources (DoIR) will continue to operate as the “Designated Authority” for the Commonwealth Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism in Commonwealth waters offshore Western Australia for the following:

- the issue of Commonwealth approval for the section of pipeline running through Commonwealth waters adjacent to Western Australia
- the administration of offshore titles, exploration permits, etc., on behalf of the Commonwealth Government
- the administration of the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) (Management of Environment) Regulations 1999* (Cwlth) within state-managed jurisdiction.

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9 REFERENCES

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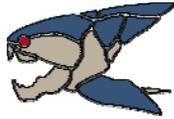
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