

20 October 2022

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Ms Kylie Fitzpatrick  
Manager Environmental Assessment  
Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security  
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File reference  
36:DITT2022/00015

Via email: [eia.ntepa@nt.gov.au](mailto:eia.ntepa@nt.gov.au)

Dear Ms Fitzpatrick

**Re: Invite to comment – INPEX Operations – Maintenance Dredging Program 2023-2027**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on INPEX Operation's referral to the NT EPA for a standard assessment to undertake maintenance dredging activities within the existing dredged footprint in Darwin Harbour in the next five-years.

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade has reviewed the proposal, and comments are provided at Attachment A.

If you require any further information please contact Mairi Walsh, Manager Resource Regulatory Reform at [StrategyPolicyCoordination.DITT@nt.gov.au](mailto:StrategyPolicyCoordination.DITT@nt.gov.au) or on 8999 7020.

Yours sincerely



BRETT EASTON  
Director, Resource Policy and Reform

## Submission on Referral

### INPEX Operations Australia Pty Ltd – Ichthys LNG Maintenance Dredging Program 2023-2027

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This submission is made under regulation 53 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020

**Government authority:** Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (DITT)

**Summary:** Divisions within DITT provide the following advice:

- **Energy Titles** advise that the dredge spoil disposal area lies within an application for an Exploration Permit (EP214) for petroleum. Contact details for the applicant are available on request. The dredge area itself is located within Reserved Blocks (RB) 51 and RB225. A reserved block prevents the exploration, or production of petroleum within the area. There are no geothermal interests located over the relevant areas.
- **Petroleum Operations** advise that the INPEX GEP pipeline and the Bayu Undan pipeline are located a safe distance away from both the proposed dredging area (>5km) and the proposed dredge spoil disposal area (>14km). They further advise that there may be potential interaction between Inpex and Santos with respect to the maintenance dredging proposed in this referral and the Santos pipeline duplication project. Both Inpex and Santos are in contact with DITT and each other with respect to possible interactions with the projects; DITT recommends that close coordination should be maintained for simultaneous activities within Darwin Harbour.
- **Fisheries** advise that the information provided in the proposal is comprehensive and note that further engagement and communication is proposed in the event of future dredging activities.