

Submission on the referral

INPEX Operations Australia Pty Ltd – Ichthys Carbon Capture and Storage Project

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

Government authority: NT Health – Medical Entomology section

Summary: There is no requirement for further biting insect information, with high to very high biting insect abundance well documented from the area. There is an existing Biting Insect Management Plan that the project should follow, particularly with regards to personal protection from biting insects, and minimising the creation of new mosquito breeding sites. The Blaydin Village is also subject to high biting insect populations and requires management to reduce the impact of biting insects on workers.

Section of Referral	Theme or issue	Comment
Main report – section 7.10	Human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no requirement for further biting insect trapping at the Blaydin Point site. Previous information on biting midge abundance is still relevant, with very high pest biting midge abundance affecting the project area. Mosquito populations may have changed due to stormwater discharge and mangrove reclaiming, particularly on the western side of the site, and there is also the potential for mosquito breeding in the built environment. In general, moderate to high seasonal mosquito problems are likely to affect the project area. • Construction activities, particularly near the landward mangrove margin, have the potential to create new mosquito breeding sites. Mosquitoes could also breed in bunded areas, small containers and other construction material that ponds water. • The existing Biting Insect Management Plan for the Ichthys LNG development outlines personal protection options to reduce mosquito and biting midge bites, and provides measures to prevent the creation of new mosquito breeding sites. The BIMP is applicable to the new development. The Biting Insect Management plan can be found on the Inpex website ichthys-onshore-lng-facilities-operations-biting-insect-management-plan.pdf • The Blaydin Village workers accommodation site is also subject to seasonally high biting insect problems, and should be managed to reduce the impact of biting insects on workers. Biting insect control measures should be implemented, such as the use of residual surface insecticides to control adult biting insects, and the appropriate management of effluent discharge.