

## Dewhurst Gas Exploration Pilot Expansion

### Annual Review

For period 18 July 2014 to 31 December 2014

Submitted by Santos NSW (Eastern) Pty Ltd as CSG Operator

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## Table of Contents

Declaration .....	3
1. Introduction .....	4
2. Description of Development.....	5
2.1 Dewhurst 13-18H.....	5
2.2 Dewhurst 26-31 .....	6
3. Review of monitoring results and complaints .....	6
4. Non Compliances .....	7
5. Trends .....	8
6. Discrepancies between predicted and actual impacts of the development .....	8
7. Improvements.....	8


## List of Figures

Figure 1: Location of Dewhurst 13-18H Pilot.....	4
Figure 2: Location of Dewhurst 26-31 Pilot .....	5

**Declaration**

Santos NSW (Eastern) Pty Ltd declares the information contained within this document has been prepared and collated from all relevant information and is, to the best of our knowledge neither false nor misleading.

Submitted by: David Bailey, ENSW Manager Operations



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Signature

29-4-2015.

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Date

## 1. Introduction

A Development Consent (DC) was issued by the Planning Assessment Commission on 18 July 2014 for the Dewhurst 13-18H Extension and the Dewhurst 30 and 31 Extension.

The development includes the operation of the Dewhurst 13-18H Pilot and the Dewhurst 26-29 Pilot, including the Dewhurst 13-18H Extension and Dewhurst 30 and 31 Extension.

The Dewhurst 13-18H Extension involves the drilling and operation of an additional two horizontal wells at each of Dewhurst 16H, Dewhurst 17H and Dewhurst 18H pilot wells.

The Dewhurst 30 and 31 Extension involves the drilling and operation of two additional wells at the development, namely Dewhurst 30 and Dewhurst 31.

### Location of land referred

The pilots area within project area south of Narrabri within the Pilliga East State Forests (Figures 1 & 2).

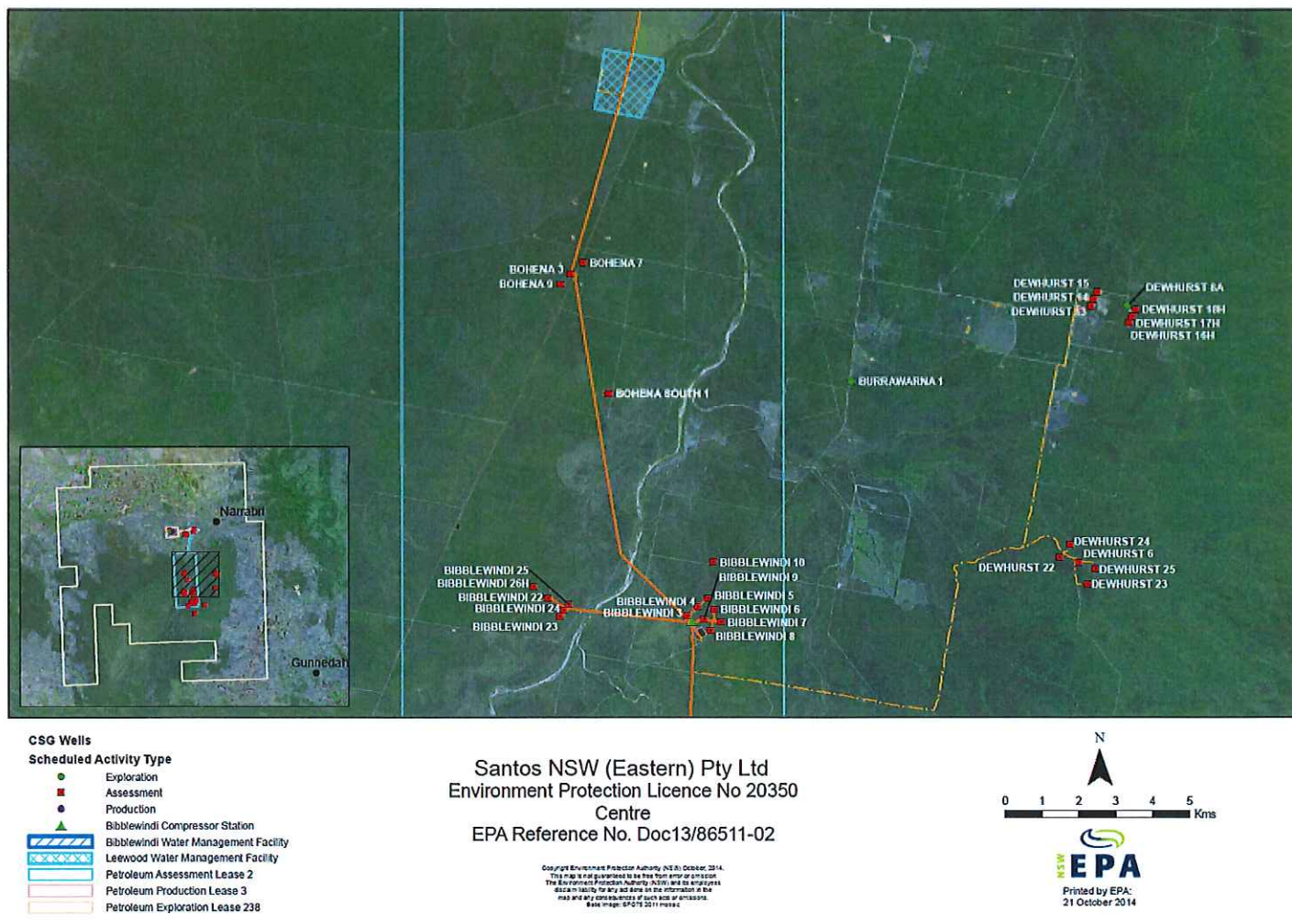


Figure 1: Location Map showing Dewhurst 13-18H Pilot



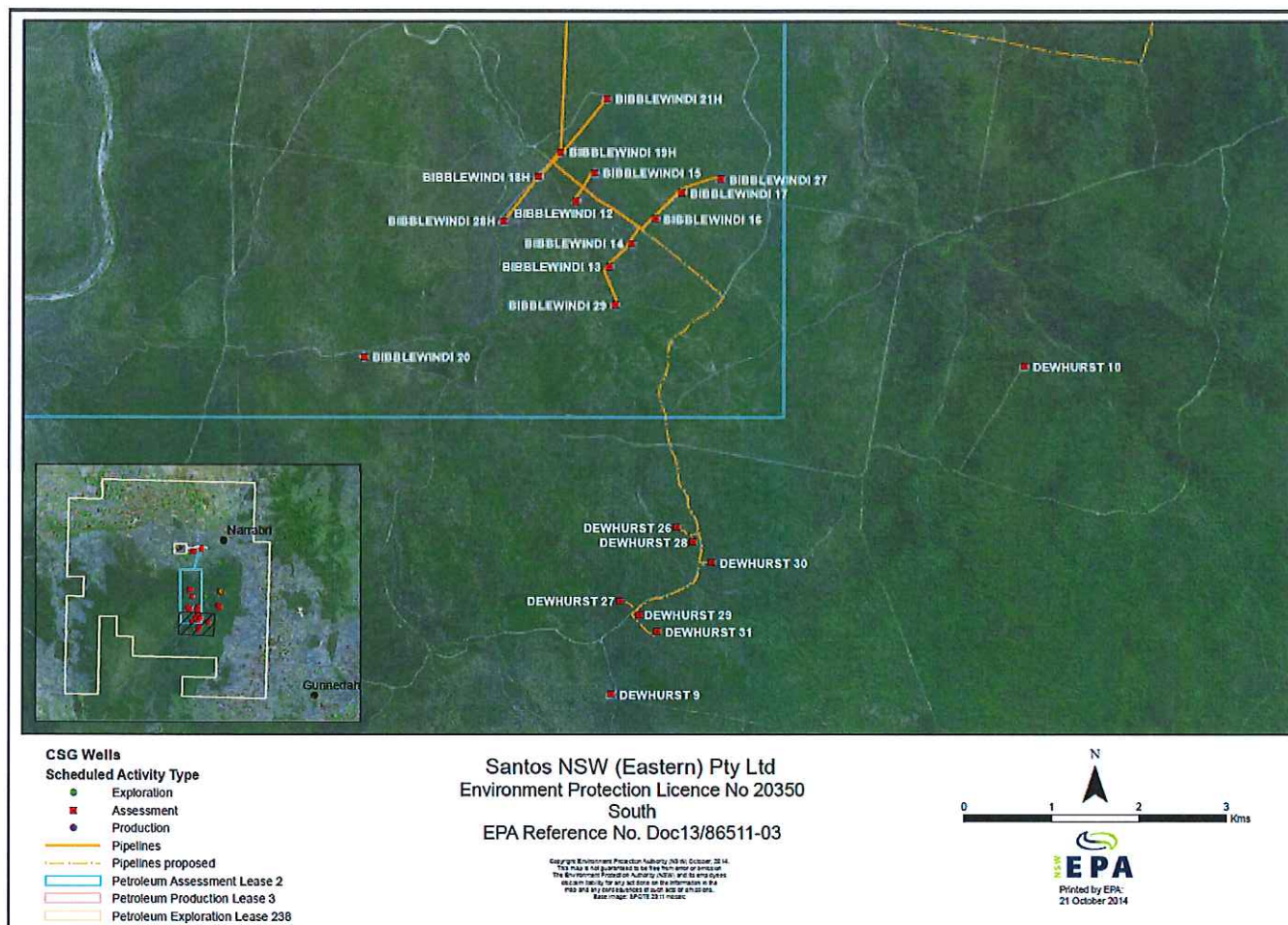


Figure 2: Location of Dewhurst 26-31 Pilot

## 2. Description of Development

Describe the development (including any rehabilitation) that was carried out in the past calendar year, and the development that is proposed to be carried out in the next year.

### 2.1 Dewhurst 13-18H

None of these wells were operated or drilled during the reporting period. No lease preparation was undertaken. No rehabilitation has been undertaken.

## 2.2 Dewhurst 26-31

The previously drilled Dewhurst 26-29 pilot wells were not operational during the reporting period. These wells were approved under a Review of Environmental Factors and were drilled between February and May 2014. During the reporting period, some pre-commissioning works were undertaken.

The leases for Dewhurst 30 and Dewhurst 31 were prepared during the reporting period. Works commenced on 4 November 2014 and were completed that month. The wells were not drilled.

The lease preparation at Dewhurst 30 & 31 included the clearing of vegetation under the supervision of an ecologist. The lease preparation at each site also included construction of:

- a site access track;
- a hard stand area for the drilling rig;
- a cuttings pit for drill cuttings;
- installation of a conductor and cellar in preparation for drilling;
- sedimentation basin in accordance with the Managing Urban stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom2004) (the Blue Book) standards;
- topsoil stockpile;
- mulch stockpile; and
- boundary fencing.

Felled timber (other than habitat trees and those identified by Forest Corporation NSW) were mulched for use in future rehabilitation works.

At the completion of construction, the exposed earth was sprayed with a polymer to minimise erosion and sediment transfer. This effectively seals the surface and is the top of the hierarchy of controls for erosion and sediment control.

No rehabilitation was undertaken during the reporting period.

## 3. Review of monitoring results and complaints

*Include a comprehensive review of the monitoring results and complaints records of the development over the past calendar year, which includes a comparison of the results against the:*

- i. Relevant statutory requirements, limits or performance measures/criteria;*
- ii. Requirements of any plan or program required under this consent;*
- iii. Monitoring results of previous years; and*
- iv. Relevant predictions in the EIS.*

No complaints were received for either development during the reporting period.

The development at Dewhurst 30 & 31 commenced on 4 November 2014 after developing and receiving approvals for the



- a) Biodiversity Management Plan;
- b) Revised Rehabilitation Management Plan; and
- c) Environmental Management Strategy and Plan (rolled up into the Project Environmental Management Plan or PEMP)

The approved PEMP outlines the actions to be undertaken in order to meet the requirements of the Development Consent. It also specifies the monitoring regime in order to monitor compliance against the standards in the DC.

## Noise

### Dewhurst 13-18H

Since no activities under this approval were conducted at Dewhurst 13-18H, there was no monitoring required.

### Dewhurst 30 & 31

The DC sets standards at any residence on privately-owned land. Given that the nearest residence is located over 10 km away from the two sites at Dewhurst 30 and 31, and that the activities were undertaken during daylight hours only, no monitoring was undertaken as it would not be possible for there to be a noise impact from the development.

## Air Quality Criteria

### Dewhurst 13-18H

Since no activities under this approval were conducted at Dewhurst 13-18H, there was no monitoring required.

### Dewhurst 30 & 31

The DC sets standards for total suspended particulate matter, particulate matter for less than 10 microns (PM<sub>10</sub>), and deposited dust over an annual averaging period. No comment is made on these in this report, as the activity has not gathered data over a 12 month period.

The DC also sets a standard for PM<sub>10</sub> over a 24 hour averaging period of 50µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The monitoring results from the monitoring location (less than 1km from the site) have shown results ranging from 9.1 to 13µg/m<sup>3</sup>. On this basis, any residence on privately owned land (which is greater than 10km away) would not be impacted by the development.

The monitoring equipment is hired from an external source. The initial equipment which arrived was not in sound working order and was returned to the supplier. Consequently the first data obtained to monitor for air quality was collected on 28 November 2014.

In order to minimise release of dust to the atmosphere, Santos engaged water tankers to water access tracks and roads during the site construction works. Felled trees were also sprayed with water during the mulching process to minimise air borne contaminants. Strict site supervision was undertaken to ensure all reasonable and feasible avoidance measures were employed to meet the dust criteria.

## 4. Non Compliances

*Identify any non compliance over the past calendar year, and describe what actions were (or are being taken) to ensure compliance.*

Dewhurst 13-18H

No activities under this approval were conducted at Dewhurst 13-18H. No non compliances were detected.

Dewhurst 30 &31

No non compliances were detected during the reporting period.

Santos has a compliance tracking system to monitor all obligations relating to a development. A compliance spreadsheet was developed which separated the obligations into the relevant phases (pre-construction, construction, drilling, operational, rehabilitation onwards.) For the reporting period, only the pre-construction and construction phases are applicable.

Before works commenced, a check was made to ensure all pre-construction obligations were met. Once it was determined that all were satisfied, works were able to commence. During the construction period, checks were made to ensure Santos staff and contractors met compliance obligations.

## 5. Trends

*Identify any trends in the monitoring data over the life of the development*

There has been insufficient time from commencement to determine any trends.

## 6. Discrepancies between predicted and actual impacts of the development

*Identify any discrepancies between the predicted and actual impacts of the development, and analyse the potential cause of any significant discrepancies*

No discrepancies have been identified between the predicted and actual impacts of the development.

## 7. Improvements

*Describe what measures will be implemented over the current calendar year to improve the environmental performance of the development*

No improvement measures have been identified, as the activities already undertaken will not be repeated.