

Summary of public comment feedback

Pilot Energy is continuing to plan and prepare for the Eureka 3D Marine Seismic Survey in the North Perth Basin, with the objective to geophysically image the subsurface in order to identify commercially viable hydrocarbon reserves to help meet Australia's energy needs and enable the global energy transition.

The importance of the public comment period

Prior to the Eureka 3D MSS being approved by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environment Management Authority (NOPSEMA), Pilot Energy must demonstrate how the survey aligns with Australia's environmental regulations through the submission of an Environmental Plan (EP).

Once completed, the EP is open for Public Comment allowing community members to have a valuable opportunity to review the technical information and provide feedback. Community insight plays an important role in contributing to robust environmental management practices.

Eureka's Public Comment period received twenty five responses across a number of themes.

What we heard

30 days

(21st Feb - 22nd Mar 2024)

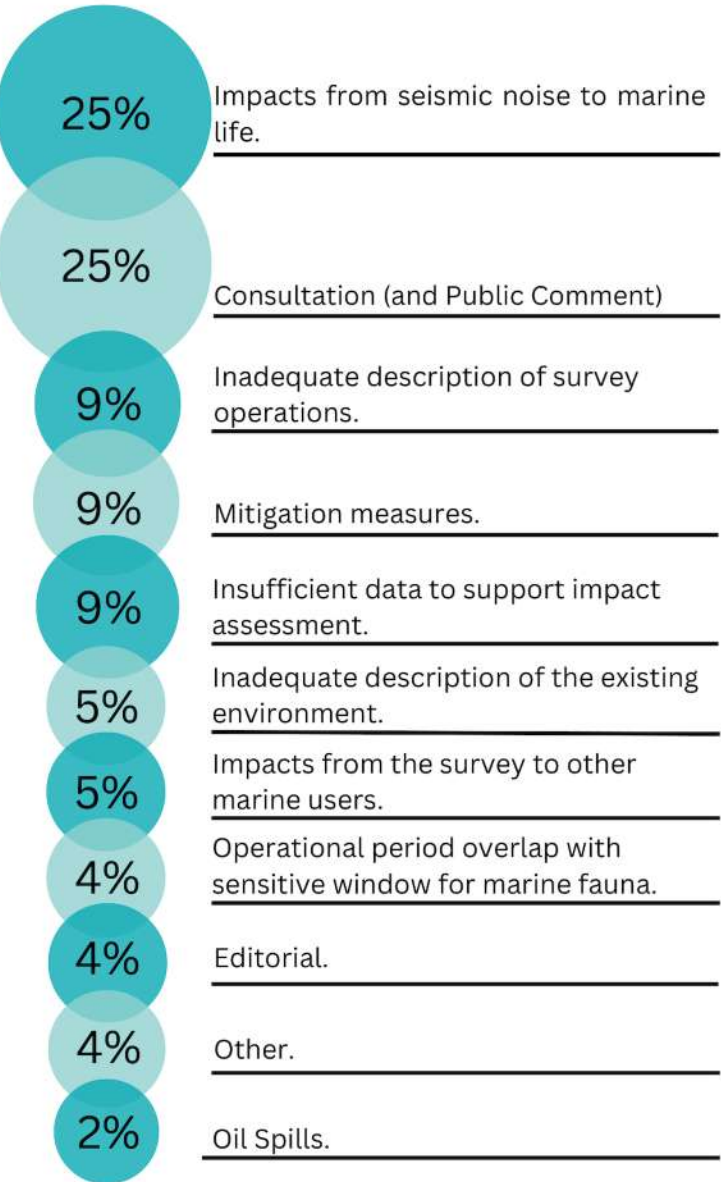
EP available for formal public comment

25

Public Comment submissions received via NOPSEMA



Key themes about the concerns that we heard through Public Comment



As a result of the feedback through Public Comment, several changes have been made to the EP.

These include:

- An additional control measure put in place to limit seismic survey operations proximal to the reef structures. The seismic vessel will not pass within 200 metres of the reef exclusion zones with an active source more than once in a 24hr period. This will reduce cumulative sound exposure and potential impacts to reef associated biota such as fish and rock lobster.
- The EP has been expanded to include impact assessment to Australian Sea Lions from prey displacement.
- Additional discussion was added on spatio-temporal overlap of the survey with Western Rock Lobster life cycle stages.
- Additional information added to Section 3 of the EP explaining the activity within the nodal area, where the Ocean Bottom Nodes (OBNs) will be used, and its comparative operations to streamer acquisition in deeper waters.
- Corrections to language used which previously caused uncertainty regarding the project’s commitment to use OBNs in the shallow waters of the survey area. The Environmental Plan now commits to the use of OBN.
- Corrections to errors in the document that were highlighted during the Public Comment process.

What’s next?

Pilot Energy has prepared a report responding to the public comments received (titleholder’s report), updated the EP and has now been resubmitted to NOPSEMA.

The titleholder’s report and the revised EP will soon be published by NOPSEMA after undergoing a completeness check that all necessary information has been received. The resubmitted EP will then undergo a comprehensive assessment process to determine if it meets the necessary regulatory standards.

During this time Pilot Energy will continue to inform all relevant persons and organisations, on the progress of the EP, and the Eureka 3D MSS with any new information which may be of relevance to the activity via email, newsletter or webinar.

