



Referral of a Proposal by the Proponent to the Environmental Protection Authority under Section 38(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

PURPOSE OF THIS FORM

Section 38(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act) provides that where a development proposal is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, a proponent may refer the proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for a decision on whether or not it requires assessment under the EP Act. This form sets out the information requirements for the referral of a proposal by a proponent.

Proponents are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the EPA's General Guide on Referral of Proposals [see Environmental Impact Assessment/Referral of Proposals and Schemes] before completing this form.

A referral under section 38(1) of the EP Act by a proponent to the EPA must be made on this form. A request to the EPA for a declaration under section 39B (derived proposal) must be made on this form. This form will be treated as a referral provided all information required by Part A has been included and all information requested by Part B has been provided to the extent that it is pertinent to the proposal being referred. Referral documents are to be submitted in two formats – hard copy and electronic copy. The electronic copy of the referral will be provided for public comment for a period of 7 days, prior to the EPA making its decision on whether or not to assess the proposal.

CHECKLIST

Before you submit this form, please check that you have:


Table with 3 columns: Description, Yes, No. Rows include: Completed all the questions in Part A (essential), Completed all applicable questions in Part B, Included Attachment 1 – location maps, Included Attachment 2 – additional document(s) the proponent wishes to provide (if applicable), Included Attachment 3 – confidential information (if applicable), Enclosed an electronic copy of all referral information, including spatial data and contextual mapping but excluding confidential information.

Following a review of the information presented in this form, please consider the following question (a response is optional).

Do you consider the proposal requires formal environmental impact assessment?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
If yes, what level of assessment?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment on Proponent Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Environmental Review	

PROPONENT DECLARATION (to be completed by the proponent)

I, Libby Howitt (*full name*) declare that I am authorised on behalf of Apache Energy Limited (being the person responsible for the proposal) to submit this form and further declare that the information contained in this form is true and not misleading.

Signature 	Name (print) Libby Howitt
Position Environmental Manager	Company Apache Energy Limited
Date 21/12/2012	

PART A - PROPONENT AND PROPOSAL INFORMATION

(All fields of Part A must be completed for this document to be treated as a referral)

1 PROPONENT AND PROPOSAL INFORMATION

1.1 Proponent

Name	Apache Northwest Pty Ltd
Joint Venture parties (if applicable)	Not applicable
Australian Company Number (if applicable)	009 140 854
Postal Address (where the proponent is a corporation or an association of persons, whether incorporated or not, the postal address is that of the principal place of business or of the principal office in the State)	PO Box 477 West Perth WA 6872
Key proponent contact for the proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• name• address• phone• email	Libby Howitt Lvl 9, 100 St Georges Tce Perth 08 6218 7181 Libby.howitt@apachecorp.com
Consultant for the proposal (if applicable): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• name• address• phone• email	N/A

1.2 Proposal

Title	Varanus Island Compression Project
Description	The project involves the installation of two Solar Mars 100 gas turbine compressors, Centaur 40 power generator, pipe rack, equipment room, as well as supporting infrastructure and services including accommodation camp upgrade, wharf upgrades, construction of a kitchen/mess cyclone refuge, upgrade of concrete batching plant and bulk earthworks. Further information is provided in section 2 of the referral document.
Extent (area) of proposed ground disturbance.	3.14 ha
Timeframe in which the activity or development is proposed to occur (including start and finish dates where applicable).	Approximately December 2012 to March 2015
Details of any staging of the proposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Phase 1: Earthworks and clearing• Phase 2: accommodation camp and wharf upgrades, and services• Phase 3: Brownfields tie-in works• Phase 4: installation and commissioning of compressors and

	equipment modules.
Is the proposal a strategic proposal?	No.
Is the proponent requesting a declaration that the proposal is a derived proposal? If so, provide the following information on the strategic assessment within which the referred proposal was identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • title of the strategic assessment; and • Ministerial Statement number. 	No.
Please indicate whether, and in what way, the proposal is related to other proposals in the region.	The proposal is not related to other proposals in the region.
Does the proponent own the land on which the proposal is to be established? If not, what other arrangements have been established to access the land?	No. Since 1986, Apache has a lease to operate oil and gas infrastructure on Varanus Island. The lease is currently being reviewed. Further details are described in section 1.1 of the referral document.
What is the current land use on the property, and the extent (area in hectares) of the property?	Varanus Island is vested as a nature conservation reserve (33902). The Apache lease is approximately 29.32 ha (or 34.5%) of Varanus Island. Further details are provided in section 1 of the referral document.

1.3 Location

Name of the Shire in which the proposal is located.	Shire of Ashburton
For urban areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • street address; • lot number; • suburb; and • nearest road intersection. 	N/A
For remote localities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nearest town; and • distance and direction from that town to the proposal site. 	Dampier, approximately 100 km to the east of Varanus Island
Electronic copy of spatial data - GIS or CAD, georeferenced and conforming to the following parameters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS: polygons representing all activities and named; • CAD: simple closed polygons representing all activities and named; • datum: GDA94; • projection: Geographic (latitude/longitude) or Map Grid of Australia (MGA); • format: Arcview shapefile, Arcinfo coverages, Microstation or AutoCAD. 	Enclosed.

1.4 Confidential Information

Does the proponent wish to request the EPA to allow any part of the referral information to be treated as confidential?	No
If yes, is confidential information attached as a separate document in hard copy?	N/A

1.5 Government Approvals

Is rezoning of any land required before the proposal can be implemented? If yes, please provide details.	No		
Is approval required from any Commonwealth or State Government agency or Local Authority for any part of the proposal? If yes, please complete the table below.	Yes		
Agency/Authority	Approval required	Application lodged Yes / No	Agency/Local Authority contact(s) for proposal
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, People and Community	Referral under the EPBC Act	Yes	

DMP	Approval of Construction Environment management Plan	No, will be lodged 21 December 2012	Laura McCarthy
DEC	Works Approval for VICP	NO, proposed lodgement in early 2013	Teresa Wilke

PART B - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MANAGEMENT

2. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Describe the impacts of the proposal on the following elements of the environment, by answering the questions contained in Sections 2.1-2.11:

- 2.1 flora and vegetation;
- 2.2 fauna;
- 2.3 rivers, creeks, wetlands and estuaries;
- 2.4 significant areas and/ or land features;
- 2.5 coastal zone areas;
- 2.6 marine areas and biota;
- 2.7 water supply and drainage catchments;
- 2.8 pollution;
- 2.9 greenhouse gas emissions;
- 2.10 contamination; and
- 2.11 social surroundings.

These features should be shown on the site plan, where appropriate.

For all information, please indicate:

- (a) the source of the information; and
- (b) the currency of the information.

2.1 Flora and Vegetation

2.1.1 Do you propose to clear any native flora and vegetation as a part of this proposal?

[A proposal to clear native vegetation may require a clearing permit under Part V of the EP Act (Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004)]. Please contact the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) for more information.

- (please tick) Yes **If yes**, complete the rest of this section.
 No **If no**, go to the next section

2.1.2 How much vegetation are you proposing to clear (in hectares)?

Approximately 0.75 ha (or approximately 9.6% of remaining vegetation within the Apache lease).

2.1.3 Have you submitted an application to clear native vegetation to the DEC (unless you are exempt from such a requirement)?

- Yes No **If yes**, on what date and to which office was the application submitted of the DEC?

2.1.4 Are you aware of any recent flora surveys carried out over the area to be disturbed by this proposal?

Yes No

If yes, please attach a copy of any related survey reports and provide the date and name of persons / companies involved in the survey(s).

If no, please do not arrange to have any biological surveys conducted prior to consulting with the DEC.

Provided in enclosed CD-ROM.

2.1.5 Has a search of DEC records for known occurrences of rare or priority flora or threatened ecological communities been conducted for the site?

Yes No

If you are proposing to clear native vegetation for any part of your proposal, a search of DEC records of known occurrences of rare or priority flora and threatened ecological communities will be required. Please contact DEC for more information.

2.1.6 Are there any known occurrences of rare or priority flora or threatened ecological communities on the site?

Yes No

If yes, please indicate which species or communities are involved and provide copies of any correspondence with DEC regarding these matters.

2.1.7 If located within the Perth Metropolitan Region, is the proposed development within or adjacent to a listed Bush Forever Site? (You will need to contact the Bush Forever Office, at the Department for Planning and Infrastructure)

Yes No

If yes, please indicate which Bush Forever Site is affected (site number and name of site where appropriate).

2.1.8 What is the condition of the vegetation at the site?

In general, vegetation condition on Varanus Island is considered to be good. Parts of the areas where vegetation will be cleared are previously disturbed areas.

2.2 Fauna

2.2.1 Do you expect that any fauna or fauna habitat will be impacted by the proposal?

(please tick) Yes

If yes, complete the rest of this section.

No

If no, go to the next section.

2.2.2 Describe the nature and extent of the expected impact.

The project will involve earthworks, particularly for the construction of the kitchen/mess cyclone refuge so that the adjacent topography can provide some shielding. Earthworks in the area may remove some reptile habitats.

However, the potential impact to reptiles is not considered to be significant as reptile habitats are present elsewhere and particularly outside of the Apache lease, and the areas to be cleared is relatively small (less than 0.5 ha).

2.2.3 Are you aware of any recent fauna surveys carried out over the area to be disturbed by this proposal?

Yes

No

If yes, please attach a copy of any related survey reports and provide the date and name of persons / companies involved in the survey(s).

If no, please do not arrange to have any biological surveys conducted prior to consulting with the DEC.

Provided in enclosed CD-ROM.

2.2.4 Has a search of DEC records for known occurrences of Specially Protected (threatened) fauna been conducted for the site?

Yes

No

(please tick)

2.2.5 Are there any known occurrences of Specially Protected (threatened) fauna on the site?

Yes

No

If yes, please indicate which species or communities are involved and provide copies of any correspondence with DEC regarding these matters.

2.3 Rivers, Creeks, Wetlands and Estuaries

2.3.1 Will the development occur within 200 metres of a river, creek, wetland or estuary?

(please tick)

Yes

If yes, complete the rest of this section.

No

If no, go to the next section.

2.3.2 Will the development result in the clearing of vegetation within the 200 metre zone?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.3.3 Will the development result in the filling or excavation of a river, creek, wetland or estuary?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.3.4 Will the development result in the impoundment of a river, creek, wetland or estuary?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.3.5 Will the development result in draining to a river, creek, wetland or estuary?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.3.6 Are you aware if the proposal will impact on a river, creek, wetland or estuary (or its buffer) within one of the following categories? (please tick)

Conservation Category Wetland	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Environmental Protection (South West Agricultural Zone Wetlands) Policy 1998	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Perth's Bush Forever site	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Environmental Protection (Swan & Canning Rivers) Policy 1998	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
The management area as defined in s4(1) of the <i>Swan River Trust Act 1988</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Which is subject to an international agreement, because of the importance of the wetland for waterbirds and waterbird habitats (e.g. Ramsar, JAMBA, CAMBA)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure

2.4 Significant Areas and/ or Land Features

2.4.1 Is the proposed development located within or adjacent to an existing or proposed National Park or Nature Reserve?

Yes No **If yes**, please provide details.

[Refer to section 1.2 of this form.](#)

2.4.2 Are you aware of any Environmentally Sensitive Areas (as declared by the Minister under section 51B of the EP Act) that will be impacted by the proposed development?

Yes No **If yes**, please provide details.

2.4.3 Are you aware of any significant natural land features (e.g. caves, ranges etc) that will be impacted by the proposed development?

Yes No **If yes**, please provide details.

2.5 Coastal Zone Areas (Coastal Dunes and Beaches)

2.5.1 Will the development occur within 300metres of a coastal area?

(please tick) Yes **If yes**, complete the rest of this section.
 No **If no**, go to the next section.

2.5.2 What is the expected setback of the development from the high tide level and from the primary dune?

Each of the project areas have a setback of around or at least 50 m from the high tide level, except for the wharf upgrades.

2.5.3 Will the development impact on coastal areas with significant landforms including beach ridge plain, cusped headland, coastal dunes or karst?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.5.4 Is the development likely to impact on mangroves?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.6 Marine Areas and Biota

2.6.1 Is the development likely to impact on an area of sensitive benthic communities, such as seagrasses, coral reefs or mangroves?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.6.2 Is the development likely to impact on marine conservation reserves or areas recommended for reservation (as described in *A Representative Marine Reserve System for Western Australia*, CALM, 1994)?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact.

2.6.3 Is the development likely to impact on marine areas used extensively for recreation or for commercial fishing activities?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe the extent of the expected impact, and provide any written advice from relevant agencies (e.g. Fisheries WA).

2.7 Water Supply and Drainage Catchments

2.7.1 Are you in a proclaimed or proposed groundwater or surface water protection area?

(You may need to contact the Department of Water (DoW) for more information on the requirements for your location, including the requirement for licences for water abstraction. Also, refer to the DoW website)

Yes No **If yes**, please describe what category of area.

2.7.2 Are you in an existing or proposed Underground Water Supply and Pollution Control area?

(You may need to contact the DoW for more information on the requirements for your location, including the requirement for licences for water abstraction. Also, refer to the DoW website)

Yes No **If yes**, please describe what category of area.

2.7.3 Are you in a Public Drinking Water Supply Area (PDWSA)?

(You may need to contact the DoW for more information or refer to the DoW website. A proposal to clear vegetation within a PDWSA requires approval from DoW.)

Yes No **If yes**, please describe what category of area.

2.7.4 Is there sufficient water available for the proposal?

(Please consult with the DoW as to whether approvals are required to source water as you propose. Where necessary, please provide a letter of intent from the DoW)

Yes No (please tick)

2.7.5 Will the proposal require drainage of the land?

Yes No **If yes**, how is the site to be drained and will the drainage be connected to an existing Local Authority or Water Corporation drainage system? Please provide details.

2.7.6 Is there a water requirement for the construction and/ or operation of this proposal?

(please tick) Yes **If yes**, complete the rest of this section.
 No **If no**, go to the next section.

2.7.7 What is the water requirement for the construction and operation of this proposal, in kilolitres per year?

Approximately 13,000 kL of water is required for the project, particularly for moisture conditioning during earthworks. The water will also be used for dust suppression.

2.7.8 What is the proposed source of water for the proposal? (e.g. dam, bore, surface water etc.)

A temporary reverse-osmosis desalination unit will be hired to provide for the construction water needs.

2.8 Pollution

2.8.1 Is there likely to be any discharge of pollutants from this development, such as noise, vibration, gaseous emissions, dust, liquid effluent, solid waste or other pollutants?

(please tick) Yes **If yes**, complete the rest of this section.
 No **If no**, go to the next section.

2.8.2 Is the proposal a prescribed premise, under the Environmental Protection Regulations 1987?

(Refer to the EPA's *General Guide for Referral of Proposals to the EPA under section 38(1) of the EP Act 1986* for more information)

Yes No **If yes**, please describe what category of prescribed premise.

The new compressors relate to the existing oil and gas process facilities on Varanus Island, which is a category 10 (oil or gas production from wells) premises.

2.8.3 Will the proposal result in gaseous emissions to air?

Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe.

2.8.4 Have you done any modelling or analysis to demonstrate that air quality standards will be met, including consideration of cumulative impacts from other emission sources?

Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe.

Apache is preparing to conduct modelling for emissions from the project. Apache will meet with the DEC Air Quality Management Branch to discuss the expected modelling outcomes, for inclusion in the Works Approval application.

2.8.5 Will the proposal result in liquid effluent discharge?

Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe the nature, concentrations and receiving environment.

2.8.6 If there is likely to be discharges to a watercourse or marine environment, has any analysis been done to demonstrate that the State Water Quality Management Strategy or other appropriate standards will be able to be met?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

Reject water and brine from the temporary desalination unit for project water needs will either be discharged through existing down hole wells, or will be discharged at the existing treated sewerage discharge point. No modelling is considered required for this purpose.

2.8.7 Will the proposal produce or result in solid wastes?

Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe the nature, concentrations and disposal location/ method.

Excess earth material from the project will be stockpiled at the existing stockpile area east of the Harriet JV facilities.

Project wastes include quarantine packaging and materials including steel brackets etc. These will be disposed of on the WA mainland at an approved landfill.

General wastes from the workforce will be managed as part of the existing Apache site licence.

Reject water and brine from the temporary desalination unit will be discharged through existing brine discharge point on VI.

2.8.8 Will the proposal result in significant off-site noise emissions?

Yes No **If yes**, please briefly describe.

2.8.9 Will the development be subject to the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997?

Yes No **If yes**, has any analysis been carried out to demonstrate that the proposal will comply with the Regulations?

Please attach the analysis.

2.8.10 Does the proposal have the potential to generate off-site, air quality impacts, dust, odour or another pollutant that may affect the amenity of residents and other "sensitive premises" such as schools and hospitals (proposals in this category may include intensive agriculture, aquaculture, marinas, mines and quarries etc.)?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe and provide the distance to residences and other "sensitive premises".

2.8.11 If the proposal has a residential component or involves "sensitive premises", is it located near a land use that may discharge a pollutant?

Yes No Not Applicable

If yes, please describe and provide the distance to the potential pollution source

2.9 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

2.9.1 Is this proposal likely to result in substantial greenhouse gas emissions (greater than 100 000 tonnes per annum of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions)?

Yes No **If yes**, please provide an estimate of the annual gross emissions in absolute and in carbon dioxide equivalent figures.

2.9.2 Further, if yes, please describe proposed measures to minimise emissions, and any sink enhancement actions proposed to offset emissions.

2.10 Contamination

2.10.1 Has the property on which the proposal is to be located been used in the past for activities which may have caused soil or groundwater contamination?

Yes No Unsure **If yes**, please describe.

DEC classified the site as contaminated – remediation required, in 2009 (DEC 4274).

2.10.2 Has any assessment been done for soil or groundwater contamination on the site?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

A soil and groundwater investigation was undertaken in 2012. The site is also currently being audited by DEC accredited contaminated sites auditor.

2.10.3 Has the site been registered as a contaminated site under the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*? (on finalisation of the CS Regulations and proclamation of the CS Act)

Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

DEC classified the site as contaminated – remediation required, in 2009 (DEC 4274).

2.11 Social Surroundings

2.11.1 Is the proposal on a property which contains or is near a site of Aboriginal ethnographic or archaeological significance that may be disturbed?

Yes No Unsure **If yes**, please describe.

2.11.2 Is the proposal on a property which contains or is near a site of high public interest (e.g. a major recreation area or natural scenic feature)?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

2.11.3 Will the proposal result in or require substantial transport of goods, which may affect the amenity of the local area?

Yes No **If yes**, please describe.

3. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT

3.1 Principles of Environmental Protection

3.1.1 Have you considered how your project gives attention to the following Principles, as set out in section 4A of the EP Act? (For information on the Principles of Environmental Protection, please see EPA Position Statement No. 7, available on the EPA website)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. The precautionary principle. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. The principle of intergenerational equity. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. The principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. Principles relating to improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| 5. The principle of waste minimisation. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

3.1.2 Is the proposal consistent with the EPA's Environmental Protection Bulletins/Position Statements and Environmental Assessment Guidelines/Guidance Statements (available on the EPA website)?

Yes No

3.2 Consultation

3.2.1 Has public consultation taken place (such as with other government agencies, community groups or neighbours), or is it intended that consultation shall take place?

Yes No **If yes**, please list those consulted and attach comments or summarise response on a separate sheet.

Department of Mines and Petroleum: Vegetation clearing can occur under existing DMP clearing permits. No further concerns raised.

CEMP to be submitted prior to commencement of earthworks.

Apache: No further action regarding vegetation clearing.

Submit CEMP to DMP for review, prior to commencement of activity.

Department of Environment and Conservation: Apache should minimise the amount of clearing required.

Apache action: Apache has minimised clearing, and where possible utilised already cleared areas, or areas with known weed infestations. Apache has engaged Astron Environment to prepare a rehabilitation plan which includes a revegetation trial in the KMCR area using locally endemic species.

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, People and Community: the project should minimise potential impacts to the Wedge-tailed shearwater.

Apache action: Project has adjusted project footprint of KMCR to be further away from lease boundary and adjacent rookery area. Project has a preference to utilise rotary cutter, which was used on Barrow Island, as it has the lowest noise and vibration emissions when compared

with a D10 dozer, or drilling/blasting. Primary concern from noise and vibration modelling undertaken is vibration from drilling and blasting activity and potential impacts on nesting birds adjacent to the KMCR area. To avoid this impact, drilling and blasting activities will be undertaken outside of bird/turtle nesting period (May to August).