



Model Templates for Annual Title Assessment Reports

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to provide context for the model templates for submission of Annual Title Assessment Report (ATAR) for Exploration Permits, Retention Leases and Production Licences.

Designed with industry consultation

The design and implementation of the model ATAR templates underwent a formal industry consultation from 3 September to 2 October 2015.

NOPTA engaged with a peak industry body, Australian Government as well as providing the opportunity for direct feedback from companies and face-to-face meetings where requested. Feedback was mostly highly positive and supportive of the initiative.

The Office of Best Practice Regulation confirmed that a Regulatory Impact Statement for these model voluntary ATAR templates were not required (OBPR reference ID 19678).

Adoption of the model templates will be voluntary, however NOPTA is seeking to receive certain information in particular formats through the use of tables to enable ease of use and the introduction of spreadsheets templates for resource and production reporting

The ATAR templates, a Fact Sheet and resource reporting tables in Excel formats are available on the NOPTA website at www.nopta.gov.au/forms/templates.html.

Why have ATAR model templates?

ATAR model templates clarify expectations and ensure consistency of reporting for Exploration Permit, Retention Lease and Production Licence ATARs.

The model templates are a guide for industry to ensure key data for a compliant ATAR is submitted. They have been designed to be

practical, achievable and clear on NOPTA's expectations and regulatory requirements.

ATARs are submitted to NOPTA under Part 3 of the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Resource Management and Administration) Regulations 2011* (the Regulations).

Prior to the introduction of model ATAR templates, most ATARs submitted to NOPTA varied significantly in terms of their quality and content.

NOPTA often sought additional information and/or clarification from these titleholders resulting in additional regulatory burden for those titleholders.

NOPTA also observed some title holders providing excess amounts of information beyond the requirements of the Regulations.

What areas is NOPTA focussing on?

The templates provide clarity to reporting under Part 3 of the Regulations. Key areas that NOPTA seeks improvement to includes:

- improved details and greater consistency in the reporting of work program activities undertaken
- greater detail in relation to future work to be undertaken
- increased consistency in the information reported in relation to prospects
- consistent resource reporting – four resource reporting tables are available in an Excel format separate to the templates
- for Retention Leases, how an activity has contributed to reducing uncertainty and informed potential commerciality.

How does NOPTA use ATARs?

ATARs are a primary source of information on the activities undertaken by titleholders and detail progress against title conditions and work programs. NOPTA uses ATARs in assessing the compliance of titleholders with the Act, Regulations and title conditions.



Australian Government

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Titles Administrator

NOPTA templates

NOPTA also uses ATAR information in preparing advice to the Joint Authorities, the Responsible Commonwealth Minister and the Offshore Resources Branch in the Department of Innovation, Industry and Science.

A key outcome sought in the implementation ATAR templates is consistent information to enable better comparisons and analysis. This will also contribute toward NOPTA's Resource Management responsibilities.

Consistent resource reporting

The ATAR model templates include the reporting of resources in standardised tables consistent with the Society of Petroleum Engineers Petroleum Resource Management System (SPE-PRMS).

This initiative is a part of a broader objective by NOPTA to standardise units of measure and nomenclature for all title and data resource reporting.

The ATAR model template resource tables will improve the consistency of resource reporting, provide clarity to titleholders on how resource and reserves should be reported and help to reduce potential errors in the compilation and interpretation of these data by NOPTA.

The resource tables include the most relevant resource characteristics. Petroleum fluids associated with reserves and contingent resources are reported with respect to the defined reference point (see SPE PRMS (2007) for more information). In some cases parameters will not be entered in parts of the resource tables due to the characteristics (e.g., no actual or planned natural gas liquids sales) or state of knowledge of the resource.

NOPTA has created an excel spreadsheet for the reporting of resource estimates as part of the development of the model ATARS. The spreadsheet is available at www.nopta.gov.au/forms/templates.html and should be completed and submitted as part of the ATAR.

Attachments

- Exploration Permit ATAR template
- Retention Lease ATAR template
- Production Licence ATAR template
- Field and Multipool Resource Reporting Table
- Prospective Resource Reporting Table
- Production Licence Forecast Table
- Production Licence Reporting Table

More information

For further information please contact reporting@nopta.gov.au.

More information on SPE PRMS can be found at www.spe.org/industry/reserves.php.