

2024»»25 Annual Report of Activities





Acknowledgement of Country

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this Nation and their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to the lands, waters, seas, skies, and communities.

We Acknowledge First Nations peoples as the Traditional Custodians and Lore Keepers of the oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past and present. We extend that respect to all First Nations peoples.

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Welcome

This is the 2024-25 Annual Report of Activities for the financial year ending 30 June 2025. This report outlines the achievements and performance of the National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator (NOPTA or Titles Administrator) and the Offshore Infrastructure Registrar (the Registrar). These dual statutory roles are administered by the NOPTA Branch within the Department of Industry, Science and Resources, and are integral to supporting a strong offshore resources sector.

This report provides a detailed account of our activities and financials, and reaffirms our commitment to sound governance, continuous improvement, and the stewardship of Australia's offshore energy resources.

Australia's offshore energy landscape continues to evolve. In 2024-25, we saw continued progress in the emerging offshore electricity and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) sectors. Thirteen feasibility licences have been granted across four declared zones, with ten currently active near major demand centres. These licences represent a combined potential generation capacity of 25 gigawatts.

Ten GHG Assessment Permits were issued to support exploration of geological formations suitable for carbon sequestration, contributing to national efforts to reduce emissions at scale.

The offshore petroleum sector has also continued to consolidate, with titleholders rationalising portfolios, securing long-term access to infrastructure, and exploring opportunities to extend asset life. Two petroleum production licences were granted in the Otway Basin, supporting domestic gas supply for the East coast market.

Despite the challenges of recent years, the branch has consistently delivered against its performance targets. In 2024-25, we met our published timeframes 99 per cent of the time – our highest achievement to date.

The branch is committed to ensuring offshore energy resources are managed responsibly and work for the benefit of all Australians.

We thank our stakeholders for their continued support, engagement and collaboration.

About us

<p>Established</p>	<p>On 1 January 2012, the General Manager of the branch was appointed the Titles Administrator under the <i>Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006</i> (OPGGGS Act) by the then Secretary of the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education. The Titles Administrator is assisted by staff within the NOPTA branch.</p> <p>On 16 December 2022, the General Manager of the NOPTA branch was appointed as the Registrar under the <i>Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021</i> (OEI Act) by the Secretary of the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEE). The Registrar is assisted by staff within the NOPTA branch.</p>		
<p>Industries Administered</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petroleum • Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Storage • Offshore Electricity. 		
<p>Values</p>	<p>We are:</p> <p>innovative, enthusiastic and endeavour to improve the way we work and are flexible, responsive and embrace change.</p>	<p>Our people:</p> <p>act with honesty and integrity and are inclusive and respect the views of others.</p>	<p>APS values are:</p> <p>impartial, committed to service, accountable, respectful, ethical, and stewardship.</p>
<p>Purpose</p>	<p>To advise government and decision makers on the grant and administration of titles and licences, monitor compliance with title and licence conditions, data management and resource stewardship.</p>		

Functions

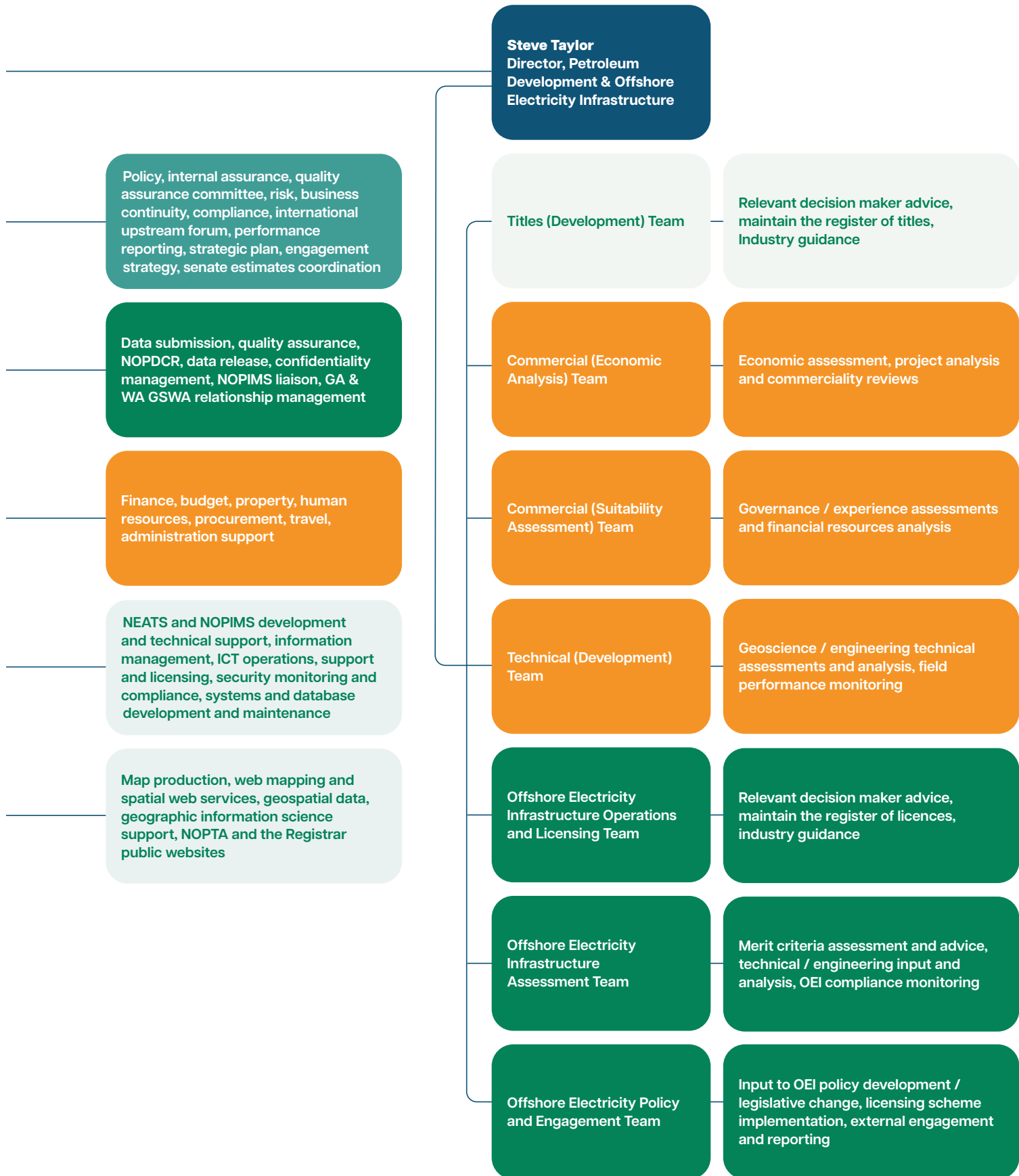
- Provide information, assessments, analysis, reports, advice and recommendations to the relevant decision makers under the OPGGS Act and OEI Act
- Facilitate life of title/licence administration, including compliance monitoring
- Engage with titleholders/licence holders on their performance in meeting regulatory obligations and expectations
- Manage the submission and release of data
- Act as decision maker for the approval and registration of a change in control of a company
- Act as decision maker for transfers and dealings, and for granting of short-term petroleum titles and GHG titles
- Maintain the public registers of offshore petroleum titles, GHG titles and offshore electricity licences
- Cooperate with the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) and the Offshore Infrastructure Regulator (OIR) on matters relating to the administration and enforcement of the OPGGS Act, OEI Act and associated regulations

Principles of Regulator Best Practice

- Continuous improvement and building trust
- Risk based and data driven
- Collaboration and engagement

Organisational structure





Our people

As of 30 June 2025, the branch had 136 total staff and contractors. Our workforce is based across our Perth and Melbourne offices, with remote workers in Queensland, New South Wales, the ACT, Victoria and South Australia. During 2024-2025, the

branch recruited personnel for our Offshore Electricity Infrastructure team to bolster our skills, capability and capacity, along with additional staff in the geoscience, engineering and legislative and regulatory support areas.

More than

1000

Total combined years in the Australian Public Service

554

Total combined years at NOPTA

300+

Total combined industry years' experience

 **136**

Total staff and contractor headcount

86%

Staff

14%

Contractors

 **87%**

Full-time

 **13%**

Part-time

12

Males

9

Females

Gender balance in leadership roles (includes managers and senior managers)

40%

Males

60%

Females

Workforce gender balance (inc. contractors)



Performance highlights

99%

met target application
assessment timeframes
(petroleum and GHG applications)

270

petroleum applications submitted

21

GHG applications submitted

12

OEI feasibility licence applications submitted

624TB

of data authorised for public release

More than

900

meetings held with stakeholders,
across petroleum, GHG and OEI



Activity highlights



Offshore Petroleum

5 petroleum exploration permits renewed

4 production licences under assessment

2 production licences granted



Offshore GHG

10 new GHG assessment permits granted

2 Declaration of Identified Storage Formation are currently under assessment

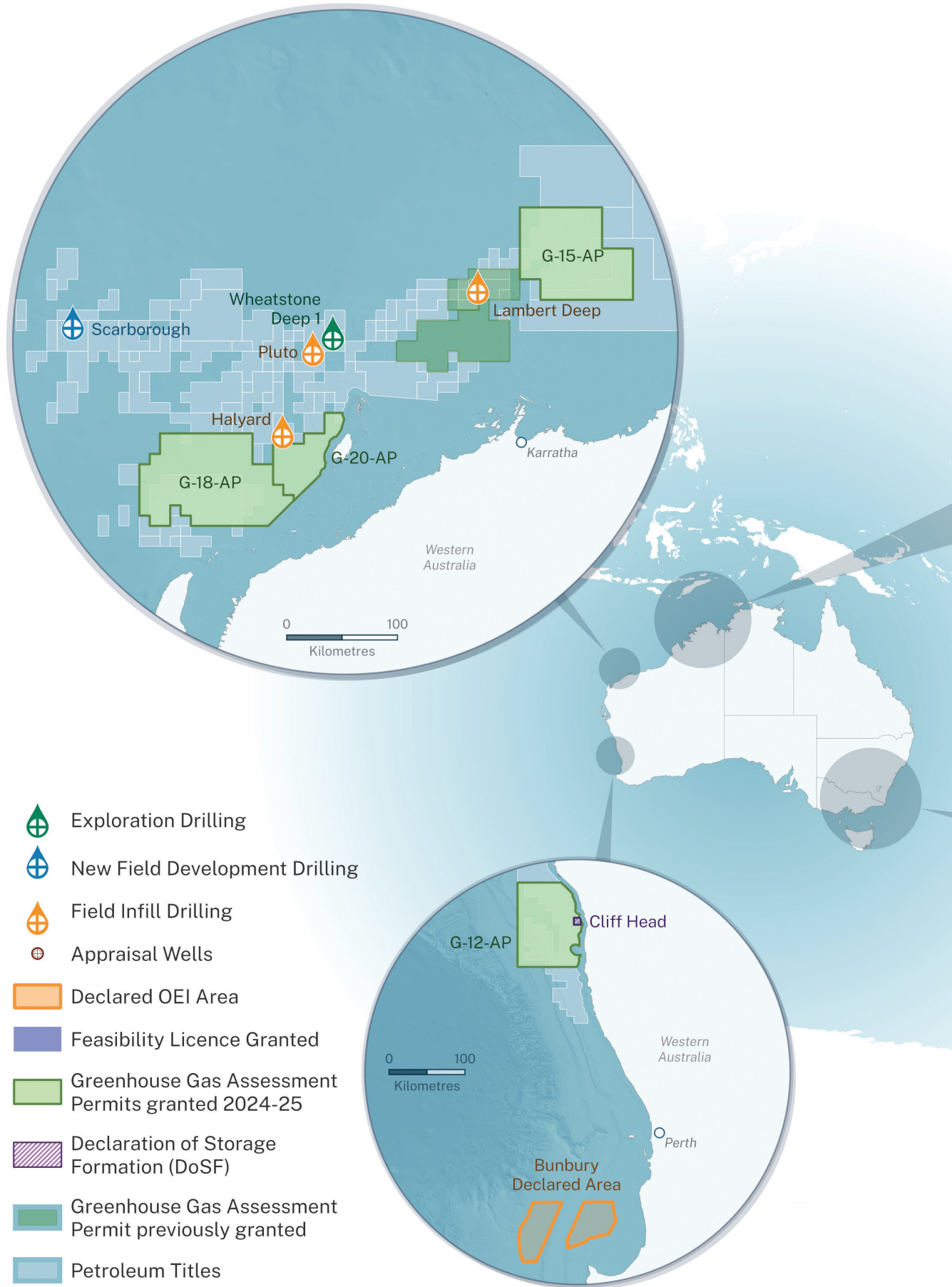


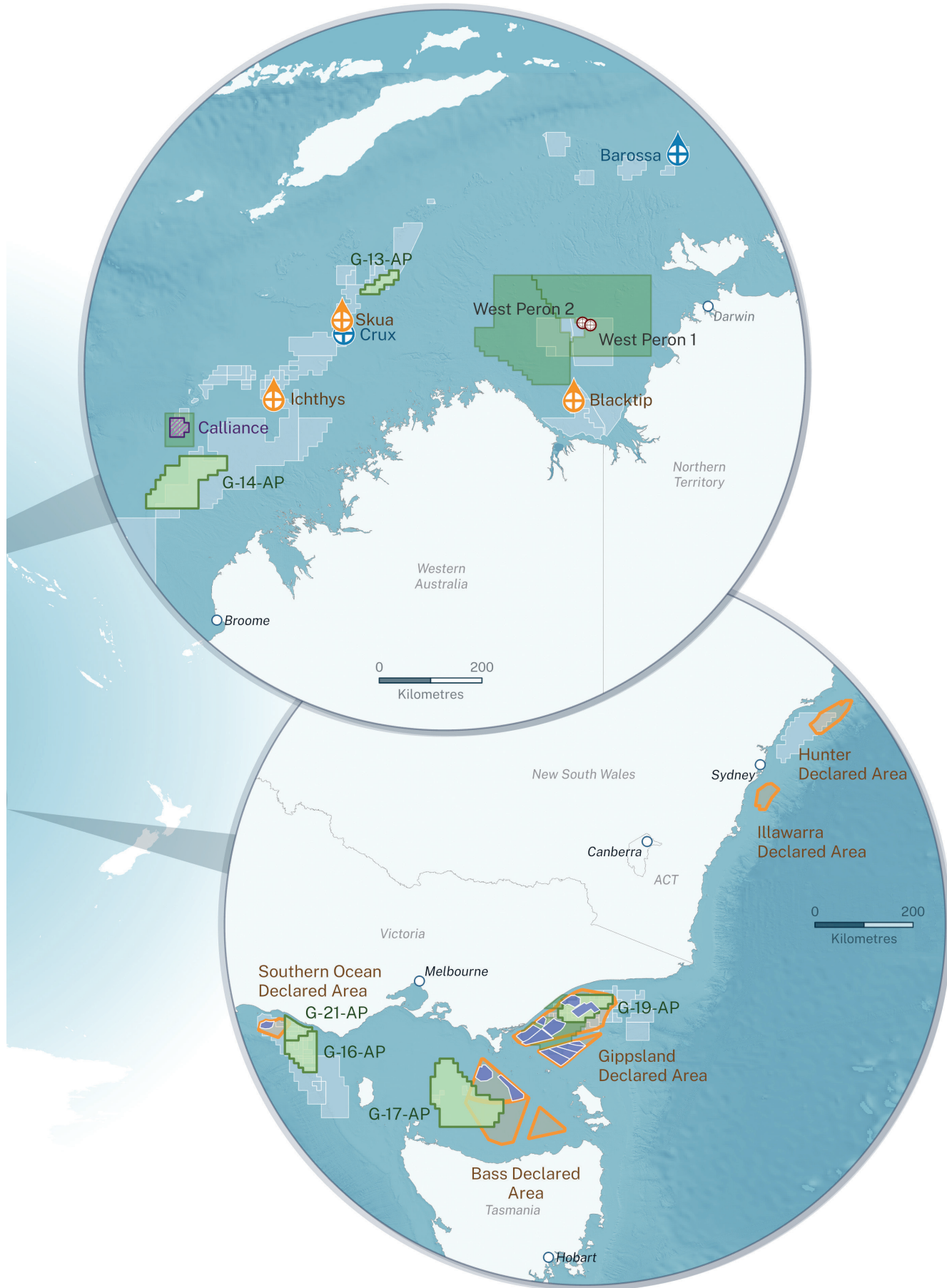
Offshore Electricity

6 feasibility licences granted in the Gippsland declared area

1 feasibility licence granted for the Southern Ocean declared area

2024-2025 Industry Activity Overview








*sea wind turbines outside of Australia




Activity & Insights

OEI licence activity insights

Darwin

 Declared Area*

 Licence Granted

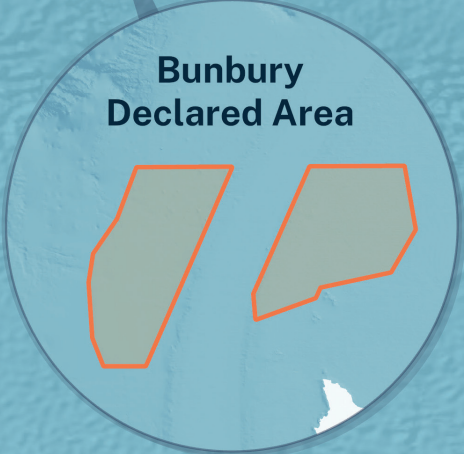
*A declared area is an area that has been declared as suitable for offshore renewable energy projects by the Minister for Climate Change and Energy under section 17 of the OEI Act.

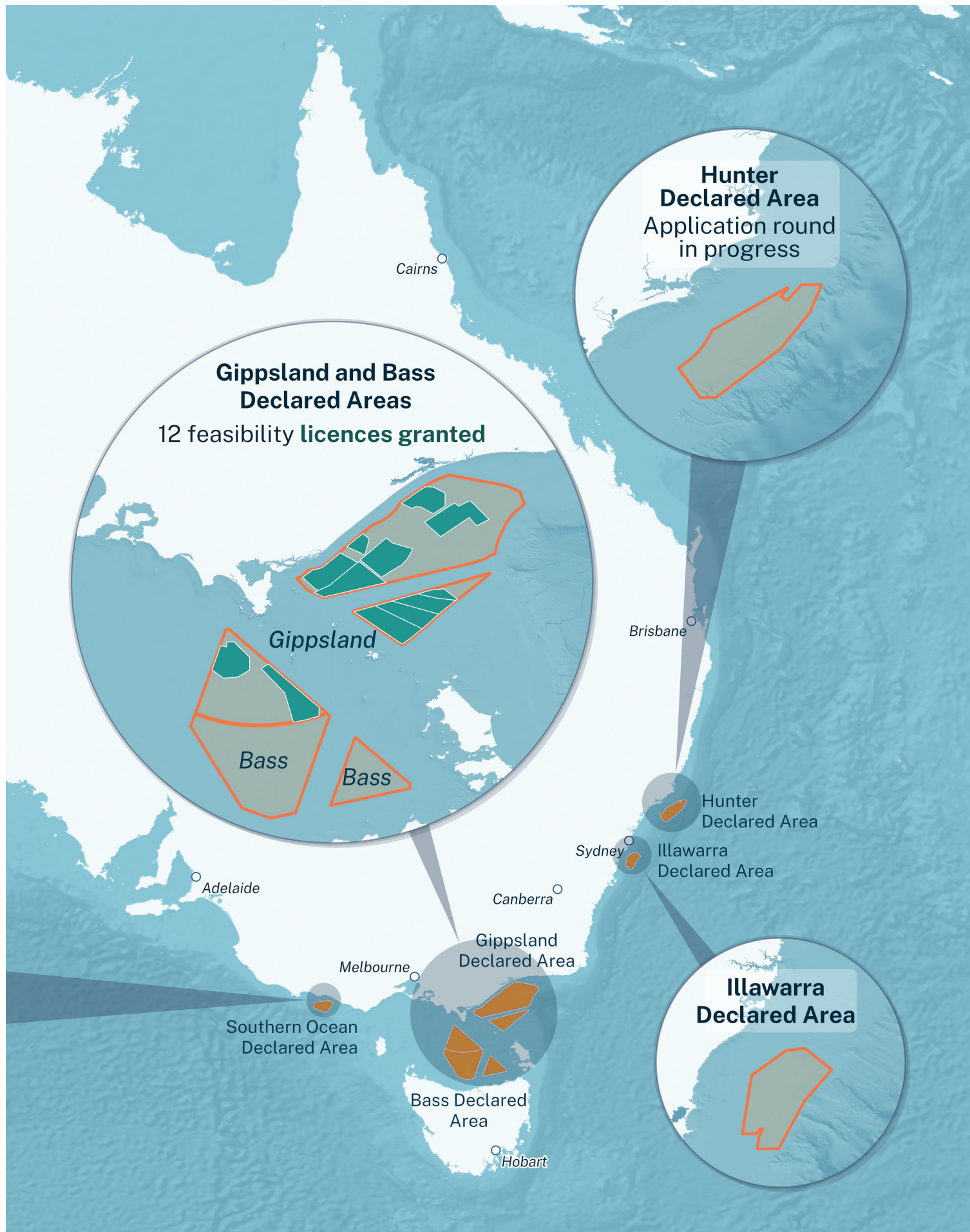
In 2024-25:

- The Southern Ocean, Illawarra, Bunbury and Bass feasibility licensing rounds closed
- 7 feasibility licence applications received
- The Gippsland and Southern Ocean feasibility licensing rounds were finalised
- 7 feasibility licences granted (6 in Gippsland and 1 in Southern Ocean)
- As at end June 2025, 6 feasibility licence applications were under consideration

Perth

Bunbury Declared Area





Gippsland declared area update

The Minister for Climate Change and Energy granted 12 feasibility licences by the end of June 2025, after a highly competitive first feasibility licensing round in Gippsland, Victoria (see Figure 1).

The offshore wind projects proposed under these licences have a potential energy generation of up to 25GW.

This is more than the current total installed generation capacity in Victoria via conventional generation and renewables, highlighting the future potential of offshore wind in Australia.

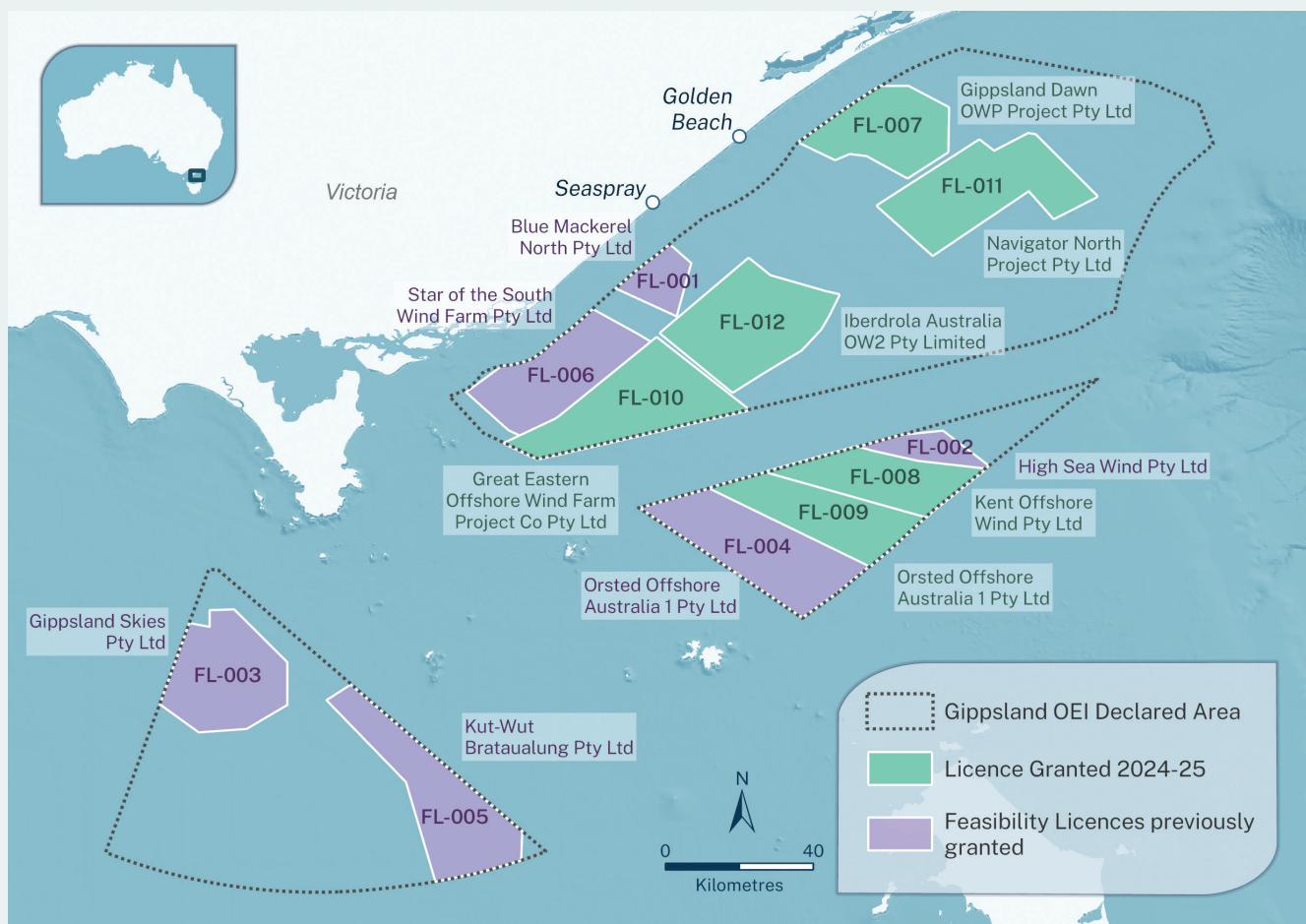
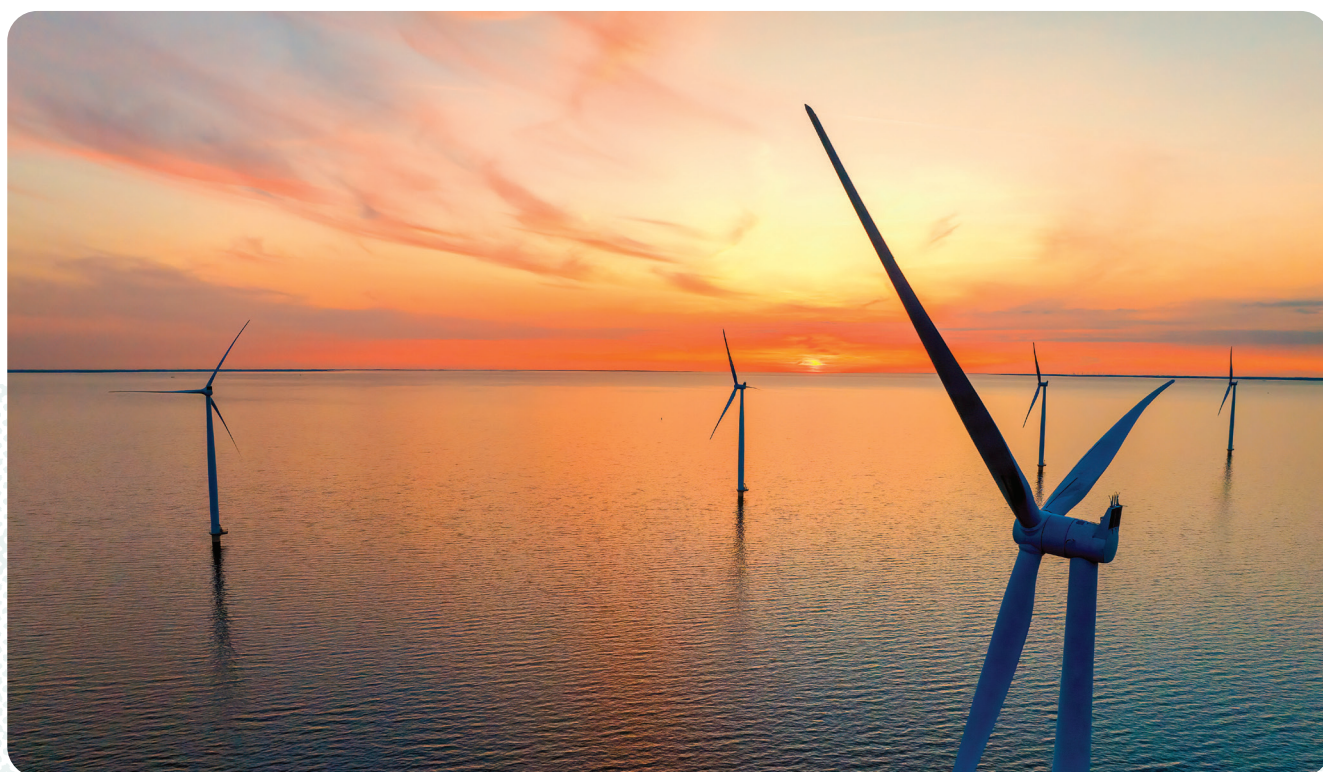
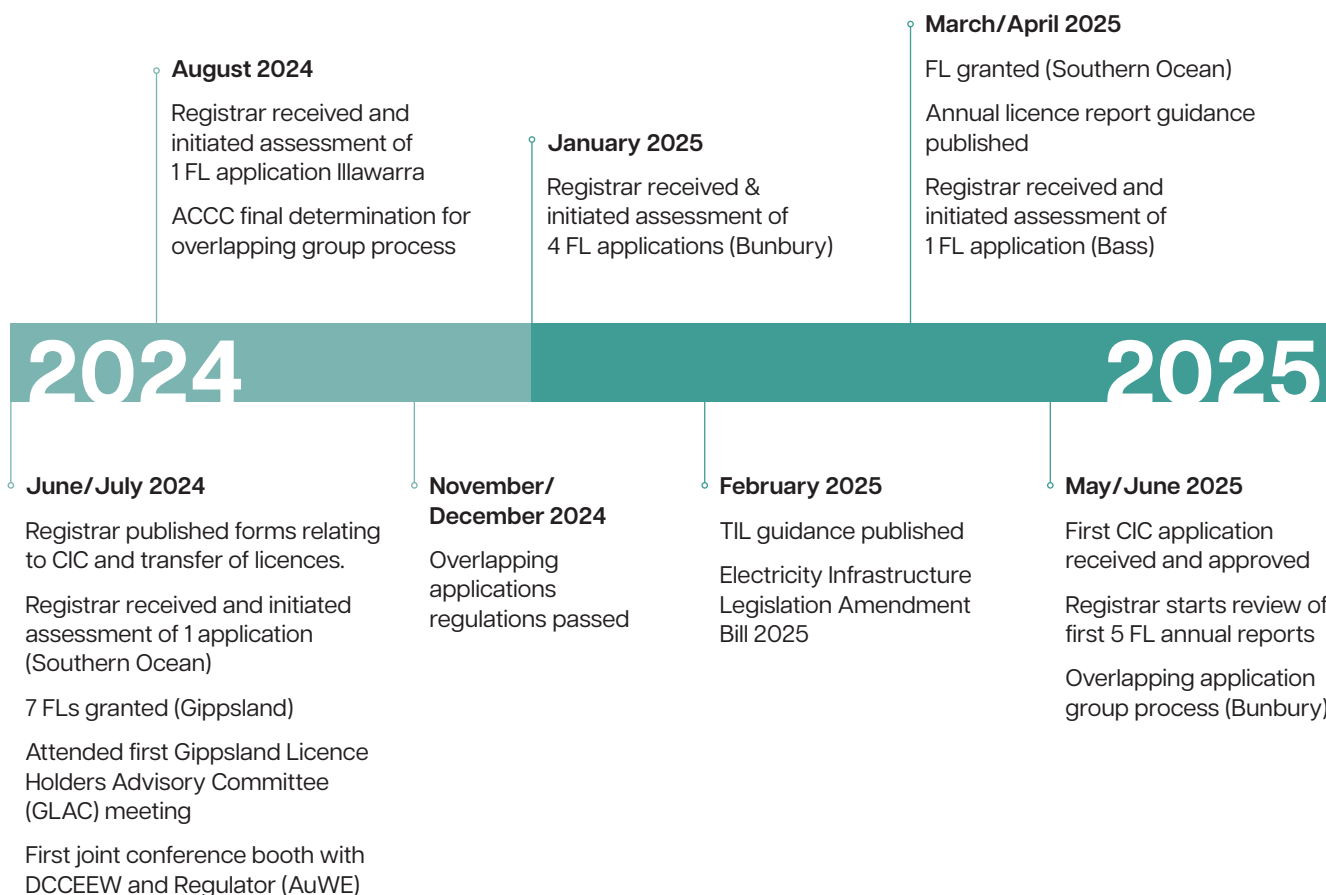


Figure 1: Gippsland Declared Area

OEI milestones



Petroleum titles activity insights

In 2024-25, there were 328 active petroleum titles in offshore Commonwealth waters (Figure 2).

One location was declared over the Bratwurst Flank-Libra fields in the offshore area of Ashmore and Cartier Islands.

During this period, 8 new titles were granted, including 5 exploration permits, one retention lease, and 2 production licences.

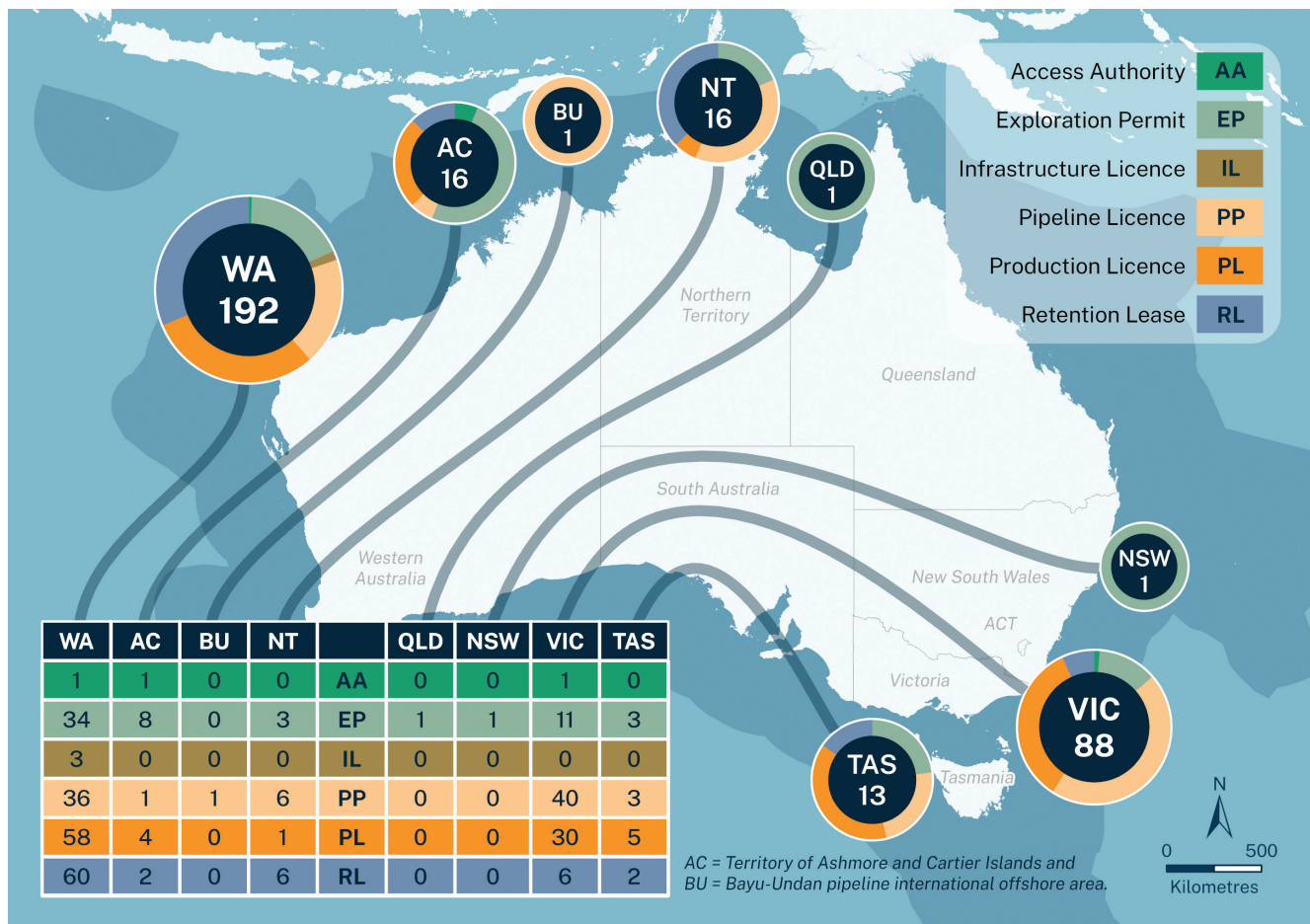


Figure 2: Total number of offshore petroleum titles (as at 30 June 2025)

Applications submitted

During the 2024-25 period, 270 applications were submitted (Table 1).

Decision Maker	WA	SA	NT	VIC	AC*	NSW	QLD	TAS	BU**	Total
Joint Authority	31	0	8	18	7	1	0	2	0	67
Titles Administrator	139	0	11	41	5	0	0	7	0	203
Total	170	0	19	59	12	1	0	9	0	270

Table 1: Applications submitted in 2024-25

* Ashmore and Cartier Islands

** Bayu-Undan

The following charts (Figure 3 and 4) show a detailed breakdown by month of application types received.

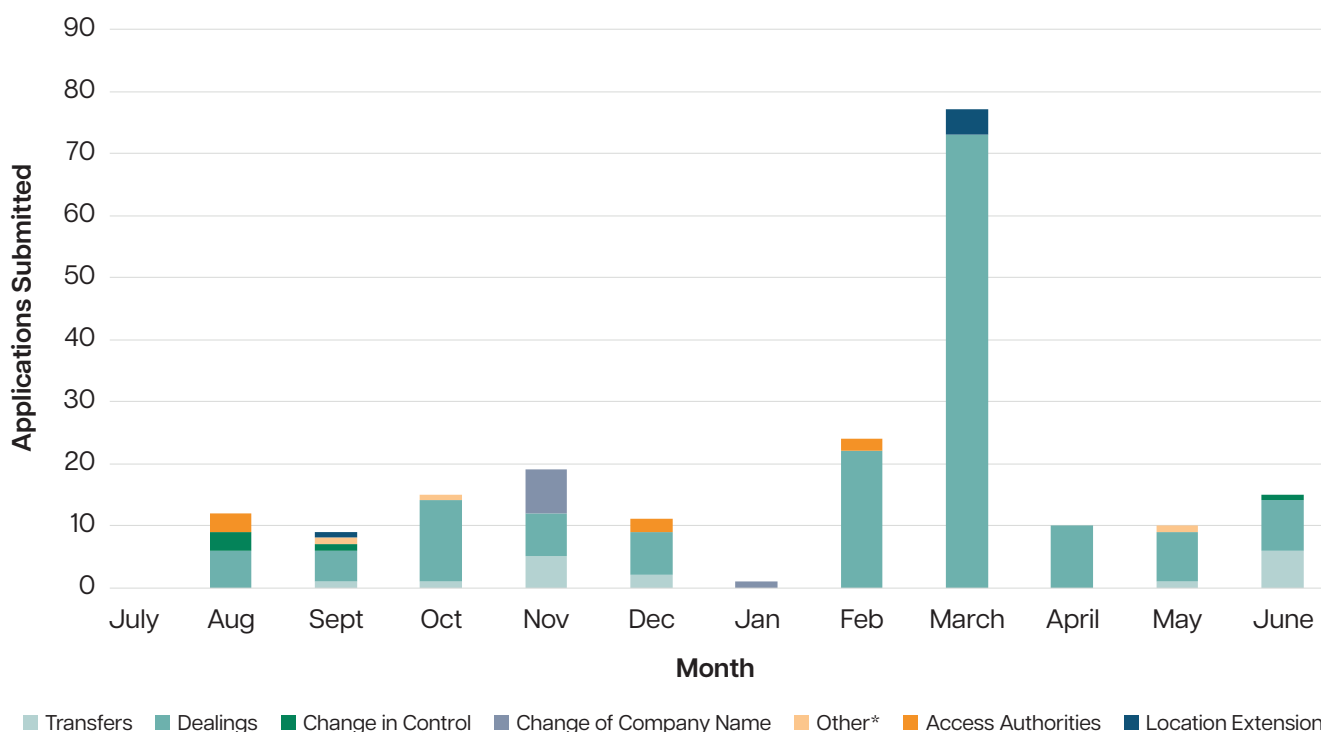


Figure 3: Titles Administrator applications submitted in 2024-25

March 2025 shows the highest volume of application submissions, driven by a surge of Dealing applications. July and January recorded the lowest activity respectively, with minimal submissions across all categories.

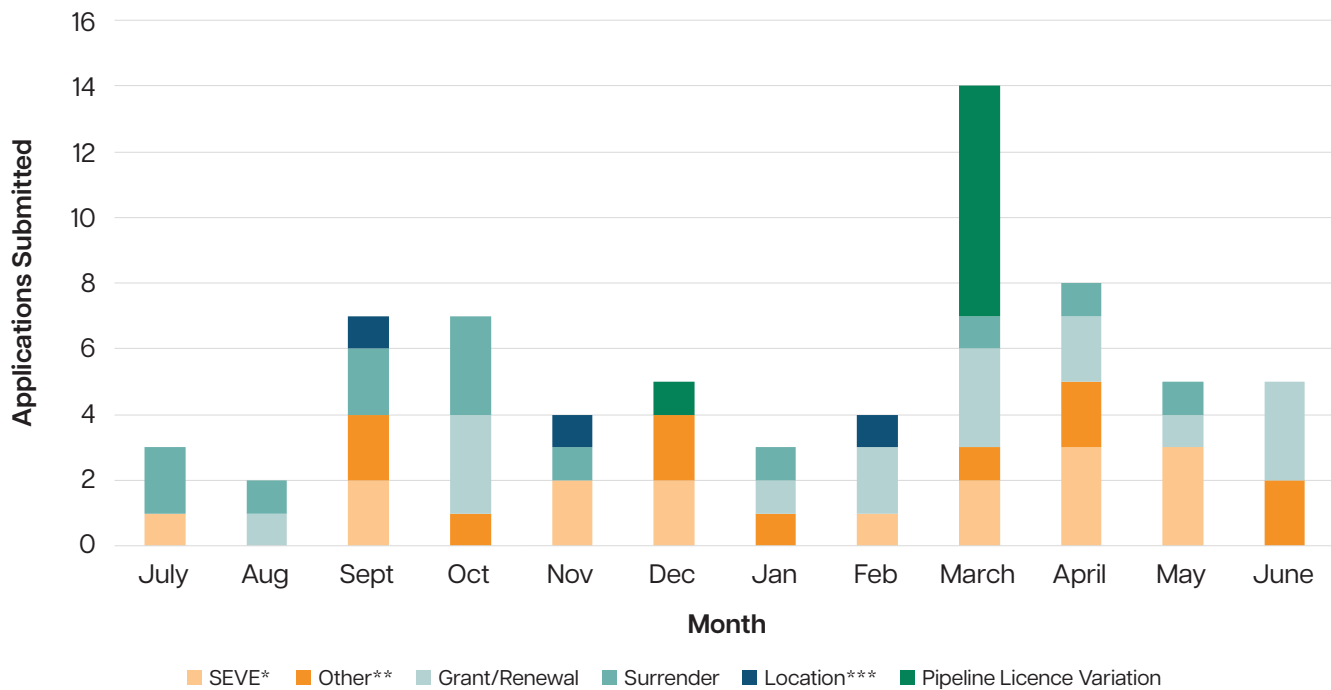


Figure 4: Joint Authority applications submitted in 2024-25

* includes suspensions, extensions, variations and exemptions

** includes cancellation, cease to operate – temporary, equipment & procedures, field development plan, rate of recovery

*** Location: includes Declaration of Location and Location Revocation

Joint Authority application submissions remained consistent across the reporting period, and comprised mostly of suspension, extension, variation and exemption (SEVE), and initial grant/renewal applications. Of these Initial Grant/Renewal applications, 70% of these involved Retention Leases.

Figure 5 below shows total application submissions annually over the last five reporting periods.

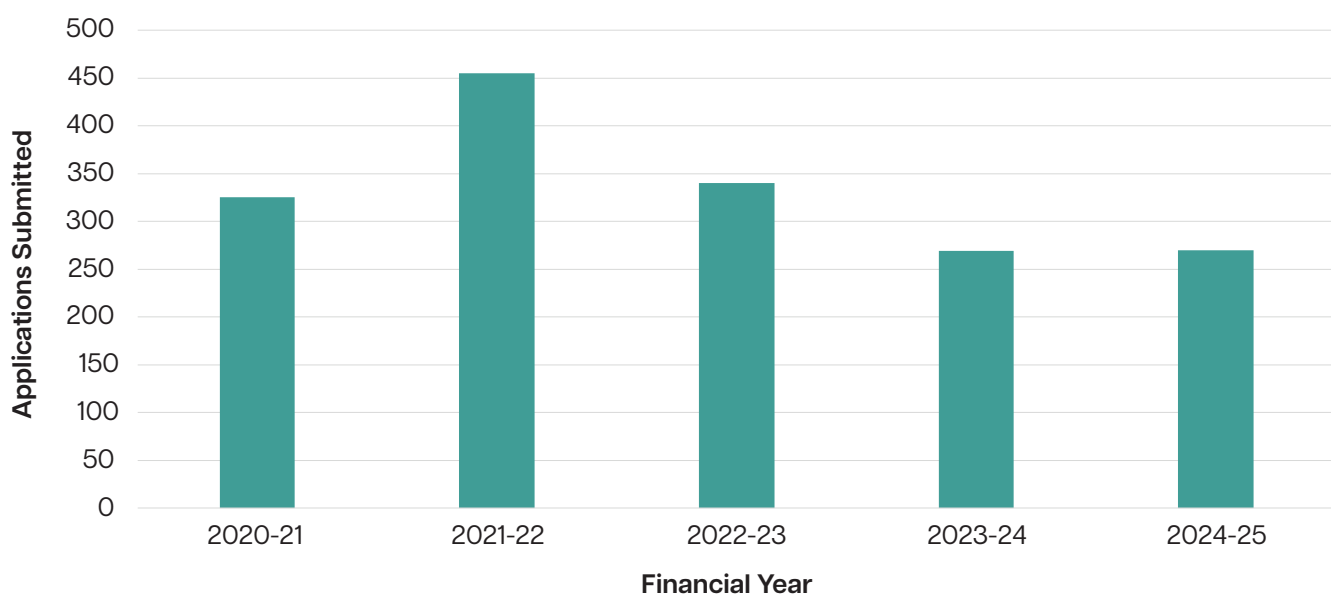


Figure 5: Total petroleum applications submitted from 2020-21 to 2024-25



Petroleum Development – committed to and in progress



Project Activities

- **New Production**
Gorgon Stage 2
Ichthys Phase 2a
Pluto
- ◆ **New Developments: Drilling and Infrastructure Installation**
Barossa (Preparations for 'first' LNG in 2025)
Burrup Hub (Scarborough)
Crux
- * **Infill Drilling**
Blacktip
Halyard
Ichthys Phase 2a
Julimar (Phase 3)
Lambert West
Montara (Skua)
Pluto

Project Maturation Stages



③ Project Maturation Status and location (refer colours and stage numbers above)
Note: the location of projects are approximate and for illustrative purposes only.

③ → **④** Denotes transition between Project Maturation Stages during the reporting period

In 2024-25:

- Stable development of offshore resources, primarily within existing projects
- Backfill opportunities progressed into existing facilities across the Carnarvon, Browse and Bonaparte basins
- Drilling, installation of infrastructure and pipelines completed to support both new and existing gas production.



Petroleum exploration

The OPGGS Act establishes Australia's legislative framework for offshore petroleum activities, defining the rights, responsibilities, and entitlements of government and industry.

The framework governs the full lifecycle of operations, from exploration through to production and decommissioning.

In 2024-25:

- 5 new petroleum exploration permits renewed

- 1 exploration well was drilled in a production licence in the Northern Carnarvon Basin
- 1 location was declared over the Bratwurst Flank-Libra gas fields following drilling of the Bratwurst-1 well in 2019
- 4 geophysical/geotechnical surveys were conducted to assess rig location sites. Three were in the Otway Basin, and 1 in the Petrel Sub Basin. The Titles Administrator granted 7 petroleum access authorities related to these activities.

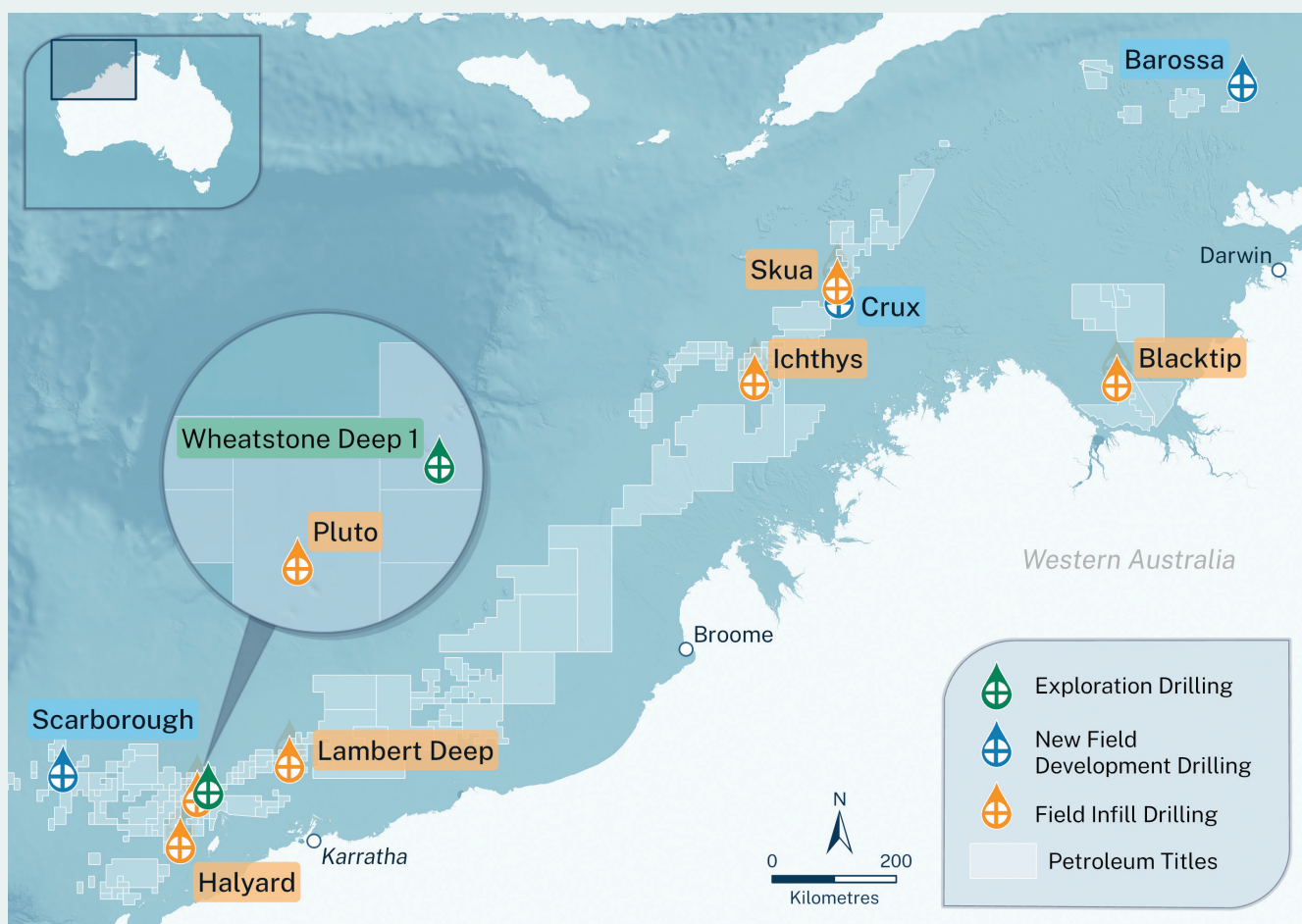


Figure 6: Petroleum drilling activity 2024-25 insights

Petroleum development milestones

September 2024

Approval for two production licences were granted over Artisan (VIC/L35) and La Bella (VIC/L36)

The Lambert West Field Development Plan was accepted

March 2025

A production licence application was received (currently under assessment)

2024

2025

January 2025

New guidance on the extended meaning of 'explore' was published on the website

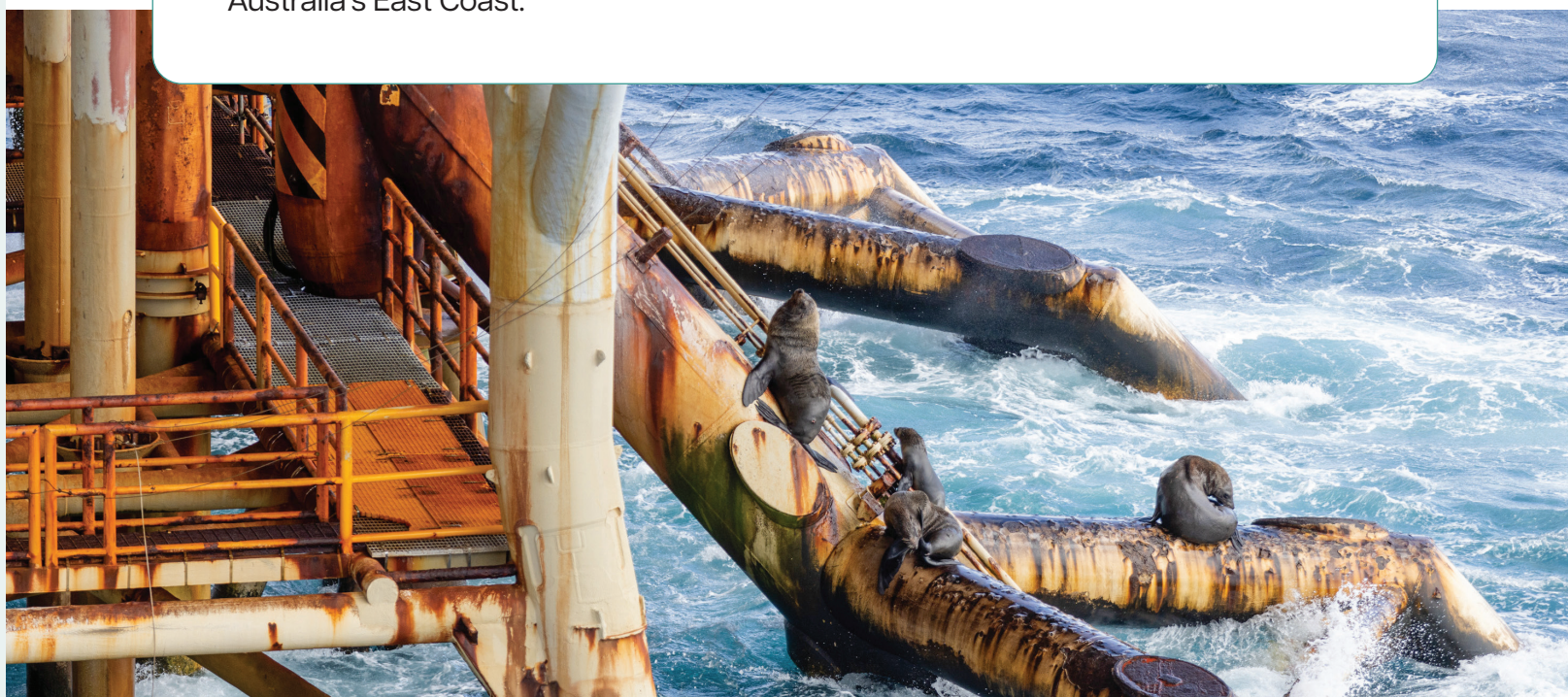
June 2025

2 production licence applications were received (currently under assessment). As at 30 June 2025. These include:

- 4 production licence applications pending Joint Authority decisions
- a field development plan is under assessment

September 2024

Two production licences have been granted over the Artisan (VIC/L35) and La Bella (VIC/L36) fields in offshore Victoria. The two licences will deliver gas to supply Australia's East Coast.



Production – offshore basins

Australia’s total annual offshore production during the 2024-25 financial year remained stable (Figure 7). Over the past five years, production has held at near-record levels, supported by steady raw gas output linked to liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects across Australia’s North-Western basins. The focus on slowing production decline via ongoing development activity continues, including by infill drilling (especially for mature domestic gas projects) and tying back larger gas fields into existing LNG facilities.

The overall near-record levels continue to be underpinned by raw gas production and directly contrasts the oil production trends, where reported amounts reached a new record low during 2024. Despite efforts in mature projects to undertake infill drilling, this overall trend is unlikely to be reversed unless significant new investment occurs within emerging basins, such as the Roebuck sub-basin, or existing projects receive an economic boost via favourable international oil prices.

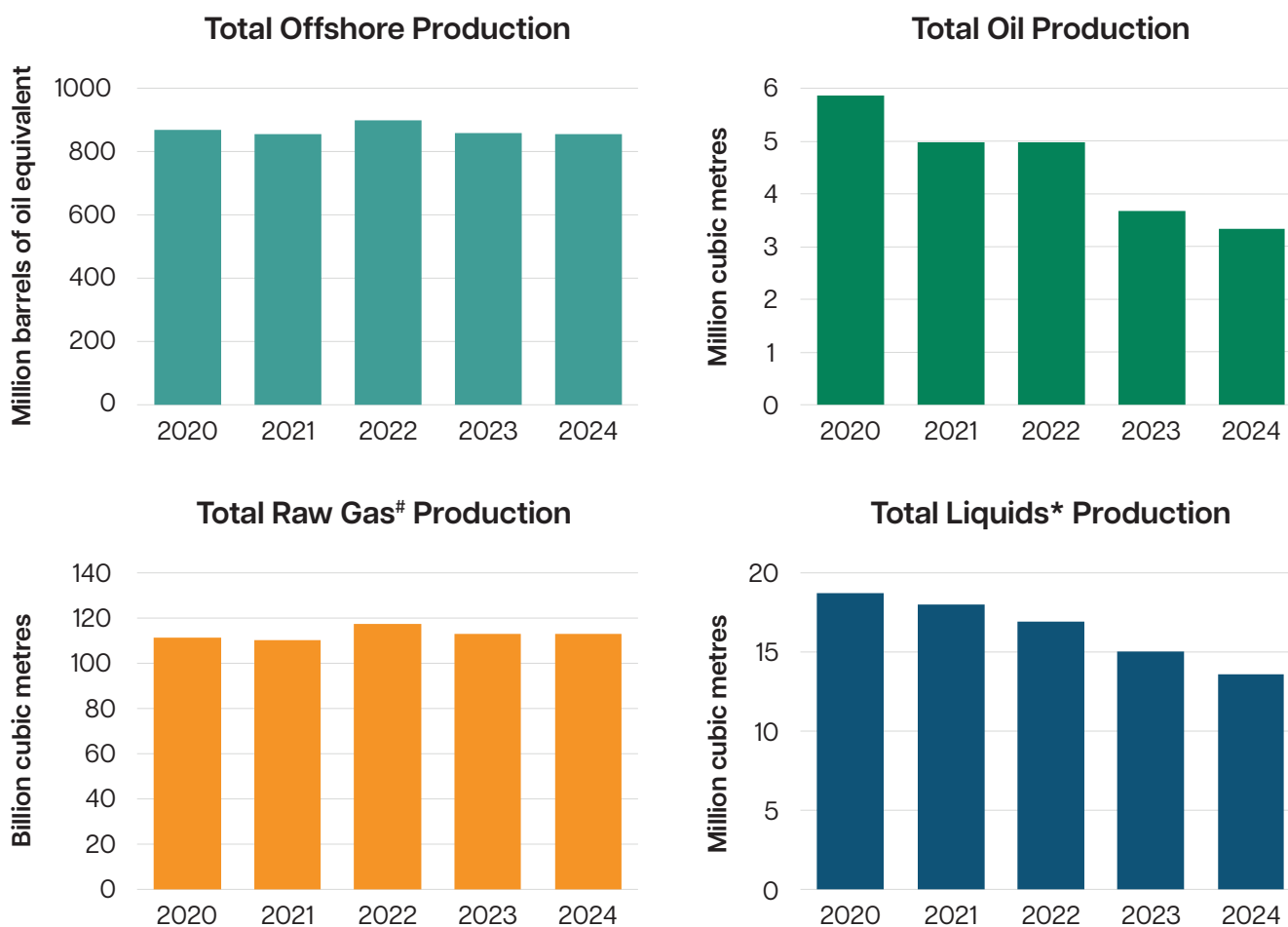


Figure 7: Australian offshore production trends for different resources, as reported to NOPTA over the last 5 years

Raw gas is gas produced offshore from the full wellstream minus water content and condensate recovered from offshore facilities.

* Liquids includes Condensate, Natural Gas Liquids and Crude Oil.

In 2024, the Northern Carnarvon Basin continued to be the largest source of raw gas and liquids (crude oil, condensate and natural gas liquids) production, accounting for 75% and 57% (respectively) of the total across offshore Australia (Figure 8).

The Browse Basin remained the second largest contributor, representing 18% of

total raw gas production, increasing slightly to account for 30% of total liquids production. The relative share from remaining offshore basins continued to decline, contributing approximately 7% of total raw gas and 13% of total liquids production.

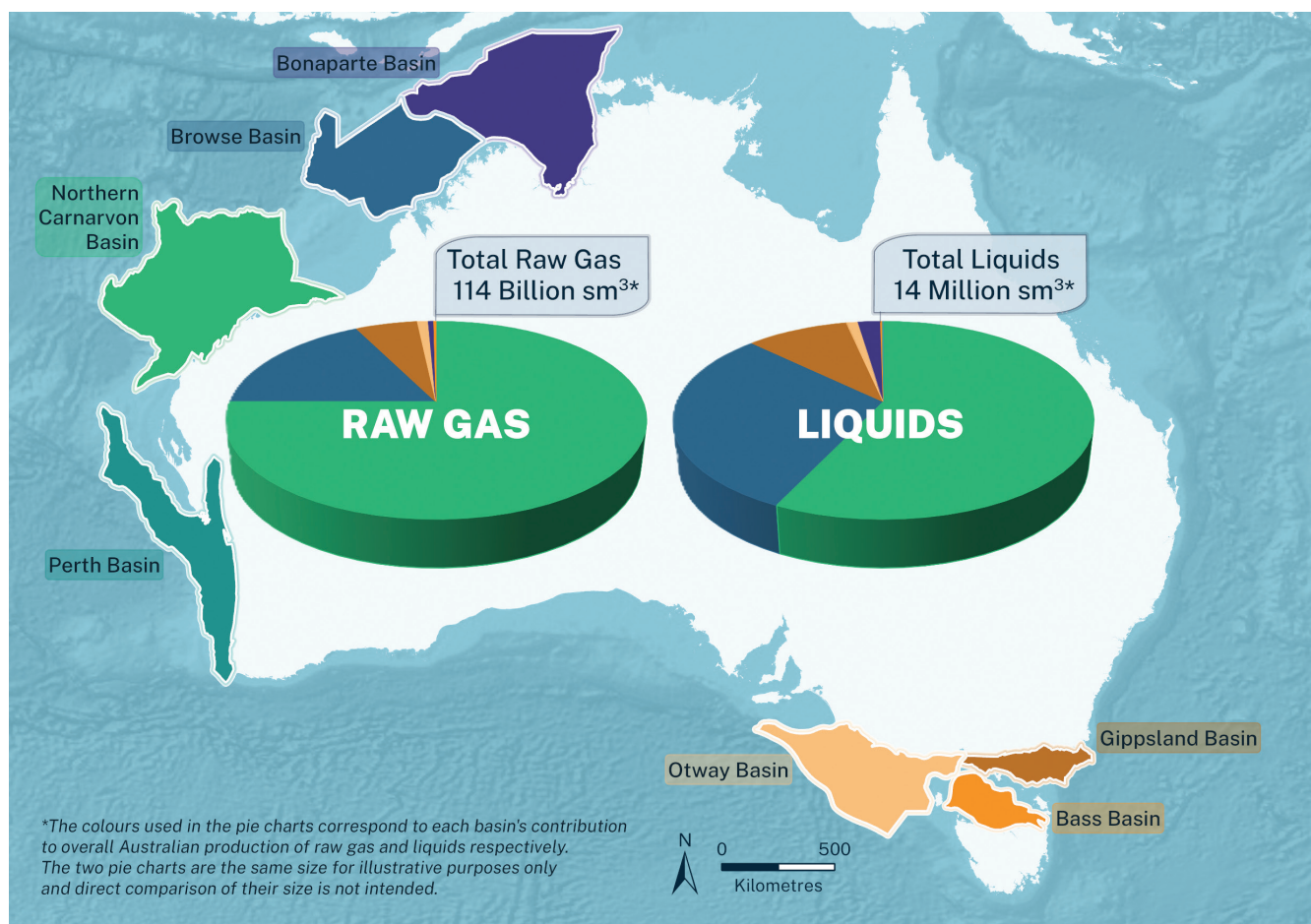
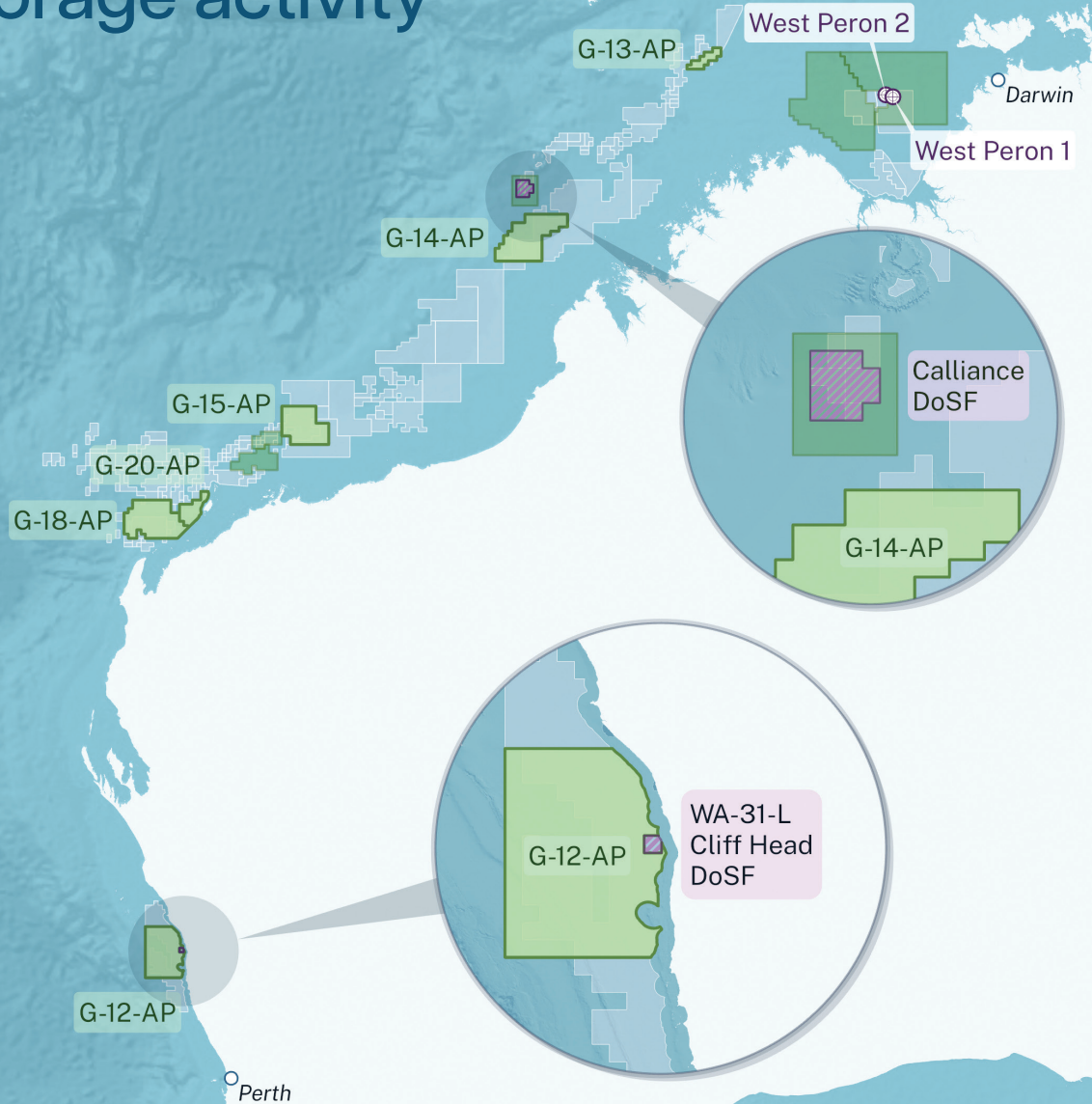
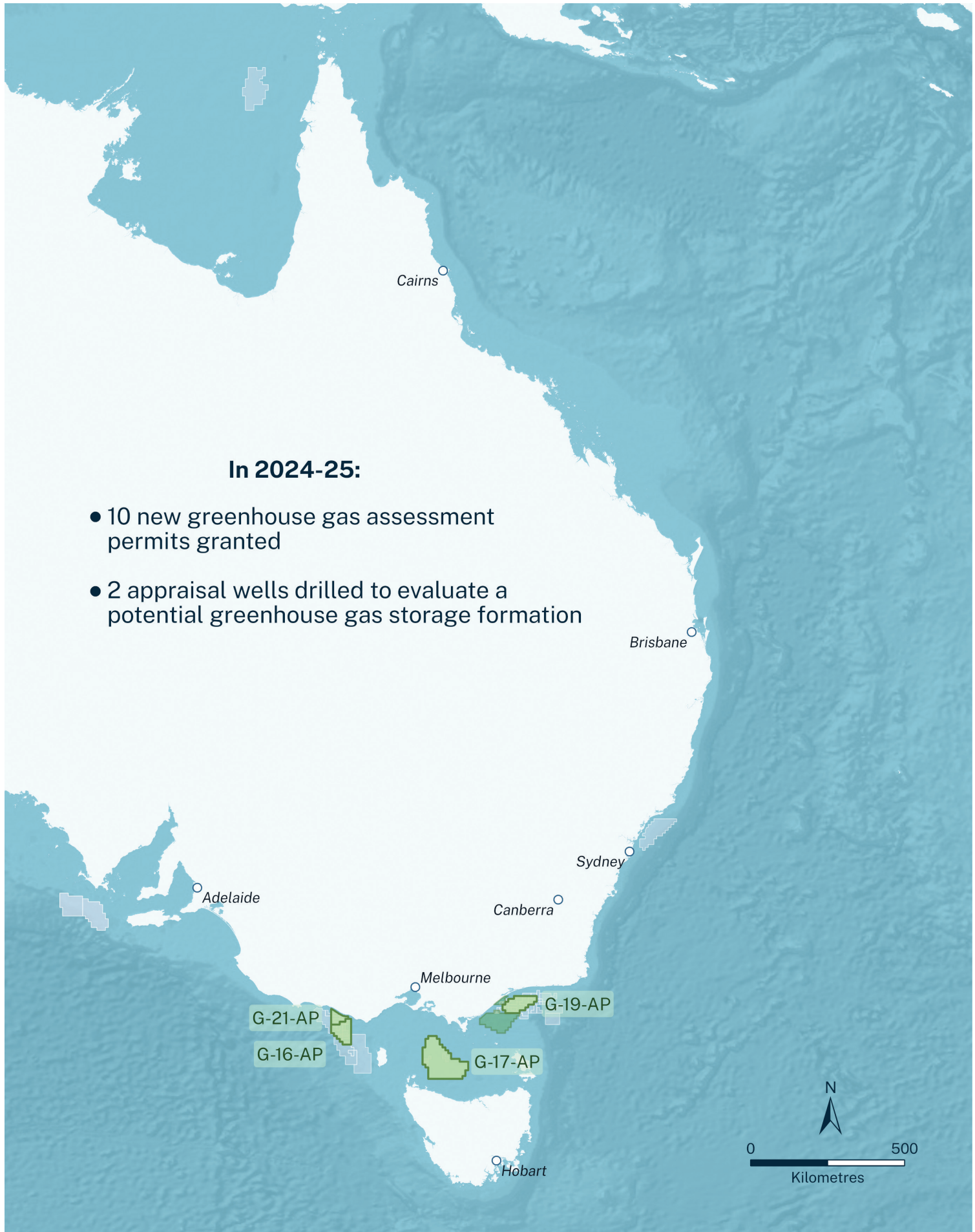


Figure 8: Australia's producing offshore basins and their relative contribution to total production in 2024

GHG storage activity



- ⊕ Appraisal Wells
- Greenhouse Gas Assessment Permit granted 2024-25
- Declaration of Storage Formation (DoSF)
- Greenhouse Gas Assessment Permit previously granted
- Petroleum Titles



In 2024-25:

- 10 new greenhouse gas assessment permits granted
- 2 appraisal wells drilled to evaluate a potential greenhouse gas storage formation

GHG storage activity insights

There were 17 GHG titles in Commonwealth waters, as at the 30 June 2025.

During the reporting period 10 GHG Assessment Permits were granted in the Commonwealth Offshore area. The permit areas include the Otway, North Carnarvon, Gippsland, Bass, Browse, Bonaparte and Perth Basins.

Applications submitted

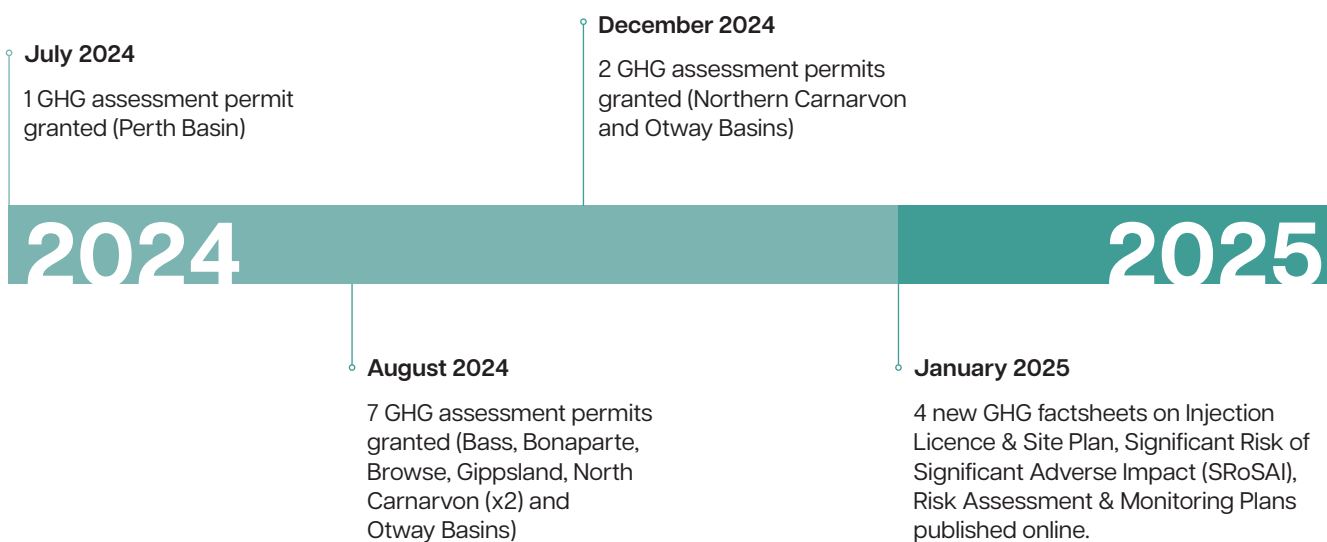
During 2024-25, a total of 21 applications were submitted.

Activity in the sector

In the last financial year, in addition to the 10 new GHG Assessment Permits granted, there were 8 Dealings approved.

There are several petroleum titleholders who are progressing towards gaining declarations of identified storage formations, which if declared would enable those projects to take the pathway to injection.

GHG administrative milestones 2024-25



Declaration of an identified storage formation

The Declaration of a Storage Formation (DoSF) as an 'identified GHG storage formation' by the Responsible Commonwealth Minister, is a critical step in assessing the viability of a potential storage site for GHG injection and storage operations.

To be declared as an identified GHG storage formation, it must be deemed capable of permanently storing a particular amount of

an injected GHG substance, injected over a period at specific injection points, with or without engineering enhancements, and with a suitable sealing mechanism.

Figure 9 shows the possible pathways for a DoSF to be declared, and the resulting titles. There are currently two DoSFs. A register of identified GHG storage formations can be found on the NEATS website.



Figure 9: Pathways to a Declaration of Storage Formation





Governance and Strategy

Governance

The branch fulfils its statutory roles as Titles Administrator and Registrar in line with the Australian Government’s expectations for effective regulatory practice.

Guided by best practice principles outlined in Resource Management Guide 128, the branch is committed to accountability, transparency, and proportionality in its decision-making.

These principles underpin our approach to stakeholder engagement, continuous improvement, and the delivery of timely, consistent, and risk-based regulatory advice, across Australia’s offshore energy sectors.

2024-2027 Strategic plan

The branch published its 2024-27 Strategic Plan, in early 2024. The Strategic Plan operationalises the department’s corporate plan in relation to our functions across offshore petroleum, GHG and OEI sectors.

The strategic plan is supported by a comprehensive internal implementation program.

The Strategic Plan focuses on four key pillars – these are:

<h3>Resource Stewardship</h3> <p>Provide responsible administrative and regulatory oversight of Australia’s offshore petroleum, greenhouse gas, and renewable energy resource projects.</p>	<h3>Leveraging Information & Technology</h3> <p>Improve and integrate our systems to enhance security, information, accessibility, and evidence-based decision making.</p>	<h3>Engagement</h3> <p>Enhance stakeholder engagement strategies to promote efficient and effective working relationships.</p>	<h3>Regulatory Excellence</h3> <p>Foster and support a cost-efficient, high performing workforce, focused on continuous improvement, best practice outcomes and a positive workplace culture.</p>
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Left: INPEX-operated Ichthys Venturer, off the Kimberley coast.

Pillar 1: Resource stewardship

Resource stewardship covers the full life cycle of petroleum, GHG and OEI activities. The branch completes a range of functions to ensure titleholder actions align with Australian government policy objectives.

This includes promoting the efficient and timely resources development, monitoring titleholder performance and addressing emerging issues, such as late-life title management and project stewardship to support the energy transition.

The Titles Administrator monitors and analyses annual trends in offshore production as well as resources and reserves replacement.

Recent levels of total reserves replacement remain consistent with efforts to refine proved and probable volumes, with a slight relative improvement since 2022 (Figure 10), without necessarily adding significant new volumes, such as from new fields, as was the case during the 2021 period.

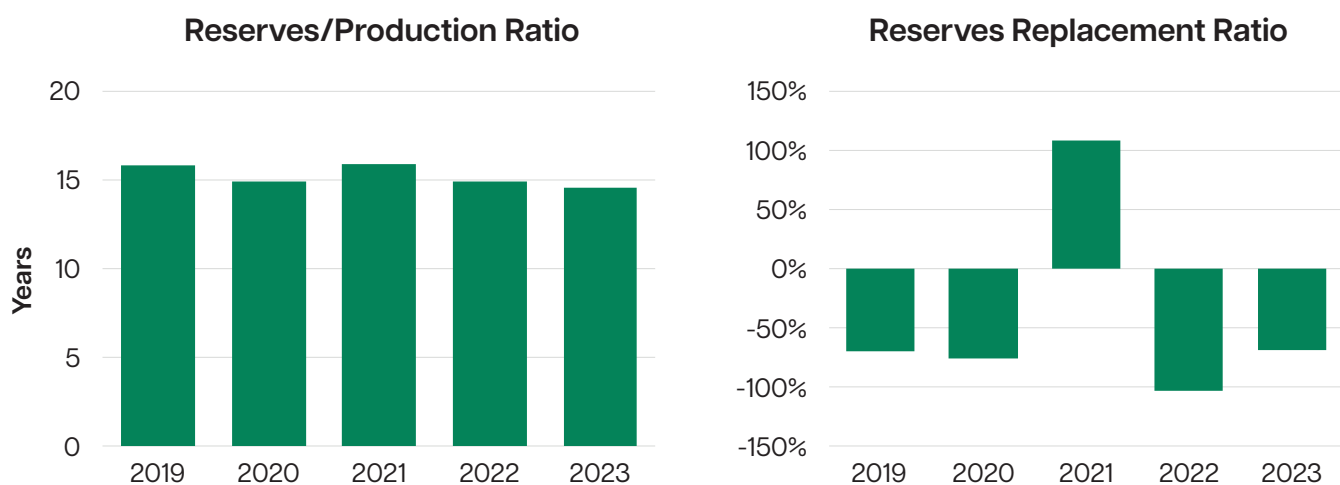


Figure 10: Annual trends in reserves replacement and production

Annual performance reviews and benchmarking

Annual performance meetings were held with all titleholders responsible for offshore production projects in 2024-25, both in face-to-face and online technical workshops and discussions formats.

These meetings tackled questions raised by the Titles Administrator through compliance monitoring, and provided valuable insights into well, field and project performance. This information complements data gained via annual reporting, and is used to assess various aspects of reservoir, field and facilities performance, with the process supporting the strategic advice to government regarding optimum recovery across Australia's offshore basins.

The recent growth in GHG titles, and the growing increase in related data submitted to the Titles Administrator, shows there is an opportunity to build on this work and facilitate the ongoing stewardship of offshore energy resources.

This will be particularly important as Australian basins host a growing diversity of offshore energy projects.

Late life resources

As production matures across projects, the branch has maintained engagement with titleholders responsible for late-life projects, working to understand the current operational, commercial, financial and economic conditions.

A focus remains on ensuring all opportunities to extend production are considered, as well as confirming anticipated cessation of production timing, and adequate and timely decommissioning planning for existing infrastructure.

During 2024-25, decommissioning planning and operational activity continued to occur, with various work scopes completed for projects in the Gippsland, Otway, Northern Carnarvon and Bonaparte basins.

There has been increased focus on understanding cessation of production timing, (actual) decommissioning costs and the methodology used to determine future cost estimates, which are part of titleholder engagements and reporting. The Titles Administrator is working with titleholders to increase consistency of both cost estimation and reporting, which will bring improved benchmarking efforts and more consistent advice to government.

Suitability assessment

Persons who wish to participate in Australia’s offshore petroleum, greenhouse gas storage or energy infrastructure regimes as titleholders or licence holders must meet certain criteria, and this is tested upon entry

into the regime and at major decision points thereafter. Decision makers need to consider many factors, including, but not limited to those in Figure 11.

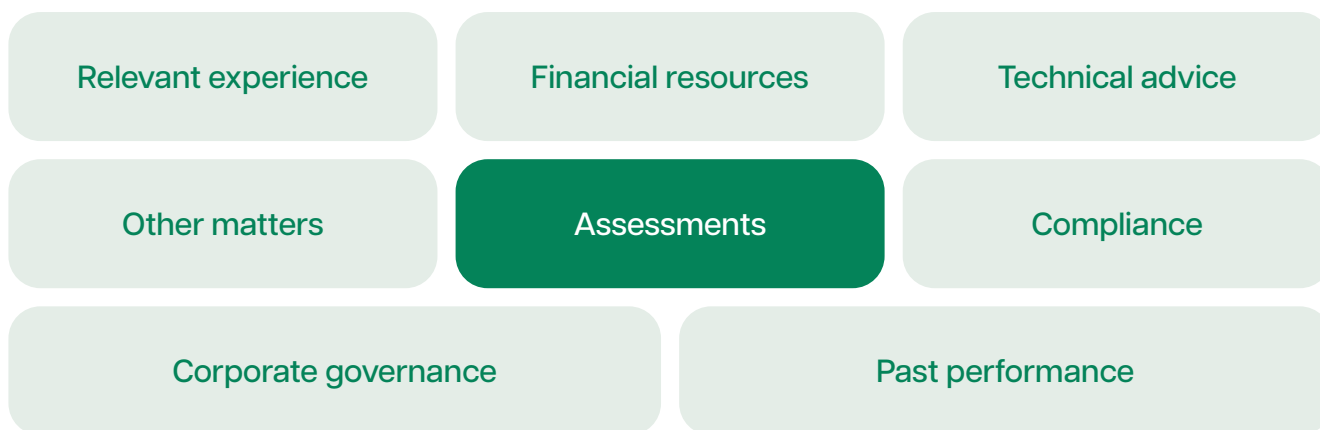


Figure 11: Factors relevant to suitability assessments

Table 2: % of total applications requiring suitability assessments in 2024-25

Applications submitted 2024-25		Finance		Governance	
		Total	%	Total	%
Petroleum	270	60	22	20	7
OEI	10	10	100	10	100
GHG	21	7	33	4	19

Petroleum:

A total 270 applications were submitted, of which:

- 22% required both a financial resources and technical advice assessment; and
- 7% required a compliance history and corporate governance assessment.

OEI:

All 10 applications required both a financial

resources and corporate governance assessment.

GHG:

A total of 21 applications were submitted, of which:

- 33% required a financial resources and technical advice assessment; and
- 19% required a history of compliance and corporate governance assessment.

Data management

The Titles Administrator has responsibility for the submission and release of documentary information and samples (petroleum and greenhouse gas data), in accordance with the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Resource Management and Administration) Regulations 2011 (RMA Regulations).

In 2024-25, the Titles Administrator:

- received 5,950 activity reports* (Figure 12)

- received 453 regulatory submission items** and
- authorised the public release of data from 87 activities, equal to 624TB of data.

The amount of data released has increased significantly, as compared to last financial year, from 14TB to 624TB. This is primarily due to the release of several large area surveys during the period.

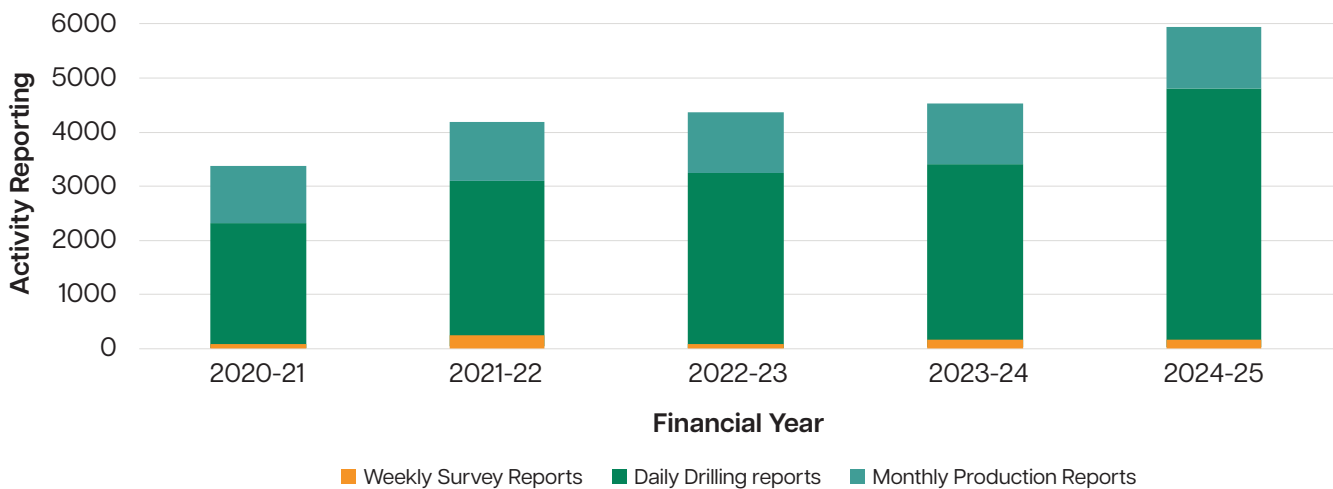


Figure 12: Number of activity reports received 2020-21 to 2024-25

* Includes: 1,146 production reports, 4,776 drilling reports, 28 survey reports

** Includes: 313 well and 140 survey data items

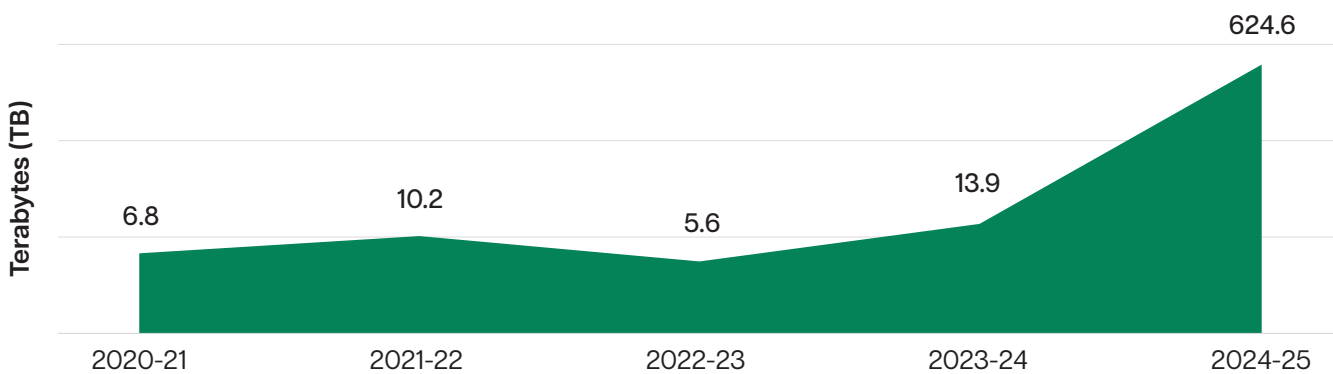


Figure 13: Open-file data release authorisations by financial year

Pillar 2: Leveraging information and technology

NOPTA is enhancing its digital capabilities to strengthen security, improve data quality, and support evidence-based decision making. These efforts help to deliver a more seamless and user-friendly experience for stakeholders.

Our approach is built on:

Integrated systems

Connecting our technology platforms to enable better data integration and analysis. This integration will provide for more informed decisions and a smoother experience for users.

Strategic planning for the future

Our 2024-2026 ICT Strategy sets a clear direction for digital capability development

and governance, ensuring we keep pace in a rapidly evolving landscape.

Data quality and accessibility

Ongoing improvements in data quality and accessibility are empowering users with reliable information and supporting greater transparency.

Updates to the NEATS, NOPIMS, and the Title Administrator and Registrar websites are helping to collaborate and introduce new ways to engage with stakeholders.



Pillar 3: Engagement

The Titles Administrator and Registrar have a diverse stakeholder footprint which runs across industry, government, non-government and international agencies. We engage stakeholders through a variety of channels, including face to face contact, digital platforms, direct communications,

and collaborative forums, to provide transparent and timely information sharing. Biennial surveys are held to measure stakeholder satisfaction across key areas of our functions.

Measuring Engagement

We value engagement with our stakeholders and track our interactions across the financial year.

In 2024-25, the Titles Administrator had more than 900 interactions across the offshore petroleum, greenhouse gas, and offshore electricity infrastructure industries

on administrative, operational, and regulatory matters. This number reflects an updated methodology for capturing stakeholder engagement.

Our stakeholder interactions are broken down by function below (see Figure 14).

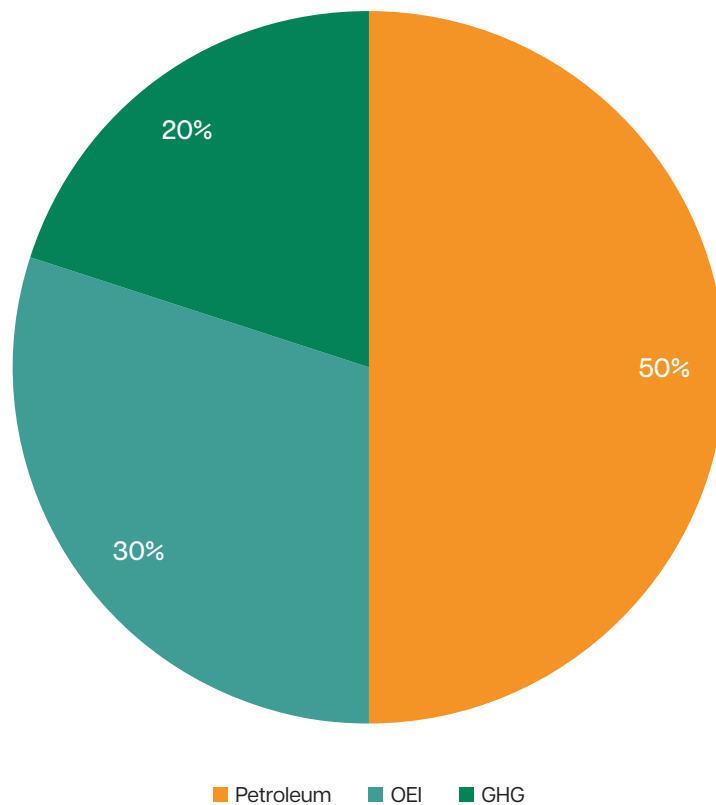


Figure 14: Interactions against functional breakdown in 2024-25

International engagement

During 2024-25, we continued to interact with our overseas equivalent regulators and participated in relevant international forums.

Senior leaders attended:

- the International Upstream Forum was held in St John's, Canada in September 2024
- the Global Offshore Wind Regulators Forum (GOWRF) in Hamburg, Germany in October 2024
- the Annual General Meeting for the International Regulators Forum and International Offshore Petroleum Environmental Regulators in Ireland, in October 2024
- the Marine Resource Initiative Australia-Vietnam Offshore Wind Symposium in Bac Lieu in December 2024. The symposium strengthened Australia's engagement with Vietnam to advance offshore wind developments in the region and share lessons learned
- the Norwegian Offshore Directorate in Stavanger, Norway, and the North Sea Transition Authority in Aberdeen, Scotland in March/April 2025. The visit included a tour of the Northern Lights project near Bergen. The Project is the world's first cross-border carbon dioxide transport and storage facility.

2025 Stakeholder Engagement – preparing for our next survey

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement and meaningful engagement, we started planning our seventh Stakeholder Survey during the reporting period. The Survey was completed in the second quarter of 2025-2026.

This survey's focus was on the implementation of our Strategic Plan 2024–27 and aimed to capture insights from the diverse stakeholder networks of the Titles Administrator and Registrar.

The feedback gathered will help us refine our approach and ensure our Strategic Plan aligns with our stakeholder needs and delivers meaningful outcomes through to 2027.

Outcomes from the 2025 Stakeholder Survey are on the website and will be in next year's Annual Report.

Pillar 4: Regulatory excellence

In 2024-25 the Titles Administrator:

- processed more than 453 regulatory data submission items and authorised the release of 89 data packages on wells and surveys
- held 14 annual field performance review meetings with titleholders for offshore petroleum production
- supported and collaborated with the department on reviews and amendments to the OPGGS Act and regulations
- assisted the department to consult on the regulatory framework for venting and flaring, and reviewed and updated guidelines to support the implementation of the Future Gas Strategy
- collaborated with the department to publish guidelines and factsheets for offshore greenhouse gas injection licences
- provided expert advice to the department on the policy reviews of offshore carbon capture and sequestration and offshore decommissioning.

In 2024-25 the Registrar:

- collaborated with the DCCEEW on the implementation of the licensing framework resulting in updates to relevant legislation and regulations
- developed regulatory guidance material to foster compliance with the OEI Act
- assisted DCCEEW to update the Transmission and Infrastructure Licence Guideline Chapter
- supported procedural fairness processes to unsuccessful feasibility licence applicants
- collaborated with DCCEEW on the development of regulatory guidance material for the introduction of research and demonstration licences
- consulted with licence holders and published annual licence report guidance
- provided advice to licence holders on reporting and compliance across the framework.



External compliance monitoring

The Titles Administrator and the Registrar support compliance through guidelines, tailored assistance and education, with an emphasis on voluntary compliance and early engagement to manage potential issues. Accountability for implementing and upholding the branch’s compliance and enforcement policy sits with every team.

In 2024-25, titleholders continued to show very high levels of voluntary compliance with the OPPGS Act, OEI Act and associated regulations.

More than 96% of compliance requirements were met with only 3.74% recorded with non-compliance issues. This includes the late submission of Annual Titles Assessment Reports (ATARs) and the non-provision of documentation under Regulation 5.28 of the RMA Regulations, which remain key areas of focus (see Figure 15).

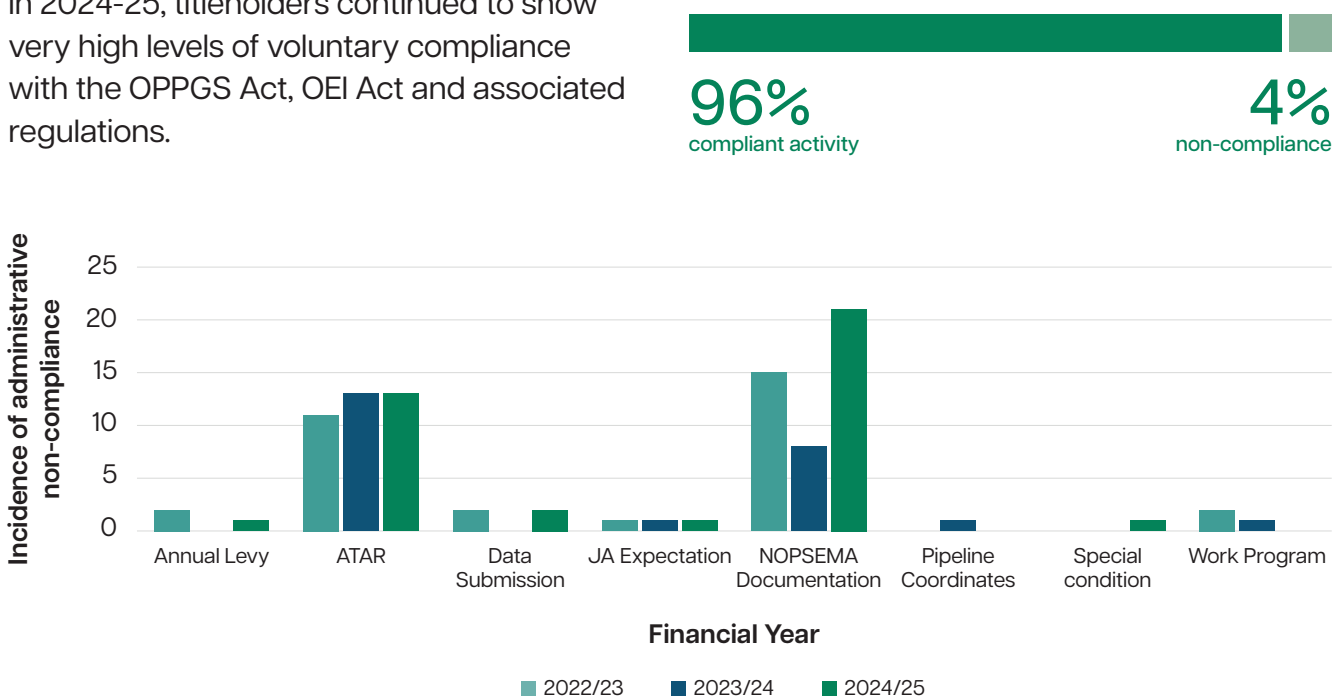


Figure 15: Administrative non-compliance categories by year: comparison 2022-2025

Internal assurance reviews

Our internal assurance review program strengthens accountability by ensuring compliance with policies, procedures, and guidance while driving efficiency across workflows. These quality measures provide assurance of reliability, accuracy, and consistency, supporting continuous improvement and risk oversight.

In 2024-25, reviews were completed in the areas of:

- Change in Control
- Register of licences
- ATARs
- 90% Performance measure
- Communication Strategy and Framework
- New NOPIMS website and
- Expiries and Surrenders.

Performance outcomes

The Titles Administrator reports on its performance against a defined measure in the department's Corporate Plan and Annual Report.

In 2024-25, it met the indicative target timeframes for assessing applications to the Joint Authority, Titles Administrator and Responsible Commonwealth Minister 99% of the time, in line with the department's 90% target.

This result is not only the Titles Administrator's highest result to date but also makes it five years of achieving 90% or over, since the 2020-21 reporting period.

Figure 16 shows the trended performance. These results demonstrate our ongoing commitment to improve efficiency.

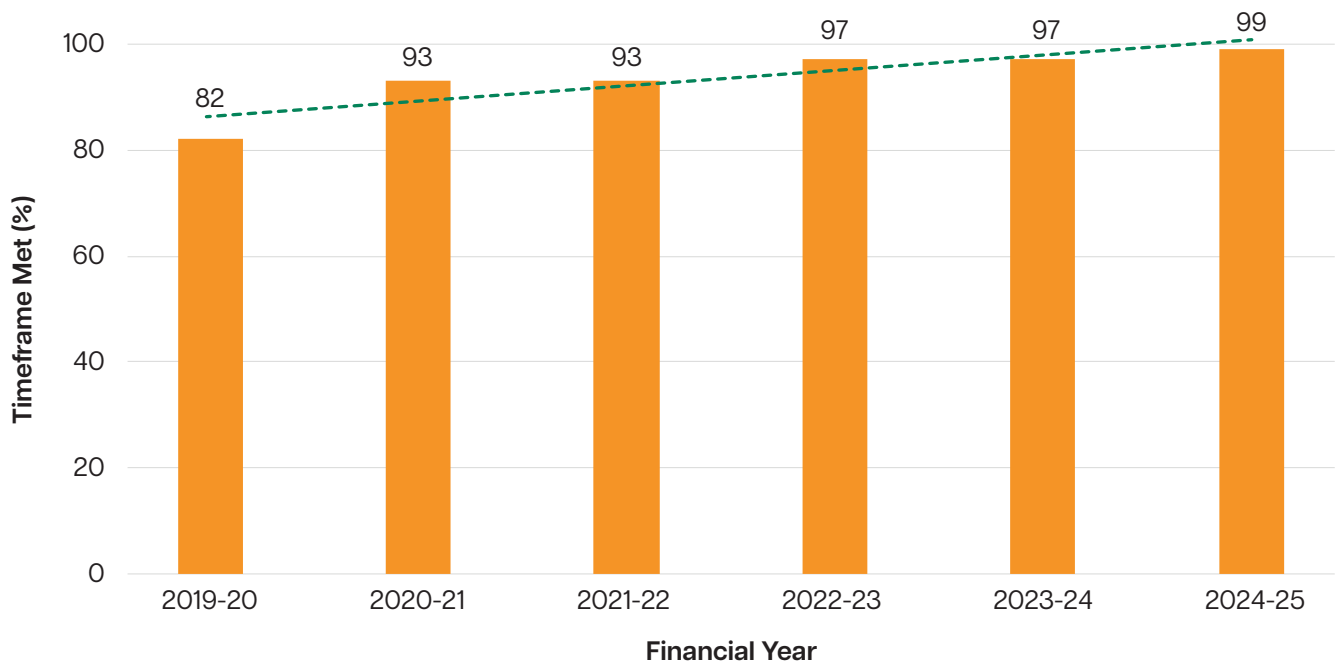


Figure 16: Percentage of applications that met the target assessment timeframes per financial year

Performance outcomes

Figure 17 below shows the average number of days spent at each application stage for Joint Authority related applications in 2024-25.

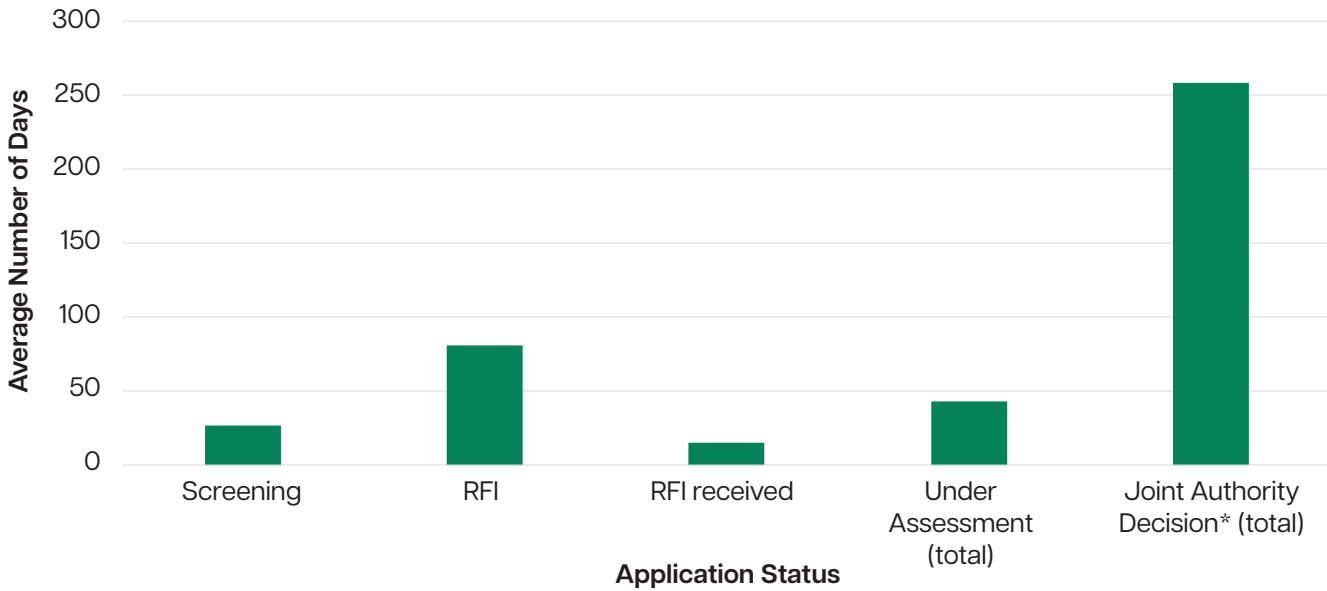


Figure 17: Completed Joint Authority Applications (2024-25) – average days spent at each major stage of application processing

*includes overall time spent at both respective State and Commonwealth decision makers

Figure 18 below shows the average number of days at each major stage of application processing per Joint Authority application type during 2024-25

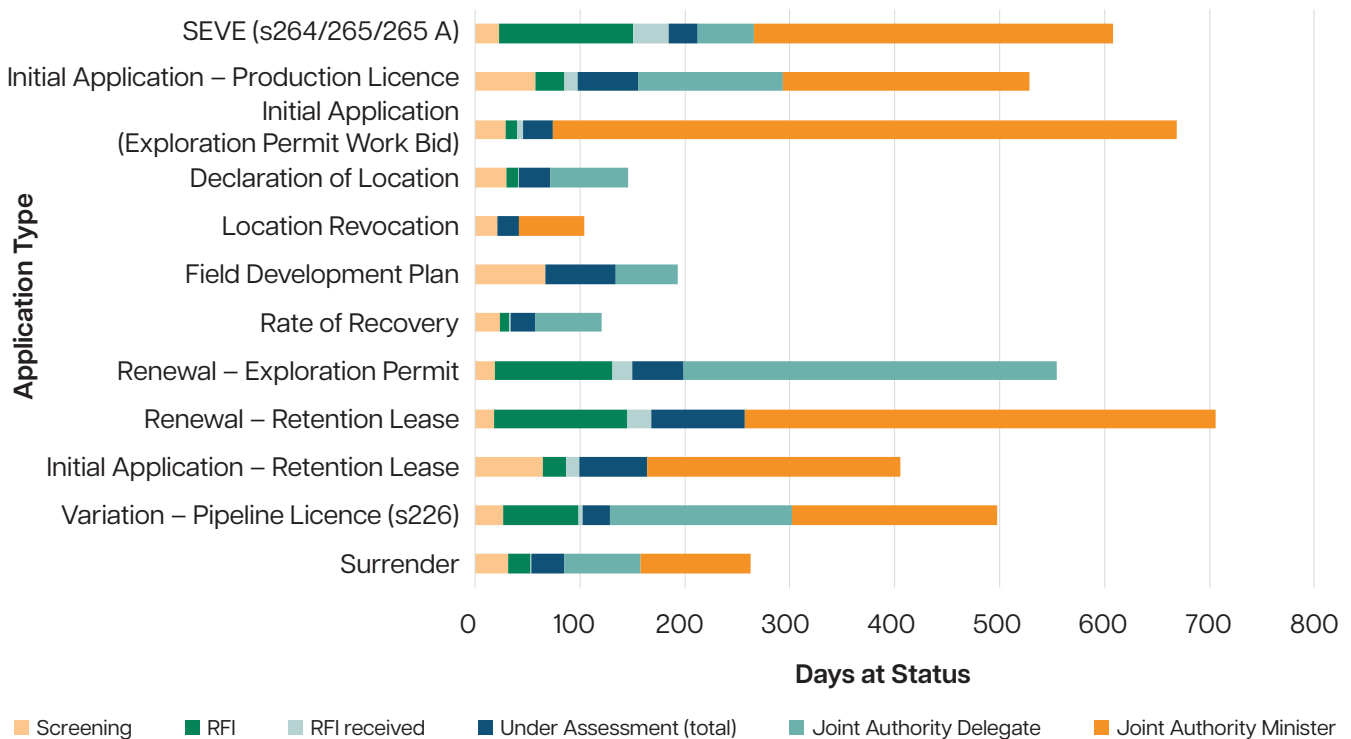


Figure 18: Completed Joint Authority Applications (2024-25) – average days spent at each major stage of application processing by application type

Figure 19 below shows the average number of days spent at each application stage for Titles Administrator related applications in 2024-25.

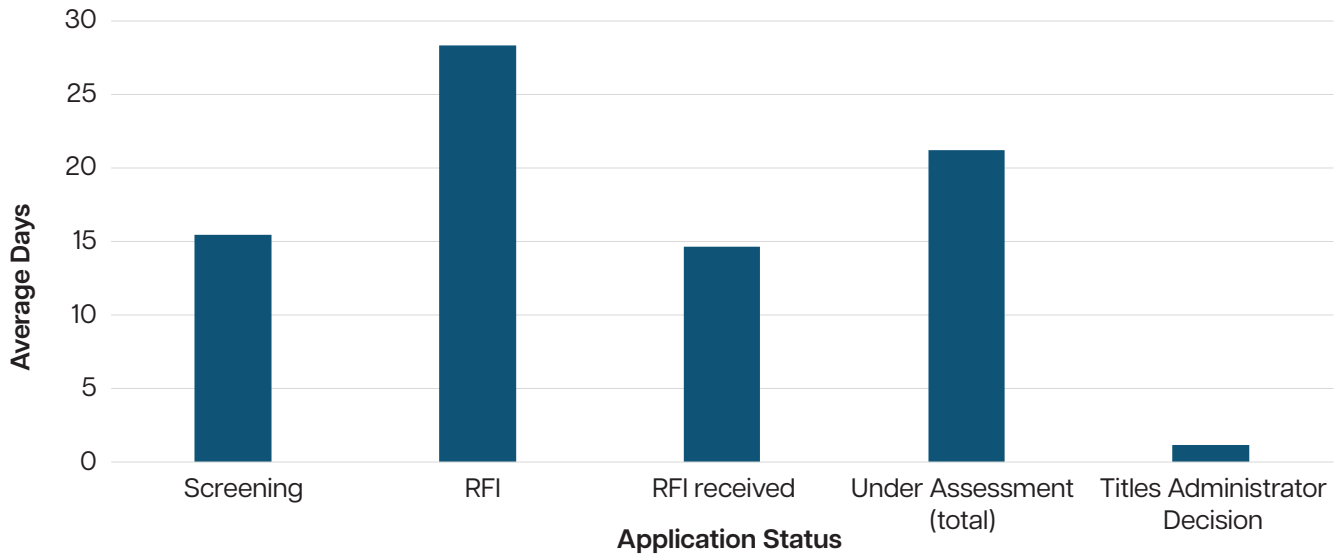


Figure 19: Completed Titles Administrator Applications (2024-25) – average number of days spent at each major stage of application processing

Figure 20 below shows the average days at each major stage of application processing per Titles Administrator application type during 2024-25.

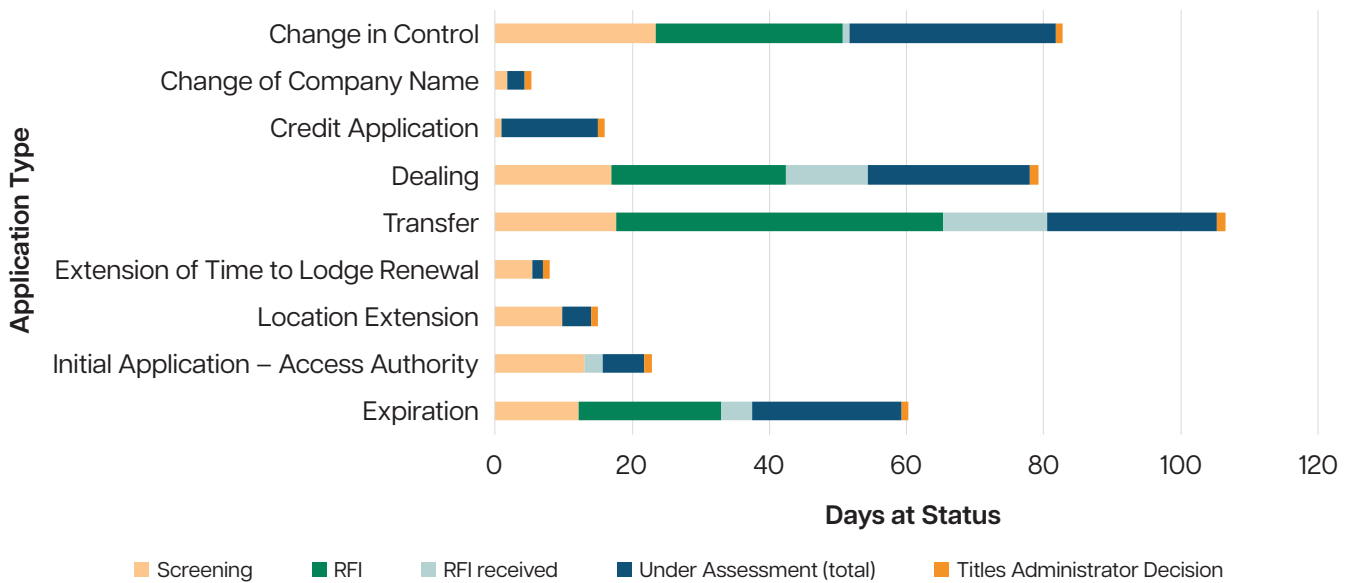


Figure 20: Completed Titles Administrator Applications (2024-25) – days at Status at each major stage of application processing by application type

Performance outcomes

Figure 21 shows the average days spent at each application stage for Responsible Commonwealth Minister GHG related applications in 2024-25.

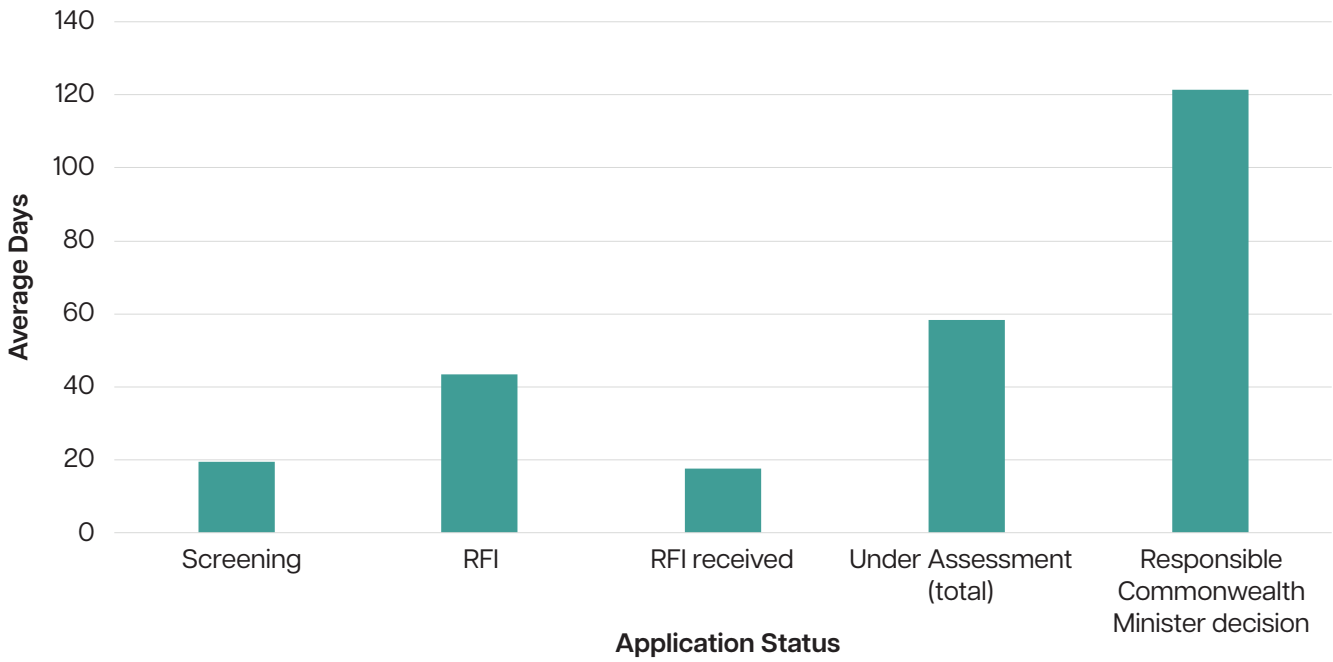


Figure 21: Completed Responsible Commonwealth Minister Applications (2024-25) – average days spent at each major stage of application processing



Application process overview

Figure 22 outlines the Australian Government’s process for offshore petroleum, GHG and OEI decisions under the OPGGS Act and OEI Act.

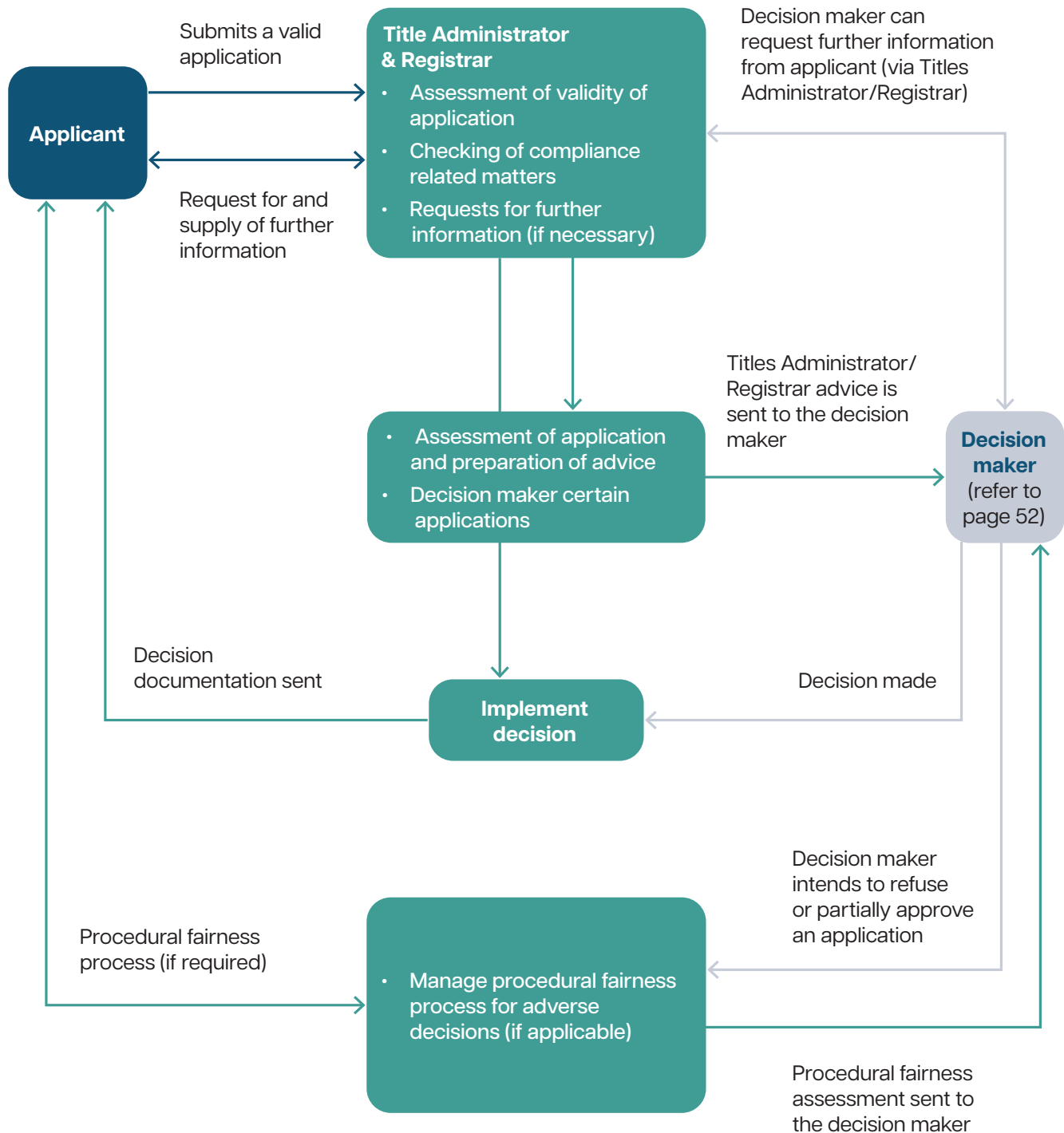


Figure 22: Overview of the application processes under the OPGGS Act and OEI Act

Who does what in government?

Administration / Regulation		
Function	Titles Administrator	
	Joint Authority	
Petroleum	<p>Decision maker for the approval and registration of change in control of a registered titleholder, transfers and dealings, and for granting of short-term titles.</p> <p>Provides advice and recommendations to the relevant decision makers under the OPGGS Act and associated regulations.</p> <p>Facilitates life of title administration, including compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Manage the submission and release of data.</p>	<p>Decision maker for the grant, renewal, variation, surrender and cancellation/termination (as applicable) of offshore petroleum exploration permits, retention leases and production licences.</p> <p>Decision maker for petroleum and GHG pipeline and infrastructure licences.</p> <p>Comprises of the relevant State/NT and/or the Responsible Commonwealth Minister.</p>
GHG / CCS	<p>Maintain the public registers of offshore petroleum and GHG titles.</p>	<p>Decision maker for petroleum and GHG pipeline and infrastructure licences.</p>
Offshore Infrastructure / Wind	Registrar	Minister for Climate Change and Energy
	<p>Decision maker for the approval and registration of change in control of a licence holder.</p> <p>Provides advice and recommendations to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy under the OEI Act.</p> <p>Facilitates life of licence administration, including compliance monitoring.</p> <p>Maintain the public register of offshore electricity licences.</p>	<p>Decision maker for all licensing decisions, including declaring areas suitable for offshore renewable energy infrastructure. Decision maker for transfer of licence.</p> <p>Currently, Minister for Climate Change and Energy is the Hon Chris Bowen MP.</p>

				Policy
	Cross-boundary Authority	Responsible Commonwealth Minister	NOPSEMA	DISR
	N/A	N/A	Regulator for health, safety, infrastructure and well integrity, and environmental management for offshore petroleum and GHG storage in Commonwealth waters, and in coastal waters where regulatory powers and functions have been conferred.	Policy relating to OPGGS Act.
	Decision maker for cross boundary assessment permits, holding leases and injection licences.	Decision maker for GHG grants, renewal, variation, surrender and cancellation/termination (as applicable) of assessment permit, holding lease, injection licence, and short-term titles. Currently, Minister for Resources, the Hon Madeleine King MP.		
			Offshore Infrastructure Regulator	DCCEEW
			Regulator for overseeing work health and safety, infrastructure integrity, and environmental management for offshore renewable energy infrastructure and offshore electricity transmission infrastructure in the Commonwealth offshore area.	Policy relating to OEI Act.



Financials

*sea wind turbines outside of Australia

OPGGS Act – cost recovery overview

The Titles Administrator’s functions are fully funded by levies and fees charged for administering the offshore petroleum and GHG storage titles under the OPGGS Act.

Its current cost recovery arrangements are detailed in the 2025 Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS). The funds are managed through an administered Special Account in line with the requirements of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act).

Levies

In 2024-25, \$16.4 million was collected in levies, making up 85% of NOPTA’s revenue (see Table 3).

The levy, prescribed in the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Regulatory Levies) Regulations 2022, is payable upon the grant of a title and is due annually thereafter within 30 days of the anniversary date of the title.

Title Type	No. of Titles	No. of Blocks	Length Km	Levy Amount \$'000
Exploration Permits	68	-	-	775
Exploration Permits Adjustment	5	-	-	26
Refund of Surrendered Exploration Permits	6	-	-	-66
Refund of Withdrawal Exploration Permits	1	-	-	-11
Greenhouse Gas Assessment Permit	17	-	-	187
Infrastructure Licence	3	-	-	85
Pipeline Licence	87	-	4822	563
Production Licence	98	325	-	7,385
Production Licence Surrender	1	5	-	-110
Retention Lease	71	313	-	7,321
Retention Lease Adjustment	7	11	-	239
Refund of Expired Retention Lease	1	-	-	-8
Total Annual Levy				16,386

Table 3: Annual Titles Administration Levy 2024-25

Fees

Application fees, prescribed in the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Resource Management and Administration) Regulations 2011, are payable when submitting applications for approval to

undertake certain regulated activities. In 2024-25, application fee revenue was \$2.9 million, making up 15% of total revenue (see Table 4).

Application Type	No. of Application	Fee Amount \$'000
Renewal Exploration Permit	3	44
Petroleum Retention Lease	3	59
Renewal Retention Lease	8	152
Production Licence	3	76
Variation Pipeline Licence	2	26
Transfer	10	86
Dealing	159	1,524
Change in Control	8	69
Access Authority	5	38
Suspension, Extension, Variation, Exemption	20	311
Declaration of Location	2	34
Surrender	14	164
Acceptance of FDP	1	26
Rate of Recovery	5	76
Declaration of Identified Storage Formation	2	17
GHG Variation, Suspension, Exemption	3	54
GHG Transfer	4	40
GHG Dealing	12	111
Application Fees	264	2,907

Table 4: Application Fees 2024-25

OPGGS Act – cost effectiveness and financial results

Since the Titles Administrator is a branch within DISR, its functions are legislated under the OPGGS Act. This provides a clear separation from DISR and enables easy identification of the costs recovered from industry.

DISR provides the governance structure, access to corporate support and systems, and pays workers' compensation and

other insurances. It also charges directly attributable costs to the Administrator. In 2024-25, \$1.1 million was recovered for Titles Administrator operations and \$0.2 million for Registrar functions.

During the 2024-25 financial year, ICT capital expenditure totalled \$1.86 million. The Titles Administrator's Special Account balance was \$5.8 million as of 30 June 2025.

Income statement	2024-25 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000
Revenue – Cost Recovery		
Levies	16,386	15,690
Application Fees	2,907	1,964
Other	32	53
Total Revenue	19,325	17,706
Expenses		
Employee Benefits	12,664	11,045
Suppliers	3,081	3,740
NOPDCR	1,410	1,382
ICT and Telecommunications Costs	1,433	1,943
Depreciation and Amortisation*	1,890	1,228
Overhead Recharging Allocation	763	773
Total Expenses	21,241	20,111
Surplus / (deficit)	(1,916)	(2,405)

Table 5: Our 2024-25 financial result compared to 2023-24

OEI Act – cost recovery overview

The Registrar’s functions under the OEI Act is upheld by access to adequate resources and qualified personnel. The Registrar maintains a competent capacity to undertake its advisory and compliance roles within the OEI regime. Funding for the Registrar is provided through the cost recovery charges imposed under the OEI legislation, with funds managed through an administered Special Account.

Table 6 presents the financial performance for 2024-25 compared to 2023-24. The Registrar’s cost recovery is achieved through application fees and annual licence levies. In 2024-25, the total annual licence levy collected was \$2.1 million (Table 6).

The annual licence levy is imposed on holders of OEI licences in accordance with the OEI Act, the Offshore Infrastructure (Regulatory Levies) Act 2021, and the Offshore Electricity Infrastructure (Regulatory Levies) Regulations 2022. The annual levy is payable 30 days after a licence is granted and annually thereafter within 30 days of each licence anniversary.

Application fees, as prescribed by the Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Regulations 2022, are payable at the time of application submission. In 2024-25, application fee revenue totalled \$2.2 million (Table 6).

Income statement	2024-25 \$'000	2023-24 \$'000
Revenue – Cost Recovery		
Levies	2,095	953
Application Fees	2,207	2,400
Other	1	-
Revenue – Other		
Fees collected on behalf of other agencies	6,673	3,080
Total Revenue	10,976	6,433
Expenses		
Employee Benefits	3,748	1,780
Suppliers	1,941	1,790
Depreciation and Amortisation	63	21
Overhead Recharging Allocation	1,432	121
Total Expenses	7,184	3,712
Surplus / (deficit)	3,792	2,721

Table 6: Registrar’s financial performance for 2024-25 compared to 2023-24

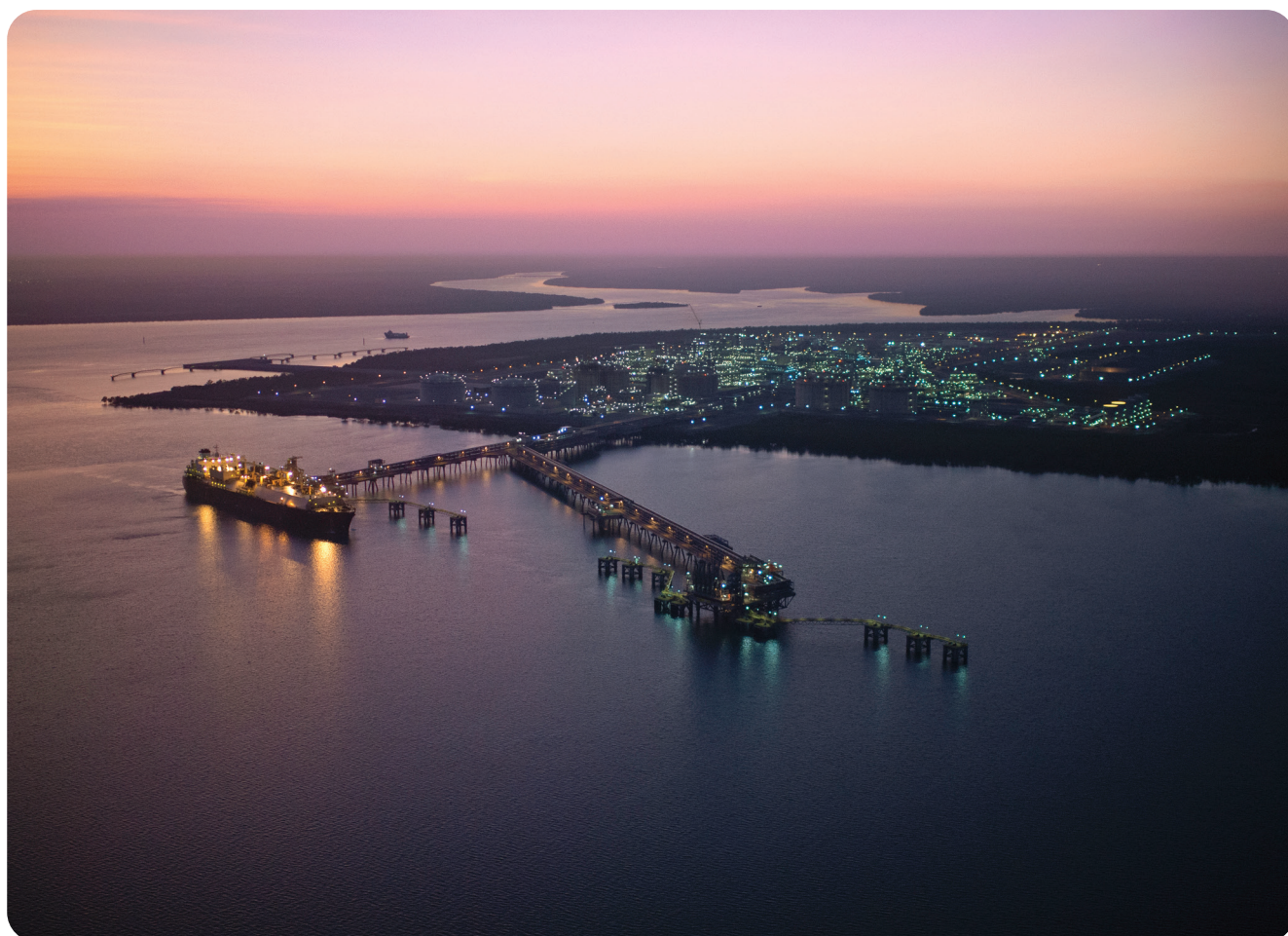
OEI Act – Cost Effectiveness and Financial Results

The Registrar uses a range of services provided by the Titles Administrator to support its functions. The main costs comprise of the Registrar's portion of office accommodation and utility costs, ICT network and desktop costs, operating costs and depreciation of office fit-outs.

To make sure the Registrar remains fully cost recovered, the costs incurred by the administrator are reimbursed. In 2024-25, the allocation of these costs totalled \$1.2 million.

DISR provides the governance structure, access to corporate support and systems, workers' compensation and other insurances.

On 30 June 2025, the balance of the Registrar's Special Account was \$13.39 million. The special account balance consists of financial securities held and levies collected on behalf of DCCEEW.



INPEX-operated Ichthys LNG onshore facilities in Darwin.

