

	<p>PROMOTIONAL VISITS</p>	<p>POLICY</p> <p>Approved for Publication</p>
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1. Purpose

This policy document provides an overview of the general principles the National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (NOPSA) applies when undertaking visits to proposed facilities. This policy has been drafted with consideration of the relevant legislation. This policy assigns responsibilities and defines review processes to ensure effective implementation.

2. Scope

This policy covers NOPSA's approach to support Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) inspectors in conducting visits to vessels or structures that are proposed facilities, are in Australian territory, but are not facilities at the time of the visit, and the visit is not an inspection.

This policy does not cover situations requiring the use of inspectors' powers to obtain evidence or investigate an incident. For such situations, the procedures set out in NOPSA's planned inspection and enforcement systems must be used.

The policy has been developed to ensure NOPSA complies with the specific requirements of the applicable Commonwealth, State and Territory legislation.

Definitions and abbreviations used in this document can be found in NOPSA's Glossary of terms for Regulatory Operations - N-09000-GL0326 Glossary – Regulatory Operations.

3. Relevant Legislation

[*Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*](#)

[*Petroleum \(Submerged Lands\) \(Management of Safety on Offshore Facilities\) Regulations 1996*](#)

[*Petroleum \(Submerged Lands\) \(Pipelines\) Regulations 2001*](#)

[*Petroleum \(Submerged Lands\) \(Diving Safety\) Regulations 2002*](#)

and the equivalent State or Territory Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Acts 1982 and regulations.

4. Policy

From time to time, NOPSA OHS Inspectors visit vessels or structures that are proposed facilities, but are not facilities at the time of the visit, such as diving support vessels, MODUs or FPSOs when they are in port. Past examples of such visits include invitations from operators of FPSOs to visit their vessel while in dock for familiarisation purposes, and requests by MoU partners to accompany them on their inspections, where NOPSA personnel are present in an observational capacity.

It is important to draw a distinction between such visits and inspections, and the operator will be clearly informed.

5. Working with MOU agencies

This policy applies only to joint visits where MoU agency staff are not involved in any enforcement activity. If requiring the expertise of a MoU agency for investigation and enforcement purposes, other arrangements must be made in accordance with NOPSA's planned inspection and enforcement systems.

If a promotional visit is not as a result of a request from a DA or other appropriate agency, NOPSA will liaise with relevant agencies to discuss the proposed visits to discuss matters of common interest, and to establish whether there is any interest in a joint visit.

Any NOPSA employee who initiates a promotional visit is responsible for identifying appropriate training and equipment required for the joint visit, and for making sure that any but the relevant MoU agency is responsible for providing such training and equipment for their employees.