



Media Release

6 December 2007
For Immediate Release

Oil Company fined \$180,000

A decision against Coogee Resources (Ashmore Cartier) Pty Ltd was handed down in Darwin Magistrate's Court on 5 December 2007. Coogee was fined \$180,000.

Coogee pleaded guilty on 22 November 2007 of breaching occupational health and safety regulations in the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act. The charge related to an accident that occurred on 11 May 2006, in which a worker on one of Coogee's oil production facilities in the Timor Sea fell from a height inside a cargo tank. The worker survived, but the accident could have been fatal. The accident was investigated by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (NOPSA).

In handing down her sentence, Chief Magistrate Jenny Blokland stated, "the Defendant accepts that despite it had certain systems in place at the time, the system was not complete in terms of ensuring compliance . . . It is the compliance and assurance of maintenance of the safety system that is important."

The [full reasons for the decision](#) by Chief Magistrate Blokland are available on the website of the Darwin Magistrates court¹.

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¹ <http://www.nt.gov.au/justice/ntmc/judgements/2007decisions.shtml>