

Regulatory requirements for the registration of plant and plant design under the applied provisions of the Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011 (WHS Regulations) as modified by the Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Regulations 2022 (OEI Regulations) are due to come into effect from December 2027.

This fact sheet aims to support OEI licence holders and other WHS duty holders in understanding future requirements for registration of plant and plant design, and to begin preparations ahead of those requirements entering into effect.

What is changing for OEI duty holders?

The OEI Regulations modify the WHS Regulations by replacing the list of items subject to requirements for registration of plant and plant design with a new list of items.

The duties and requirements related to registration of plant and plant design are intended to apply to the following list of plant as outlined in Regulation 227A of the applied WHS provisions:

- a crane
- a lift
- a hoist
- a work positioning system
- a temporary work platform
- a concrete placing boom.

This list of plant replaces the list at Schedule 5 of the WHS regulations which is repealed by item 45 of schedule 1 of the OEI Regulations.

When will changes commence?

The duties set out in Divisions, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of Part 5.3 of the applied WHS provisions of the OEI Regulations will apply to duty holders from 12 December 2027.

The duty to register plant and plant designs under Divisions 1 and 2 of Part 5.3 of the applied WHS provisions of the OEI Regulations will apply to duty holders from 12 December 2028.





How to prepare:

Duty holders will have until 12 December 2027 to prepare to comply with the duties and requirements for registration of plant and plant design. This time should be spent identifying the components of offshore infrastructure that will also be plant that is subject to the requirements. Cranes and lifts are good examples of this.

Duty holders are encouraged to engage with the OIR on plant design and registration early in the project development and planning phase.

Duty holders should note that the dates below represent the commencement of plant design and registration obligations. The approach of individual duty holders to comply with the obligations will be dictated by the readiness and phase of their project.

The OIR will issue further guidance and information to assist duty holders in understanding requirements and processes for registering plant designs and items of plant prior to the requirements entering into force.

After 12 December 2027:

Duty holders should begin registering necessary plant designs and items of plant when the necessary information to complete a registration is available.

An application to register a design must include a statement signed by the designer of the plant, the published technical standards used in the design, and representational drawings of the design.

An application to register an item of plant must include information to clearly identify the item, the plant design registration number, and a statement that the item of plant has been inspected by a competent person and is safe to operate.

After 12 December 2028:

All of the duties and requirements of the applied provisions of the WHS Regulations regarding registration of plant and plant design will be in effect. This will include a requirement that a person must not supply or commission an item of plant that is supposed to have been registered until registration has been completed.

For more information:
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