



OIR
Australia's Offshore
Energy Regulator

Collaborative Regulation of Offshore Renewables Projects

AELERT

November 2022

oir.gov.au



NOPSEMA
Australia's offshore energy regulator



Outline

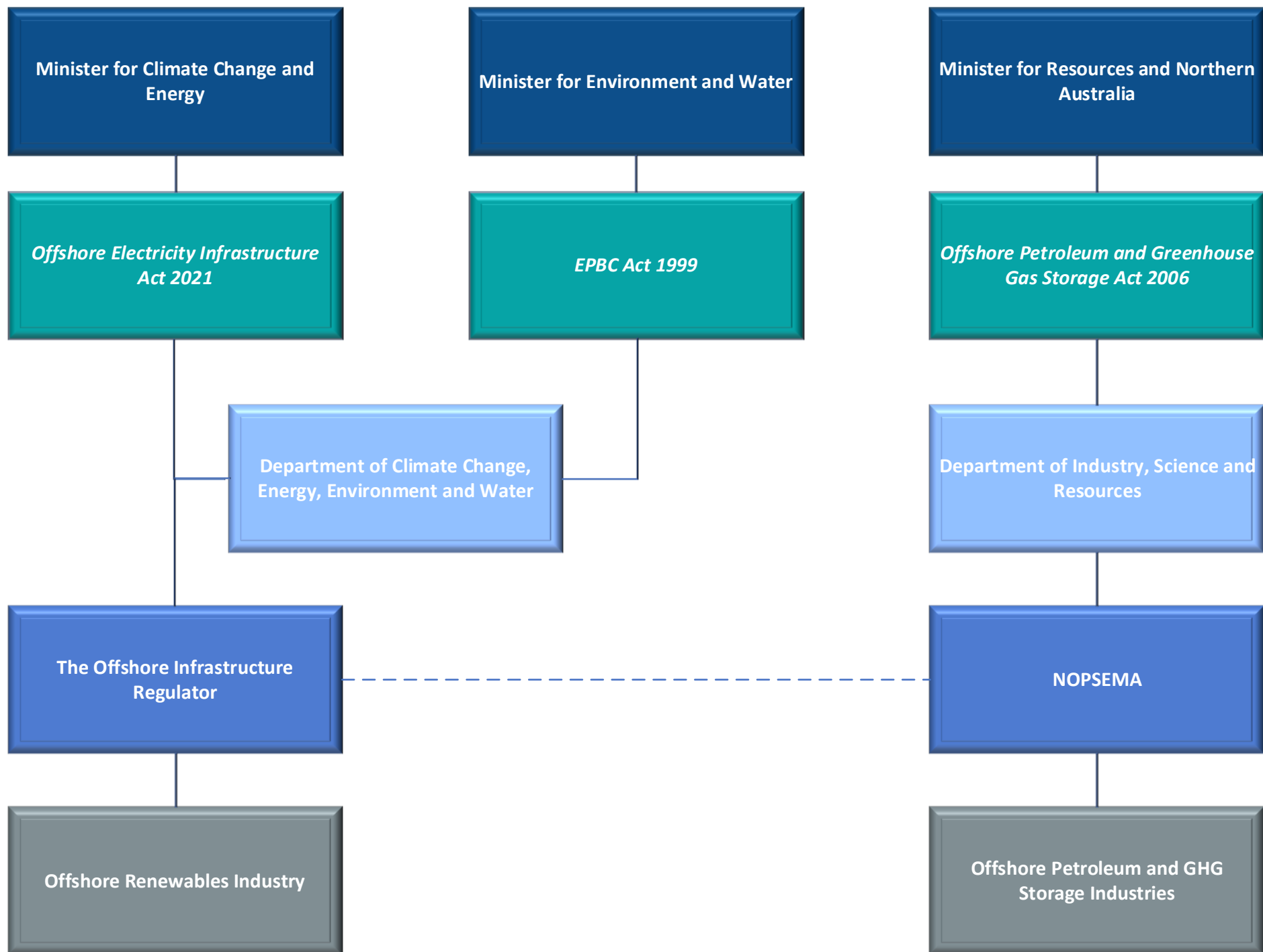
- The Offshore Infrastructure Regulator
- Interactions between the OEI and EPBC Acts
- Coordination and leveraging of expertise
- Questions



The Offshore Infrastructure Regulator

- Established under the *Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021*
- Regulates WHS, infrastructure integrity, and environmental management of offshore infrastructure activities in Commonwealth waters
- Cost recovered from offshore renewables industry
- Expertise based offshore regulator with capacity to leverage NOPSEMA technical capability





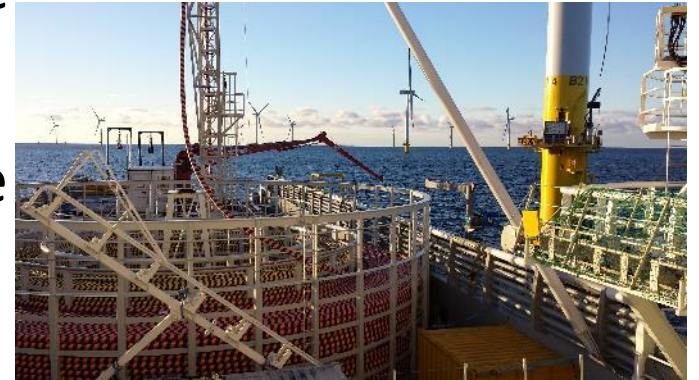
Interaction with the EPBC Act

- The EPBC Act will continue to apply to offshore renewables projects
- Referral and decision likely to be required for all large scale projects
- Technical advice and support provided by the OIR
- Management plan must ensure consistency with EPBC assessment outcomes
- OIR will monitor ongoing compliance with management plan



Assessment

- OIR provide technical advice and support to DCCEEW on EPBC Act decision making processes relevant to offshore renewables
- OIR able to utilise the practical experience and expertise of NOPSEMA environment specialists
- Leverages DCCEEW subject matter experts and OIR/NOPSEMA EIA practitioners to deliver outcomes
- Allows for the OIR to be involved at an early stage with a view to ongoing compliance monitoring and enforcement
- OIR contributes to development of outcomes based condition sets for renewables projects



Compliance monitoring and enforcement

- Outcomes based EPBC conditions reflected in OEI Act management plans
- Allows OIR inspectorate to monitor compliance
- Leverages on the ground presence and proactive compliance monitoring of the OIR
- Provides for a cost recovered compliance monitoring framework
- Coordinated approach to enforcement across statutes
- Underpinned by information sharing provisions and administrative arrangements
- Provides access to a broader range of enforcement tools



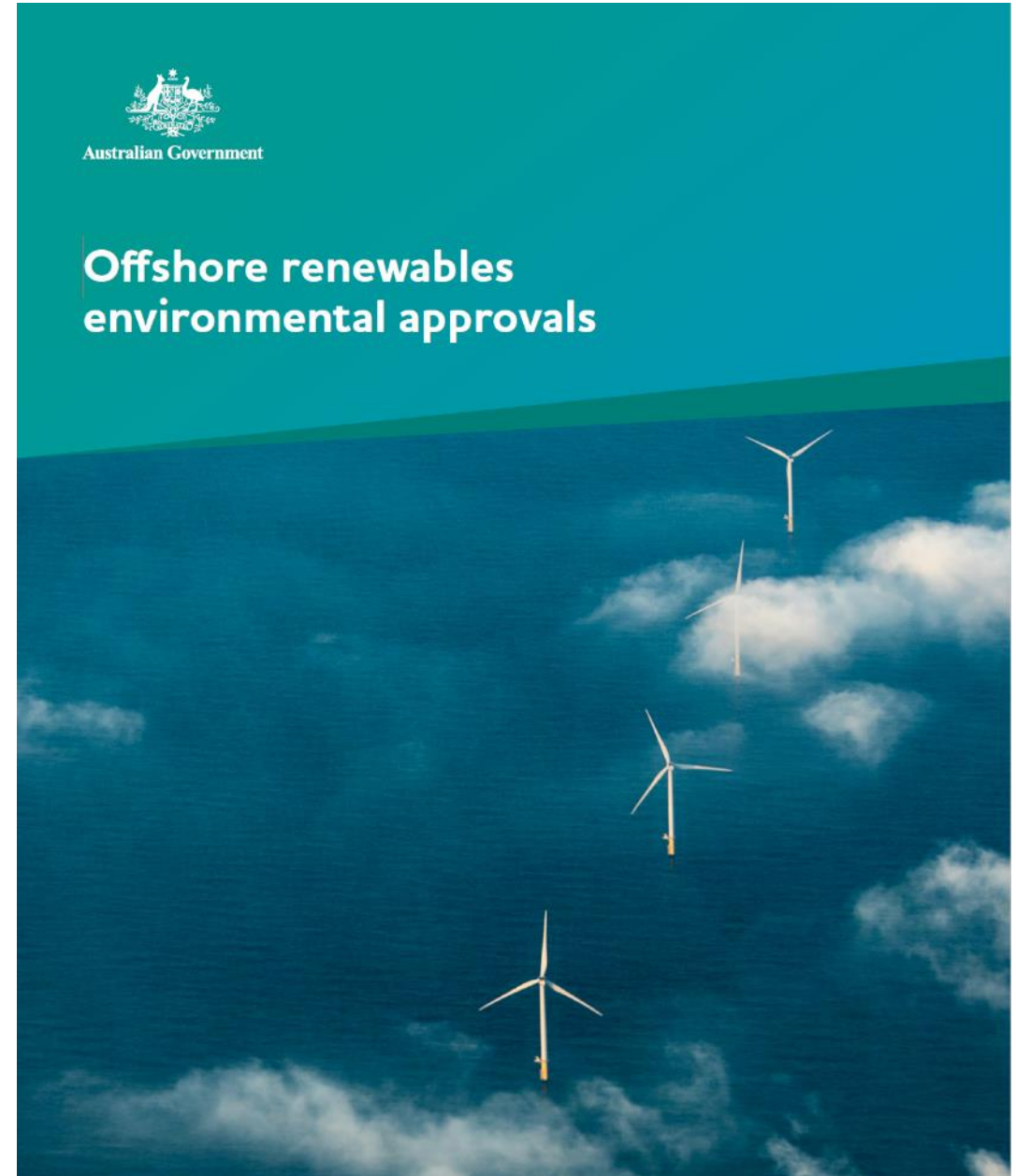
Continuous improvement

- Revisions to OEI management plans provide a feedback loop for continuous improvement in environmental outcomes
- Allows for periodic re-evaluation of control measures and ALARP impact and risk management
- Allows for variation of conditions over time if required



Guidance on OEI/EPBC interaction

- Developed collaboratively between agencies
- Addresses interface between EPBC and OEI Act licensing and approvals processes
- Encourages referral after feasibility licence grant
- Covers DNP processes
- First in a suite of collaborative guidance products



Interest in Australia

Northern Territory

1 proposed transmission project

Key



Fixed or floating offshore wind



Transmission infrastructure/interconnectors



Offshore wind and land-based solar development

Up to 60 GW capacity

Western Australia

13 proposed projects

Up to 16.9 GW capacity



South Australia

2 proposed projects

Up to 1.5 GW capacity



Tasmania

2 proposed projects

Up to 1.75 GW capacity



Victoria

13 proposed projects

Up to 20.75 GW capacity



Note: No licences have been granted in Australia to date.

Potential projects are based on publicly announced industry proposals

Last updated 21 November 2022

Questions?

