



Australian Government

# DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TOURISM

## 5<sup>th</sup> IEA International CCS Regulatory Network Meeting

### Panel discussion

*Experience in managing pre-competitive exploration, leasing and subsurface conflicts*

#### Themes:

- Pre-competitive exploration: onshore and offshore
- Leasing: titles system
- Subsurface conflict: petroleum, gas and water, land use

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# Pre-competitive exploration

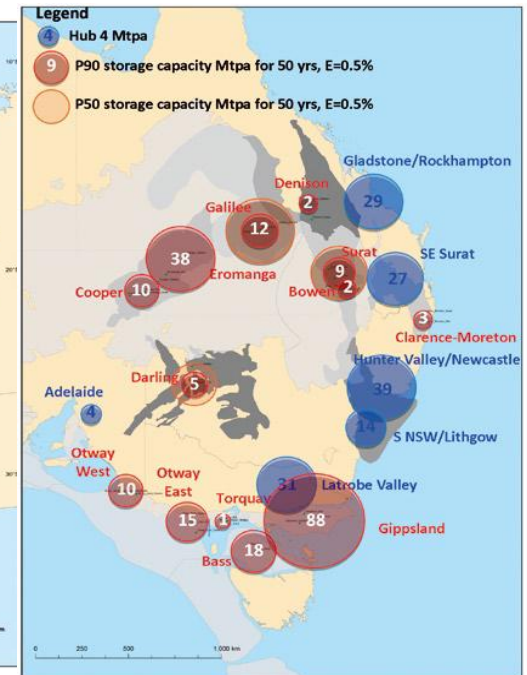
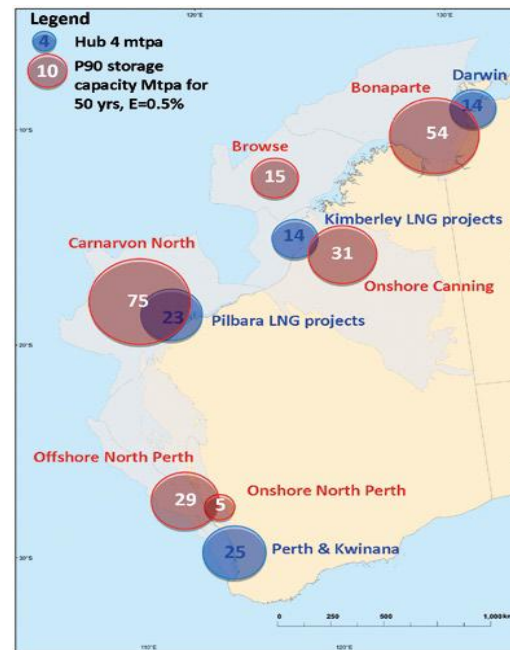
- CO<sub>2</sub> storage in saline aquifers required across Australia, both on and offshore
- Focus on pre-exploration: off-shore 100%; onshore 50% Commonwealth funded

## Work completed or happening:

- WA: South Perth, Vlaming; Browse; Gorgon (Barrow Island – start 2015)
- Qld: Surat & Denison;
- NSW: N Sydney; Gunnedah & Darling;
- Vic: Gippsland Basin;
- NT: Bonaparte (Petrel)

## Planned:

- WA: Carnarvon, N Perth and Caning;
- Qld: Surat, Galilee and Eromanga;
- NSW: Clarence-Moreton



# Titles

Australian GHG storage regime mirrors petroleum titles system. All are defined in the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006*.

Petroleum and Gas	GHG
Petroleum Exploration Permit Part 2.2	GHG Assessment Permit Part 3.2
Petroleum Retention Lease Part 2.3	GHG Holding Lease Part 3.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- By holder of a GHG assessment permit</li><li>- By holder of a GHG injection licence</li><li>- By holder of a petroleum retention lease</li></ul>
Petroleum Production Licence Part 2.4	GHG Injection Licence Part 3.4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- By holder of a GHG assessment permit or GHG holding lease</li><li>- By holder of a petroleum production licence</li></ul>
Infrastructure Licence Part 2.5 and Pipeline Licences Part 2.6	

# Subsurface conflict

- GHG and petroleum titles can co-exist.
- Responsible Commonwealth Minister (RCM) must be satisfied that GHG activity does not have a significant risk of a significant adverse impact on existing or future petroleum operations.
- The RCM can appoint Expert Advisory Committees for advice on matters including SROSAI assessments.
- Obligation of title holders to reduce impact on other users rights and access e.g. navigation, fishing, conservation of resources of sea and seabed, native title rights and interest.
- New developments: applying the concept of adverse impact to groundwater, coal, CSG, geothermal (see next slide).

# Sources of potential resource conflict

- GHG storage may be affected by existing non-GHG legislation e.g. Commonwealth EPBC Act and/or state legislation.
- New CSG regulations in NSW and Queensland may cast shadows on what is to come for CCS.

