

## SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT NORTH WEST SHELF (NWS) PROJECT EXTENSION



### Stakeholder groups engaged in Roebourne and Karratha included:

- + Industry organisations;
- + Aboriginal organisations;
- + local businesses;
- + local government staff and councillors;
- + ports;
- + regional development; and
- + service providers including community, education, health.

### About the North West Shelf Project

The Woodside-operated NWS Project is Australia's largest producing oil and gas project, and one of the world's premier liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities. NWS has been operating for over 35 years and is operated by Woodside on behalf of six major companies.

The NWS Project has maintained a track record of reliable production and delivery. Natural gas has been produced from the NWS Project for domestic use since 1984, and it is the largest single supplier of pipeline gas in Western Australia.

### About the NWS Project Extension

As existing reservoirs deplete and capacity emerges in NWS Project infrastructure, there is an opportunity to transform the project into a world-class, third-party gas processing facility and extend production for decades into the future.

The NWS Project Extension proposes the ongoing operation of the NWS Project to enable the long-term processing of third party gas and fluids and North West Shelf Joint Venture field resources through the NWS Project facilities until around 2070.

For further information about the Project please refer to the Woodside website.

### Woodside's approach to social impact assessment

Woodside is committed to delivering sustainable social outcomes in the communities where we operate.

Woodside regularly reviews the potential impacts and opportunities of its projects and operations on communities. This approach informs management strategies to enhance project benefits and eliminate or minimise potential impacts.

Potential social impacts and opportunities on Roebourne and Karratha communities arising from the proposed project were assessed in terms of how potential NWS Project Extension activities may interact with communities and stakeholders that are likely to be affected.

### About the NWS Project Extension Social Impact Assessment (SIA)

Stakeholder engagement as part of the SIA process was undertaken in December 2018 and April 2019 in order to:

- + Provide details of the proposed NWS Project Extension, as part of broader Woodside activities;
- + Better understand stakeholder and community perceptions of the potential impacts and benefits of the proposed NWS Project Extension; and
- + Verify baseline data, collect further baseline data against some indicators and identify local values, attitudes and aspirations.

## Key findings raised by stakeholders

The overall sentiment from stakeholders who were engaged in 2018 and 2019 for the SIA recognised that the Karratha Local Government Area (LGA) had undergone a series of peaks and troughs of economic activity and expressed a desire to leverage the long-term nature of Woodside's activities and operations to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the Karratha region.

There was a general interest in understanding local employment and training opportunities, especially for Indigenous stakeholders. Some stakeholders also raised matters of potential impacts to rock art. The key findings of the SIA are outlined below.



### Economic Development, Employment and Skills Development

- + Woodside's proposal to extend the life of the NWS Project to approximately 2070 and the existing policy to implement a predominantly residential workforce stands to provide direct long-term economic development opportunities to the State, regional and local Karratha economies.
- + Opportunity for the community to continue to benefit from the project in the long-term, including participation by local businesses in the supply chain and continued opportunities for local training and employment.



### Population Growth

- + Desire for long-term sustained population growth in the Karratha LGA. The move to a predominantly residential Karratha based workforce was well-received by stakeholders.
- + Recognition that the impact of various factors including fluctuating populations due to resources development needs to be managed better into the future.



### Housing and Accommodation

- + Strong stakeholder sentiment exists in the Karratha LGA around FIFO and housing.
- + Acknowledgement that there is a sector of the community that is vulnerable to housing availability and affordability.
- + Recognition that there will need to be continued planning and transparent communication with the Karratha LGA on the Woodside residential footprint to support effective regional accommodation planning.



### Community Amenity and Lifestyle

- + The extended time frame and potential population increase as a result of the implementation of a predominantly residential workforce is expected to positively impact community amenity and lifestyle.
- + This will occur as the long-term residential workforce continues to integrate and participate in local groups and organisations to improve community vibrancy and connectedness.
- + Challenges exist due to construction workforce rosters, that can play a part in a person's ability to participate in community life.



### Community Safety, Wellbeing and Resilience

- + Concern that the gap between socioeconomic indicators of Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities within the Karratha LGA will continue to widen, specifically in reference to Roebourne.
- + Stakeholders want to see a commitment from Woodside to support long term social change and expressed a preference for longer-term investment, rather than continued sponsorship or infrastructure investment.
- + Some stakeholders perceive that there may be community health impacts associated with flaring and emissions. Managing this perception through regular occupational health and monitoring and communications will be important.



### Indigenous Cultural Heritage and Relations

- + The Burrup Peninsula is a highly significant cultural area for Aboriginal communities.
- + Impacts, both real or perceived to the cultural heritage of the Burrup Peninsula require careful and ongoing management and stakeholder engagement.
- + Some stakeholders expressed an interest in understanding mitigation measures including cultural heritage management.

## Proposed Approach to Mitigation and Management

Mitigation and management measures proposed in this assessment will be progressed through social impact management and benefit strategies.

The consultation identified the following social impact and opportunity focus areas:



Community  
Amenity and  
Lifestyle



Community Safety,  
Wellbeing and  
Resilience



Population  
Growth



Housing and  
Accommodation



Economic  
Development,  
Employment and  
Skills Development



Indigenous Cultural  
Heritage and  
Relations

## Providing feedback and further information

This fact sheet, along with other information on Woodside's proposed developments and operations, is available at [www.woodside.com.au](http://www.woodside.com.au)

Proposed developments are subject to joint venture approvals regulatory approvals and relevant commercial arrangements, therefore, development concept and timing may be subject to change.

If you require further information or would like to comment, please contact Woodside by email to [feedback@woodside.com.au](mailto:feedback@woodside.com.au) or call toll free 1800 442 977.

Alternatively, please visit our Karratha office located at The Quarter, Level 3, 24 Sharpe Avenue, Karratha WA.

All information is current as at January 2020.