

Statement of Reasons

Petroleum Act 1984

Determination and reasons for determination as to appropriate person to hold permit or licence

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Permit or licence being applied for *Exploration Permit EP143*

Date of determination *9 March 2023*

1. Background

- (a) The Applicant applied for renewal of exploration permit (EP) EP143.
- (b) Section 15A(1) of the *Petroleum Act 1984* (the Act) requires me to be satisfied that the applicant and any associated entity seeking the grant or renewal of a permit or licence is an appropriate person to hold a permit or licence.
- (c) In making the determination that the Applicant, and any associated entity of the Applicant, is an appropriate person to hold a permit or licence under the Act, I must have regard to the matters set out in section 15A(1) and, where necessary, section 15A(2).
- (d) Section 15A(5) provides that I must publish, on the Agency's website, the reasons why I have determined that an Applicant, and any associated entity of the Applicant, is or is not an appropriate person to hold a licence or permit under the Act.
- (e) This document contains my determination and my reasons.

2. Determination

- (a) I am satisfied that the Applicant, and any associated entity of the Applicant, is an appropriate person to hold a licence or permit under the Act.

3. Reasons for determination

- (a) I have had regard to the matters set out in section 15A.
- (b) Where there is a reference to a director, I have taken into consideration any person concerned in the management of the body corporate as is required by section 15A(3).
- (c) The table below sets out the matters referred to in section 15A(1). I set out in that table the material factors that are relevant to each such matter.

Section in Act	Matter	Material factors
15A(1)(a)	The Applicant or associated entity's record of compliance with the prescribed legislation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) whether the Applicant or entity has contravened any of the prescribed legislation; and (ii) the seriousness of any contraventions; and (iii) the length of time since the contraventions (if any) occurred; and (iv) any other matter the Minister considers relevant. 	<i>The Applicant and associated entities have not contravened the prescribed legislation.</i> <i>An interrogation of the documents listed in 3(e) below established that there had been no acts of non-compliance with the prescribed legislation.</i>
15A(1)(b)	Whether the Applicant or associated entity has held a licence or other authority	<i>The associated entity, Tamboran Resources Limited and its subsidiaries, hold permits under the prescribed legislation, being:</i>

	under the prescribed legislation where that licence or authority has been suspended or revoked.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% interest in EP76, EP98 and EP117 • 100% interest in EP143, EP136 and EP(A)197 • 25% interest in EP161 with Santos QNT Pty Ltd holding 75% • previously held a 25% interest in EP162 and EP189 with Santos QNT Pty Ltd holding 75% • previously held a 25% interest in EP189 with Santos QNT Pty Ltd holding 75% interest • Tamboran Resources Limited is the parent company of Tamboran (Pedirka) Pty Ltd, which held 100% interest in EP163 • Tamboran Resources Limited is the parent company of Tamboran (Ngalia) Pty Ltd, which held 100% interest in EP164, EP165, EP166 and EP309. <p>These licences or authorities have not been suspended or revoked.</p>
15A(1)(c)	Whether in the opinion of the Minister, the action or thing to be authorised by the permit or licence is or will be under the control of a technically competent person.	<p><i>The Applicant, and associated entities, have provided:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the qualifications and experience of its key directors, management and contractors.</i> • <i>a governance and management model, identifying the entity and director(s) responsible for meeting the provisions of the Petroleum Act 1984, subordinate legislation and liabilities</i> • <i>the associated entity management systems</i> • <i>the contractors well engineering management system and well engineering standards</i> • <i>information about the associated entity well control plan and well integrity management</i> • <i>emergency response plan.</i> <p><i>For these reasons, I am of the opinion that the action or thing will be under the control of a technically competent person.</i></p>
15A(1)(d)	Whether in the opinion of the Minister, the Applicant or associated entity is of good	<i>The Applicant has provided a statement that it considers it and the associated entities to be of</i>

	repute, having regard to character, honesty and integrity.	<i>good repute, having regard to character, honesty and integrity.</i> <i>Evidence of this is provided by the associated entities activities under the prescribed legislation to date.</i> <i>For these reasons, I am of the opinion that the Applicant and associated entities are of good repute.</i>
15A(1)(e)	Whether the Applicant or associated entity has, within the previous 10 years, been convicted in the Territory or elsewhere of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty	<i>The Applicant and associated entities have not, within the previous 10 years, been convicted in the Territory or elsewhere of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty.</i>
15A(1)(f)	Whether the Applicant or associated entity, within the previous 3 years: (i) was an undischarged bankrupt; or (ii) applied to take the benefit of any law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors; or (iii) entered into an arrangement with the Applicant or entity's creditors or made an assignment of the Applicant or entity's remuneration for their benefit.	<i>None of these events has occurred within the previous 3 years.</i>
15A(1)(g) 15A(3)	Whether the Applicant or associated entity is or was a director of a body corporate that is the subject of a winding-up order or for which a controller or administrator has been appointed within the previous 3 years.	<i>None of these events has occurred within the previous 3 years.</i>
15A(1)(h)	Whether the Applicant has demonstrated to the Minister the financial capacity to comply with the Applicant's obligations under the permit or licence.	<i>When considering the Applicant's financial capacity, consideration was given to Tamboran Resources Limited financial statements for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.</i> <i>The Applicant, as a wholly owned subsidiary, will have the benefit of the parent company's</i>

		<p><i>financial capability to enable it to comply with its obligations under the permits.</i></p> <p><i>Independent probity reports were obtained for the applicant and its directors, and no adverse details were reported.</i></p> <p><i>For these reasons, the Applicant has demonstrated the financial capacity to comply with its obligations under the permit or licence.</i></p>
15A(1)(i)	<p>Whether the Applicant or associated entity is in partnership, in connection with the action that is the subject of the permit or licence, with a person whom the Minister does not consider to be an appropriate person having regard to the matters listed in section 15A(1) (being the matters above) and section 15A(2) (being the matters below).</p>	<p><i>The Applicant and associated entities are not in partnership with any other person whom the Minister does not consider to be an appropriate person.</i></p> <p><i>The term 'partnership' does not include Joint Ventures.</i></p>
15A(1)(j)	<p>Any other matters the Minister considers relevant in determining whether a person is an appropriate person to hold a permit or licence.</p>	<p><i>I do not consider that any other matters are relevant.</i></p>
<p><i>If the Applicant or entity is not a body corporate, the matters below do not need to be considered.</i></p>		
15A(2)(a) 15A(3)	<p>Whether a director of the Applicant or associated entity:</p> <p>(i) has contravened the prescribed legislation or has held a licence or other authority under the prescribed legislation that has been suspended or revoked; or</p> <p>(ii) is or has been the director of another body corporate that has contravened the prescribed legislation or has held a licence or other authority under the prescribed legislation that has been suspended or revoked</p>	<p><i>The parent company is Tamboran Resources Limited, and the directors and any persons concerned in the management of the parent company are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Joel Riddle, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer</i> • <i>Patrick Elliott, Director</i> • <i>Joanna Morbey, Company Secretary</i> • <i>Dick Stoneburner, Director</i> • <i>Ann Diamant, Director</i> • <i>Fred Barrett, Director</i> • <i>Daniel Chandra, Director</i> • <i>David Siegel, Director</i> • <i>Faron Thibodeaux, Director</i> • <i>Eric Dyer, Director</i> <p><i>The parent company and the directors of the parent company have not contravened the prescribed legislation.</i></p>

		<p><i>The parent company and the directors of the parent company have not held a licence or other authority under the prescribed legislation that has been suspended or revoked.</i></p> <p><i>The directors of the parent company have not been a director of another body corporate that has contravened the prescribed legislation.</i></p> <p><i>The directors of the parent company have not been a director of another body corporate that has held a licence or other authority under the prescribed legislation that has been suspended or revoked.</i></p>
15A(2)(b) 15A(3)	<p>In the case of a body corporate that is the subsidiary of another body or company (the parent company) – whether:</p> <p>(i) the parent company or a director of the parent company has contravened the prescribed legislation or has held a licence or other authority under the prescribed legislation that has been suspended or revoked; or</p> <p>(ii) a director of the parent company is or has been the director of another body corporate that has contravened the prescribed legislation or has held a licence or other authority under the prescribed legislation that has been suspended or revoked.</p>	<p><i>The parent company is Tamboran Resources Limited, and the directors and any persons concerned in the management of the parent company are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Joel Riddle, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer</i> • <i>Patrick Elliott, Director</i> • <i>Joanna Morbey, Company Secretary</i> • <i>Dick Stoneburner, Director</i> • <i>Ann Diamant, Director</i> • <i>Fred Barrett, Director</i> • <i>Daniel Chandra, Director</i> • <i>David Siegel, Director</i> • <i>Faron Thibodeaux, Director</i> • <i>Eric Dyer, Director</i> <p><i>The parent company and the directors of the parent company have not contravened the prescribed legislation.</i></p> <p><i>The parent company and the directors of the parent company have not held a licence or other authority under the prescribed legislation that has been suspended or revoked.</i></p> <p><i>The directors of the parent company have not been a director of another body corporate that has contravened the prescribed legislation.</i></p> <p><i>The directors of the parent company have not been a director of another body corporate that has held a licence or other authority under the prescribed legislation that has been suspended or revoked.</i></p>
15A(2)(c) 15A(3)	<p>The record of compliance with the prescribed environmental legislation of</p>	<p><i>The directors and any persons concerned in the management have been involved with the following businesses requiring compliance with the prescribed environmental legislation:</i></p>

	any director of the Applicant or associated entity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamboran Resources Limited • Sweetpea Petroleum Pty Ltd • Tamboran (Pedirka) Pty Ltd • Tamboran B1 Pty Limited • Tamboran (West) Pty Limited <p><i>I am not aware of any breach of the prescribed legislation.</i></p>
15A(2)(d) 15A(3)	Whether in the opinion of the Minister, a director of the Applicant or associated entity is of good repute, having regard to character, honesty and integrity.	<p><i>The Applicant has provided a statement that it considers the directors to be of good repute, having regard to character, honesty and integrity.</i></p> <p><i>There is no evidence available that suggests otherwise.</i></p> <p><i>For these reasons, I am of the opinion that each director is of good repute.</i></p>
15A(2)(e) 15A(3)	Whether a director of the Applicant or associated entity has, within the previous 10 years, been convicted in the Territory or elsewhere of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty.	<i>No director nor any person concerned in the management has, within the previous 10 years, been convicted in the Territory or elsewhere of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty.</i>
15A(2)(f)	Whether the Applicant or associated entity is the subject of a winding up order or has had a controller or administrator appointed within the previous 3 years.	<i>None of these events has occurred within the previous 3 years.</i>

- (d) In making my determination I have had regard to each of the matters noted above.
- (e) In making my determination I have had regard to documents that include the following:
- (i) Determination of 28 October 2022 that Tamboran Resources Limited, Tamboran B1 Pty Limited and Tamboran (West) Pty Limited are appropriate persons to hold a permit or licence under the Act
 - (ii) Appropriate Person Statement from Sweetpea Petroleum Pty Ltd
 - (iii) Annual Report for Tamboran Resources Limited for 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 including audited accounts
 - (iv) A letter from Chartered Accountant, Joanna Morbey, warranting that Tamboran Resources Limited and its subsidiaries have the financial capacity to carry out obligations and commitments relating to its exploration permits, including rehabilitation
 - (v) Independent Probity reports generated by illion Direct
 - (vi) Review of Tamboran's technical capability, including details of the management team and key technical team

- (vii) CV for Faron Thibodeaux, Chief Operating Officer
- (viii) Australian Securities and Investments Commission searches of Tamboran (B1) Pty Limited and Tamboran Resources Limited demonstrating the names of the directors and public officers responsible for the management of the companies
- (ix) Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade information and data.

Dated this 9 March 2023

Made under the *Petroleum Act 1984* of the Northern Territory of Australia



JAMES ROBERT PRATT

Senior Executive Director Energy Development

Delegate of the Minister for Mining and Industry

Under an Instrument of Delegation dated 25 March 2021