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To: Office of Gas Access Regulation  
Attention: Mr M Jansen  
Facsimile No: 08 9268 2444  
From: W R McHolick  
Date: 25 May 1999  
Our Ref: PETOPS0055.doc  
Copies: Inpex Alpha Ltd, Mobil Exploration Australia Pty Ltd  
Subject: **ACCESS ARRANGEMENT SUBMISSION TIME FOR GRIFFIN PIPELINE**

No. of Pages: 2

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We are responding to your invitation from interested parties with respect to SAGASCO South East Inc's request for a 90 day extension, to 8 August 1999, in which to submit proposed Access Arrangements for the Griffin pipeline.

SAGASCO has requested a 90 day extension to submit formal access arrangements for the Griffin pipeline but OffGAR has only granted an interim 30 day extension. OffGAR has requested responses for the Griffin pipeline from interested parties with regard to granting the full 90 days.

It is also our understanding that SAGASCO has lodged an application for revocation of the Tubridgi Pipeline which runs parallel to the Griffin pipeline. This has initiated a 98 day process in which the NCC makes their determination with respect to the application for exemption of this pipeline from open access arrangements. If revocation is not granted then SAGASCO will have 60 days in which to submit formal Access Arrangements.

BHP has static reserves in the area of both pipelines and is also the operator of the Griffin Joint Venture which has an interest in the Griffin Pipeline. Therefore BHP has a keen interest in the outcome of the Access Arrangements for both the Griffin and Tubridgi pipelines.

27th May, 1999

The outcome of the Tubridgi pipeline revocation weighs significantly on our position with respect to the Griffin pipeline. BHP, in its capacity as operator of the Griffin Joint Venture (BHP Petroleum (Australia) Pty Ltd, Inpex Alpha Ltd and Mobil Exploration Australia Pty Ltd) supports SAGASCO's request for a 90 days extension, and further request that it be extended to 128 days from the date of their application for revocation of the Tubridgi pipeline. This will allow 30 days to finalise the Griffin pipeline Access Arrangement once a decision has been handed down with respect to the Tubridgi pipeline.

BHP will be making submissions to the NCC presenting its position with respect to the revocation application for the Tubridgi pipeline within the time frame granted.

We would be pleased to discuss this request in more detail should you require more information.

  
**W R McHolick**  
**Vice President Australia Operated Assets**