

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACT 2005 (WA)
QUARANTINE (CLOSING THE BORDER) DIRECTIONS
APPROVAL FOR RIG OR PLATFORM CREW
UNDER PARAGRAPH 27(r)

On 5 April 2020, the State Emergency Coordinator (SEC) made the Quarantine (Closing the Border) Directions (**Directions**).

Under paragraph 27(r) of the Directions, an exempt traveller within the meaning of the Directions includes any person or category of person who the SEC, or someone authorised by the SEC for the purpose, approves in writing, provided that the person or a person in that category complies with any terms or conditions to which that approval is subject.

I, Paul Steel, Assistant Commissioner, having been approved by the SEC for the purpose of giving written approval under paragraph 27(r) of the Directions, give written approval to **rig or platform crew** subject to the following conditions.

PREAMBLE

1. The purpose of this approval is to provide for the terms and conditions under which rig or platform crew may enter Western Australia as exempt travellers under the Directions in order to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Note 1: a person who is an exempt traveller under this approval and paragraph 27(r) of the Directions remains subject to the Directions so far as they apply to exempt travellers, including paragraph 5 (which identifies circumstances in which an exempt traveller cannot enter Western Australia).

Note 2: this is not an approval under anything except paragraph 27(r) of the Directions. For the avoidance of doubt, it is also necessary to comply with any other relevant directions under State and Commonwealth law, including the Biosecurity (Human Biosecurity Emergency) (Human Coronavirus with Pandemic Potential) (Emergency Requirements for Remote Communities) Determination 2020 of the Commonwealth.

CITATION

2. This approval may be referred to as the **Approval for Rig or Platform Crew**.

COMMENCEMENT

3. This approval comes into effect when it is made.

APPROVAL

When a crew member may enter Western Australia under this approval

Crew members transported to Western Australia by helicopter from a rig or platform

4. A crew member may disembark from a **helicopter** at an airport in Western Australia if any of paragraphs 7, 9, 11 or 12 apply to the crew member, subject to the crew member complying with:
 - (a) any terms and conditions set out in the paragraph which apply to the crew member; and
 - (b) each of paragraphs 13 and 14 to the extent that they apply to the crew member.
5. A crew member may disembark from a helicopter at a helipad in Western Australia if any of paragraphs 8, 10, 11 or 12 apply to the crew member, subject to the crew member complying with:
 - (a) any terms and conditions set out in the paragraph which apply to the crew member; and
 - (b) each of paragraphs 13 and 14 to the extent that they apply to the crew member.

Persons flying into Western Australia to become crew members

6. A person may disembark from an affected aircraft at an airport (*relevant airport*) in Western Australia if the person:
 - (a) complies with paragraph 13 to the extent that the person has a ticket or other booking for one or more connecting flights from the airport to the airport from which the person will comply with paragraph 6(b) (*destination airport*); and
 - (b) travels as soon as possible, by the most direct route and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel, from the relevant airport (or the destination airport if that is not the relevant airport) to a **crew hotel** and remains there for a period of 14 days, or such other period as the person may be directed under a direction (*self-isolation period*); and
 - (c) after completing the self-isolation period, travels as soon as possible, by the most direct route and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel, from the **crew hotel** to a **rig or platform** for the purpose of working on the rig or platform or otherwise for work purposes; and

- (d) at all times:
 - (i) takes all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person; and
 - (ii) when coughing or sneezing does so into the person's elbow or a tissue; and
- (e) washes their hands often with soap and water or using alcohol hand rub, particularly before and after eating and after attending a bathroom; and
- (f) when travelling as described in paragraph 6(b) or (c), wears a surgical mask if available and practicable; and
- (g) complies with paragraph 14 to the extent that it applies to the person.

A crew member leaving Western Australia on a flight within 24 hours

Helicopter to an airport

7. A crew member may disembark from a helicopter at an airport in Western Australia if:
- (a) the crew member has a ticket or other booking for a flight out of Western Australia, or for such a flight and one or more connecting flights to that flight, and the first of those flights (*first flight*) is scheduled to depart from a Western Australian airport (*relevant airport*) within 24 hours of the crew member disembarking; and
 - (b) the crew member travels in the helicopter that will permit the crew member to disembark at the relevant airport at a time as close to the time when the first flight is scheduled to leave the relevant airport as is consistent with having enough time to leave on the first flight; and
 - (c) the crew member remains at the relevant airport until the crew member leaves on the first flight; and
 - (d) the crew member complies with paragraph 13 in respect of the first flight and any subsequent flight until the crew member leaves on a flight out of Western Australia; and
 - (e) at all times the crew member:

- (i) takes all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person; and
 - (ii) when coughing or sneezing does so into the crew member's elbow or a tissue; and
- (f) the crew member washes their hands often with soap and water or using alcohol hand rub, particularly before and after eating and after attending a bathroom; and
- (g) when travelling or at the relevant airport as described in paragraph 7(b) and (c), the crew member wears a surgical mask if available and practicable.

Helicopter to a helipad and then to the airport

8. A crew member may disembark from a helicopter at a helipad in Western Australia if the crew member has a ticket or other booking for a flight out of Western Australia, or for such a flight and one or more connecting flights to that flight, and the first of those flights (*first flight*) is scheduled to depart from a Western Australian airport (*relevant airport*) within 24 hours of the crew member disembarking, provided that:

- (a) if the crew member is travelling on one or more helicopters from a rig or offshore platform to the relevant airport via one or more helipads:
 - (i) the crew member must not leave the immediate vicinity of where the helicopter lands whenever the helicopter lands en route to the relevant airport (whether the helicopter lands on a helipad or somewhere else); and
 - (ii) the crew member must re-embark on the helicopter or another helicopter as soon as that helicopter is ready to resume the crew member's journey to the relevant airport; and
- (b) if the crew member is travelling on one or more helicopters from a rig or offshore platform to one or more helipads for the purpose of travelling from the last of those helipads to the relevant airport by other means:
 - (i) the crew member must comply with paragraph 8(a)(i) and (ii) while the crew member is travelling by helicopter; and

- (ii) once the crew member disembarks from a helicopter at the helipad for the purpose of travelling from that helipad to the relevant airport by other means, the crew member must travel to the relevant airport as soon as possible, by the most direct route and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel; and
- (c) the crew member must travel to the relevant airport in the way which will permit the crew member to arrive at the relevant airport at a time as close to the time when the first flight is scheduled to leave the relevant airport as is consistent with having enough time to leave on the first flight; and
- (d) on arriving at the relevant airport, the crew member must remain at the relevant airport until the crew member leaves on the first flight; and
- (e) the crew member must comply with paragraph 13 in respect of the first flight and any subsequent flight until the crew member leaves on a flight out of Western Australia; and
- (f) at all times the crew member:
 - (i) must take all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person; and
 - (ii) when coughing or sneezing, must do so into the crew member's elbow or a tissue; and
- (g) the crew member must wash their hands often with soap and water or using alcohol hand rub, particularly before and after eating and after attending a bathroom; and
- (h) when travelling or at the relevant airport as described in paragraph 8(a) to (e) and (f), the crew member must wear a surgical mask if available and practicable.

A crew member leaving Western Australia on a flight more than 24 hours later

Helicopter to an airport and time in a crew hotel (flights more than 24 hours away)

9. A crew member may disembark from a helicopter at an airport in Western Australia if:

- (a) the crew member has a ticket or other booking for a flight out of Western Australia, or for such a flight and one or more connecting flights to that flight, and the first of those flights (*first flight*) is scheduled to depart from a Western

Australian airport (*relevant airport*) more than 24 hours after the crew member disembarks; and

- (b) the crew member travels in the helicopter that will permit the crew member to disembark at the relevant airport at a time as close to the time when the first flight is scheduled to leave the relevant airport as possible; and
- (c) immediately after disembarking from the helicopter the crew member travels as soon as possible, by the most direct route and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel, to a crew hotel in a vehicle provided by their employer; and
- (d) the crew member remains at the crew hotel until:
 - (i) no earlier than 24 hours before the time the first flight is scheduled to depart from the relevant airport; and
 - (ii) for as long as is consistent with having enough time to leave on the first flight; and
- (e) after the crew member leaves the crew hotel, the crew member travels as soon as possible, by the most direct route and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel, to the relevant airport; and
- (f) the crew member complies with paragraph 13 in respect of the first flight and any subsequent flight until the crew member leaves on a flight out of Western Australia; and
- (g) at all times the crew member:
 - (i) takes all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person; and
 - (ii) when coughing or sneezing does so into the crew member's elbow or a tissue; and
- (h) the crew member washes their hands often with soap and water or using alcohol hand rub, particularly before and after eating and after attending a bathroom; and
- (i) when travelling or at the relevant airport as described in paragraph 9(b), (c) and (e), the crew member wears a surgical mask if available and practicable.

Helicopter to an airport via helipad and time in a crew hotel (flights more than 24 hours away)

10. A crew member may disembark from a helicopter at a helipad in Western Australia if the crew member has a ticket or other booking for a flight out of Western Australia, or for such a flight and one or more connecting flights to that flight, and the first of those flights (*first flight*) is scheduled to depart from a Western Australian airport (*relevant airport*) more than 24 hours after the crew member disembarks, provided that:
- (a) if the crew member is travelling on one or more helicopters from a rig or offshore platform to the relevant airport via one or more helipads:
 - (i) the crew member must not leave the immediate vicinity of where the helicopter lands whenever the helicopter lands en route to the relevant airport (whether the helicopter lands on a helipad or somewhere else); and
 - (ii) the crew member must re-embark on the helicopter or another helicopter as soon as that helicopter is ready to resume the crew member's journey to the relevant airport; and
 - (iii) on arriving at the relevant airport, the crew member must travel as soon as possible, by the most direct route and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel, to a crew hotel; and
 - (b) if the crew member is travelling on one or more helicopters from a rig or offshore platform to one or more helipads for the purpose of travelling from the last of those helipads to a crew hotel by other means:
 - (i) the crew member must comply with paragraph 10(a)(i) and (ii) while the crew member is travelling by helicopter; and
 - (ii) once the crew member disembarks from a helicopter at a helipad for the purpose of travelling from that helipad to a crew hotel by other means, the crew member must travel as soon as possible, by the most direct route and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel, to the crew hotel; and
 - (c) the crew member must remain at the crew hotel until:
 - (i) no earlier than 24 hours before the time the first flight is scheduled to depart from the relevant airport; and

- (ii) for as long as is consistent with having enough time to leave on the first flight; and
- (d) after the crew member leaves the crew hotel, the crew member must travel as soon as possible, by the most direct route and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel, to the relevant airport; and
- (e) the crew member must comply with paragraph 13 in respect of the first flight and any subsequent flight until the crew member leaves on a flight out of Western Australia; and
- (f) at all times the crew member:
 - (i) must take all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person; and
 - (ii) when coughing or sneezing must do so into the crew member's elbow or a tissue; and
- (g) the crew member must wash their hands often with soap and water or using alcohol hand rub, particularly before and after eating and after attending a bathroom; and
- (h) when travelling or at the relevant airport as described in paragraph 10(a), (b) and (d), the crew member must wear a surgical mask if available and practicable.

A crew member ordinarily resident in Western Australia

Crew members who do not need to self-quarantine

11. Unless a crew member is a **person requiring quarantine**, a crew member who ordinarily resides in Western Australia may disembark from a helicopter at an airport or a helipad in Western Australia.

Crew members who do need to self-quarantine

12. A person requiring quarantine (**person**) may disembark from a helicopter at an airport or a helipad in Western Australia if:
 - (a) the person has access to suitable premises; and

- (b) the person travels from the airport or helipad to the nearest suitable premises to which the person has access as soon as possible, by the most direct route available and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel; and

Note: the person's travel from the airport or helipad may involve further travel by helicopter or other means, provided that the travel complies with all of the requirements of paragraph 12.

- (c) as soon as possible after arriving at the suitable premises, the person remains inside them:

- (i) for a period ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person arrives at the suitable premises or for the **modified period**, whichever is less; or
- (ii) for such period as is otherwise directed in a direction; and

Note: if a person is concerned that the crew member will not be able to reside in the premises for the time required by paragraph 12(c) because the person is required to be rig or platform crew on a rig or platform, the person should request a direction from an authorised officer

- (d) during the time the person is required to remain at the suitable premises, the person immediately informs an authorised officer or emergency officer if the person develops or has recently experienced any one or more of these symptoms:

- (i) a fever of 38 degrees or above; or
- (ii) symptoms of acute respiratory infection (including, but without limitation, shortness of breath, a cough or sore throat); and

- (e) at all times the person:

- (i) takes all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person; and
- (ii) when coughing or sneezing does so into the person's elbow or a tissue; and

- (f) the person washes their hands often with soap and water or using alcohol hand rub, particularly before and after eating and after attending a bathroom; and
- (g) when travelling or at the relevant airport as described in paragraph 12(b), the person wears a surgical mask if available and practicable.

Requirements in relation to flights out of Western Australia

13. A person required to comply with this paragraph must comply with the following requirements to the extent they are relevant:

- (a) when travelling in the circumstances described in paragraph 13, the crew member wears a surgical mask if available and practicable; and
- (b) if the first flight or any subsequent flight is a flight out of Western Australia, the person must leave Western Australia on the flight or, if the person is unable to leave Western Australia on the flight for any reason, the person must contact an authorised officer as soon as possible after the person becomes unable to leave on the flight, and ask for a direction and comply with any direction given; and
- (c) if the first flight or any subsequent flight is a connecting flight to a flight out of Western Australia or to another connecting flight:
 - (i) the person must leave on the connecting flight or, if the person is unable to leave on the connecting flight for any reason, the person must contact an authorised officer as soon as possible after the person becomes unable to leave on the flight, and ask for a direction and comply with any direction given; and
 - (ii) upon arriving at an airport at the end of the connecting flight, the person must proceed directly to the departure terminal for the person's next flight and remain there until the person boards their next flight unless otherwise directed by an authorised officer; and
 - (iii) the person must leave on the next flight or, if the person is unable to leave on the next flight, the person must contact an authorised officer as soon as possible after the person becomes unable to leave on the flight, and ask for a direction and comply with any direction given.

If a person cannot comply with a requirement of this approval

14. If a person cannot comply with a requirement of this approval, the person must contact an authorised officer as soon as possible and ask for a direction and comply with any direction given.

Example: a crew member cannot go to or remain in a crew hotel because one has not been organised or approved. The crew member must contact an authorised person as soon as possible, ask for a direction and comply with any direction given.

DEFINITIONS

15. **Affected aircraft** means an **aircraft** which originated from a place outside Western Australia.
16. **Aircraft** includes any vehicle for travelling by air.
17. **Authorised officer** has the same meaning that it has in the *Emergency Management Act 2005* (WA).

*Note: at the time of giving this approval, all **police officers** are authorised officers, and paragraph 16 of the Directions ensures that **relevant officers** are also authorised officers for the purposes of these directions.*

18. **Coastal waters of the State** has the same meaning that it has in relation to Western Australia in the *Coastal Waters (State Powers) Act 1980* of the Commonwealth.
19. **Crew hotel** means a hotel which has been organised by the employer of a crew member, and if a crew hotel has not been organised, includes any other place which a crew member is given a direction to travel to and remain in instead of a crew hotel.
20. **Crew member** means a person who works on or was (for work purposes) on an oil rig or offshore platform.
21. **Direction** means any direction under the *Emergency Management Act 2005* (WA) or the *Public Health Act 2016* (WA) or referred to in the Directions, whether given orally or in writing.
22. **Emergency officer** has the same meaning that it has in the *Public Health Act 2016* (WA).
23. **Helicopter** means:

- (a) a helicopter which has picked up the crew member from a rig or platform for the purpose of transporting the crew member directly, or via one or more helipads, to an airport or a helipad in Western Australia; or
- (b) after the crew member has first disembarked from a helicopter described in paragraph 23(a) at a helipad, any other helicopter which takes over transporting the crew member to the airport or helipad.

24. **Modified period** means 14 days less any **time at work** unless, during the period from when the crew member arrived on the rig or platform until the modified period begins, the crew member displayed symptoms or:

- (a) a person who was on or came on to the rig or platform while the crew member was there displayed symptoms; and
- (b) the crew member had contact with that person (whether the contact was before or after the person developed symptoms),

in which case the modified period is 14 days.

Example: a crew member is required to remain inside suitable premises by this approval, but the crew member was on a rig or platform on which a person displayed symptoms at some point from when the crew member arrived at the rig or platform until when the crew member left the rig or platform. The crew member's time at work does not reduce the 14 day period at all, even if the person displayed symptoms after the person had left the rig or platform.

25. **Person requiring quarantine** means a crew member who ordinarily resides in Western Australia and has disembarked from a helicopter, if at any time in the 14 days before the crew member was picked up by the helicopter, the crew member came into contact with:

- (a) a specialist; or
- (b) a person who was required to comply with paragraph 6(b) or 12(c) or was otherwise required by law (including by a direction) to undertake some form of quarantine related to COVID-19 and did not do so; or
- (c) a person displaying symptoms.

Note: as contact with a specialist will cause a crew member to become a person requiring quarantine, the operator of a rig or platform should prepare a plan before a specialist

arrives on the rig or platform, and ensure the plan is communicated to crew members and the specialist and implemented, which:

- (i) ensures that contact between any **specialist** and anyone else on the rig or platform (other than any other specialists with whom the specialist is working) will be minimised for as long as the specialist is on the rig or platform; and*
- (ii) ensures that each of the areas used by a specialist while the specialist is on the rig or platform is decontaminated before anyone else on the rig or platform is permitted to enter the area (other than any other specialists with whom the specialist is working); and*
- (iii) ensures that any person with whom any specialist has contact (and therefore has become a person requiring quarantine) will be separated from anyone else on the rig or platform until that person has left the rig or platform.*

26. **Police officer** means a person appointed under Part I of the *Police Act 1892* (WA) to be a member of the Police Force of Western Australia.
27. **Relevant officer** means:
- (a) an **emergency officer**; or
 - (b) a member of the Australian Border Force; or
 - (c) a member of the Australian Federal Police.
28. **Rig or platform** means a natural gas or oil rig or an offshore platform which is located beyond the limit of the **coastal waters of the State** but within Australia's exclusive economic zone.
29. **Rig or platform crew** means any person who works on or is (for work purposes) on a rig or platform, or the class of persons described in paragraph 6.
30. **Self-quarantine** means to comply with a self-quarantine direction or a self-quarantine (unaccompanied child) direction under the Directions.
31. **Specialist** means a person who provides time-critical services or is responsible for critical maintenance or repair of infrastructure on the rig or platform.
32. **Suitable premises** means residential premises that:

- (a) are suitable for the person to reside in for a period ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person arrives at the premises under paragraph 12 of this approval; and
- (b) are not being used by anyone else to **self-quarantine** at the time when the person disembarks from a helicopter at an airport or a helipad under paragraph 12 of this approval.

33. **Symptoms** means any one or more of:

- (a) a fever of 38 degrees or above; or
- (b) symptoms of acute respiratory infection (including, but without limitation, shortness of breath, a cough or sore throat).

34. **Time at work** means the time which the crew member spent on the rig or platform from the time when the crew member last had contact with a person requiring quarantine or a person described in paragraph 25(a) or (b) until the modified period begins.

PENALTIES

It may be an offence to fail to comply with the terms or conditions of this approval or the Directions more generally, punishable by imprisonment for up to 12 months or a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for bodies corporate.



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Paul Steel
Assistant Commissioner

11 April 2020 1740 hours