

5 ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS STATEMENT TECHNICAL REFERENCE GROUP **- CRIB POINT: AGL APA GAS IMPORT JETTY AND CRIB POINT -** **PAKENHAM GAS PIPELINE.**

FILE REFERENCE INT198103

RESPONSIBLE GENERAL MANAGER Andrew Paxton

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RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The report be noted
2. Council officer's advocate as part of the Technical Reference Group to require the pipeline to be located within road reserves where possible.

Attachments

- 1 Pipeline location plan 1 Page

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Minister for Planning has advised that Environmental effects statement be undertaken for the provision of a importing and degasifying liquid natural gas facility at Crib Point and the provision of a 56km gas pipeline from Crib Point to the mains pipeline north of Pakenham.

BACKGROUND

AGL and APA propose to establish a new facility for importing and degasifying liquefied natural gas (LNG) and supplying it to the gas transmission network. The proposal comprises the gas import facility works, which include upgrade/modification works to the existing jetty owned and operated by the Port of Hastings Development Authority (PoHDA) at Crib Point, to provide for continuous mooring of a floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) – a vessel with LNG storage and regasification capacity.

LNG carriers (tankers approximately 300m in length) will moor alongside the FSRU and transfer cargo to the FSRU.

The proposal also comprises the pipeline works, which include treatment of the gas as necessary to meet relevant Australian standards and subsequent transfer via a new pipeline from Crib Point through the municipalities of Mornington Peninsula, Casey and Cardinia to a location north of the Princes Hwy east of Pakenham. The pipeline will then be connected to the existing gas transmission network for commercial supply to customers. The locations of the project components are shown in Attachment 1. The pipeline will run for approximately 56km from Crib Point to Pakenham. The pipeline will be located within a 30m wide easement. The 30m wide easement is required to allow the installation and maintenance of the pipeline. The gas companies will be required to acquire the rights for these easements.

On the 8 October 2018 the Minister for Planning required AGL and APA to prepare an Environment Effects Statement (EES) under the Environment Effects Act 1978 to assess the potential environmental effects of the project.

The proponent is responsible for preparing the EES, including conducting technical studies and undertaking stakeholder consultation. The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) is responsible for managing the EES process. This EES process has the following steps:

- preparation of a draft study program and draft schedule by the proponent;
- preparation and exhibition of draft scoping requirements by DELWP on behalf of the Minister(current step) with public comments received during the advertised exhibition period;
- finalisation and issuing of scoping requirements by the Minister;
- review of the proponent's EES studies and draft documentation by DELWP and a technical reference group (TRG)¹;
- completion of the EES by the proponent;
- review of the complete EES by DELWP to establish its adequacy for public exhibition;
- exhibition of the proponent's EES and invitation for public comment by DELWP on behalf of the Minister;
- appointment of an inquiry by the Minister to review the EES and public submissions received and provide a report to the Minister; and finally
- following receipt of the inquiry report, the Minister provides an assessment of the project inform for decision-makers.

To assist the proponent in the preparation of the EES documents DELWP has convened a Technical Reference Group (TRG), comprised of representatives of relevant state government agencies and departments and relevant local council to advise it and the proponent on:

- applicable policies, strategies and statutory provisions;
- the scoping requirements for the EES;
- the design and adequacy of technical studies for the EES;
- the proponent's public information and stakeholder consultation program for the EES;
- responses to issues arising from the EES investigations;
- the technical adequacy of draft EES documentation; and
- coordination of statutory processes.

Council officers from Cardinia are part of the TRG and will update Council as needed on the progress of the TRG and the EES.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The EES should assess the environmental effects of all components and stages of the project. The assessment should include:

- the likelihood of adverse effects and associated uncertainty of available predictions or estimates;
- the potential effects on individual environmental assets – magnitude, extent and duration of change in the values of each asset – having regard to intended avoidance and mitigation measures and (if different) both maximum operational capacity and intended operational rates;
- further management measures that are proposed where avoidance and mitigation measures do not adequately address effects on environmental assets, including specific details of how the measures address relevant policies;
- risk ratings of unintended but foreseeable events such as spills or other mishaps that could result from construction or operation of the project;
- the likely residual effects that are likely to occur after all proposed measures to avoid and mitigate environmental effects are implemented; and

- potential cumulative impacts (arising in conjunction with the impacts of other projects or actions that may affect the same environmental asset or assets).

The proposed pipeline will run through some of Cardinia's Westernport Green Wedge Land and other areas which are zoned Special Use for agricultural purposes and Green Wedge.

Councils Municipal Strategic Statement at Clause 21.04-2 (Agriculture) identifies the importance of the shires high value agricultural land and the need to protect this agricultural land from incompatible and inappropriate development and subdivision, including non-soil based farming of lands with high quality soil.

Agricultural land, particularly areas of high quality soils, should also be protected from the intrusion of urban uses, inappropriate development and fragmentation which would lead to a reduction in agricultural viability, the erosion of the right of farmers to farm land, and ultimately the loss of land from agricultural production.

The current identified location of the pipeline is proposed in some locations to dissect rural parcels of land rather than travel along the road reserve. While at this stage council cannot formally make a decision on the appropriateness of the pipeline line location without consideration of all reports contained with the EES it is however recommended that Council Officers as part of the TRG advocate that where possible the pipeline be located along the road reserves rather than through agricultural land parcels where the

RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN

3.5 Balanced needs of development, the community and the environment

3.5.4 Ensure the planning of rural (green wedge) areas protects and enhances important agricultural, environmental, natural resource, infrastructure and recreational values.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

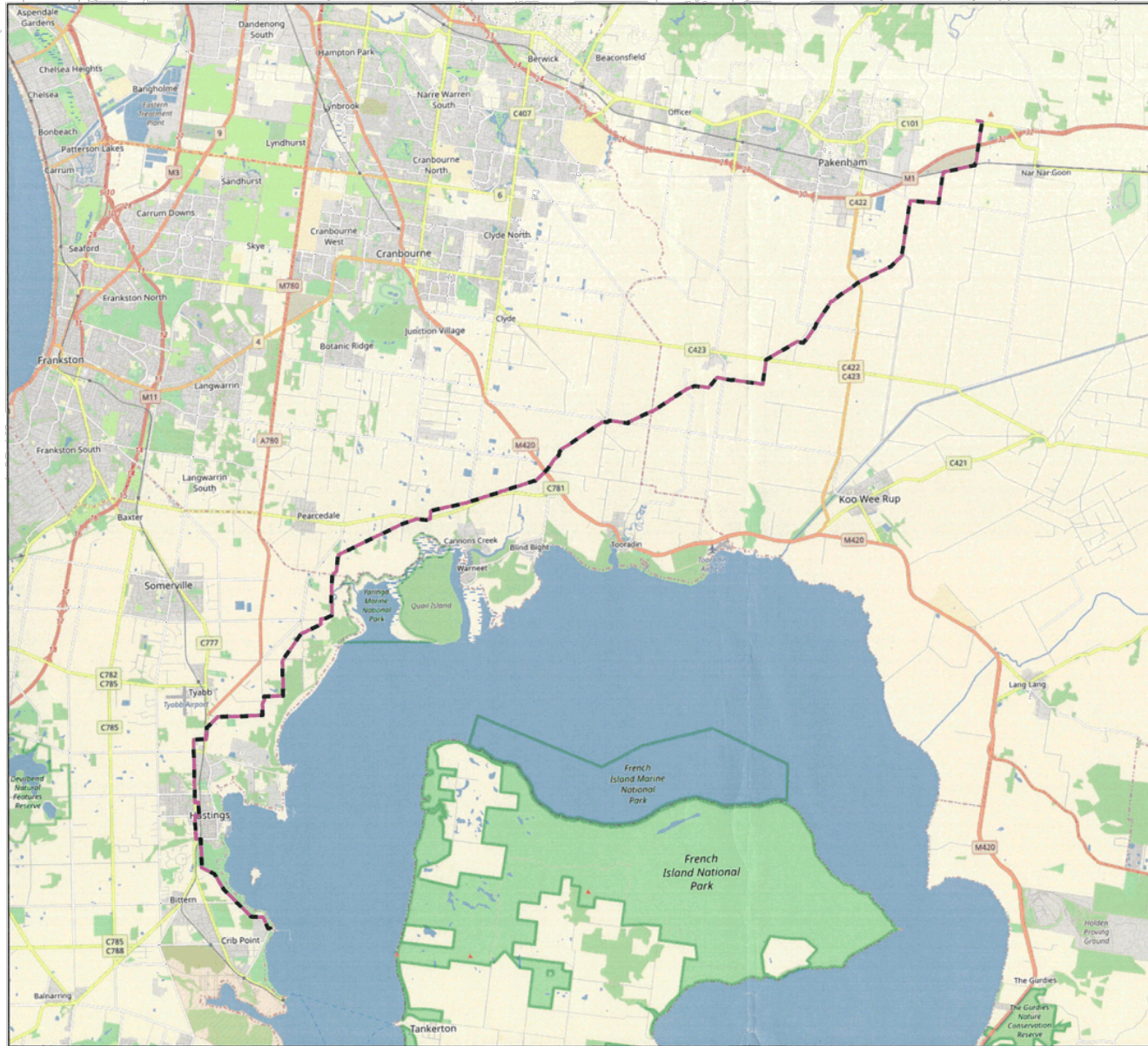
APA and AGL have already undertaken community consultation as part of the process. At the end of the EES process all EES reports will be placed on exhibition and the community will be able to make submissions and be heard at an independent panel hearing. The panel will then submit a finalised report to the Minister for consideration.


FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

The EES process will allow the most extensive assessment of the issues associated with the pipeline development. Council officer will continue to participate in the TRG and will advocate where possible to ensure that the pipeline is located along road reserves where possible to avoid it travelling through farming land and subsequently potentially impacting on the viability of the agricultural land.







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PROJECT: CRIB POINT PAKENHAM PIPELINE
TITLE: Project Overview Plan
SUBTITLE: Attachment 1A
DATE: 29/08/2018

DATA SOURCE:
 Service Layer Credits: Esri, HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors
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LEGEND:
 Pipeline Alignment





ACCURATE AT
 DATE OF ISSUE

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Revision	Description	Drawn	Checked/QC	Approved	Date
0.1	DRAFT	MB	AR	JB	21/08/18

SCALE: 1:150,000 @ A3 GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



LOCATION DIAGRAM


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