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9 February 2016

Ms Nick Wimbush  
Advisory Committee Chair  
Major Hazard Facilities Advisory Committee  
C/- Planning Panels Victoria  
Level 5, 1 Spring Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Electronic submission via DPTLI Website

Dear Mr Wimbush,

**Major Hazard Facility Advisory Committee Discussion Paper – Esso Australia Pty Ltd Submission**

I am responding to your discussion paper on Major Hazard Facilities dated 21 December 2015. As stated in our letter of 13 November 2015, Esso believes that clear, consistent and enforceable regulations that define what development is appropriate around Major Hazard Facilities are needed.

Our downstream partner, Mobil Refining Australia Pty Ltd is making a separate submission on this matter to your Committee. We are supportive of that submission and believe the matters discussed are applicable to EAPL. Attached to this letter is additional information on the 2 MHF facilities operated by EAPL, namely the Longford and Long Island Point plants and their associated pipelines.

Esso looks forward to continuing to participate in the Committee's review. Please contact Mr Andrew Murphy on (03) 9270 3537 or [andrew.j.murphy@exxonmobil.com](mailto:andrew.j.murphy@exxonmobil.com) if you require any more information about this submission.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Liz Westcott".

Liz Westcott  
Safety, Security, Health & Environment (SSHE) Manager  
Esso Australia Pty Ltd

Attachment

Cc: Andrew Williamson, SSHE Manager, Mobil Refining Australia

## Overview of EAPL's Major Hazard Facilities

### **Bass Strait/Offshore and the Longford gas processing and crude oil stabilisation plants**

Esso Australia Resources Pty. Ltd. (EARPL), on behalf of the Gippsland Basin Joint Venture between EAPL and BHPBilliton, operates 23 offshore platforms and installations in Bass Strait which feed a network of 600km of underwater pipelines to keep crude oil and gas flowing, 24 hours a day. Massive infrastructure costing billions of dollars has been built to develop, produce and process the crude oil and gas, which is used to power industry, fuel vehicles, heat homes and manufacture products in Australia and overseas.

Longford has been supplying most of Victoria's gas requirements since 1969. It also supplies gas to New South Wales and Tasmania. Longford also currently supplies around 20 percent of Australia's crude oil requirements.

Longford, with its three gas plants and one crude oil stabilisation plant, is one of the most important industrial facilities in Australia and Victoria's largest MHF. Situated 20 kilometres from Sale in South Gippsland, Victoria, Longford is the onshore receiving point for oil and gas output from Bass Strait.

The four plants that make up the Longford complex are situated on 169 hectares of land. Farmland adjoins the site which is remote from residential areas. A heliport and air strip operated privately for EAPL's operations is situated south of the complex.

Crude oil and gas from offshore is gathered from the valve sites located along the East Gippsland coast and carried to Longford via a network of pipelines within established easements at a depth of approximately 750mm or greater. At Longford, crude is stabilised, and crude from the Crude Stabilisation Plant flows to the Long Island Point Tank Farm via a 700mm onshore pipeline. A second 700mm onshore pipeline runs from Longford along the same easement but terminates at the Westbury LPG Booster Station and is currently out of service and filled with inhibited water.

Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) from the Longford Gas Plants flows to Long Island Point via a 250mm onshore pipeline. The pipeline runs along the same easement as the crude pipelines.

Natural gas is transported for sales via the 3<sup>rd</sup> party operated Eastern Gas Pipeline and to the Victorian transmission system which is situated adjacent to the Longford Plant.

## **Long Island Point**

Opened in 1970, the Long Island Point (LIP) plant which is also an MHF, is situated near Hastings, 75 kilometres south-east of Melbourne. LIP carries out the final stage in the processing of gas liquids (ethane, propane and butane) and stores crude oil prior to distribution to refineries in Australia via pipeline and overseas (via ship).

The 158 hectare site houses three gas liquids fractionation trains, nineteen pressurized Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) storage vessels, seven refrigerated atmospheric pressure LPG storage tanks, eight crude oil storage tanks, an LPG truck loading terminal and a jetty for loading LPG and crude oil onto ships. There is also a laboratory, warehouse, workshop and administration building.

The crude oil that arrives via pipeline from Longford is stored in the Long Island Point tank farm where the remaining entrained water is removed. It is then sent via the 3<sup>rd</sup>-party operated Westernport-Altona-Geelong (WAG) pipeline to the two Victorian refineries (Mobil's Altona Refinery and Viva's Geelong Refinery) or, it is loaded for export onto ships at Long Island Point's marine loading jetty situated in Western Port Bay.

Ethane from LIP flows to the Qenos facility in Altona via a 250mm pipeline that runs onshore and underwater across Port Phillip Bay.

Long Island Point's truck loading facility loads an average of 40 trucks a day of LPG with the demand being highest in the winter months. The trucks, from a variety of companies, distribute LPG to businesses and service stations throughout southeast Australia. LPG is also shipped to customers across the Asia-Pacific region.