In relation to the Project:
The proposal for the Project includes the development of the following components:
- two subsea wells approximately 3.8 kilometres offshore from Golden Beach, a 2.5 kilometre subsea pipeline and subsea infrastructure and a 1.3 kilometre pipeline and subsea infrastructure onshore south from Golden Beach and a 2.5 kilometre buried pipeline in a 30 metre wide right of way from south-west of Golden Beach to Longtong.

The development would occur in two stages. The first stage being the production of gas by extracting a portion (approximately 40 petajoules) of the gas within the reservoir. The second stage being the production of gas and its transportation to Longtong via a compressor station by a compressor including associated pipeline infrastructure, including a compressor station off Sandy Camp Road in Dutton to compress the gas and collect water entrained in the gas.

In September 2019, the Victorian Minister for Planning determined an EES was required for the Project under the EE Act. The Project is a controlled action and requires an EES and approval under the EPBC Act. The relevant controlling provisions for matters of national environmental significance (MNEs) under the EPBC Act are Ramsar wetlands (sections 16 and 17B), Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A) and Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A).

The Victorian Government is assessing the relevant impacts on MNEs within the EES process under the bilateral agreement between the federal and state governments. The EES process will inform the Commonwealth approval decision under the EPBC Act, so the EES covers all relevant impacts of the Project under both the EE Act and EPBC Act.

Pipeline Licence Application
A pipeline licence under the Pipelines Act is required for the construction and operation of the buried pipeline and associated pipeline infrastructure included in the Project. An application to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change on Thursday 8 October 2020. It is included application was made to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change for a works approval and licence under the EP Act to cover the construction and operation of the onshore gas compressor station as an LOI (General emissions to air) scheduled premises. The application was made to EPA on 28 August 2020. It is included in the exhibition documents as Attachment III to the EES. You may make a submission or provide comments on the WAA by making a submission on the EES.

Access to EES and Exhibited Documents
The EES, PLA and WAA will be available on Monday 26 October 2020 to download at www.gbenergy.com.au/ees. Please note the EES is a large document and we encourage the use of electronic versions.

How to Make a Submission
Submissions on the EES, the PLA or the WAA must be made in writing and received by 11.59pm on Monday 7 December 2020. You may make a submission on the PLA or the WAA by making a submission in response to all exhibited documents, so only one submission per person will be required. You may provide free of charge to those who have accessibility issues or where electronic options are impracticable. Should you require a hard copy or have any other questions, please contact:
- EES Main Report: $25
- All documents (EES plus all Technical Reports): $225

Online submissions are preferred via the Victorian Government’s engagement website https://engage.vic.gov.au/golden-beach-inquiry. Where a submitter is unable to log onto an online submission, they must contact Planning Panels Victoria (PPV) through the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136 186 (select option 6) and request a hardcopy submission coversheet. Each hardcopy submission must be accompanied by a coversheet issued by PPV. All submissions must state the name and address of the person making the submission. Petitions and pro-forma responses will be treated as a single submission and only the first names from a petition or pro-forma submission will be registered and contacted.

Submissions will be treated as public documents and will be published on the Victorian Government’s engagement website. Do not include any personal information in the body of your submission (such as your email address or phone number). Your submission and your name will be made public. The submission process is independently managed by PPV.

Inquiry Process
The Minister for Planning will appoint an inquiry under the EE Act to review public submissions, the EES, the PLA and the WAA and to consider the environmental effects of the Project in accordance with terms of reference issued by the Minister for Planning. The inquiry will be chaired by a panel of at least three people by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change as a panel under the Pipelines Act. If appointed as a panel, it must act in accordance with the requirements of the Pipelines Act and any specification in its instrument of appointment.

After the exhibition period, the inquiry will hold a submitter conference between Tuesday 15 and Thursday 17 December 2020. It is not necessary to make a submission online. An agenda may be provided for the submitter conference at https://engage.vic.gov.au/golden-beach-inquiry where a submitter is unable to log onto an online submission, they must contact Planning Panels Victoria (PPV) through the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136 186 (select option 6) and request a hardcopy submission coversheet. Each hardcopy submission must be accompanied by a coversheet issued by PPV. All submissions must state the name and address of the person making the submission. Petitions and pro-forma responses will be treated as a single submission and only the first names from a petition or pro-forma submission will be registered and contacted.

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