

Viva Energy Gas Terminal Project

Geelong Gas Terminal Pipeline

PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED

More detail on the Gas Terminal Project is available at www.vivaenergy.com.au/gas-terminal

Viva Energy Gas Australia Pty Ltd (Viva Energy; the Proponent) (ABN 35 645 450 059) has prepared an Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the Viva Energy Gas Terminal Project (the project).

The EES, together with the draft Greater Geelong Planning Scheme amendment (PSA) C442ggee, the EPA development licence applications for the floating storage and regasification unit and the amendment to the Viva Energy refinery activities, and the pipeline licence application are now available for public comment.

This notice is provided pursuant to the *Environment Effects Act 1978* (Vic) (EE Act), the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act), the *Pipelines Act 2005* (Vic) and the *Environment Protection Act 2017* (Vic).

Written submissions can be made starting **Monday 28 February 2022** and closing **11:59pm on Monday 11 April 2022**.

Project Description

The project comprises the development of a gas terminal using a ship known as a floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) at Refinery Pier in Corio Bay, adjacent to Viva Energy's Geelong Refinery. The project would bring natural gas from other parts of the country and overseas to meet an anticipated gas shortage in south-eastern Australia in coming years.

The key components of the project are:

- Extension of the existing Refinery Pier – a new pier arm, new berth and ancillary pier infrastructure
- Localised dredging for the new berth and ship turning basin, and deposition of dredged sediment at the existing Point Wilson dredged material ground
- The FSRU continuously moored at the new berth, which would receive liquefied natural gas (LNG) from visiting LNG carriers, store and convert the LNG into natural gas when needed
- A treatment facility located within the Geelong Refinery site to check that the gas meets transmission system standards, where odorant and nitrogen (when required) is added
- A 7-kilometre pipeline to transfer the gas from the FSRU to the South West Pipeline connection point at Lara, comprising a 3-kilometre aboveground section and a 4-kilometre underground section.

A map of the pipeline corridor appears to the right.

If the project gains all required approvals, construction is anticipated to begin early 2023 and finish in early to mid 2024.

EES Process

On 28 December 2020, the Victorian Minister for Planning determined that an EES is required for the project under the EE Act.

Read more about the EES process for the project at the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) website at www.planning.vic.gov.au/environment-assessment/browse-projects/projects/viva-energy-gas-terminal-project

EPBC Act Process

On 21 January 2021, the delegate for the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment determined that the project is a 'controlled action' as it is likely to have a significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), which are protected under the EPBC Act.

The Viva Energy Gas Terminal Project, Geelong (EPBC 2020/8838) controlled action is intended to be taken by Viva Energy. The relevant provisions for the controlled action are Ramsar wetlands (section 16 & section 17B), listed threatened species & communities (section 18 & section 18A), and listed migratory species (section 20 & section 20A).

The EES process is an accredited assessment process under the EPBC Act through a Bilateral Assessment Agreement that exists between the Commonwealth and State of Victoria. Therefore, this EES also considers MNES for the purposes of assessment of the controlled action under the EPBC Act. You can make a submission on the matters assessed for the purposes of the relevant provisions under the EPBC Act, by making a submission on the EES (see more information about making submissions on the EES below).

After considering the Victorian Minister for Planning's assessment under the EE Act, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment will then make a separate decision as to whether to approve the controlled action application for the proposed project under the EPBC Act.



Planning Scheme Amendment

The draft PSA including an explanatory report and supporting documents has been prepared. The draft PSA is included as Attachment VII to the EES. The draft PSA seeks to apply the Specific Controls Overlay and an Incorporated Document to facilitate the use and development of land for a Gas Terminal. It also seeks to extend the area covered by the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to include the extension to Refinery Pier and water to a distance of 110 metres from the Pier and to apply the Port Zone to the amended area.

You may make a submission or provide comments about the draft PSA by making a submission on the EES (see more information about making submissions on the EES below).

EPA Development Licences

The EPA has received two applications for development licences under the Victorian Environment Protection Act 2017. One is from Viva Energy Gas Australia Pty Ltd for the FSRU component of the project and the other is from Viva Energy Refining Pty Ltd for the reuse and discharge of FSRU wastewater from the existing Viva Energy refinery.

Both these development licence applications are included as Attachment V to the EES.

A copy of the development licence applications and accompanying plans, specifications and other information can be inspected online at www.vivaenergy.com.au/gas-terminal-ees

You may make a submission or provide comments about the development licence applications by making a submission on the EES (see more information about making submissions on the EES below).

Pipeline Licence Application

A pipeline licence is required under the *Pipelines Act 2005* (Vic) (Pipelines Act) for the construction and operation of the pipeline included in the project. The proposed pipeline was the subject of a Notice of Pipeline Corridor pursuant to section 27 Pipelines Act. An application was made to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change in February 2022. The application is included in the exhibited documents at Attachment VI to the EES.

Any person who may be affected by the grant of the pipeline licence may make a written submission to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change about the application for the licence by following the EES submission process below. All such submissions will also be treated as submissions on the EES.

How to Access the EES and Exhibited Documents

The EES, draft PSA, EPA development licence applications and the pipeline licence application are now available to read and download at www.vivaenergy.com.au/gas-terminal-ees

Should COVID-19 restrictions allow, hard copies of the EES, draft PSA, EPA development licence applications and the pipeline licence application will be made available at the following locations during the exhibition period:

Geelong Library & Heritage Centre
51 Little Malop St, Geelong VIC 3220
Corio Library
Cox Rd, cnr Moa St, Norlane VIC 3214
State Library of Victoria
328 Swanston St, Melbourne VIC 3000

Please check the COVIDSafe Settings for Victoria for updates: www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covidsafe-settings

You can request an EES information pack, free of charge. The pack contains:

- USB loaded with the complete EES, draft PSA, EPA development licence applications and pipeline licence application
- Printed EES Summary Document
- Printed information sheet on 'How to Navigate the EES'.

For those who may have accessibility issues, or where electronic options are impracticable, hard copies of the documents may be requested, free of charge.

Request an EES information pack or hard copy documents by phoning Viva Energy on **1800 515 093** or emailing energyhub@vivaenergy.com.au

Please note the EES is a long document and we encourage the use of electronic versions.

How to Make a Submission

Submissions on the EES, draft PSA, EPA development licence applications and the pipeline licence application must be made in writing and be received by **11:59pm on Monday 11 April 2022**.

Each submission is a public document and will be treated as a submission on the EES and on the other exhibited documents (draft PSA, EPA development licence applications and the pipeline licence application). Only one submission is needed to address all of your views about the project, its effects and the relevant documents.

Online submissions are preferred and can be lodged via the Victorian Government's engagement website <https://engage.vic.gov.au/viva-gas-terminal-iac>

Where a submitter is unable to lodge a submission online, they must contact Planning Panels Victoria (PPV) through the DELWP Customer Call 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 for privacy reasons.

All submissions must state the name and address of the person making the submission. Petition responses will be treated as a single submission and only the first names from a petition submission will be registered and contacted.

Submissions will be treated as public documents and will be published on the Engage Victoria website. Do not include personal information in the body of your submission (such as your email address or phone number or photos of people, particularly children).

Your submission and your name will be made public.

The submission process is independently managed by PPV and any inquiries regarding the management of submissions and the Inquiry and Hearing process should be directed to PPV.

Inquiry and Advisory Committee Process

The Minister for Planning will appoint a joint Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) under the EE Act and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to hold an inquiry into the project and its environmental effects. The IAC will review the public submissions, the EES, the draft PSA and the EPA development licence applications. It will consider the environmental effects of the project in accordance with the Terms of Reference issued by the Minister for Planning.

The IAC may also be appointed by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change as a panel under the Pipelines Act to consider written submissions and the pipeline licence application.

After the exhibition period, the IAC will hold a Directions Hearing, likely in the week commencing 2 May 2022 or the week commencing 9 May 2022, where the necessary arrangements and timetable for the public hearing will be established.

Further information about the Directions Hearing arrangements (including whether it will be held in person or conducted online by video conference) will be published on <https://engage.vic.gov.au/viva-gas-terminal-iac> when determined. The IAC will follow the health advice from the Victoria Government and the Chief Health Officer in making this decision.

The Public Hearing process will likely commence in the week beginning Monday 20 June 2022 and run for approximately 4 to 5 weeks (if required).

Members of the public and any other parties seeking to be heard at the public hearing are required to submit a written submission and indicate on the online submission form or hard copy submission coversheet that they would like to be heard at the hearing.

Information on the hearing process and timetable will be published as it becomes available at <https://engage.vic.gov.au/viva-gas-terminal-iac>.

Questions

Gas Terminal Project

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EES Process

Impact Assessment Unit, DELWP
Phone: (03)8392 5503 or 8508 2276
Email: environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au

EPA Development Licences

Permissioning, EPA Victoria
Phone: 1300 372 842
Email: works.approvals@epa.vic.gov.au

Pipeline Licence Application

Pipelines Regulation, DELWP
Phone: 136 186
Email: pipeline.regulation@delwp.vic.gov.au

Making a Submission or the Inquiry and Advisory Committee Process

Planning Panels Victoria
Phone: 136 186 (select option 6)
Email: vivagasterminal.iac@delwp.vic.gov.au

