

Attachment 2

For Public Notice via Internet

REASONS FOR DECISION UNDER *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978*

Project name: Gas Import Jetty Facility and Crib Point to Pakenham Gas Pipeline

Proponent: AGL (Gas Import Jetty Facility) and APA (Gas Pipeline)

Description of Project:

The proposal includes: a liquified natural gas (LNG) import facility, with continuous mooring of a floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) at Crib Point; the construction of ancillary topside jetty infrastructure including high pressure gas unloading arms and a high pressure gas flowline mounted to the jetty connecting to a flange on the landside component; and construction of a high pressure gas pipeline of approximately 56 km in length (including associated end of line and mid-line pipeline facilities) connecting the import facility at Crib Point to the Victorian Transmission System east of Pakenham. The pipeline is intended to be bi-directional, allowing for the future supply of gas to emerging communities along the pipeline route. The FSRU will receive LNG from LNG carriers moored alongside the FSRU, store the LNG and re-gasify it as required to meet market demands. The import facility project life is anticipated to be approximately 20 years.

Decision:

The Minister for Planning has decided that an environment effects statement (EES) is required, for the Gas Import Jetty Facility and Crib Point to Pakenham Gas Pipeline proposal, as described in the referral accepted on 13 September 2018.

Reasons for Decision:

- The project has the potential for significant environmental effects, including on native vegetation, habitat of threatened terrestrial and aquatic species listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*, as well as risk to some aspects of the ecology in the North Arm of the Western Port Ramsar site.
- There are potential effects from construction and operation of the gas pipeline on water quality of waterways and the Western Port Ramsar site and on Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- While these potentially significant effects and other residual effects could be assessed and managed through a range of separate statutory processes, an EES is warranted to help ensure the proposal's effects and relevant uncertainties are rigorously investigated as part of an integrated assessment process prior to any statutory approval decisions.

Date of Decision:

8/10/18