



Narrabri Coal Seam Gas Utilisation Project

PEL 238, Gunnedah Basin

New South Wales

Final Statement of Commitments

August 2008





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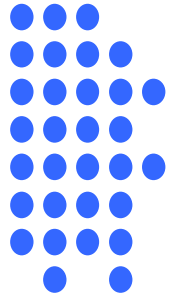
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# Final Statement of Commitments

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## Preamble

*This document has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act and presents a compilation of actions the Proponent commits to implement if the Narrabri Coal Seam Gas Utilisation Project is approved.*

*The bulk of the commitments are designed to effectively manage and mitigate the environmental effects of the installation of the gas flow line between Bibblewindi and the Wilga Park Power Station. These commitments will form part of the project approval, should the project be approved and the contractual documentation for the contractor undertaking the gas flow line installation.*

*The commitments are presented in tabular form (**Table A**) and identify the desired outcomes, actions and timing of the stated actions.*

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**Table A**  
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Outcomes	Action	Timing
<b>1. Project Site</b>		
All approved activities to occur within the defined corridor boundaries.	1.1 Survey and clearly mark the boundary of the gas flow line corridor.	Prior to commencement of disturbances
	1.2 Construction plans and induction program clearly state responsibilities of contractors to observe disturbance limitations.	During tender process and contractor inductions
	1.3 Clearly mark the route of the installed flow line in accordance with the Conditions attached to PAL 2.	Within one month of the completion of the gas flow line installation.
<b>2. Operating Hours</b>		
Management of construction activities in accordance with approved operating hours.	2.1 Undertake corridor creation & vegetation clearance and soil removal operations between 7am-6pm/7 days within forest zone.	Duration of construction period
	2.2 Undertake corridor creation & soil removal operations between 7am and 6pm 5½ days within freehold lands.	Duration of construction period
	2.3 Limit construction materials deliveries along gas flow line corridor to operating hours as above.	Duration of construction period
<b>3. Waste Management</b>		
Management of waste materials produced during construction phase.	3.1 Waste generated during construction is collected at staging points each day for regular removal by contractor.	Duration of construction period
	3.2 Waste materials collected for recycling where possible.	Duration of construction period
	3.3 General wastes collected and disposed of into receptacles at staging points.	Duration of construction period
Management of waste materials during operational phase.	3.4 Used lubricants stored in approved storage tanks for collection by contractor.	Ongoing
	3.5 General workshop wastes generated at the WPPS collected, stored and disposed of appropriately.	Ongoing
<b>4. Rehabilitation</b>		
Rehabilitation of gas flow line corridor as soon as practicable post construction.	4.1 Ensure topsoil and trench spoil are clearly segregated within corridor.	Duration of construction period (forest and freehold lands)
	4.2 Ensure topsoil is not placed back across working area until trench is adequately compacted to avoid settling.	Rehabilitation period (forest and freehold lands)
	4.3 Stabilise topsoil with retained vegetation as soon as practicable to encourage natural regeneration of disturbed corridor.	Rehabilitation period (forest lands)

**Table A (Cont'd)**  
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Outcomes	Action	Timing
<b>4. Rehabilitation (Cont'd)</b>		
Rehabilitation of gas flow line corridor as soon as practicable post construction. (Cont'd)	4.4 Apply forestry approved grass seed to corridor at recommended rates to encourage initial stabilisation (adequate rainfall permitting).	Rehabilitation period (forest lands)
	4.5 Apply landholder approved seed to corridor to encourage initial soils stabilisation.	As required
	4.6 Re-establish previous land uses as soon as practicable after trench backfilling and reduce the width required for ongoing access to 3m.	As area becomes available
	4.7 Ensure land profile is re-established to previous or agreed condition.	Ongoing with periodic monitoring
	4.8 Conduct ongoing monitoring and maintenance of disturbed lands.	Ongoing
	4.9 Monitor corridor for weed species growth.	Ongoing
	4.10 Undertake weed control and eradication where needs identified.	Ongoing/project life
<b>5. Ecological Management</b>		
Minimise impacts of on flora and fauna across project site and surrounding area.	5.1 Maintain strict control on the 10m wide clearance envelope. Ensure no clearing to occur outside of surveyed gas flow line corridor.	Prior to and during corridor preparation
	5.2 Minimise extent of vegetation clearance where possible.	During corridor surveying and clearing activity
	5.3 Avoid unnecessary removal of hollow bearing trees identified during corridor surveying.	During corridor surveying and clearing activity
	5.4 Retain all understorey and groundcover vegetation from gas flow line corridor to ensure retention of natural seed stocks to facilitate rehabilitation program.	During corridor preparation
	5.5 Undertake weed monitoring and management program along gas flow line corridor.	Post rehabilitation
	5.6 Program preparation activities to outside fauna breeding seasons.	During clearing, whenever possible.
	5.7 Engage an ecological / animal carer to inspect trees with hollows if clearing of large trees is programmed during periods of use.	Ongoing
	5.8 Consult with landholders regularly to ensure rehabilitation objectives are being achieved.	Ongoing (periodic)
Provide an effective offset for clearance of native vegetation.	5.9 Liaise with the Namoi Catchment Management Authority to develop mutually agreeable revegetation projects in the Namoi River Catchment.	Within 3 months of project approval then ongoing.



**Table A (Cont'd)**  
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Outcomes	Action	Timing
<b>6. Aboriginal Heritage</b>		
Employees and contractors aware and respectful of Aboriginal heritage values of Project Site and surrounding area	6.1 Include specific Aboriginal heritage awareness items in project induction program.	Site induction process
Protect Sites of Aboriginal heritage significance	6.2 Ensure gas flow line corridor observes adequate buffer surrounding sites and items of significance.	Corridor surveying
	6.3 Construction plans to include specific action should unknown sites or items be discovered during corridor creation or any other period.	Construction and rehabilitation period (where required)
	6.4 Undertake further pre-clearance Aboriginal heritage surveying where the route of the gas flow line corridor is amended for any reason.	Prior to and including clearance activity
	6.5 Engage the Cultural Heritage Officer representing the PFAMC and NLALC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) undertake a survey of the pegged gas flow line covering a 50m wide corridor (25m both sides of the pegged centre line) to confirm no Aboriginal heritage sites will be disturbed; and</li> <li>(ii) identify adequate buffer zones to protect any unknown site within close proximity to the immediate impact area.</li> </ul>	
<b>7. Soils</b>		
Maintenance of soil value for rehabilitation and minimisation of soil loss through erosion	7.1 Observe soils protection strategy outlined in Soils Impact Assessment, particularly consistent removal of 150mm of topsoil.	All stages
	7.2 Observe strict controls over the stripping stockpiling and protection of topsoils and trench spoil during flow line installation.	All stages
	7.3 Avoid stripping of soils when wet.	Corridor preparation
	7.4 Replace trench spoil and topsoils as soon as practicable.	Completion of hydro-testing
	7.5 Install silt fencing or otherwise to protect topsoil stocks where delays prevent replacement.	Construction period
	7.6 Re-establish soil conservation systems (where applicable) on freehold lands to agreed condition.	Rehabilitation period
<b>8. Air Quality</b>		
Complete proposed development without exceeding DECC air quality criteria objectives	8.1 Suppress dust along site access roads and forestry tracks.	When required
	8.2 Limit topsoil stripping and trenching during high winds.	When required

**Table A (Cont'd)**  
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Outcomes	Action	Timing
<b>8. Air Quality (Cont'd)</b>		
Complete proposed development without exceeding DECC air quality criteria objectives (Cont'd)	8.3 Progressively rehabilitate gas flow line corridor.	As sections become available post hydro-testing
Demonstrate compliance with air quality objectives	8.4 Undertake monitoring of NO <sub>x</sub> and other air emissions to validate performance criteria on each 3MW unit.	Within 3 months of commissioning each unit
<b>9. Traffic Management</b>		
Minimise the impact of the Project on the areas of normal traffic flow	9.1 Prepare a Traffic Management Plan to appropriate RTA standard.	Planning stages
Traffic safety considerations	9.2 Publish traffic management plan in all Project documents and include as part of Project Site induction.	Pre-commencement
	9.3 Erect appropriate road signage along Project Site as per Forestry and NSC requirements.	Construction period
	9.4 Minimise overall impacts of project on major traffic flows along Newell Highway.	Construction period
	9.5 Inform all potentially affected residents adjoining the gas flow line corridor of proposed traffic arrangements.	Construction period
<b>10. Noise and Vibration</b>		
All construction activities undertaken in appropriate manner to minimise noise and vibration impacts on surrounding environment	10.1 Publish operating hours clearly in all site induction documents.	Pre-commencement
	10.2 Observe stated operating hours.	Construction period
	10.3 Encourage all employees and contractors to drive in courteous manner and avoid undue generation of traffic noise.	All stages
	10.4 Ensure all equipment is good working order and noise attenuation equipment installed on all machinery.	All stages
	10.5 Minimise where possible the number of heavy vehicles entering and exiting the working area.	Construction period
	10.6 Ensure deliveries of construction materials and equipment occur within operating hours .	Construction period
Operation of the WPPS does not exceed DECC noise impact criteria	10.7 Ensure frequent, ongoing monitoring and maintenance of generator sets as per manufacturer's directions to effectiveness of noise attenuation features.	Operating period
	10.8 Conduct noise monitoring at the "Wilga Park" residence and the Hardcastle property to the north of the WPPS to ensure compliance with stated noise impact limits is being achieved.	Operating period

**Table A (Cont'd)**  
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Outcomes	Action	Timing
<b>11. Documentation and Management</b>		
Documents governing planning, construction and operation	11.1 Provide accurate summary of all pertinent approval conditions to employees and contractors during induction period.	Pre-commencement
	11.2 Encourage strict observation of published construction plans and site specific work procedures.	All stages
	11.3 Create framework for the collection of project implementation and operational information for inclusion in annual environmental management reports.	Pre-commencement
Informative Induction Documentation	11.4 Ensure all construction and operating conditions are clearly published within induction documentation.	Pre-commencement
	11.5 Include specific environmental considerations in daily toolbox meeting agenda and encourage awareness of flora, fauna, Aboriginal heritage, land use and noise impact issues.	Pre-commencement
Effective management of soils	11.6 Prepare and implement an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.	Prior to excavation activities
Informative Annual Documentation	11.7 Submit an Annual Environmental Management Report to the Department of Planning and Department of Primary Industries – Mineral Resources.	Within 2 months of the anniversary of the commencement of site activities
Informative Abandonment Plan	11.8 Submit an Abandonment Plan to the Department of Primary Industries.	Before any section of the gas flow line or gas gathering system is abandoned
Risks are assessed prior to activities commencing	11.9 Undertake a risk assessment for all potentially hazardous activities.	Prior to the commencement of construction / installation of the subject component
<b>12. Miscellaneous</b>		
Access for the RFS to water within the Bibblewindi East State Forest for fire fighting	12.1 Allow access to the Rural Fire Service to pump up to approximately 2ML of water from the freshwater impoundment at the Bibblewindi CSG Pilot.	Ongoing

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