

# Narrabri Gas Project (PEL 238) Monthly Activities Update

April 2023

Santos



## Community Investment Program Highlights



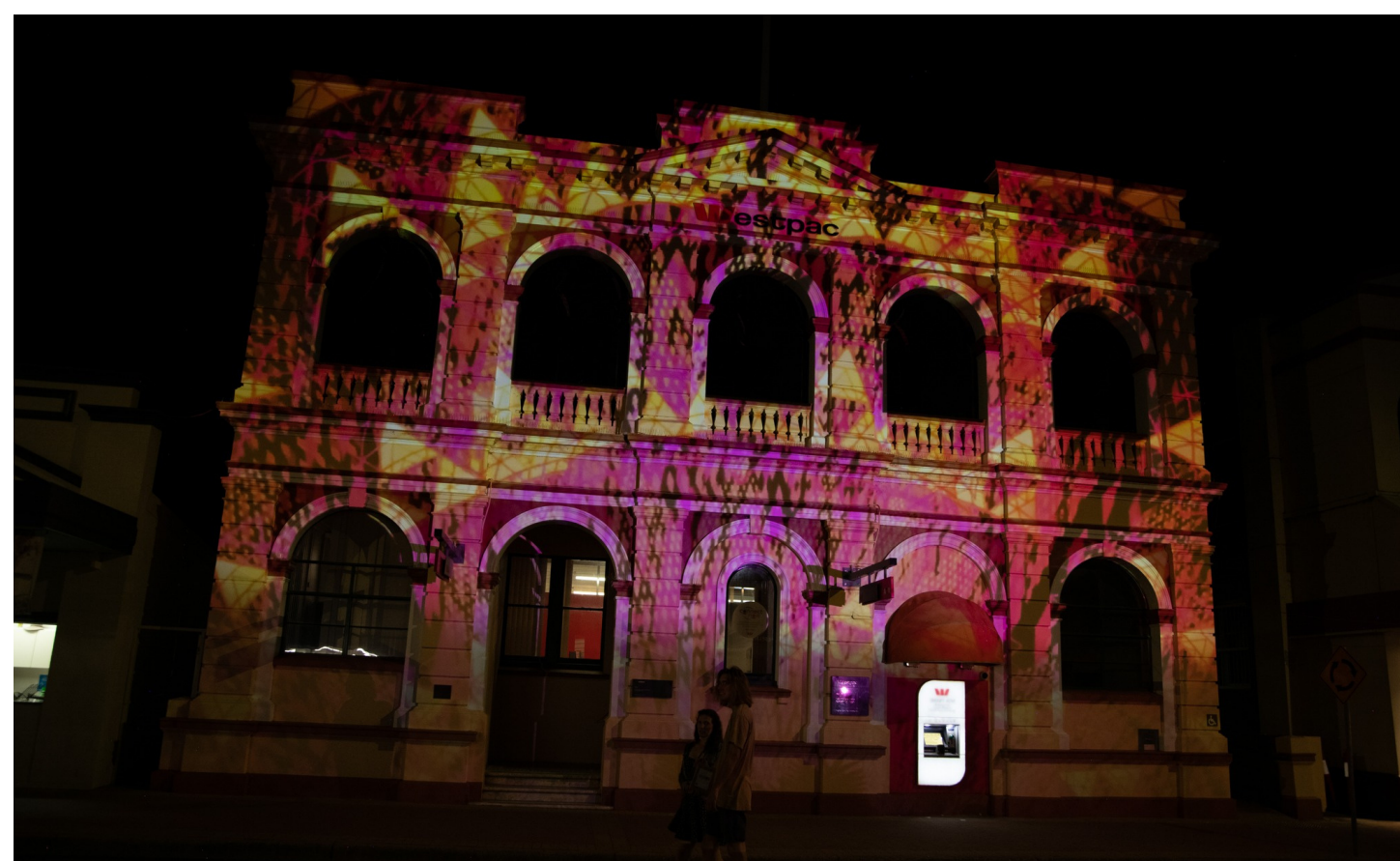
## Supporting the Narrabri business community

Santos' core value of building a better future includes leaving a positive legacy in our regional towns and our efforts to support regional economic development.

Santos has been a long-time supporter of the Narrabri & District Chamber of Commerce. Last year the Secretary of the Chamber's house was destroyed by fire, resulting in the loss of the Chamber's documents and equipment.

At the Narrabri Chamber of Commerce AGM held in March, Santos was delighted to present a new laptop to ensure the Chamber can continue to support and advocate for the Narrabri business community.





## CREATE Festival & NarraBRIGHT Street Carnival

Santos was pleased to support the third annual CREATE Festival, which kicked off with an enthusiastic opening night celebration in early March. As in previous years, CREATE consisted of a program that ran over a 16 day period, which stretched across the Narrabri Shire and showcased a wide variety of activities including exhibitions, workshops, street art, light shows, music and an amazing installation in the main auditorium of Narrabri's Crossing Theatre.

This year's festival, with the theme of flight, saw a strong turnout of artists embracing the exhibition at the Crossing Theatre. The festival featured skillful works throughout the exhibition in various mediums.

Attendees were pleasantly surprised by the Love is All in the Flutterby Hall installation in the main auditorium on opening night. Locally bred butterflies served as the highlight of the installation, which was designed as a magical fairy-inspired garden.

A total of 1300 art enthusiasts attended CREATE 2022, an increase of 300 from the previous year. Although final numbers are not yet available for the 2023 event, the organisers are confident that participants exceeded 2000.

During CREATE Festival 2023, iconic Maitland Street buildings were illuminated for the NarraBRIGHT street carnival by renowned Australian projection company, Illuminart. Santos, Narrabri Shopfront was used in the festivities by illuminating the front windows. An estimated crowd of 1000 people turned out to soak up the light displays and enjoy the festival atmosphere. A variety of light installations were installed along the street, and chalk art was also displayed on CBD buildings and footpaths.

A variety of street entertainment and food vendors were available throughout the evening. Many businesses on Maitland Street took advantage of the increased foot traffic and offered late night shopping while hospitality venues adapted their services to match the carnival atmosphere.

Santos understands the importance of festivals like CREATE and their ability to enrich the lives of the local community.





## Hunter Gas Pipeline

On 11 August 2022, Santos announced the acquisition of Hunter Gas Pipeline Pty Ltd which owns an approved underground gas pipeline route from Wallumbilla in Queensland to Newcastle in New South Wales. The underground pipeline route passes close to Santos' Narrabri Gas Project and our goal is to work with infrastructure developers and owners to construct the pipeline and deliver much-needed gas to east coast domestic markets in the shortest timeframe possible. The pipeline will also be designed to transport hydrogen as customer demand evolves during the energy transition. In order to transport, a modification to the existing approval would be required.

Our land access team continues to reach out to landholders and are making every effort to contact all landholders along the route to ensure they have an opportunity to ask questions or provide feedback about the proposed pipeline alignment. Land survey investigations will assist in the design and environmental assessment of the potential pipeline alignment. Land survey investigations are non-invasive and have minimal impact on daily landholder operations. We hope to reach voluntary access agreements with all landholders.

In January 2023, the NSW Government approved an Authority to Survey (ATS) application that was lodged in July 2022.

Santos will only use the ATS as a last resort in instances where all reasonable attempts to contact and negotiate access with the landholder or resident for the purpose of field surveys have been unsuccessful. More information about the ATS is available in our FAQ document on our Hunter Gas Pipeline website.

[HGP website](#)

[HGP Interactive map](#)

## Community Consultation

### Community Consultative Committee

A condition of the IPC consent for the Narrabri Gas Project is the establishment and operation of a Community Consultative Committee in accordance with the Department's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines: State Significant Projects. The NSW Department of Planning and Environment has appointed Mr Garry West to the position of Independent Chair of the committee.

The purpose of a Community Consultative Committee is to provide a forum for discussion between a proponent and representatives of the community, stakeholder groups and the local council on issues directly relating to a specific State significant project.

**The next meeting of the Narrabri Gas Project Community Consultative Committee will be held on Tuesday, 16 May 2023.**

### NGP Community Consultative Committee Meeting Minutes

### NGP Advisory Groups

A condition of the IPC consent for the Narrabri Gas Project is the establishment and operation of a number of advisory groups. The NSW Department of Planning and Environment has appointed Mr Garry West to the position of Independent Chair of these Advisory Groups.

These groups provide a forum for open dialogue between Santos, independent experts, key stakeholder groups and the local community.

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Group
- Biodiversity Advisory Group
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Advisory Group
- Water Technical Advisory Group

### NGP Advisory Group Meeting Minutes



## Narrabri Lateral Pipeline

The Narrabri Lateral Pipeline will connect the approved Narrabri Gas Project (NGP) and Hunter Gas Pipeline (HGP), transporting natural gas to the existing transmission network near Newcastle.

On 9 December 2022, the NSW Government declared the Narrabri Lateral Pipeline a Critical State Significant Infrastructure project on the basis that it is deemed essential to NSW for economic reasons.

Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) were issued by the NSW Government on 9 February 2023 which specify what issues are required to be addressed within the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Santos will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, which will be subject to extensive community consultation and a full environmental assessment.

The Narrabri Lateral Pipeline SEARs can be viewed on the NSW Planning portal website [here](#).

## Operations Update



### Drilling activities

Santos has commenced drilling of shallow water monitoring bores in line with project approvals.



### Pilot Wells

Bibblewindi East, Bibblewindi West and Dewhurst South pilot wells are all online.



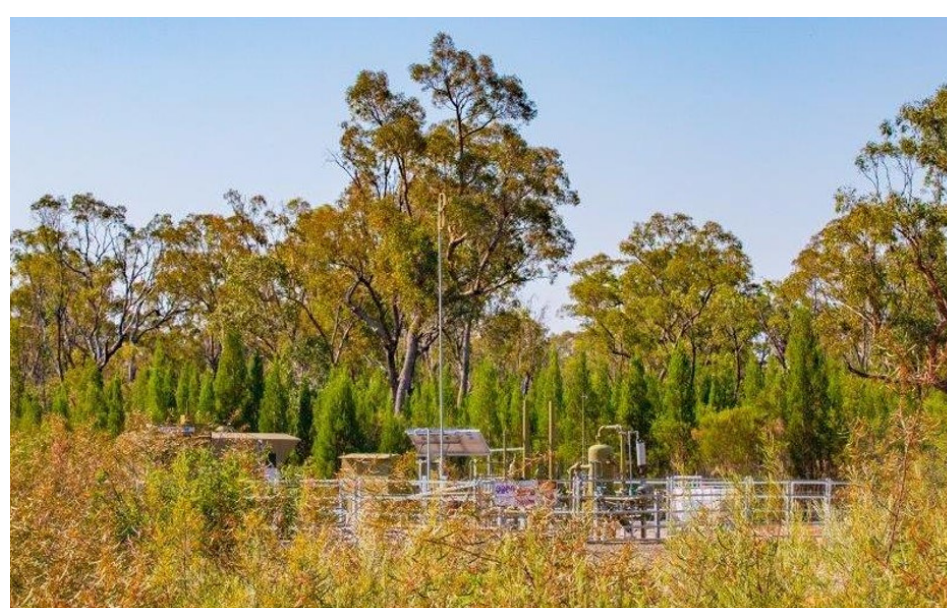
### Leewood

Santos does not need to irrigate at this time and water is stored in the holding ponds at Leewood.



### Wilga Park Power Station

The Wilga Park Power Station is online.



### Other activities

Groundwater monitoring activities for Environmental Protection Licence compliance are ongoing.

Ecological surveys will be undertaken through April to support reporting obligations and planning for future activities.



### PEL 1

In accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, on 12 January 2023, Santos lodged with the NSW Resources Regulator an application to conduct exploration activities for assessable prospecting operations, PEL 1 – Kahlua Pilot Reactivation including a Guideline Review of Environmental Factors. This application has been reviewed and approved by the NSW Resources Regulator. To view the approval, please click [here](#).





## Project Approvals

### NSW Government

On 30 September 2020, the NSW Independent Planning Commission (IPC) approved the Narrabri Gas with the Commission concluding that the Project is in the public interest and that any negative impacts can be effectively mitigated with strict conditions.

[Santos Media Release](#)

[IPCN approval link](#)

### Australian Government

On 24 November 2020, the Federal Minister for the Environment approved the Narrabri Gas Project pursuant to Sections 130(1) and 133(1) of the EPBC Act, subject to conditions.

[Santos Media Release](#)

[EBPC approval link](#)

Santos will undertake an appraisal program ahead of a Final Investment Decision for the next phase of project development. Santos continues work on the preparation and approval of the management plans required as a condition of consent by IPC.

Copies of plans approved by the NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment are available from the Narrabri Gas Project website.

[Approved Management Plans](#)





## Native Title

Santos notes the determination of the National Native Title Tribunal handed down on Monday 19 December 2022, that proposed future acts, being the grants of Petroleum Production Lease Application Numbers 13, 14, 15 and 16 for the Narrabri Gas Project, may be done. On 13 January 2023, the Gomeroi People filed an appeal in the Federal Court of Australia in respect to this determination.

The Tribunal imposed a condition, in each case, that Santos takes all necessary steps to ensure the Additional Research Program – as identified in paragraph 5.7 of the Narrabri Gas Project Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan – be implemented. This must be completed prior to the commencement of Phase 2 of the Narrabri Gas Project, pursuant to the Development Consent granted by the Independent Planning Commission of New South Wales on 30 September 2020.

Santos will continue to engage constructively with the Gomeroi people and work closely with them to ensure their heritage is protected and they benefit from the project development in a range of ways, including through training and employment, and involvement in all aspects of their cultural heritage protection and management.

Santos has a strong track record of working collaboratively with First Nations peoples in Australia and internationally. The company has a range of cultural heritage and native title agreements in place with 23 Traditional Owner Groups and six Aboriginal Land Councils around Australia.

Santos has been consulting and working with the Gomeroi people since 2012, and in formal negotiations regarding the Narrabri Gas Project since 2015.

Narrabri natural gas is essential to ensure Australia's energy transition to renewables and cleaner energy technologies maintains both energy security and affordability for all Australians over the coming decades.