

# Narrabri Gas Project (PEL 238) Monthly Activities Update

May 2023

Santos



## Community Investment Program Highlights



## Narrabri Harness Racing - Carnival of Cups

More than 300 spectators descended on the Narrabri Showground on Easter Monday for the annual Santos Carnival of Cups hosted by the Narrabri Harness Racing Club. The day brought trainers, drivers and horses from all across the North West and surrounds to partake in the live streamed day of racing.

Santos is proud ongoing supporters of this annual community event. In regional towns, these events are the fabric of our social values and allow us to continue building and maintaining relationships with local communities where we operate.



## Community Engagement



### Gunnedah Youth Expo

The Gunnedah Youth Expo delivered a smorgasbord of career options to local high school students as part of the Shire's Youth Week celebrations. The free event was designed for young people aged 12 to 25 to explore Gunnedah's opportunities for the day.

School leavers were presented with a wide range of options our rural regions have to offer. In addition, they were highlighted current businesses within the community that offer amazing career opportunities.

Santos was one of twenty-seven stalls representing the diverse pathways available. Staff provided information on the vast array of career opportunities available within our company and the pathways available through traineeships and cadetships. In addition, universities and tertiary institutions were present to talk to students about potential courses designed to strengthen future career prospects.

Santos staff had fun chatting with the kids. We encountered some curious and excited school leavers interested in who we are and what we do.

### Gunnedah Show

Santos staff were on hand to provide information to the community at the Gunnedah Show, held 28-30 April.

Community members were provided information regarding the Hunter Gas Pipeline, Santos' NSW operations and the coal seam gas industry.

Interested community members were invited to complete the Santos Quiz for an entry into the draw to win at Weber Baby Q, with a very excited winner announced on the day.







## 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.

Santos continues to work with the NSW Government as well as local councils, Traditional Owners and landholders along the proposed Hunter Gas Pipeline and Narrabri Lateral Pipeline routes to progress the projects.

Field surveys continue to be undertaken along the proposed alignment where voluntary land access agreements are in place.

The next round of engagement sessions will be held in May. Sessions are scheduled to be held in Hexham, Tocal, Singleton, Aberdeen, Murrurundi, Gunnedah, Boggabri.

A detailed list of locations, dates, and times can be found [here](#) on the HGP website.

Based on feedback from community members, we have arranged these sessions at different times and locations to previously held sessions along the alignment.

Landholders do not have to wait for an engagement session to contact us. Our project team is always available by phone or email to discuss the project or arrange to meet landholders at a time that is convenient to them.

If you would like to speak to a member of the team or arrange a meeting, please call 1300 427 546.

To visit the Hunter Gas Pipeline website please click [here](#).

## 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, 8 August 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.



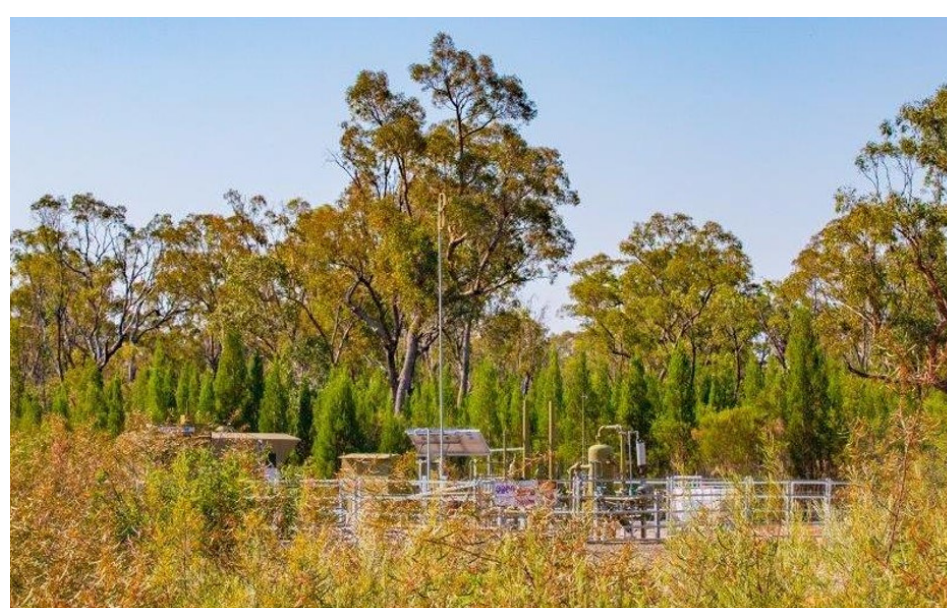
### Leewood

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 May 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.