

NARRABRI GAS PROJECT

A proudly Australian natural gas company

Santos is a global energy company with operations across Australia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and the United States.

At Santos, our goal is to be a global leader in the energy evolution to low-carbon fuels that help the world decarbonise and continue to provide the reliable, affordable energy the world needs for modern life and human progress.

Santos is an important Australian domestic gas supplier and LNG supplier in Asia. We are committed to supplying critical fuels such as oil and gas, and abating emissions through carbon capture and storage, energy efficiency projects, use of renewables in our operations and high-quality offsets. Santos will also seek to develop low-carbon fuels as customer demand evolves.

For 70 years, Santos has been working in partnership with local communities, providing jobs and business opportunities, safely developing natural gas resources and from there powering industries and households.

Regulatory approvals

Following extensive assessment of Santos' application to develop the Narrabri Gas Project, the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment provided its final assessment report to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) for determination, concluding that the Project was capable of approval with strict conditions.

The IPC established a Panel of Commissioners to make the determination for the Project. Commissioners Steve O'Connor (Panel Chair), John Hahn and Professor Snow Barlow were appointed to the Panel. The NSW Planning Minister requested the IPC to hold public hearings and a final determination within 12 weeks of receiving the final assessment report. The report was provided to the IPC on 12 June 2020. Submissions were received and public hearings were completed on 1 August 2020.

On 30 September 2020, the NSW Independent Planning Commission conditionally approved the Narrabri Gas Project with 134 consent conditions. On 24 November 2020, Santos welcomed Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley's approval of the Narrabri Gas Project.

Addressing the IPC conditions of consent included the formation of the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) and Advisory Groups at the beginning of 2021 and the preparation and approval of the required Management Plans. All plans were approved and in place prior to the commencement of the 12-18 month appraisal program which will precede the Final Investment Decision for the next stage of the Project development.

Project overview

Santos has State and Commonwealth conditional approvals to develop a project to produce natural gas from coal seams near Narrabri. Santos has committed that 100 per cent of Narrabri gas will be supplied to the domestic market.

Narrabri Gas Project will allow NSW to develop and use its own gas resources, improving energy security and reducing gas transport costs.

Operations will be focussed on land in and around the Pilliga, near Narrabri.

Santos is already an important part of the Narrabri community, spending \$4 million on local goods and services last year and employing 16 people who live locally with their families.

Santos has relied on the best science to confirm that the Project can be delivered safely and sustainably, without harm to water resources or the environment.

Conditions of Consent

In line with the Project's conditions, Santos has formed the following committee and advisory groups, whose role is to ensure Santos engages with the community, government agencies, Council and other stakeholders in preparing the required management plans and the ongoing operations of the Project:

- Community Consultative Committee
- Aboriginal Culture and Heritage Advisory Group
- Biodiversity Advisory Group
- Water Technical Advisory Group
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Advisory Group



Project Benefits

The detailed IPC assessment report was informed by extensive community consultation and advice from the Narrabri Shire Council, government agencies and independent experts, including a Water Expert Panel established specifically for this assessment. The report concluded the following about the Narrabri Gas Project:

- Has the potential to meet about 50% of NSW's gas requirements, in circumstances where (absent the Project) NSW is unlikely to be able to meet any of its gas needs from the State's own resources.
- The Project will deliver significant economic benefits for the people of NSW, including the diversification of industry for Narrabri and the surrounding region, employment opportunities, royalties and tax revenue for the NSW Government and direct funding for local infrastructure and community projects through the Community Benefits Fund and Voluntary Planning Agreement.
- The target coal seams are deep and saline (therefore not suitable for productive purposes) and are separated by thick layers of relatively impermeable rock (aquitards) which limits the potential impacts to the shallow, high quality productive aquifers.
- Any potential groundwater impacts in terms of water security and contamination from the Project can be managed and mitigated through the conditions imposed by the Commission including the requirement for further modelling to a high confidence level that will assist in ensuring the connectivity between aquifers and permeability of the aquitards is understood prior to the commencement of Phase 2 of the Project.

Santos' track record

Santos has been supplying natural gas to New South Wales customers from South Australia's Cooper Basin for nearly 45 years. Today, NSW still imports around 95 per cent of its natural gas needs from other states. Santos' proposed Narrabri Gas Project would allow NSW to develop and use its own gas resources, improving energy security and reducing gas transportation costs.

The large natural gas resources in the Narrabri area was first discovered in the Pilliga scrub in the 1960s and the Narrabri Gas Project was announced in July 2013.

Santos has a strong track record in safe, sustainable and successful natural gas development. We have been working in partnership with local communities around Australia for over 65 years, providing jobs and business opportunities, and developing Australia's natural gas resources safely and sustainably to fuel Australian industry and households.



Did you know?

Gas from appraisal wells is already supplying Santos' Wilga Park Power Station which has the electricity generation capacity of 22 megawatts, the equivalent of 32,000 households in northwest NSW.

Wilga Park Power Station connects to the Walgett/Brewarrina electricity network which ensures energy security and reliability to these remote communities.



Santos

Santos provides reliable, affordable energy for progress and seeks to provide lower carbon energy over time. Santos is a global energy company with operations across Australia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and the United States. For 70 years, Santos has been working in partnership with local communities, providing jobs and business opportunities, safely developing natural gas resources and from there powering industries and households.

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