

Frequently Asked Questions – Melbourne Jet Pipeline project



About us

Viva Energy Australia (Viva Energy) is one of Australia's leading energy companies and supplies approximately a quarter of Australia's liquid fuel requirements. It is the exclusive supplier of Shell fuels and lubricants in Australia through an extensive network of more than 1,250 service stations across the country. Viva Energy is also a leading provider of aviation fuels in Australia and in Melbourne, is one of four major suppliers of fuel to Melbourne Airport and the sole supplier to Avalon Airport.

We own and operate the Geelong Refinery, as well as bulk fuels, aviation, bitumen, marine, chemicals and lubricants businesses supported by more than 20 terminals and 50 airports and airfields across the country. Viva Energy also owns, operates and maintains a number of licensed pipelines in Victoria that transport either crude oil or refined petroleum products such as diesel, LPG, petrol and aviation (Jet) fuel.

To find out more about Viva Energy, please visit our website www.vivaenergy.com.au

What is the project?

The Melbourne Jet Pipeline Project proposes the construction of a new pipeline to form a direct connection between the jet fuel storage facilities at Melbourne Airport and the existing Somerton Jet fuel pipeline that follows the southern boundary of Tullamarine (located south of the Western Ring Road, M80).

Why does the airport need a new fuel pipeline?

Melbourne Airport is Australia's second largest airport with annual passenger numbers expected to almost double by 2038 – increasing from 35 million to more than 67 million per annum (Melbourne Airport Master Plan 2018). Consequently, the requirement for jet fuel is expected to increase significantly, and future demand will exceed the capacity of existing fuel supply infrastructure.

The new pipeline will:

- Help meet increasing demand for jet fuel and support future growth at Melbourne Airport
- Increase security of supply of jet fuel which will contribute to the Victorian state economy
- Reduce reliance on road transport for jet fuel supply with fewer trucks required to deliver fuel to the airport

Where will the pipeline be located?

The 350mm diameter pipeline would commence at a section of the Somerton Pipeline located south of the M80 Western Ring Road (near the Airport Drive exit) and link into the existing Melbourne Airport Joint User Hydrant Installation facility (located at Marker Rd, Tullamarine). A map of the preliminary route is shown on the project website.

The exact route is not yet finalised and it will be developed through consultation with landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders as the project progresses.

How has the proposed pipeline route been selected?

Several options for the preliminary pipeline route have been investigated, taking into account considerations related to both construction activities and ongoing pipeline operations, including preliminary assessments of:

- Public and worker safety
- 'Separation distance' from high density residential areas
- Environmental and cultural heritage sensitivities
- Land use and number of potentially affected landowners
- Planning zones and land classification
- Current and future developments
- Business and trader considerations
- Interference to transport flow (traffic management considerations)
- Terrain complexity
- Pipeline length
- Accessibility for construction and future operations

Stakeholder impact, environmental, cultural heritage and other surveys will be conducted to verify the land conditions and any potential constraints and these assessments will influence and inform the detailed design and final pipeline route.

How will affected landowners and occupiers be engaged?

Viva Energy will engage with stakeholders, landowners and occupiers throughout various stages of the project.

Consultation aims to provide relevant stakeholders with detailed information about the project and to gather information from potentially affected parties.

Viva Energy will use a range of communication methods, including face to face meetings, emails, phone calls, letters and website updates.



How long will the project take?

Viva Energy has commenced initial community and stakeholder engagements to inform development, planning and approvals processes.

In the event the project receives relevant statutory and Viva Energy Board approvals, construction and commissioning of the pipeline would take place between 2023 and 2024. The exact project timeline would depend on the duration, timing and scope associated with regulatory approvals, third party agreements, construction techniques and project execution.

What will the pipeline look like?

The pipeline will not be visible for the majority of the pipeline route as it will be buried at least 1m underground with only two small aboveground sections at the two connecting locations (start and end-points).



How to contact us?

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Viva Energy's Project Team:

T: 1800 515 093 E: communityrelations@vivaenergy.com.au

Alternate sources of information

**Department of Environment,
Land, Water and Planning**

T: 0439 799 598

E: pipeline.regulation@delwp.vic.gov.au

W: energy.vic.gov.au

Energy Safe Victoria

T: 1800 800 158

E: info@energysafe.vic.gov.au

W: www.esv.vic.gov.au

Are there any risks associated with the pipeline?

Viva Energy is required to design, construct, maintain and operate the pipeline in accordance with Australian Standard AS/NZS 2885 and implement systems and processes to monitor the pipeline and protect it from external threats.

While there are risks associated with transporting any fuel, pipeline safety regulations in Australia are equal to or more stringent than anywhere in the world. As a result, there have been no recorded injuries or fatalities associated with damage to a pipeline in Australia and incident rates are significantly lower than overseas.

Will there be any road disruption during the project?

Traffic management considerations were taken into account when assessing possible pipeline routes, and construction works will be managed to minimise disruptions to traffic and road access where possible.

Landowners, occupiers, businesses and other interested parties will be consulted on ways to reduce any construction related impacts.

What approvals and planning processes apply to the project?

The Pipelines Act 2005 (Vic) and Pipelines Regulations 2017 (Vic) provide a regulatory framework under which the development of a proposed pipeline must proceed. The project is also subject to a broader range of legislation not specific to pipeline construction and operation including the Airports Act 1996.

The Regulatory Approvals Fact Sheet and Pipeline Consultation Plan (both available on the project website) provide further information regarding applicable legislation and approval processes.

