

Attachment P

Self-assessment against the Ministerial Guidelines for Assessment of Environmental Effects

Subject	Self-assessment against the Ministerial Guidelines for Assessment of Environmental Effects under the <i>Environment Effects Act 1978</i>				
Client	Viva Energy Australia	Project number	521511	Date	2023-03-23
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1 Introduction

Viva Energy Australia (Viva Energy) is proposing to construct and operate a new jet fuel pipeline to support the growing fuel needs at Melbourne Airport, known as the Melbourne Airport Jet Pipeline Project (the Project).

In Victoria, assessment of the potential environmental effects of a proposed project may be required under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* (the Act) and may include the preparation of an Environment Effects Statement (EES). The Ministerial Guidelines for Assessment of Environmental Effects under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* (the Guidelines) provides referral criteria to enable a project proponent to determine whether a project should be referred. Where referral is required, the Minister for Planning will make a determination as to whether an EES is to be prepared or not.

A referral under the Act should be prepared and submitted to the Minister for Planning if any:

- one of the criteria set out in Table 1 (below) are met, or
- two or more of the criteria listed in Table 2 (below) are met.

2 Project Description

The Project proposes the construction and operation of a new pipeline, approximately 6.7 km in length, to form a direct connection between the jet fuel storage infrastructure at Melbourne Airport and the existing Altona to Somerton pipeline. The pipeline would commence at a section of the Altona to Somerton pipeline located south of the Western Ring Road (M80) (near the Airport Drive exit) and link into the existing Melbourne Airport joint user hydrant installation (JUHI) facility (located at Marker Road, Tullamarine).

Figure 1 below shows the proposed pipeline alignment.



Figure 1 Proposed pipeline location (Source: ESRI)

3 Assessment summary

The project has been assessed against the referral criteria from the Guidelines and a summary of the assessment is provided in Table 1 and Table 2 below.

Table 1: Referral criteria - individual potential environmental effects

Referral criteria	Referral criteria met?	Comments
<p>Potential clearing of 10 hectares or more of native vegetation from an area that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is of an Ecological Vegetation Class identified as Endangered within the Bioregion • Is, or is likely to be, of Very High Conservation Significance; and • Is not authorised under an approved Forest Management Plan or Fire Protection Plan. 	Not met	The Project would not clear 10 hectares or more of native vegetation. No clearance of native vegetation is planned.
Potential long-term loss of a significant proportion of known remaining habitat or population of a threatened species within Victoria.	Not met	The Project would not result in long-term loss of a significant proportion of known remaining habitat or population of a threatened species within Victoria. The pipeline corridor is highly disturbed and developed along the entire alignment, with a general absence of habitat that would support a diversity of fauna species.
Potential long-term change to the ecological character of a wetland Listed under the Ramsar Convention or in 'A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia' (Environment Australia, 2001).	Not met	The Project would not result in a significant impact to wetlands listed under the Ramsar Convention or in 'A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia'. No listed wetlands are located within 15 km of the Project.
Potential extensive or major effects on health or biodiversity of aquatic, estuarine or marine ecosystems, over the long-term.	Not met	The Project would not have extensive or major effects on the health or biodiversity of aquatic, estuarine or marine ecosystems. The pipeline corridor is highly disturbed and developed, and the surface water system present (Steele Creek North) is highly modified and relatively insensitive to potential effects that could arise from the Project. All waterways will be crossed using HDD which will minimise potential impacts. No ongoing impacts are expected to occur.
Potential extensive or major effects on health, safety or well-being of a human community, due to emissions to air, water or chemical hazards or displacement of residents.	Not met	The Project would not have extensive or major effects on health, safety or well-being of a human community, due to emissions to air, water or chemical hazards or displacements of residents. The proposed works would generate some emissions during construction; however, they will be temporary, typical of a construction project and will be managed in accordance with best practice. There will be no displacement of residents.
Potential greenhouse gas emissions exceeding 200,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per annum, directly attributable to the operation of the facility.	Not met	The Project would not produce greenhouse gas emissions exceeding 200,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO ₂ -e) per annum. The estimated greenhouse gas emissions for the proposed Project are 45,300 t CO ₂ -e (5,700 t CO ₂ -e associated with construction activities and 39,600 t CO ₂ -e associated with its operation over the 40-year design life).

Table 2: Referral criteria – combination of potential environmental effects

Referral criteria	Referral criteria met?	Comments
Potential clearing of 10 hectares or more of native vegetation, unless authorised under an approved Forest Management Plan or Fire Protection Plan.	Not met	The Project would not clear 10 hectares or more of native vegetation. No clearance of native vegetation is planned.
Matters listed under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Potential loss of a significant area of a Listed ecological community; or ● Potential loss of genetically important population of an endangered or threatened species (Listed or nominated for listing), including as a result of fragmentation of habitats; or ● Potential loss of critical habitat; or ● Potential significant effects on habitat values of a wetland supporting migratory bird species. 	Not met	The Project would not result in significant impact to any matters listed under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (FFG Act). The pipeline corridor is highly disturbed and developed, with a general absence of habitat that would support a diversity of fauna species. Tussock Skink was identified as the sole threatened species, as listed under the FFG Act, potentially impacted by the proposed pipeline. Tussock Skink have been confirmed to occur in the pipeline corridor south of the Western Ring Road (M80). Their presence is expected to be localised to this area, noting extensive development and ground disturbance along the overall pipeline corridor and in the surrounding areas. Given the relatively small proportion of the habitat disturbed by the proposed pipeline (0.38 ha of the mapped 7.56 ha), and the temporary nature of the construction activities, impacts to the species is considered minimal. Note the 0.38 ha of habitat is not native vegetation.
Potential extensive or major effects on landscape values of regional importance, especially where recognised by a planning scheme overlay or within or adjoining land reserved under the <i>National Parks Act 1975</i> .	Not met	The Project would not have extensive or major effects on landscape values of regional importance. There are no landscape values of regional importance near the Project. There are also no significant landscape overlays in or adjacent to the pipeline corridor. In addition, the Project area does not contain land that is within or adjoining land reserved under the <i>National Parks Act 1975</i> .
Potential extensive or major effects on land stability, acid sulphate soils or highly erodible soils over the short term.	Not met	The Project would not have extensive or major effects on land stability, acid sulphate soils or highly erodible soils. There are no erosion management overlays affecting the Project Area or adjacent areas, indicating low erosion potential within and adjacent to the Project Area. The Project is in an area that has an extremely low probability of occurrence of acid sulphate soil. Given the pipeline corridor is relatively flat, impacts in relation to land stability are not anticipated.
Potential extensive or major effects on beneficial uses of waterbodies over the long-term due to changes in water quality, stream flows or regional groundwater levels.	Not met	The Project would not result in extensive or major effects on beneficial uses of waterbodies over the long-term due to changes in water quality, stream flows or regional groundwater levels. The pipeline corridor is highly disturbed and developed, and the surface water systems present are highly modified and relatively insensitive to potential effects that could arise from the Project. Groundwater may be encountered during construction, however any potential changes to groundwater would not be on a regional scale. No ongoing impacts are expected to occur.

Referral criteria

Referral criteria	Referral criteria met?	Comments
Potential extensive or major effects on social or economic well-being due to direct or indirect displacement of non-residential land use activities.	Not met	The Project would not cause extensive or major effects on social or economic well-being due to direct or indirect displacement of non-residential land use activities. The selected pipeline route has been positioned within or adjacent to existing road reserves where possible. In addition to road reserves, the pipeline route runs along the boundary of three commercial properties and no displacement from non-residential land use is expected to occur.
Potential for extensive displacement of residences or severance or residential access to community resources due to infrastructure development.	Not met	The Project would not lead to extensive displacement of residences or severance or residential access to community resources. There are no residential areas or community resources within or adjacent the pipeline corridor.
Potential significant effects on the amenity of substantial number of residents due to extensive or major long-term changes in visual, noise and traffic conditions.	Not met	The Project would not result in significant effects on the amenity of substantial number of residents due to extensive or major long-term changes in visual, noise and traffic conditions. The Project is located within an area which is predominantly industrial and there are no residential areas within or adjacent the pipeline corridor.
Potential exposure of a human community to severe or chronic health or safety hazards over the short or long-term, due to emissions to air or water or noise or chemical hazards or associated transport.	Not met	The Project would not expose the human community to severe or chronic health or safety hazards. The Project would generate some emissions during construction; however they will be temporary, typical of a construction project and will be managed in accordance with best practice. To mitigate ongoing impacts, the pipeline would be constructed, commissioned, operated and maintained in full compliance with AS2285 – including ongoing operational surveillance, inline inspection and continuous monitoring by an online leak detection system.
Potential extensive or major effects on Aboriginal cultural heritage.	Not met	A Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) #16705 is currently being developed for the Project. The CHMP is being prepared in consultation with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and will be used to manage potential impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage. Works can only proceed once the approved CHMP is in place. Early results indicate that Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Places present would comprise low density disturbed surface and shallow sub-surface artefact scatters of low significance and that the presence of dense in-situ (undisturbed) ACHPs of high significance is considered unlikely
Potential extensive or major effects on heritage places Listed on the Heritage Register or the Archaeological Inventory under the <i>Heritage Act 1995</i> .	Not met	The project would not have extensive or major effects on historic heritage places or values listed on the Heritage Register or the Archaeological Inventory under the <i>Heritage Act 1995</i> . No listed places or values are located within or adjacent to the pipeline corridor.

4 Conclusion

Based on the self-assessment set out in Table 1 and Table 2, there is not considered to be the potential for any significant effect on the environment resulting from the Project that would necessitate referral under the Act.