

Fact Sheet

Gas Terminal Pipeline Regulatory Approvals



Pipeline Regulatory Approvals

To support Australia's energy future, in June 2020 we shared our vision to create the Geelong Energy Hub at our refinery. Key to this vision is the plan to develop a gas terminal using a Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) and a Pipeline to get the gas to market.

The Gas Terminal being adjacent to the Geelong Refinery would leverage our capability as an existing Major Hazard Facility (MHF) operator and offer potential synergies between the two facilities such as the ability to reuse the FSRU seawater discharge in the refinery's existing operations.

The Gas Terminal would bring natural gas from various locations in Australia and overseas, to meet the projected gas shortage in south-east Australia.

A new Pipeline, approximately 6.5km in length and up to 600mm in diameter is proposed to take gas from the Gas Terminal to the existing Victoria Transmission System (VTS) in Lara.

The Project is subject to regulatory and Viva Energy Board approvals and the Pipeline may only be constructed and operated with the consent of the Minister administering the *Pipelines Act 2005 (Vic)* in the form of a Licence to Construct and Operate a Pipeline.

More information about Viva Energy's proposed Gas Terminal is in the Project Factsheet on the Project website.

Pipelines Approvals

A number of regulatory approvals are required prior to the construction and operation of the Pipeline. The *Pipelines Act 2005 (Vic)* (the Act) and *Pipelines Regulations 2017* (the Regulations), provide a regulatory framework under which the development of a proposed pipeline must follow.

The Act and the Regulations include the manner in which Viva Energy needs to engage with regulatory authorities and potentially affected land owners, occupiers and stakeholders on the proposed Pipeline.

The Pipeline is also subject to a broad range of legislation not specific to pipeline construction and operation including:

- *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 (Vic)*
- *Environment Effects Act 1978 (Vic)*
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conversation Act 1999*
- *Gas Safety Act 1997 (Vic)*
- *Heritage Act 2017 (Vic)*
- *Marine and Coastal Act 2018 (Vic)*
- *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- *Water Act 1989 (Vic)*

Private and Public Landowners and Occupiers

Viva Energy will explain the scope of the Pipeline and seek feedback from landholders and occupiers regarding the preliminary route. Meeting directly with landowners will help us better understand the nature of the impacted property and address any specific concerns regarding the design and construction of the Pipeline.

All engagements will be conducted with consideration to any Government imposed restrictions on public gatherings and consultation may be conducted virtually or via other COVID-safe methods such as, newsletters, letterbox drops, website updates etc. and in a manner that suits the requirements of landowners.

As part of this engagement process, affected land owners and occupiers will receive the following 'notices':

1. **Notice of Intent to Enter Land:** Advice that the Pipeline proponent seeks access to the land to perform survey activities to inform pipeline development.
2. **Notice of Pipeline Corridor:** Advice of the proposed Pipeline corridor.
3. **Notice of Application:** Advice if a proponent has applied to the Minister to construct and operate a pipeline.

Further information regarding this process may be viewed on the project website: <https://www.vivaenergy.com.au/operations/geelong/geelong-energy-hub>



Land Access

Viva Energy will be seeking landowner and occupier agreement to enter land along the proposed Pipeline route so that more detailed investigations can be undertaken, such as ecological and cultural heritage surveys.

If all reasonable steps to obtain agreement in relation to land access are unsuccessful Viva Energy may apply to the Minister for consent under the Act.

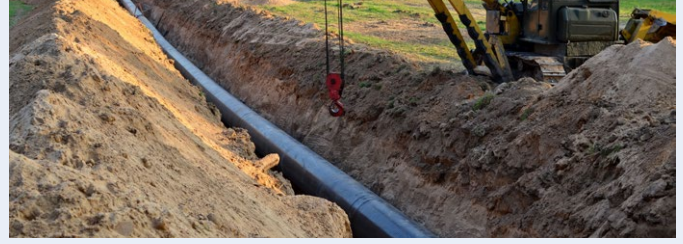
Land access would also be required to develop, construct and operate the Pipeline. The type of access and nature of associated activities would vary throughout the life of the project.

Surveys and Field Studies Phase

Temporary access would be required to perform assessments or surveys, along the proposed pipeline route. These activities may range from visual inspections to physical works, such as establishing temporary bore holes for soil samples.

Environmental field studies which are likely to require access to private land include the following surveys:

- Ecology – flora, fauna and aquatic ecology
- Soils and geology
- Cultural heritage



Construction Phase

Access would be required to prepare the area for construction and undertake the construction itself. The construction area is referred to as the construction 'right of way'.

This would include space for vehicle access, soil stockpiling and pipeline materials.

Operational Phase

Ongoing access would be required to operate and maintain the pipeline.

Land Easement Agreements

Viva Energy would seek to purchase easements from affected landowners following confirmation of the proposed Pipeline route.

An easement is an agreement registered on the title of the land that sets out the rights of a pipeline owner/operator to install, operate and maintain the Pipeline and also defines the restrictions on the landowner in the area of the easement such as restrictions on the planting of vegetation and other developments.

Viva Energy is committed to working with all affected landowners and occupiers in an open and respectful manner to provide fair, adequate and equitable compensation in reaching agreement on a pipeline corridor.

The Act provides the framework for easement establishment, including potential application of the *Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986* in the event that reasonable efforts have been unsuccessful with affected landowners.

Landowners would be notified of any request by Viva Energy to the Minister for consent to compulsorily acquire an easement and would then have the opportunity to make submissions to the Minister before a decision is made.

Independent Legal Advice

Landowners and occupiers affected by the Pipeline may seek independent legal advice on any concerns they may have with regard to legal implications of the activities which could include the project's potential impact on their land. Pre-defined and agreed reasonable costs incurred in seeking legal advice in relation to the pipeline will be reimbursed by Viva Energy.

Advice may also be obtained from:

Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning

T: 0439 799 598

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

W: www.energy.vic.gov.au



If you have any questions about the proposed Pipeline or the Project, please contact Viva Energy's Project Team

1800 515 093

energyhub@vivaenergy.com.au

vivaenergy.com.au

Alternate sources of information

Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning

0439 799 598

pipeline.regulation@delwp.vic.gov.au

www.energy.vic.gov.au

Energy Safe Victoria

1800 800 158

info@energysafe.vic.gov.au

www.esv.vic.gov.au