

Find out more about...

Protecting the environment

Industry Regulation and Environment Assessment for Major Projects

Did you know?



Oil and gas is covered by 150 different laws in Australia.

50x



50 different regulators monitor the industry's performance.



In 2016, Santos' NT operations had a footprint of 450 hectares.



In 2016, Santos had rehabilitated a total of 5,000 hectares associated with its activities.

+ Santos remains strongly committed to a mandate of environmentally safe and responsible operating practices.

Santos



Protecting our Natural Environment

Santos has a proud history of environmental performance. We are committed to reducing and minimising the footprint of our activities and any impacts to the environment in which we operate.

Our environmental performance is based on a thorough understanding of the environment itself, coupled with proven techniques tailored to specific ecosystems.

Santos operates in one of the most highly regulated industries in Australia. All major oil and gas projects go through a lengthy and detailed assessment of environmental impacts.

We adopt the principles of sustainable development and are committed to the continuous improvement of our environmental performance.

We are focused on being a true learning organisation, by investigating incidents, and sharing learnings in Santos and across our industry

How is the oil and gas industry regulated?

Depending on whether a project is being developed onshore or offshore, different State and Federal legislation apply. A project needs to meet the requirements of all levels of government and all of the different regulators before it can proceed.

Any major project will be required to go through a detailed environmental impact assessment.

Environmental Impacts

As part of any environmental impact assessment process, we consider every possible impact that a major project could have, including, but not limited to:

- Surface water
- Groundwater
- Non-Indigenous Cultural Heritage
- Indigenous Cultural Heritage
- Social Impact Assessment
- Traffic and Transport
- Land
- Land Use
- Terrestrial Noise
- Marine Noise
- Noise and Vibration
- Economics
- Rehabilitation
- Visual Amenity
- Nature Conservation
- Coastal Environment
- Air Quality
- Dredge Material
- Hazard and Risk
- Health and Safety
- Climate
- Marine Discharges

How do you minimise your onshore impact?

There are three main strategies for minimising impacts.

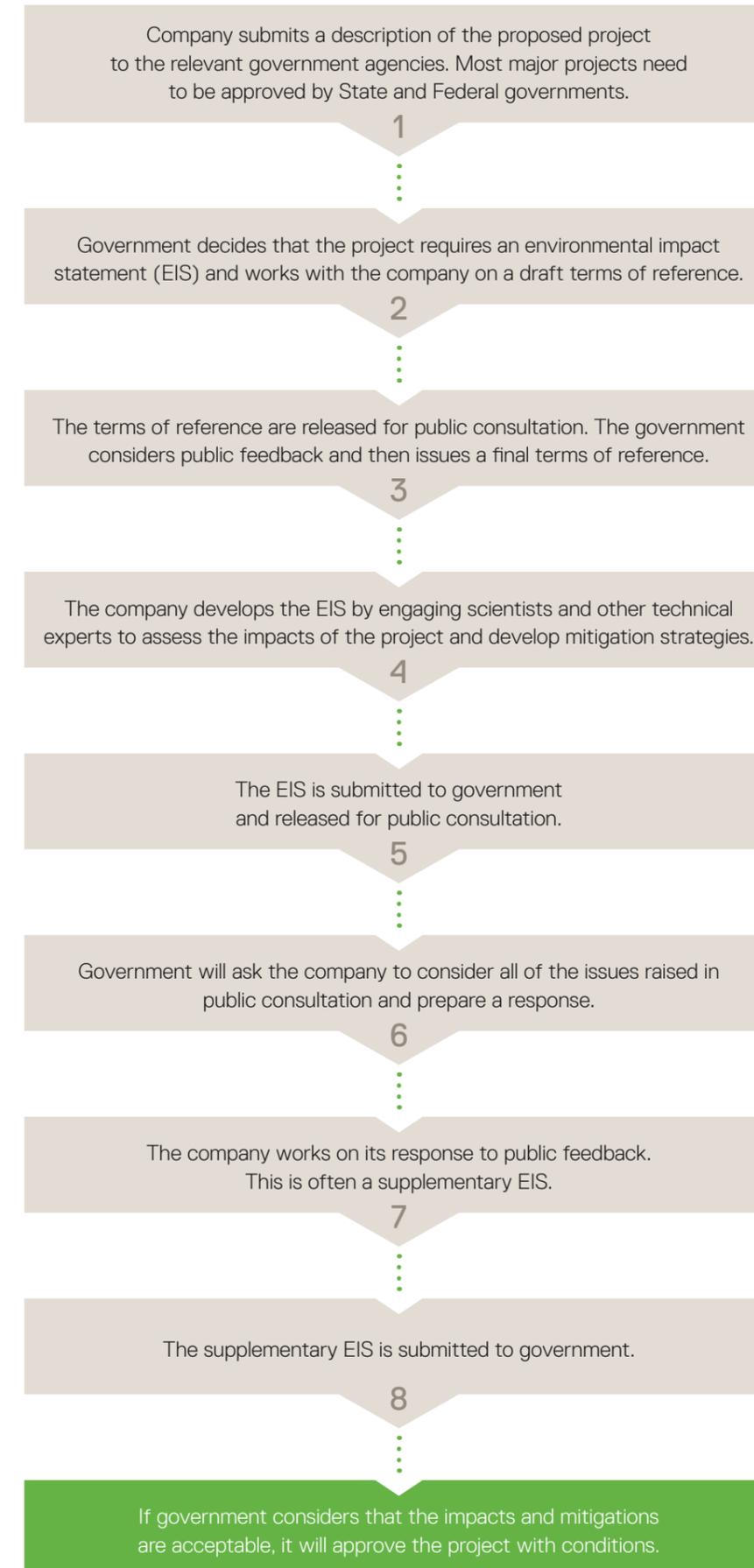
Avoid > We undertake detailed site assessments to identify and avoid areas of cultural heritage and ecological sensitivity. We use existing roads and tracks where possible.

Rehabilitate > We progressively rehabilitate our work sites when construction is complete. When wells have finished operating, we decommission and remove them and return the vegetation to its original state.

Offset > If an impact cannot be avoided or rehabilitated, we will offset it. This means purchasing property in a different area that has the same ecological values as the area we have disturbed and ensuring it is protected forever.



What is involved with an environmental impact assessment?



Santos GLNG Project

In the case of the Santos GLNG Project in Queensland, it took four and a half years from development of the project concept to final approval by State and Federal governments.

The environmental impact assessment for the project runs to almost 20,000 pages and cost millions of dollars to prepare.

State and Federal governments placed 1,200 strict conditions on the project to ensure it could be delivered safely and sustainably.

Interested in learning more about natural gas?

Visit santos.com for more fact sheets on a wide range of gas-related topics.

Santos – An Australian Energy Pioneer

We have safely and sustainably discovered, developed and delivered natural gas to the people of Australia and Asia for more than 60 years.

As an Australian owned and operated business, we work in partnership with local communities, governments and our business partners to make natural gas an affordable and reliable energy solution for all Australians.



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