

# Barossa Development

Quarterly Update: April 2023

# Santos

The Barossa Gas Project will supply backfill natural gas to the existing Santos-operated Darwin Liquefied Natural Gas (DLNG) facility from 2025, enabling another 20 years of production and contribution to the Australian and Northern Territory economies. Stakeholder engagement on Barossa commenced in 2016. Santos continues to engage with stakeholders and keep them informed throughout the development life.

## Work Progress Highlights

Project progress is now 55 per cent complete. A major milestone was achieved with the Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) hull entering into drydock in the shipyard in South Korea on 12 March, prior to sail away to Singapore planned for later in the year.



Major equipment manufacturing is also making good progress around the world, with equipment now starting to be delivered into Darwin and Singapore for further assembly.

Santos advised stakeholders on 1 February 2023 of proposed marine surveys along the Barossa Gas Export Pipeline (GEP) route. A marine survey was completed in March. The survey data will be used to help inform the cultural heritage assessment referred to later in this Update.

## Work Opportunities

Santos has partnered with the Industry Capability Network NT (ICNNT) to assist with Australian vendor identification and raise awareness of the development. Barossa has established a presence on the Gateway website operated by ICNNT where development information and work opportunities are available. Details on the opportunities can be found on the Gateway website [here](#). Information on Australian Industry Participation (AIP) requirements and a summary of the Barossa AIP Plan are available at [www.industry.gov.au](http://www.industry.gov.au)

## Upcoming Activities

An additional offshore marine survey along the Barossa GEP route may be conducted in the coming months to help inform the cultural heritage assessment. If the survey is required, stakeholders will be notified once the timing and details are confirmed.

No construction activities are currently planned for Q2 2023.

## Drilling Update

As reported in the Q4 2022 Quarterly Update, Barossa drilling was suspended on 6 October 2022 pending resubmission of the Development Drilling and Completions Environment Plan and its acceptance by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA).

## Gas Export Pipeline Installation Update

As reported in the Q4 2022 Quarterly Update, Santos planned to commence the Gas Export Pipeline (GEP) installation activities in late January 2023. The installation activities have now been deferred until completion of a cultural heritage assessment as detailed below.



## Cultural Heritage Assessment

Before the GEP installation starts, an assessment will be undertaken to identify “any underwater cultural heritage places” along the Barossa GEP route to which “people, in accordance with Indigenous tradition, may have spiritual and cultural connections that may be affected” by the future activities covered by the Barossa GEP Installation Environment Plan.

The assessment is being undertaken in accordance with a General Direction issued by NOPSEMA in January 2023. As required by that Direction, Santos has engaged independent experts to undertake the assessment and obtain relevant information for the purposes of the assessment.

Santos has engaged independent underwater archaeological experts, Wessex Archaeology and Extent Heritage, to inform and support the cultural heritage assessment by reviewing underwater surveys of the seabed to see if there are any features that might indicate “any underwater cultural heritage places”.

Santos has also engaged independent anthropologist (Dr Brendan Corrigan, supported by a team comprising independent archaeologists) to obtain information from people and/or organisations “who have, in accordance with Indigenous tradition, spiritual and cultural connections to any underwater cultural heritage places” along the Barossa GEP route.

A report recording the cultural heritage assessment will be prepared and provided to people and/or organisations who provided information for the assessment, and to NOPSEMA.

## Pipeline Licence

The National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator (NOPTA) granted Pipeline Licence NT/PL5 under the Commonwealth *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* (Cth) on 3 November 2020. As reported in the Q4 2022 Quarterly Update, Santos has taken a decision to extend the Barossa GEP to the Darwin LNG facility via the Darwin Pipeline Duplication Project to facilitate future carbon capture and storage options. This requires the installation of an additional 23-km segment of pipeline in Commonwealth waters and negates the need to tie-in to the Bayu Undan to Darwin Pipeline. A further application to NOPTA will be required for licensing of this additional pipeline segment.

## Environmental Approvals

Santos intends to make the following environmental submissions to government for acceptance in relation to the Barossa Gas Project during 2023.

### Subsea Infrastructure Installation Environment Plan (SURF EP)

Consultation on the SURF EP will commence during Q2 2023. Santos intends to identify relevant persons for this activity and begin sharing information and seeking feedback to assist with the finalisation of the EP. Relevant persons will be given information and notified how they can provide their input. Once the EP has been finalised it will be assessed by NOPSEMA. Installation activities are proposed to commence in early 2024 once all relevant approvals have been secured.

### Development Drilling and Completions Environment Plan (Drilling and Completions EP)

Following Federal Court proceedings in late 2022, NOPSEMA's decision to accept Revision 3 of the Drilling and Completions EP was set aside. As at that time, Santos had partially drilled and completed one development well. Santos is preparing a new revision of the EP for submission

to NOPSEMA later in 2023. The new revision is being prepared having regard to the guidance of the Full Federal Court in relation to Revision 3 of the EP and in particular, guidance concerning consultation with relevant persons under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009* (Cth). Santos commenced consultation processes for the revised EP in Q1 2023 and consultation will continue in Q2 2023.

### Darwin Pipeline Duplication (DPD) Project

Santos has been preparing documentation for the Darwin Pipeline Duplication (DPD) Project for submission to relevant regulators in Q2 2023. A DPD Project Supplementary Environmental Report will be submitted to Northern Territory (NT) Environment Protection Authority for assessment and approval under the *Environment Protection Act 2019* (NT). DPD Project Preliminary Documentation will be submitted to the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water for assessment and approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth). These documents will be published for public comment in Q2 2023.

Santos has also been preparing an Environment Plan for DPD Installation in Commonwealth Waters. Consultation on this EP will also commence during Q2 2023. Santos intends to identify relevant persons for this activity and begin sharing information and seeking feedback to assist with the finalisation of the EP. Relevant persons will be given information and notified how they can provide their input. Once the EP has been finalised it will be assessed by NOPSEMA. DPD Installation in Commonwealth Waters activities are proposed to commence in mid-2024 once all relevant approvals have been secured.

### Other Approvals

Santos intends to submit further environmental approvals to government for acceptance in relation to other aspects of, and activities in connection with, the Barossa Gas Project during 2023. This includes submitting the Barossa Production Operations Environment Plan to NOPSEMA following additional consultation. We will provide further information and advertising about these at a later date.

## Tiwi Island Consultation

Santos has visited and conducted a number of meetings and consultations on the Tiwi Islands in February and March. Santos is grateful to the communities for welcoming us.

From 6-8 February Santos presented information about the Project and proposed activities at three community meetings held across the two main Islands, Melville and Bathurst, attended by approximately 460 people. During these meetings, Santos asked for feedback and input on Santos' approach to consultation and addressed questions on the Project and the proposed activities.

From 20-24 March Santos consulted with approximately 756 Tiwi people during eight clan group consultation sessions. During the sessions, Santos explained the proposed development drilling and completions activities, their potential impacts and risks and proposed control measures. Santos invited feedback and input on Santos' approach to consultation, the potentially affected environment,

potential impacts and risks of the activity and proposed control measures (or other measures people may consider appropriate).

Santos also visited the Islands informally many times over the last quarter to engage with, and provide information to, communities in relation to the Project.

The clan group consultation sessions (and the informal meetings) provided Santos with an opportunity to share information and facts about the Project with communities, answer questions and explain the underwater cultural heritage assessment process. Santos also provided information on how people could provide input into the cultural heritage assessment through the independent experts (see the Cultural Heritage Assessment section above).

Santos is planning further clan group consultation sessions and will provide notification of these sessions.

## Relevant Person Identification

Santos has been seeking to identify and consult with relevant persons whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by our proposed Drilling and Completions activity for the Barossa Gas Project. Such functions, interests or activities may include those arising in relation to spiritual or cultural connections to land or to sea country, tourism, recreational and commercial fishing and local communities (though these are only illustrative examples and not an exhaustive list).

If you think your functions, interests or activities may be affected by activities under the Drilling and Completions EP, you may be a relevant person. If you consider you may be a relevant person, and Santos has not already contacted you in relation to the Drilling and Completions EP, please contact us.

As part of the upcoming consultation process for the SURF and DPD Installation in Commonwealth Waters EPs, Santos will also be seeking to identify relevant persons whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by activities proposed under those EPs.

## Consultation

Identified relevant persons will be contacted and their feedback sought as to how they would like to be consulted on the Environment Plans, together with information on the next steps.

Santos is committed to undertaking genuine and meaningful consultation. We want to provide information for people to make informed assessments of the possible consequences of the proposed activity on them. Your feedback and input is important to us and input will be considered in the development of our Environment Plan.

We have also updated our website to include more information on the Barossa Gas Project. We will continue to update it with information about our upcoming activities – [www.santos.com/barossa](http://www.santos.com/barossa) The QR code below links directly to this site.



## Contact Us

We are committed to ongoing engagement about our activities. If you require further information or would like to speak to us, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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