

# Barossa Development

Quarterly Update: July 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

The Barossa Gas Project is now 66 per cent complete, excluding the Darwin Pipeline Duplication Project. The FPSO hull has been floated whilst fabrication of the FPSO topsides modules continues to plan.



Major equipment manufacturing continued to make good progress around the world, with equipment being delivered into Darwin and Singapore for further assembly.

## Community and 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)

Santos and its JV partners are also committed to establishing a community benefits fund that will be available to different groups once activities commence. This will include Community Grants to support grassroots community initiatives as well as Strategic Community Sponsorships that will be designed to build capacity in communities.

## Upcoming Activities

No offshore construction activities are currently planned for Q3 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”.

To further inform and support the cultural heritage assessment, Santos has engaged independent expert, Dr Henry Posamentier, to review underwater surveys of the seabed and prepare a report on the depositional and erosional history of the Arafura Sea (particularly, along the Barossa GEP route).

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. Santos is progressing relevant pipeline licence applications with NOPTA, including engagement with Commonwealth agencies and Native Title stakeholders, for 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 commenced during Q2 2023. Santos has been identifying relevant persons for this activity and has commenced sharing information and seeking feedback to assist with the preparation of the EP. Once the EP has been finalised it will be submitted to NOPSEMA for assessment. 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 finalising a new revision of the EP for submission to NOPSEMA in July 2023. The new revision has been 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.

### Darwin Pipeline Duplication (DPD) Project

Santos is progressing the environmental approval requirements for the Darwin Pipeline Duplication (DPD) Project. A DPD Project Supplementary Environmental Report has been submitted to Northern Territory (NT) Environment Protection Authority for assessment and approval under the *Environment Protection Act 2019* (NT). The public comment period for this document has now concluded.

Additionally, a DPD Project Preliminary Documentation Report 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). This document is being developed and is expected to be published for public comment in August 2023.

Santos is also preparing an Environment Plan for DPD Installation in Commonwealth Waters. Consultation on this EP will commence during late 2023. Santos intends to identify relevant persons for this activity and begin sharing information and seeking feedback to develop the EP. Once the EP has been finalised it will be assessed by NOPSEMA. DPD Installation in Commonwealth Waters activities are proposed to commence in late 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. Consultation is planned to commence in Q3 2023. We will provide further information and advertising about this at a later date.

## Tiwi Island Consultation

Further to the meetings held on the Tiwi Islands in February and March, Santos has visited and conducted a number of meetings and consultations on the Tiwi Islands in April, May and June. Santos is grateful to the communities for welcoming us and for constructively engaging with us during the consultation process.

During late April and early May Santos presented information about the Project, the proposed Drilling and Completions EP and the proposed Subsea Infrastructure Installation EP at clan group meetings held across the two main islands, Melville and Bathurst. These meetings were attended by more than 800 people. During these meetings, Santos provided information about the activities proposed under each of these environment plans, the environment that may be affected by each activity, their potential environmental impacts and risks and related control measures. Santos also asked for feedback about the same for each environment plan.

From 13-16 June Santos consulted with more than 650 Tiwi people during eight clan group consultation sessions. During the sessions, Santos sought final feedback for the proposed Drilling and Completions EP and explained how the feedback already provided by Tiwi people had been assessed and considered. Santos also continued to consult with Tiwi people in relation to the proposed Subsea Infrastructure Installation EP.

The next consultation sessions on the Tiwi Islands are planned for late July/early August.

## Relevant Person Identification

When preparing an environment plan, Santos is required, under the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009* (Cth), to consult with 'relevant persons', including those whose functions, interests or activities may be affected by the activities to be carried out under the environment plan. This 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). As mentioned above, Santos has been consulting with relevant persons for its Drilling and Completions EP and Subsea Infrastructure Installation EP.

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

## Consultation

In relation to environment plans for which consultation is ongoing, identified relevant persons are being or will be contacted to exchange information about for the environment plan consultation, including the consultation process.

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. Relevant persons' input is important to us and will be considered during the development of our environment plans.

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.

**Phone:** 1800 267 600

**Email:** [Offshore.Consultation@santos.com](mailto:Offshore.Consultation@santos.com)

**Website:** [www.santos.com/barossa](http://www.santos.com/barossa)