

Darwin to Moomba Gas Pipeline



Preliminary Survey Licence

Statement of Environmental Objectives

March 2001



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1 Introduction

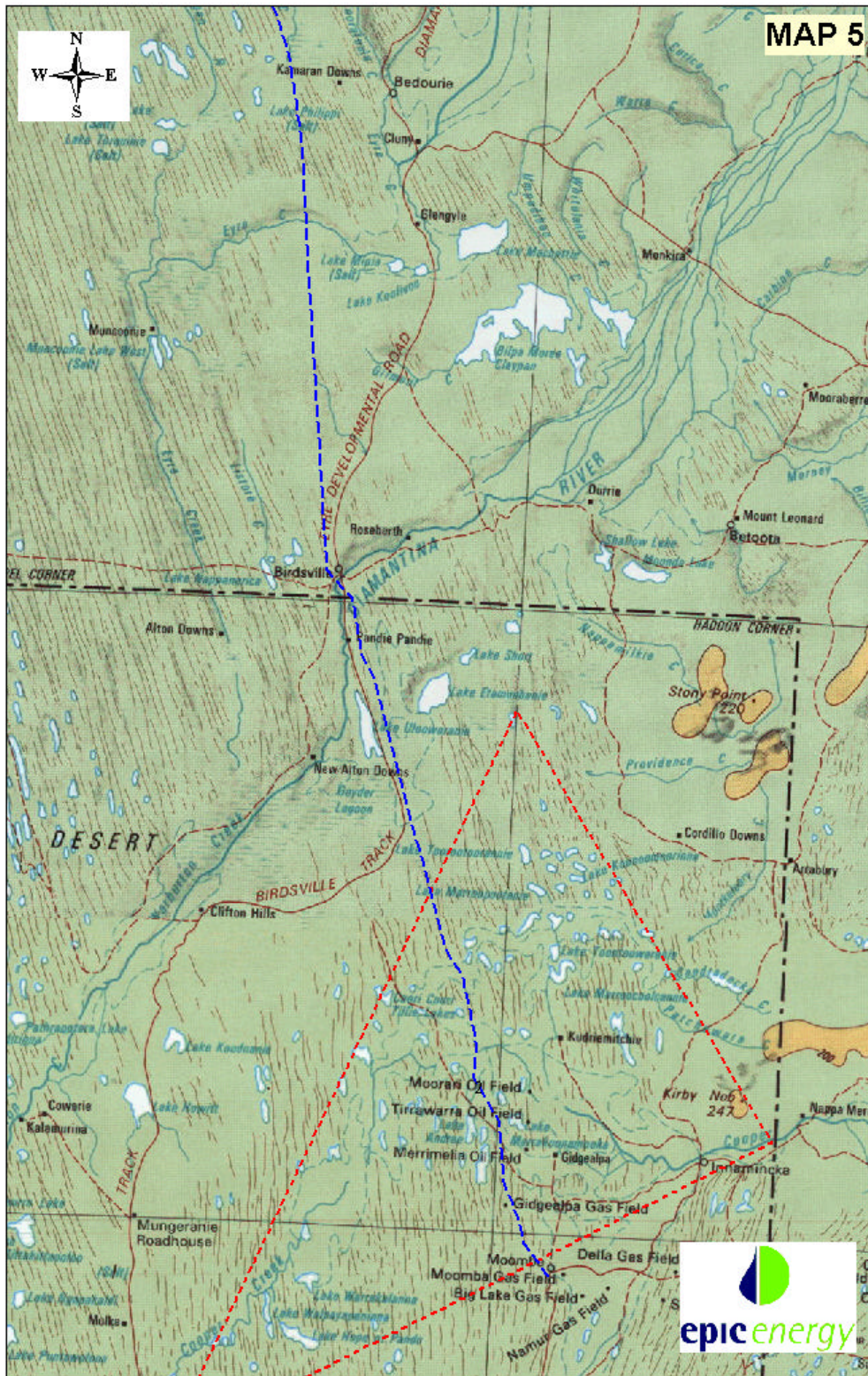
Epic Energy proposes to construct a pipeline to transport natural gas from Darwin to Moomba via an approximate 2200 kilometre underground pipeline. The gas will be sourced from the Bayu-Undan field in the Timor sea for delivery to Moomba for gas distribution and retailing, gas aggregation and power generation industries. The final 200 kilometres of the pipeline is located within South Australia (refer to Figure 1).

This Statement of Environmental Objectives (SEO) has been prepared in support of an application for a Preliminary Survey Licence (PSL) for land survey activities to be conducted in a 20km wide corridor for the section of the pipeline located within South Australia. The document has been drafted to meet the requirements of Sections 99 and 100, of the South Australian *Petroleum Act 2000* (the Act) and Regulations 12 and 13 of the *Petroleum Regulations 2000*.

The intent of this SEO is to outline the environmental objectives to which these activities must conform and the criteria upon which the achievement of these objectives will be assessed. Objectives have been developed from an environmental impact assessment and documented in the Environmental Impact Report (Epic 2001).

In accordance with Part 12 of the Act, this SEO will be reviewed within 12 months of gazettal. After the completion of this review the Minister will then consider the revised SEO for approval.

Figure 1: Location of Project Area



Proposed Darwin to Moomba gas pipeline

1.1.1 Environmental Objectives and Assessment Criteria

Potential environmental hazards and consequences associated with the preliminary survey activities were identified in the EIR (Epic, 2001). Epic Energy have committed to achieving a range of environmental objectives in regard to these potential hazards, namely:

- To minimise disturbance to landowners.
- To minimise damage to crops and pasture.
- To minimise disturbance to stock.
- To minimise generation of dust.
- To avoid the introduction of weeds or disease.
- To avoid or minimise damage to native vegetation and wildlife habitats
- To avoid unnecessary disturbance to cultural heritage sites
- To minimise soil disturbance.
- To minimise visual impacts.
- To minimise the risk of fire.

The criteria for measuring the achievement of these environmental objectives are outlined in Table 1. Each statement in Table 1 will be assessed as to whether it has been adhered to, and comments on any variances will be recorded.

Table 1: Environmental Objectives and Assessment Criteria

Environmental Objectives	Issue Specific Mitigation Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise disturbance to landowners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Appoint Lands Officer with specific responsibility for maintaining contact with all potentially affected landowners. ▪ Consult with landowners prior to preliminary survey activities to identify specific requirements. ▪ Accommodate landowners' specific requirements wherever practicable. ▪ Advise landowners of the scope, schedule and duration of preliminary survey activities. ▪ Plan / rationalise preliminary survey activities to ensure the number of site visits is as few as practicable. ▪ Provide landowners with adequate prior notice of proposed land access.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise damage to crops and pasture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan / rationalise preliminary survey activities to ensure the number of site visits is as few as practicable. ▪ Use existing tracks where available. ▪ Restrict disturbance to proposed construction right-of-way where practicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise disturbance to stock. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan / rationalise preliminary survey activities to ensure the number of site visits is as few as practicable. ▪ Consult with landowners prior to preliminary survey activities to identify specific requirements. ▪ Provide landowners with adequate prior notice of proposed land access. ▪ Drive vehicles at appropriately slow speeds to avoid undue disturbance. ▪ Leave gates as found.

Environmental Objectives	Issue Specific Mitigation Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise generation of dust. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan / rationalise preliminary survey activities to ensure the number of site visits is as few as practicable. ▪ Drive vehicles at appropriately slow speeds to avoid undue disturbance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To avoid the introduction of weeds or disease. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify local weed and disease management issues prior to the commencement of preliminary survey activities. ▪ Ensure all vehicles and equipment are free of soil and vegetative matter prior to entry to and exit from properties. ▪ Plan / rationalise preliminary survey activities to ensure the number of site visits is as few as practicable. ▪ Consult with landowners prior to preliminary survey activities to identify specific requirements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To avoid or minimise damage to native vegetation and wildlife habitats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prohibit clearing native vegetation as part of land survey.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To avoid damage or unnecessary disturbance to cultural heritage sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Survey work to be undertaken by appropriately trained and experienced personnel. ▪ Report and respond to any sites discovered during pipeline survey activities. ▪ Any sites shall be recorded for subsequent avoidance during construction.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise soil disturbance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prohibit any excavation activity as part of the land survey. ▪ Vehicles to use existing road tracks where practicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise visual impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limit the use of marker pegs to those essential for identifying the proposed alignment. ▪ Install marker pegs on fencelines, where practicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To minimise the risk of fire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diesel vehicles shall be used where practicable. ▪ Fire extinguishers and/or other knapsacks to be kept in all vehicles. ▪ No smoking.

Conditions and Requirements

Section 100(1)(c) of the Act requires a proponent to list any additional conditions and requirements to be complied with in order to achieve the stated objectives. Epic Energy does not consider that there are any such conditions.

2 Reporting

Section 100(1)(d) of the Act requires an SEO to impose reporting obligations on a person carrying out regulated activities. Whilst Regulation 12(2) requires an SEO to identify events that could arise from regulated activities that could cause a serious incident or a reportable incident within the meaning of Section 85 of the Act.

Section 85 of the Act defines a serious incident as an incident arising from activities conducted under a licence in which:

1. A person is seriously injured or killed; or
2. An imminent risk to public health or safety arises; or
3. Serious environmental damage occurs or an imminent risk of serious environmental damage arises; or
4. Security of natural gas supply is prejudiced or an imminent risk of prejudice to security of natural gas supply arises.

Reportable incidents are incidents (other than a serious incident) arising from activities conducted under a licence issued under the *Petroleum Regulations 2000*.

Serious Incidents

Epic Energy considers that there are **NO** foreseeable serious incidents likely to occur as a result of preliminary survey activities.

Reportable Incidents

Epic Energy considers the only reportable incident to be a justified complaint from a landowner as a result of preliminary survey activities.

References

The following documents were used as part of the preparation of the SEO:

Ecos Consulting (Aust) 2001. *AMCOR Lateral Pipeline, Preliminary Survey Licence, Statement of Environmental Objectives. Unpublished Report to Epic Energy.*

Epic Energy (2001). *Darwin to Moomba Gas Pipeline, Preliminary Survey Licence, Environmental Impact Report.*

Abbreviations

EIR	Environmental Impact Report prepared in accordance with Section 97 of the <i>Petroleum Act 2000</i> and Regulation 10.
PIRSA	Primary Industries and Resources, South Australia
PSL	Preliminary Survey Licence issued in accordance with Section 10 of the <i>Petroleum Act 2000</i> .
SEO	Statement of Environmental Objectives prepared in accordance with Section 99 and 100 of the <i>Petroleum Act 2000</i> and Regulations 12 and 13.