

TO: BOB LAWS
DIRECTOR PETROLEUM

FROM: ANGELA CRIMES

SUBJECT: DARWIN TO MOOMBA GAS PIPELINE
PRELIMINARY SURVEY LICENCE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

DATE: 9 April 2001

THROUGH: RICHARD MCDONOUGH

SUMMARY

- Preliminary Survey Activities for the Darwin to Moomba Gas Pipeline have been assessed to be of **low impact**.
- Approval is sought from the Director Petroleum pursuant to Delegation, dated 25 September 2000, *Gazetted* 28 September 2000, of the low impact classification.

INTRODUCTION

An application for a Preliminary Survey Licence for the proposed Darwin to Moomba Gas Pipeline was received from Epic Energy in their letter dated 7 March 2001.

The application documentation, submitted on the 15 March 2001, included the following:

- Environmental Impact Report
- Statement of Environmental Objectives

CLASSIFICATION OF THE LEVEL OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

In accordance with the requirements of the *Petroleum Act 2000*, Section 98, a classification of the level of environmental impact has been carried out in accordance with the published criteria¹.

According to this assessment (see attachment 1), the preliminary survey activities have been determined to be **low impact activities**.

This is to be expected as the physical impacts on the land are minimal. Furthermore, consultation with land holders will be undertaken to ensure that their needs are accounted for.

¹ http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/pages/petrol/environmental_reg/documents/criteria_guidelines.pdf

DEH CONSULTATION

In accordance with the terms of the MOU dated 24 October 2000², comment has been sought from DEH on the classification of preliminary survey activities and in a letter dated 26 March 2001, DEH have given their support to the **low impact** determination (see attachment 2).

RECOMMENDATION

It is therefore recommended, pursuant to the aforementioned delegated powers, that approval be given to the low impact classification of the proposed Darwin to Moomba Gas Pipeline preliminary survey activities.

This assessment will be made available to the public in the Environmental Register section of the Petroleum Group web site.

Angela Crimes
ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

² http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/pages/petrol/environmental_reg/documents/deh2000.pdf

PROJECT: DARWIN TO MOOMBA PIPELINE																			
ACTIVITY: PIPELINE PRELIMINARY SURVEY																			
FILE: SR 28/1/343																			
ASSESSOR: Richard McDonough																			
Activities are limited to land survey																			
These activities are described in Section 2 of the EIR																			
REF	PRELIMINARY SURVEY ACTIVITY	POTENTIAL EVENT/IMPACT	POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES	PREDICTABILITY					MANAGEABILITY					COMMENTS	ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE				
				SIZE	SCOPE	DURATION	LIKELIHOOD	STAKEHOLDERS	SIGNIFICANCE	AVOIDANCE	PROBABILITY	DURATION	SIZE AND SCOPE			CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	STAKEHOLDERS	SIGNIFICANCE	
		NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS																	
		Soil																	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	4WD access	compaction / dust	loss of topsoil, productivity	H	H	H	H	H	1	no	low	short	small	low	low	1	No cropping, no real pasture. Practical impact from one traverse is nil.	L	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Marker Pegs	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Surveying activity	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Helicopter access	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	
		Air																	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	4WD access	exhaust / dust	air pollution, nuisance	H	H	H	H	H	1	no	low	short	small	low	low	1			
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Marker Pegs	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1			
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Surveying activity	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Helicopter access	exhaust / dust	air pollution, nuisance	H	H	H	H	H	1	no	low	short	small	low	low	1	It is highly unlikely that excavation work will be required.	L	
		Water Resources																	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	4WD access	Wheel track ruts in boggy conditions	disturb surface water and drainage patterns	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1	Can be managed by avoiding boggy areas.	L
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Marker Pegs	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Surveying activity	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Helicopter access	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	
		Flora																	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	4WD access	weed introduction, disturbance of flora	loss of productivity in agricultural areas, competition with native flora	M	M	M	H	M	3	yes	yes	low	long	medium	yes	high	1	Adverse consequences can be avoided or it is highly unlikely that they will occur.	L
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Marker Pegs	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Surveying activity	removal of foliage to establish line of sight	permanent loss of some foliage	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1	Clearing of native vegetation is prohibited.	L	
Sec 2.1, Table 1, 2	Helicopter access	none	none	H	H	H	H	H	1	yes	low	short	small	low	low	1		L	

Department for Environment and Heritage

National Parks and Wildlife SA

26-Mar-01

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Dear Sir,

The Department for Environment and Heritage has considered the preliminary activities described below and the following comments are offered:

DME reference: SR28/1/343 **type:** PLN Prelim

locality: Darwin to Moomba 2200 km Gas Pipeline

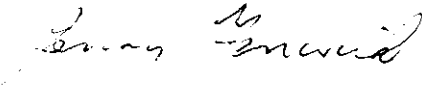
applicant: Epic Energy

comments:

In accordance with Section 5.2(b) of the Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement dated 24 October 2000, your preliminary assessment, based on the EIR supplied, that the proposed activities are of low environmental impact, is supported.

Further to Section 5.2(e) the draft SEO is considered to be adequate for the proposed activities.

Yours sincerely



Alex McDonald
MANAGER, CONSERVATION PLANNING

FILE:	SR 28/1/343
PROJECT:	127
TASK:	1
DATE:	27/3/01
INITIALS:	AMM



Government
of South Australia