

Eastern Gas Pipeline Modification 2

Clarification note

1 Overview

Jemena proposes to modify its existing infrastructure approval for the Eastern Gas Pipeline to incorporate a segment of the gas pipeline proposed by Australian Industrial Energy (AIE). A request was lodged to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) seeking approval of the proposed modification under section 5.25 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. A request for information was subsequently made by DPE seeking responses to submissions from the Environment Protection Authority, Transport for NSW and Wollongong City Council. This note provides responses to those submissions.

As discussed in the modification report, the proposed modification is largely contained to the area that was originally assessed as part of the Eastern Gas Pipeline (Jemena 2018) and Port Kembla Gas Terminal (GHD 2018). It found the proposed modification would not result in significant environmental impacts.

2 Environment Protection Authority

The submission from the Environment Protection Authority states that it has reviewed the proposed modification and requests no additional conditions. As such, no further response is necessary.

3 Transport for NSW

The submission from Transport for NSW concerns Springhill Road and Five Islands Road. It notes that works within the road corridor would require consent of Transport for NSW under section 138 of the *Roads Act 1993*. It states some additional information would be required to assess potential impacts on the roads including a description of the proposed route and its relation to existing roads and pavements, the proposed methods of crossing roads, any drilling locations, and proposed setbacks from the roadside. It also sought information on the proposed modification in relation to any waterways, culverts, drains and utilities.

It is acknowledged that works within the road corridor would require approval by Transport for NSW under section 138 of the *Roads Act 1993*. The route of the proposed modification was shown in the modification report. It is noted that Springhill Road will be crossed using trenchless methods in accordance with the development approved under the existing Port Kembla Gas Terminal Infrastructure Approval (SSI 9471), and therefore does not form part of the proposed modification. The proposed modification will not involve impacts to the road reserve or pavement of Springhill Road and the crossing of Five Islands Road would be carried out using trenchless methods, preventing any impact to the road reserve or pavement. Directional drill entry and exit pits will be offset from the road carriageway and will not impact upon the road surface.

The only waterway crossed by the proposed modification is Allans Creek, which would also be crossed by trenchless methods. Impacts to other infrastructure such as culverts, drains and utilities would be avoided.

A number of traffic assessments have been carried out that apply to the proposed modification, including for the Port Kembla Gas Terminal (GHD 2018) and Port Kembla Lateral Looping (Civlink Consulting 2021). The findings of these assessments continue to apply and no additional access requirements are needed to support the works including with the proposed modification.

Further details, as needed, may be provided through the approval process under the *Roads Act 1993*.

4 Wollongong City Council

4.1 General environmental matters

The submission from Wollongong City Council states that it reviewed the proposed modification and requests no additional conditions but requested some clarifications concerning heritage matters.

4.2 European heritage matters

The Council submission states the pipeline route comes within close proximity to the former Berkley House (#6519). It is noted that Berkley House is located in proximity to the portion of the Port Kembla Lateral Looping which was approved in October 2020 (SSI-9973-Mod 1).

The scope of the current modification is to incorporate a portion of the gas pipeline initially approved under the Port Kembla Gas Terminal (SSI-9471) into the Infrastructure Approval for the Eastern Gas Pipeline. It is noted that Segment 1.2 of the approved Port Kembla Gas Terminal pipeline is not located in close proximity to Berkley House as shown in the Heritage Update Report (Modification Report Appendix B).

A key emphasis in selection of the original alignment for the gas pipeline under the Port Kembla Gas Terminal infrastructure approval was avoidance of areas of potential historical heritage values and items of moveable heritage identified in the Historic Heritage Assessment as part of the Port Kembla Gas Terminal EIS (GHD 2018). The modification of the existing approval for the Eastern Gas Pipeline will adopt a largely consistent alignment to the original route under SSI 9471 and will continue to avoid local heritage values.

It is noted that the submission stated that the Historic Heritage Assessment as part of the Port Kembla Gas Terminal EIS (GHD 2018) could not be located. A link to that assessment is provided below.

<https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=SSI-9471%2120190304T064254.883%20GMT>

4.3 Aboriginal Heritage

The submission states that the original proposal was accompanied by an Aboriginal Due Diligence Report and archaeological survey prepared by Biosis. This due diligence report was prepared to support the EGP Port Kembla Lateral SSI-9973-Mod 1 and is not directly relevant to the current modification.

Segment 1.2 of the approved Port Kembla Gas Terminal pipeline was assessed in detail as part of the Port Kembla Gas Terminal EIS with an outline of the findings included in Heritage Update Report (Modification Report Appendix B).

A key emphasis for the project was to avoid impacts to Aboriginal Heritage and consultation with DPE, Office of Environment and Heritage and Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) was undertaken to confirm the level of assessment and consultation at the time of the original application.

The proposed modification will adopt a largely consistent alignment to the previously approved pipeline under SSI 9471 and will continue to avoid Aboriginal Heritage values. The 2018 Aboriginal heritage due diligence report can be found on the DPE major projects website through the following link:

<https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=SSI-9471%2120190304T064252.692%20GMT>

Jemena has, and will continue to, engage with relevant stakeholders. Jemena has previously consulted with the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council and intends to notify them of the proposed modification.

References

Civlink Consulting 2021, Traffic Study, Port Kembla Pipeline Project.

Jemena 2018, Eastern Gas Pipeline Port Kembla Looping Lateral - Modification Report,
<https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=EXH-2841%2120200821T053819.009%20GMT>

GHD 2018, Port Kembla Gas Terminal, Environmental Impact Statement,
<https://mpweb.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/11651>