

# Viva Energy Gas Terminal Project Supplementary Environment Effects Statement – public comment invited

**Viva Energy Gas Australia Pty Ltd (Viva Energy; the Proponent) (ABN 35 645 450 059) has prepared a Supplementary Environment Effects Statement (Supplementary EES) for the Viva Energy Gas Terminal Project (the project).**

This notice is provided pursuant to the Environment Effects Act 1978 (Vic) (EE Act), the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) and the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Vic).

The Supplementary EES, together with updates to draft Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA) C442ggee, are now available for public comment for a period of 30 business days.

Written submissions on the Supplementary EES and updates to the draft PSA can be made between Thursday 12 September 2024 and 11:59pm on Thursday 24 October 2024.

## Supplementary EES Process

In March 2023, the Victorian Minister for Planning directed that a Supplementary EES be prepared for the Viva Energy Gas Terminal Project in accordance with sections 5 and 8C(2) of the EE Act further assessing key aspects of the environment:

- The marine environment
- Noise
- Air quality
- Underwater Aboriginal cultural heritage

(together, the Relevant Environmental Effects). Read more about the Supplementary EES process for the project at the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) website: [www.planning.vic.gov.au/environment-assessment/browse-projects/projects/viva-energy-gas-terminal-project](http://www.planning.vic.gov.au/environment-assessment/browse-projects/projects/viva-energy-gas-terminal-project)

## Project Description

The project is located in Geelong, Victoria, and would bring natural gas from other parts of the country and overseas to meet an anticipated gas shortage in south-eastern Australia in coming years.

## The project comprises the following components:

- Extension of the existing Refinery Pier – a new pier arm, new berth and ancillary pier infrastructure
- The floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) continuously moored at the new Refinery Pier berth, which would receive liquefied natural gas (LNG) from visiting LNG carriers, store and convert the LNG into natural gas when needed
- A treatment facility located within the Geelong refinery site to check that the gas meets transmission system standards, where odorant and nitrogen (when required) is added
- A 7-kilometre pipeline to transfer the gas from the FSRU to the South West Pipeline connection point at Lara, comprising a 3-kilometre aboveground section and a 4-kilometre underground section.

If the project gains all required approvals, construction is anticipated to begin mid-2026 and finish in 2028.

## EPBC Act Process

On 21 January 2021, the delegate for the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment determined that the project is a 'controlled action' as it is likely to have a significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), which are protected under the EPBC Act.

The Viva Energy Gas Terminal Project, Geelong (EPBC 2020/8838) controlled action is intended to be taken by Viva Energy. The relevant provisions for the controlled action are Ramsar wetlands (section 16 & section 17B), listed threatened species & communities (section 18 & section 18A), and listed migratory species (section 20 & section 20A).

The EES process is an accredited assessment process under the EPBC Act through a Bilateral Assessment Agreement that exists between the Commonwealth and State of Victoria. Therefore, this Supplementary EES, also considers MNES for the purposes of assessment of the controlled action under the EPBC Act.

You can make a submission on the matters assessed for the purposes of the relevant provisions under the EPBC Act, by making a submission on the Supplementary EES.

After considering the Victorian Minister for Planning's assessment under the EE Act, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment will then make a separate decision as to whether to approve the controlled action application for the proposed project under the EPBC Act.

## Planning Scheme Amendment

An updated draft PSA, including an explanatory report and supporting documents, is included as Attachment III to the Supplementary EES.

The updated draft PSA seeks to apply the Specific Controls Overlay and an Incorporated Document to facilitate the use and development of land for the project. It also seeks to extend the area covered by the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to include the extension to Refinery Pier and water to a distance of 110 metres from the Pier and to apply the Port Zone to the amended area.

You may make a submission on the updates to the draft PSA by making a submission on the Supplementary EES.

## How to Access the Supplementary EES and Exhibited Documents

The Supplementary EES and updated draft PSA are now available to read and download at: [www.vivaenergy.com.au/gas-terminal-supplementary-statement](http://www.vivaenergy.com.au/gas-terminal-supplementary-statement)

Hard copies of the Supplementary EES and updated draft PSA will be made available at the following locations during the exhibition period:

## Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

51 Little Malop St, Geelong VIC 3220

## Corio Library

Cox Rd, cnr Moa St, Norlane VIC 3214

## State Library of Victoria

328 Swanston St, Melbourne VIC 3000

## You can request a Supplementary EES information pack, free of charge.

The pack contains:

- USB loaded with the complete Supplementary EES and updated draft PSA application
- Printed Supplementary EES Summary Document
- Printed information sheet on 'How to Navigate the Supplementary EES.'

For those who may have accessibility issues, or where electronic options are impractical, hard copies may be requested, free of charge.

Request a Supplementary EES information pack or hard copy documents by phoning Viva Energy on 1800 515 093 or emailing [energyhub@vivaenergy.com.au](mailto:energyhub@vivaenergy.com.au)

Please note the Supplementary EES is a long document and we encourage the use of electronic versions.

## How to Make a Submission

Anyone can make a submission on the Supplementary EES and the updates to the draft PSA. Submissions must be made in writing and be received by 11.59pm on Thursday 24 October 2024.

Submissions can be lodged via the Victorian Government's Engage Victoria website at: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/Viva-Supplementary-EES-IAC>

The Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) scope is limited to considering and advising on:

- the Relevant Environmental Effects identified in the Supplementary EES
- the updates to the PSA.

Submissions should be confined to those matters. It is not the IAC's role to revisit matters outside the Supplementary EES, or the updates to the PSA.

If you do not have internet access and are unable to lodge a submission online contact Planning Panels Victoria (PPV) through the Customer Call Centre on 136 186 (select Option 6) and request a hard copy submission coversheet.

Submissions will be treated as public documents and will be published on the Engage Victoria website.

The submission process is independently managed by PPV and any enquiries regarding the submissions and the Inquiry and Advisory Committee and Hearing process should be directed to PPV.

## Inquiry and Advisory Committee Process

The Minister for Planning will appoint an independent Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) to conduct a public hearing commencing in the week beginning Monday 9 December 2024. The Hearing is expected to run for 3 weeks. If the Hearing cannot be concluded prior to Christmas it will continue from mid-January 2025.

The IAC will hold a Directions Hearing in the week commencing 11 November 2024, to consider the arrangements and timetable for the public hearing.

If you want to present to the IAC you will need to make a written submission, and mark on the online submission form that you would like to be heard.

The IAC will review all the submissions, the Supplementary EES and updates to the PSA before providing advice to the Minister for planning. The scope of the IAC is guided by Terms of Reference issued by the Minister for Planning.

Information on the hearing process, timetable and arrangements will be published as it becomes available at <https://engage.vic.gov.au/Viva-Supplementary-EES-IAC>

## Contacts

### Gas Terminal Project

**Viva Energy Gas Australia Pty Ltd**

Phone: 1800 515 093

Email: [energyhub@vivaenergy.com.au](mailto:energyhub@vivaenergy.com.au)

Website: [www.vivaenergy.com.au/energy-hub/gas-terminal-project](http://www.vivaenergy.com.au/energy-hub/gas-terminal-project)

### Supplementary EES Process

#### Impact Assessment Unit

Department of Transport and Planning

Phone: (03) 8622 7633

Email: [environment.assessment@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:environment.assessment@transport.vic.gov.au)

### Making a submission or the Inquiry and Advisory Committee Process

Planning Panels Victoria

Phone: 136 186 (select option 6)

Email: [planning.panels@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:planning.panels@transport.vic.gov.au)