

**Attachment 2**

**For Public Notice via Internet**

**REASONS FOR DECISION UNDER *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978***

**Title of Proposal:**                    **Shaw River Power Station**

**Proponent:**                            **Santos Ltd**

**Description of Project:**

The Shaw River Power Station project comprises a nominal 1500 MW gas-fired power station together with a high-pressure gas pipeline. The power station would use combined cycle turbine technology to provide intermediate and base load power to the national electricity grid. The power station site is a farming property adjoining the Moorabool to Portland 500 kV transmission line near the township of Orford in Moyne Shire. The project requires the construction of a high-pressure gas pipeline from the power station site to connect with the South West Pipeline near the Otway gas plant at Port Campbell. The project may require a new water supply pipeline from the Port Fairy water reclamation plant to the power station site.

**Decision:**

The Minister for Planning has decided that an Environment Effects Statement (EES) is required for the Shaw River Power Station as described in the referral accepted on 2 October 2008.

**Reasons for Decision:**

- The proposed power station is a major facility that would have significant greenhouse gas emissions and potentially significant effects on air quality, noise levels and other aspects of the local environment.
- The potential effects of the proposed gas pipeline on rural land use, flora and fauna, waterways and Aboriginal cultural heritage are not yet known and could be significant given the route traverses seven endangered or vulnerable ecological vegetation classes, four sites of biological significance and four major waterways.
- The potential effects on the rural landscape may be significant as the power station proposal would be a major new industrial element in a rural landscape.
- An integrated assessment is warranted to inform decision-making under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, *Environment Protection Act 1970*, *Pipelines Act 2005* and *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

**Date of Decision:**                    **- 7 NOV 2008**