

# BAROSSA GAS PROJECT

#### IN THIS EDITION



Drilling and Completions EP accepted



Gas Export Pipeline installation continuing

Subsea infrastructure installation

Progress of environmental approvals

#### **WORK PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS**

The Barossa Gas Project is now 66 percent complete, excluding the Darwin Pipeline Duplication (DPD) Project. The Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) hull (pictured below) is now in Singapore for integration with the topsides modules.

Major equipment manufacturing also continued to make good progress around the world, with equipment being delivered into Darwin and Singapore for further assembly.



# COMMUNITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITIES

The Santos-operated Darwin LNG joint venture and KAEFER Integrated Services have announced the creation of a new pathway to skilled, well-paying, secure jobs for Aboriginal Territorians through a multimillion-dollar training and employment program commencing in early 2024 in Darwin

The Darwin LNG joint venture will provide \$3 million to fund KAEFER's delivery of this new Aboriginal jobs program at KAEFER sites and Darwin LNG.

KAEFER is a valued partner providing scaffolding, mechanical and fabric maintenance services for the Darwin LNG plant. To find out more visit https://kaefer.com.au/career/Santos-kaefer-program/

Santos, in partnership with major contractors on MS-1 (Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit), recently employed several Tiwi and Larrakia peoples in assistant and trade roles on the drilling unit. We look forward to offering ongoing training and employment opportunities for Traditional Owners in roles associated with the project.



#### **GEP INSTALLATION**

In mid-November 2023, in accordance with the EP accepted by NOPSEMA, Santos commenced installation of the Gas Export Pipeline (GEP).

A total of 83km has been installed at the northern end of the pipeline route, near the Barossa Field. Installation, followed by pipeline testing and preservation activities, will continue during the first half of 2024, subject to operational efficiencies and weather conditions.

The GEP is a 262km long, 26-inch diameter subsea pipeline that will ultimately connect the Barossa gas production field to the existing Santos-operated DLNG facility.

The GEP is being installed (pictured opposite) in a similar way to the other subsea pipelines currently in the area, which have been operating safely for many years and supply gas to Darwin.

Santos is providing a weekly update on these activities. Additional information is available via the Santos Public Notices page.

# GEP HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Santos commissioned an independent expert to complete an assessment to identify any underwater cultural heritage places along the pipeline route. The assessment involved independent experts obtaining information from the Tiwi people.

The assessment was undertaken in accordance with a General Direction issued by NOPSEMA in January 2023. A report recording the assessment has been provided to everyone who provided information for the assessment, as well as NOPSEMA.



# SUBSEA INFRASTRUCTURE INSTALLATION

Subject to acceptance of the EP submitted to NOPSEMA, in February Santos will commence installation of the subsea infrastructure in the Barossa Field.

The planned activities comprise installation of subsea umbilicals, risers and flowlines, manifolds and Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) moorings and pre-commissioning activities.

The infrastructure, referred to as SURF, is designed to support the connection of six subsea production wells to the FPSO. The activities will continue during 2024, subject to operational efficiencies and weather conditions.

2

#### PIPELINE LICENCE

The National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator (NOPTA) granted Pipeline Licence NT/PL5 under the Commonwealth Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006 (Cth) on 3 November 2020. As reported previously, Santos has taken a decision to extend the Barossa GEP to the Darwin LNG facility via the DPD to facilitate future carbon capture and storage options.

This requires the installation of an additional 23km segment of pipeline in Commonwealth waters and 100km segment in NT waters. Santos has submitted pipeline licence applications to NOPTA and the NT Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (NT-DITT), which included engagement with Commonwealth and NT government agencies and Native Title stakeholders, for the relevant additional pipeline segments.

### ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS

#### Subsea Infrastructure Installation Environment Plan (SURF EP)

Consultation on the SURF EP was undertaken with relevant persons during the second half of 2023. Santos shared information and sought feedback to assist with the preparation of the EP which was submitted to NOPSEMA in October 2023 for assessment. Installation activities are proposed to commence in February 2024 once approvals have been secured.

#### Development Drilling and Completions Environment Plan (Drilling and Completions EP)

Following Federal Court proceedings in late 2022, NOPSEMA's decision to accept Revision 3 of the Drilling and Completions EP was set aside. At that time, Santos had partially drilled and completed one development well.

In 2023 a new revision was prepared having regard to the guidance of the Full Federal Court in relation to Revision 3 of the EP and, in particular, guidance concerning consultation with relevant persons under the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2009 (Cth).

The revised EP was accepted by NOPSEMA in December 2023 and drilling activities are recommencing in January 2024.

#### **Darwin Pipeline Duplication (DPD) Project**

In December 2023 the Northern Territory Government approved the DPD Project, following the completion of assessment by the Northern Territory (NT) Environment Protection Authority under the *Environment Protection Act* 2019 (NT).

The NT EPA's assessment concluded that the DPD Project can be implemented and managed in a manner that is environmentally acceptable and therefore recommended that environmental approval be granted, subject to the recommendations and conditions detailed in its draft environmental approval.

Additionally, a DPD Project Preliminary Documentation Report has been submitted to the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for assessment and approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*. A public submission period for the document was completed on 15 December 2023

and an updated document addressing submission comments has been submitted to DCCEEW.

Santos is also preparing an Environment Plan (EP) for DPD installation in Commonwealth waters and Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) for DPD installation in NT waters. Consultation for these plans has commenced. Once the Commonwealth waters EP has been finalised it will be assessed by NOPSEMA, while the EMPs will be submitted to the NT Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (NT-DITT) for assessment.

DPD installation in NT waters is proposed to commence Q2 2024, while Commonwealth waters activities are proposed to commence in late 2024, once all relevant approvals have been secured.

Santos has also submitted a Development Permit application and an Exceptional Development Permit variation application, under the *Planning Act 1999 (NT)*, to allow DPD Project offshore trenching and spoil disposal and onshore activities at the Darwin LNG facility. These applications have been lodged with the NT Department of Infrastructure, Planning, and Logistics (NT-DIPL) and were exhibited publicly in October/November 2023.

#### Other Approvals

Santos intends to submit further environmental approvals to government for acceptance in relation to other aspects of, and activities in connection with, the Barossa Gas Project in 2024. This includes submitting the Barossa Production Operations Environment Plan to NOPSEMA following additional consultation during the first half of 2024.

## FIRST NATIONS CONSULTATION

During the last quarter Santos continued to undertake meetings and consult with First Nations people on the Tiwi Islands as well as groups, representative bodies and local organisations in Darwin and other mainland areas of the Northern Territory, including Croker Island.

The next consultation sessions on the Tiwi Islands are occurring late January and early February. During this quarter Santos will also continue consulting with Croker Island representatives, Larrakia people in Darwin and surrounds and other First Nations people. All consultations have been constructive and highly informative