



ExxonMobil™

**Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd
South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project
Pipeline Consultation Plan**

June 2022

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Rev	Date	Description	Author
0	24 June 2022	Issue for DELWP Approval	Matthew Horneman

Endorsed:	Pipelines Supervisor	Nicole Lowndes	<i>Via email</i>	<i>27/6/22</i>
			<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
Approved:	SEACCS Pipeline Project Manager	Simon Kemp	<i>Via email</i>	<i>27/6/22</i>
			<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>

An electronic copy of this document is issued to the following recipients:

Organisation	Name	Position
Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning	Don Hough	Director, Regulations and Approvals

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan



Department of Environment,
Land, Water and Planning

PO Box 500, East Melbourne,
Victoria 8002 Australia
delwp.vic.gov.au

Matthew Horneman
Pipelines Risk, Environment & Regulatory Advisor
Safety, Security, Health & Environment Division
Esso Australia Pty Ltd
Level 8, 664 Collins Street,
DOCKLANDS VIC 3008

Ref: PL007943

Dear Mr Horneman,

CONSULTATION PLAN: Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd – South East Australian Carbon Capture and Storage Project (Version 0 dated 24 June 2022)

Thank you for your email of 1 June 2022 (submission of final) seeking approval of the above plan.

The plan has been assessed and determined to meet the requirements for a Consultation Plan under Section 17 of the *Pipelines Act 2005* (the Act).

I, as the Delegate of the Minister, in accordance with section 18(2) of the Act, approve the Consultation Plan: Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd – South East Australian Carbon Capture and Storage Project (Version 0 dated 24 June 2022).

I also draw your specific attention to the following requirements of the Act and the Pipelines Regulations 2017:

- The plan in its entirety is to be provided to owners and occupiers of land pursuant to section 17(1)(b) of the Act.
- Section 19 requiring that the notice given to each owner and occupier must contain the information prescribed in Regulation 6 and must be accompanied by the approved consultation information.
- Section 27 requiring that the notice be given to each owner and occupier in the format prescribed by Regulation 7.
- Section 32 requiring that the notice of application contain the information prescribed in Section 32 and Regulation 10.

Please note that the monthly reporting obligation set out on page 33 of the plan takes immediate effect. Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd is also required to place a copy of this plan on its project webpage by 15 July 2022.

I look forward to the plan's successful implementation. Please contact Don Hough on 0409 548 084 for further information.

Yours sincerely

Don Hough

Don Hough
Principal Pipeline Regulation
06 / 07 / 2022

cc: Energy Safe Victoria

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be protected under the provisions of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. It will only be used or disclosed to appropriate Ministerial, Statutory Authority, or departmental staff in regard to the purpose for which it was provided, unless required or authorized by law. Enquiries about access to information about you held by the Department should be directed to foi.unit@delwp.vic.gov.au or FOI Unit, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, PO Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 8002.



OFFICIAL

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
SEA-CCS Project	South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
Pipeline Project	The proposed new pipeline, being a component of the SEA-CCS Project
PCP	Pipeline Consultation Plan for the Pipeline Project
Pipeline	Means a pipe or system of pipes for the conveyance of anything through the pipe or system of pipes
Applicant	Means a person who has lodged an application for a licence to construct and operate a pipeline under the Pipelines Act 2005
Pipelines Act 2005 – Victorian Legislation	The main purpose of the Act is to re-enact with amendments the laws relating to the construction and operation of pipelines in Victoria.
Pipelines Regulations 2017	Are Regulations are made under section 190 of the Pipelines Act 2005
Approved Consultation Plan	Means a Consultation Plan approved under Division 1 of Part 4 or Division 6 of Part 5 of the Pipelines Act 2005 - Victoria
Approved consultation information	In relation to a proposed pipeline, means the information to be provided to owners and occupiers that is included in an Approved Pipeline Consultation Plan for that pipeline
Panel	Is defined in Division 2 of the Pipelines Act 2005
Construction	In relation to a pipeline, includes the placing or testing of the pipeline
Crown Land	Means land that is, or that is by any Act deemed to be, unalienated land of the Crown, and includes— (a) land of the Crown that is reserved permanently or temporarily by or under any Act; and (b) land of the Crown that is occupied by a person under a lease, licence or other right under this or any other Act— but does not include land that is subject to a licence granted under Part 3A of the Victorian Plantations Corporation Act 1993
Crown Land Minister	In relation to Crown land, means the Minister for the time being responsible for the Act under which the land is controlled or managed
Licence	Licence means a licence issued by the Minister under Part 5 of the Pipelines Act

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Term	Definition
Licensee	Licensee, in relation to a pipeline, means a person who is the holder of a licence issued under Part 5 for the construction and operation of that pipeline and operation of that pipeline
Native Title Act	Means the Native Title Act 1993 of the Commonwealth
Native Title Holder	Has the same meaning as in the Native Title Act 1993
Occupier	Means a lessee or licensee of land
Operation	In relation to a pipeline, includes testing, maintenance, alteration, decommissioning and removal of the pipeline
Owner	(a) in relation to Crown land, includes the native title holder of the land; and (b) in relation to private land under the Transfer of Land Act 1958 (other than land in an identified folio under that Act), means the person who is registered or entitled to be registered as the proprietor of the land; and (c) in relation to other private land, means— (i) if the land is mortgaged, the mortgagor; and (ii) if the land is subject to a licence granted under Part 3A of the Victorian Plantations Corporation Act 1993, the licensee, under that Part, of the land; and (iii) in any other case, the person who has the fee in the land
Pipeline Corridor	Means a corridor of land within which a pipeline is proposed to be constructed
Pipeline Operation	Means the construction or operation of a pipeline
Pipeline easement	Generally, an easement is a legal interest that allows someone the right to use another's property for a certain purpose. A pipeline easement specifically gives the easement holder the right to build and maintain a pipeline on a landowner's property.
Proponent	Means a person who proposes to apply for a licence to construct and operate a pipeline
Rehabilitation Bond	Has the meaning set out in section 140 of the Pipelines Act 2005
DELWP	Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning.
Reservoir	A petroleum reservoir or oil and gas reservoir is a subsurface accumulation of hydrocarbons contained in porous or fractured rock formations.
PSO	Pipeline Surveillance Officer

Contents

1.	PROJECT OVERVIEW	8
1.1	About Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd	8
1.2	Acknowledgement of Traditional Landowners	8
1.3	About the Project	8
1.4	Project benefits	9
1.5	Proposed pipeline route.....	9
2.	ESSO CONSULTATION COMMITMENT	11
3.	THIS PIPELINE CONSULTATION PLAN	11
4.	PIPELINE CONSULTATION PLAN OBJECTIVES	11
5.	PIPELINE PROJECT LANDOWNERS AND OCCUPIERS	12
5.1	Private landowners and occupiers	12
5.2	Public authorities and Crown Land Ministers	13
5.3	Indigenous Group	13
5.4	Asset owners and operators.....	13
5.5	Near neighbours	13
5.6	Other stakeholders	14
6.	INFORMATION FOR LANDOWNERS / OCCUPIERS.....	16
6.1	General	16
6.2	Introduction Information for Landowners and Occupiers.....	16
6.2.1	General Survey Information.....	16
6.2.2	How Potential Adverse Impacts Are Managed	18
6.2.3	Project Introduction Material.....	19
6.2.4	Provision of Regulatory Notices	20
6.2.5	A Notice of Intention to Enter Land for the Purpose of Survey (Section 19)	20
6.2.6	A Notice of Pipeline Corridor (Section 27 and Regulation 7).....	21
6.2.7	A Notice of Pipeline Licence Application (Section 32)	21
6.2.8	Rehabilitation of Easement (Section 145 and 148).....	21
7.	Overview of Construction.....	21
7.1	Consultation Methods.....	25
7.2	Statement of independent advice.....	27
7.3	Contact information.....	27
7.4	Further information	28
7.5	Summary of notices and agreements	28
8.	ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE, TIMEFRAME FOR CONSULTATION AND	

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES30

8.1 Approvals Process and Estimated Project Timeline30

8.2 Timing and Method of Consultation30

9. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND RESPONSE TO STAKEHOLDERS33

10. ISSUES MANAGEMENT34

11. RESOURCING AND RESPONSIBILITIES35

12. COMPULSORY ACQUISITION - STATUTORY PROCESS35

13. APPENDICES.....36

13.1 Appendix 1 Checklist of requirements for a Consultation Plan.....37

13.2 Appendix 2 Draft brochures – Fact Sheets38

13.3 Appendix 3 Sample of Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey39

13.4 Appendix 4 Sample of Notice of Pipeline Corridor43

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

1.1 About Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd

Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd (**Esso**) is a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil Corporation, one of the largest publicly traded international energy and petrochemical companies that creates solutions to improve quality of life and meet society's evolving needs. In Australia, our reliable supply of natural gas is powering local jobs, providing the energy used by local manufacturers, hospitality venues, medical facilities, construction firms, and supporting the countless industries that rely on their products and services. The ExxonMobil Australia group has been operating in Australia since 1895.

Esso operates the Bass Strait offshore oil and gas fields and associated production and processing facilities, on behalf of the Gippsland Basin Joint Venture, in which Esso has a 50% interest and BHP Petroleum (Bass Strait) Pty Ltd (an affiliate of Woodside Energy Ltd) has a 50% interest. In the remainder of this document, references to Esso are to it in its capacity as operator of the Gippsland Basin Joint Venture. Operations include 24 offshore platforms and installations in Bass Strait which feed a network of more than 800 km of underwater pipelines and approximately 1000 km of onshore pipelines. It has been operating for more than 40 years and in that time the oil and gas passing through its network of pipes and vessels has contributed significantly to the national economy, fuelling growth in industry and employment. These products have also delivered substantial direct revenue to the Commonwealth and Victorian governments.

As part of Esso's operations the Longford facility has been supplying a significant portion of Victoria's gas requirements since 1969 and also supplies gas to New South Wales and Tasmania. This energy supply has supported a myriad of industries including power generation, transportation, gas retailing, plastics, petrochemicals, manufacturing, and minerals processing.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Landowners

Esso acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country, the Gunaikurnai People, and the land upon which the South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project will be located. We recognise the Gunaikurnai Peoples' continuing connection to land, sea, culture, and community, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

1.3 About the Project

Carbon capture and storage is the process of capturing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from industrial activity or power plants at the source and injecting it into deep underground geologic formations for safe, secure, and permanent storage.

It is among the few proven technologies that could enable reduced CO₂ emissions from high-emitting and hard-to-decarbonise sectors, such as power generation and heavy industries, including manufacturing, refining and petrochemicals.

Carbon capture and storage (CCS) involves 3 key processes:

- Capture – separation and compression of carbon dioxide (CO₂) from other gases produced at industrial facilities
- Transport – once separated, the CO₂ is transported, usually via pipelines to an injection site
- Storage – CO₂ is injected and stored deep underground for safe, long term storage in suitable geological formations.

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is present in gas produced from fields offshore in Bass Strait and is currently a waste by-product of Esso's petroleum and gas production process. Esso's South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage (SEA-CCS) Project (the Project) proposes to capture, transport and store CO₂ that is generated from the offshore fields as well as CO₂ generated from third party sources.

The Project spans two jurisdictions (Commonwealth & State) and involves the following activities:

- Capture - modifications will be required at the existing licensed Longford Gas Conditioning Plant to capture, compress, and dehydrate the CO₂
- Transport - construction of a new 350 mm diameter (approximate dimension – subject to final design engineering), 19 km onshore pipeline and utilisation of the existing Bream subsea pipeline
- Storage - workover of existing wells at Esso's existing Bream platform to allow for injection and monitoring of the CO₂ into a known storage formation deep underground.

The Project will provide up to 2 Million Tonnes per Annum (MTA) CO₂ injection capacity and provide up to 20 Million Tonnes (MT) storage capacity over the first 10 years of the project. Phase 1 includes an estimated peak rate of 0.7 MTA and average rate of 0.5 MTA over 10 years from the Longford Gas Conditioning Plant (LFD GCP). Phase 2 utilises the same pipeline and provides for up to a total of 2 MTA capacity tied to securing customers for CCS services.

1.4 Project benefits

The initial phases of the SEA CCS hub will take CO₂ from the Longford Gas Plants to the Bream A platform, where it will be permanently injected into the Bream reservoir.

It has the potential to capture up to two million metric tons of CO₂ – that's equivalent to taking almost half a million cars off the road for every year of operation.

Collaboration with other industries is an important step to unlock future carbon capture and storage opportunities for Australia, with the potential for large-scale reductions in the highest emitting industrial sectors. We are in active discussions with local industries that may be interested in accessing the SEA CCS hub to reduce emissions from their operations.

1.5 Proposed pipeline route

Transport of the CO₂ to the injection site will involve construction of the new 19 km pipeline from the Longford Gas Conditioning Plant to Valve Site 3 (Figure 1 **Error! Reference source not found.**) where it will connect into Esso's existing Bream pipeline.

The preliminary design studies indicate there is adequate space, within the existing easement, for the new pipeline to be located adjacent to five existing pipelines, some of which have been operating for over 50 years (refer Figure 2). Environmental and engineering design studies will ultimately confirm the space requirements and whether temporary construction workspace may be required outside the existing easement.

It is possible that small areas of vegetation on or outside of the easement may need to be cleared to enable construction activities. The environmental survey area will be sufficiently large enough to assess any and all areas that may be require clearing. Clearing of vegetation will be avoided wherever possible.

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

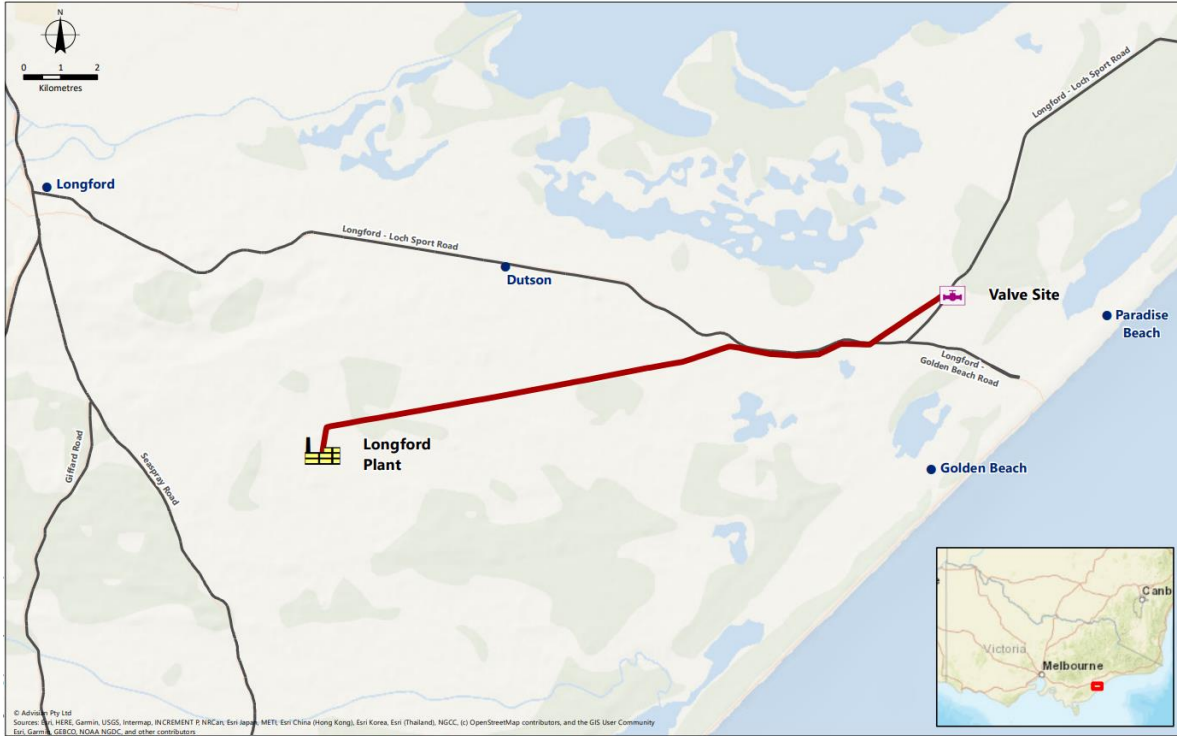


Figure 1 Proposed pipeline route



Figure 2 Existing Pipeline Easement with markers for 5 pipelines shown

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Preliminary design and spacing studies have considered several factors including:

- Proximity to existing lines and space available within the existing easement
- Existing rights and potentially affected landowners
- Public safety
- Proximity to populated areas
- Environmental sensitivities
- Land use and infrastructure
- Current and future developments
- Terrain complexity
- Access requirements
- Constructability and operational matters
- Pipeline length.

If additional space to construct or operate the pipeline is required, all reasonable attempts will be made to voluntarily acquire a temporary access agreement or easement from the landowners. If a process for compulsory acquisition of land is required throughout landowner and occupier negotiations, Esso will adhere to the relevant sections of the Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986 (Vic) (LACA) and the Land Acquisition and Compensation Regulations 2021.

2. ESSO CONSULTATION COMMITMENT

Esso's stated commitment is:

"Our approach to corporate citizenship involves more than compliance with applicable laws, sound business practices and operational excellence. We are also committed to continuing our ongoing engagement with the communities in which we operate. We consider our community relationships an essential element of our business."

3. THIS PIPELINE CONSULTATION PLAN

This Pipeline Consultation Plan (PCP) has been prepared in accordance with Part 4, Division 1 of the Victorian Pipelines Act 2005 (Pipelines Act) and requirements of the Pipelines Regulations 2017 (Pipelines Regulations). Section 17 of the Pipelines Act outlines the requirements for a PCP. A checklist of these requirements against the contents of this PCP is provided in Appendix 1.

The purpose of this PCP is to detail how Esso will consult with landowners, occupiers, and other stakeholders about the proposed pipeline. The scope of the PCP relates to the onshore pipeline component of the Project, herein referred to as the proposed pipeline project.

Esso experience, operating in the Gippsland area for over 50 years, has enabled a comprehensive understanding of stakeholders impacted, interested or to be informed as part of the proposed pipeline project.

4. PIPELINE CONSULTATION PLAN OBJECTIVES

The objective of this Pipeline Consultation Plan is to set out the information the pipeline project will provide to owners and occupiers of land to whom notice must be given under the Pipelines Act 2005, including:

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

- the plan will be prepared in accordance with the Pipeline Regulations 2017;
- to set out the information that the proponent is to provide to owners and occupiers of land to whom notice must be given under Division 2 or 3 of Part 4 of the Pipelines Act 2005;
- include general information about the types of activities to be undertaken for the purpose of any survey or the construction and operation of the pipeline;
- information about how potential adverse impacts of the construction and operation of the pipeline on land, health, safety and the environment are to be managed;
- details of the procedures to be followed to permit the construction and operation of the pipeline including the procedures for any compulsory acquisition of land;
- confirmation that owners and occupiers of land may seek independent advice on the pipeline proposal; and,
- the current contact information for the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

The plan also intends to ensure:

- it meets the statutory requirements and expectations of regulatory agencies in relation to the consultative processes with landowners and occupiers;
- that consultation activities provide information to landowners and occupiers to enable better understanding of the Pipeline Project;
- allow Esso to be able to better understand the views of landowners and occupiers;
- landowners and occupiers are sufficiently informed about the Pipeline Project, the aspects that they can influence, and their rights;
- facilitate landowners and occupiers right to have input into those aspects of the Pipeline project that could affect them; and,
- outline the process of consultation with landowners and occupiers and the complaints process, to ensure consistency with regulatory requirements.

5. PIPELINE PROJECT LANDOWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

5.1 Private landowners and occupiers

For over 50 years Esso has maintained high quality relationships with landowners and occupiers within the existing easement, where five pipelines currently operate, and where the new pipeline is planned to be located. These relationships will continue to be maintained by the assigned Pipeline Surveillance Officers (PSOs).

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Additional landowner and occupier consultation for the proposed new pipeline will be performed in accordance with this PCP. Esso acknowledges the overlap in consultation for the proposed new pipeline and ongoing operational activities of the existing five pipelines and, as such, the purpose of the engagement will need to be made clear and wherever possible will be streamlined in the initial stages of the project.

Preliminary design work indicates there will be 9 landowners and 18 freehold land parcels directly affected by the proposed pipeline survey works and construction.

In accordance with statutory obligations, the current occupier information and land use will be confirmed as part of the initial consultations. Updated title searches will be conducted to identify any recent changes to property ownership and encumbrances.

Appropriate and timely consultation with landowners and occupiers will be carried out throughout the Project. Direct contact with landowners and occupiers will be the main method of contact to achieve the objectives outlined in Section 4.

The basic consultation steps between Esso and landowners and occupiers during the Project are summarised in Table 1 below and illustrated in more detail in Table 5.

5.2 Public authorities and Crown Land Ministers

The proposed pipeline route will traverse land parcels that are owned and managed by government authorities (e.g., Gippsland Water) as well as Crown land Minister(s).

Esso will engage with the appropriate authority, government department and relevant Crown Land Minister for all access and tenure agreements.

5.3 Indigenous Group

The Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) are recognised as the traditional owners of the Project area as well as the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP). Esso recognises that GLaWAC will have an active interest in native title and the Project, and development of the Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

5.4 Asset owners and operators

Asset owners and utility operators may be directly affected by the proposed pipeline route. Esso will seek third party consent for all survey and construction activities in the affected locations.

5.5 Near neighbours

'Near neighbours' are landowners and occupiers not directly impacted by the proposed pipeline route but who may experience impacts due to construction traffic, dust and noise.

Consultation with these stakeholders will be performed prior to construction to protect the public from environmental, health, and safety risks resulting from the construction of the pipeline and to ensure construction methods minimise any adverse environmental impacts.

5.6 Other stakeholders

There are several other stakeholders that will potentially have an interest in the proposed pipeline project. These include, but are not limited to:

- Wellington Shire Council.
- Community and conservation groups.
- Elected officials.
- Government department regulators (e.g., Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, Energy Safe Victoria, Environment Protection Authority, WorkSafe Victoria, VicRoads).

Nature and frequency of engagement with these stakeholders will vary depending on area of interest.

Table 1 Description of consultation activities

Project Stage	Activities
Landowner Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify landowners - desktop survey. • Title details (owner, Lot, and title number, mailing and street address.)
Announce Pipeline Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In accord with approved Pipeline Consultation Plan • Esso engages affected landowners and occupiers, confirms individual contact details and arrangements, and provides initial Project Information Pack. • Esso publicly announce the Pipeline Project
Preliminary Landowner and Occupier Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esso's Pipeline Surveillance Officer (PSO) will contact all landowners and Occupiers following the announcement of the project to confirm the announcement and ensure that they are aware of the project. • The PSO will provide an overview of the project, the PCP and confirm preferred consultation methods.
Prepare for Land Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate initial easement inspections, and prepare for the necessary studies, Esso will give landowners and occupiers a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for the Purpose of Survey, as stipulated under s.19 of Pipelines Act 2005. Consent is required prior to entering land for survey.
Landowner & Occupier Engagement (Land Access)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform landowner/occupier of sequence of consultation activities, the provisions under the Pipelines Act for compulsory acquisition and the notices that are required to be provided to them.

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Project Stage	Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esso will negotiate with landowners and occupiers over arrangements for pipeline construction and operation, including land access arrangements. • Negotiations may include details of compensation, ongoing access, and rehabilitation arrangements.
Environment and Other Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esso undertake environmental, social, safety and cultural heritage studies.
Application for Licence to Construct & Operate a Pipeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esso supplies landowners and occupiers with Notice of Pipeline Corridor, under s.27 of the Act, and r.7 of the Regulations. • Esso completes pipeline approvals processes. • All landowners and occupiers receive a Notice of Pipeline Licence Application, under s.32 of the Act for a Licence to Construct and Operate the pipeline. • A copy of the Notice of Pipeline Licence Application is published in one or more newspapers that circulate generally in Victoria and throughout the areas to which the notification relates. • Once pipeline application lodged. Landowners and occupiers have statutory opportunity to make submissions to the Minister about the pipeline licence application.
Licensing and Lands Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licence granted to construct and operate the pipeline • Any interests in land required for construction and operation of the pipeline must be obtained by the applicant, prior to issue of the licence • Safety and Environmental Management Plans developed and approved.
Construction (subject to consent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once Licence to Construct and operate a pipeline received, and subject to consent of landowners and occupiers, Esso completes easement documentation and landowner arrangements, including any related compensation. • Pipeline constructed, commissioned and rehabilitation completed. • Post construction rehabilitation agreed or referred to third party
Post- Construction Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pipeline operation approved. Note that access arrangements will be confirmed as part of initial consultation and periodically refreshed as part of ongoing operations. • In accord with easement conditions, Esso accesses land for periodic pipeline inspection / maintenance as required

6. INFORMATION FOR LANDOWNERS / OCCUPIERS

6.1 General

The Project is committed to developing and maintaining positive relationships with landowners and occupiers.

Project information will be made available to landowners and occupiers using a range of communication methods aimed at keeping landowners and occupiers fully informed.

Information will cover various aspects of the Project, including the following:

- The rationale for the Project.
- The assessment process and where the Project sits within this process.
- The relationship between the assessment process and landowner / occupier consultation.
- Advice on opportunities for feedback and discussion.

From the first contact, and in all related project correspondence, Esso will inform landowners and occupiers that the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning is the regulator of the activity and that a landowner or occupier may contact the Department at any time. The Department's contact details will be provided to landowners/occupiers and are available in Section 7.3 of this plan.

6.2 Introduction Information for Landowners and Occupiers

Table 1 provides an overview of consultation with landowners and occupiers during the pre-licencing, and notices to be provided under the Pipelines Act 2005 (the Act). This process is discussed in more detail below and includes reference to the legal obligations of Esso, as a proponent, under the Act.

Note that the apparently "legalistic" elements of the process, such as the giving of Notices, are not optional steps for Esso, but are mandated in the Act.

As required by s.17 (2) of the Act, the following information is included in this Pipeline Consultation Plan.

6.2.1 General Survey Information

Comprehensive surveys will be conducted for all impacted areas. The environmental, cultural heritage and other surveys will be carried out to prepare Project assessment documentation. Prior to starting these activities, affected landowners and occupiers will be consulted about the timing and location of survey and access needs. Access protocols relating to biosecurity management, physical access requirements, hours of operation, etc. will be documented.

Surveys required for the design, construction and operation of the pipeline may include those described in Table 2.

Table 2 Description of possible survey activities

Name of survey	Description of survey activities
Flora and fauna	Assessment of discrete areas by foot or in a light vehicle to identify any significant flora and fauna and manage any environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the replacement pipeline. No ground disturbance is required. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey that will be provided to you.
Cultural heritage	If required, assessment of areas by a small team (4-5 people) by foot or in a light vehicle to manage any impacts of the construction and operation of the pipeline to land and artefacts of cultural significance. Hand digging of shallow holes may be required at discrete locations. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey that will be provided to you.
Feature Survey	Assessment of areas by a small team (2-3 people) by foot or in a light vehicle, using surveying equipment to create a digital three-dimensional image of physical features that the pipeline may affect (terrain, trees, building outlines, water courses etc.). These measurements and images may be taken from anywhere within 50m of the proposed pipeline route (shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey that will be provided to you). Surface scans may be taken to confirm location of existing underground pipelines. Pegs may be placed in the ground at fence-lines and at other discrete locations (which will be removed at the end of construction or beforehand on request).
Cadastral survey	A registered land surveyor travelling by foot or using a light vehicle to record the Property boundaries of the Land using surveying equipment. Pegs may be placed in the ground at discrete locations to indicate the boundary of the existing easement (which will be removed at the end of construction or beforehand on request).
Soil conductivity	Assessment of areas by a small team (2-3 people) by foot or in a light vehicle, moving to discrete locations of the Property to measure electrical conductivity of soil. This data will inform the pipeline design. The measurement is made using a small hand-held probe inserted approximately 20 cm into the ground. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey that will be provided to you
Service location	<p>The purpose of this Survey is to confirm the location of underground service utilities (underground infrastructure). This information is required to inform the design of the pipeline and to avoid causing damage to underground infrastructure where a Survey takes place that involves the use of mechanical equipment to break ground in a discrete area.</p> <p>A metal detector and a water jet are used to confirm the location of the underground infrastructure. Wastewater created during the use of the water jet is collected in a wastewater tank through a vacuum system. Areas disturbed during this Survey will be restored at the completion of</p>

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Name of survey	Description of survey activities
	<p>the Survey.</p> <p>Attachment 1 gives an example of the sizes of vehicle that may be used.</p> <p>The survey will occur within the mapped targeted Survey Area shown in the map attached to the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey that will be provided to you for this activity.</p>
Geotechnical	<p>This Survey is needed to assist Esso to design the pipeline to safely cross railways, rivers (if any) and major roads. It involves the use of a vehicle mounted drill rig (4WD or truck) to establish boreholes measuring 10 to 15 cm in diameter and up to 20m in depth and/or the use of a narrow probe to test soil layers and confirm soil stability at discrete locations.</p> <p>At some locations a PVC pipe will be placed into the hole to keep the hole open and allow for the soil permeability to be assessed. Wherever a PVC pipe is installed, around 1m of the pipe will rise above the ground and flagging tape may be tied to the top of the pipe so that it can be easily located. The PVC pipe will be removed at the end of the 6 month Survey period unless you consent to it remaining for use in the construction period. Samples of the drill cuttings will be taken for laboratory analysis and the remaining cuttings will be placed back into bore holes during back-filling and restoration.</p> <p>Survey vehicles may vary in size. Attachment 1 gives examples of the sizes of vehicles that may be used.</p> <p>The geotechnical Survey will occur within the Survey Area shown on the map attached to the Notice of Intention to Enter for Survey that will be provided to you for this activity.</p>

6.2.2 How Potential Adverse Impacts Are Managed

Potential adverse impacts on private and public land will be determined by the careful survey of the land and consultation with landowners and occupiers. Impacts will be avoided or mitigated via measures outlined in management plans developed for the project.

Potential adverse impacts on land, health, safety, and the environment will be managed within the framework of Esso's stringent project controls, including a permitting system for everyone entering the project/work area, training and inductions and reporting and auditing.

Environmental impacts will be mitigated by a range of methods including:

- planning and design to avoid, where possible, areas classified as potential high impact environmental areas;
- keeping land and vegetation disturbance to a minimum;
- minimising sedimentation and erosion;
- adopting appropriate biosecurity measures if required;
- applying specialist impact mitigation where listed species are known or predicted;
- ensuring the workforce is fully briefed and informed regarding environmental management;

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

- high quality environmental oversight of construction; and,
- detailed approved rehabilitation plans if required.

Plans to be prepared include:

Construction Environment Management Plan. A Construction Environmental Management Plan will be developed and informed by information collected from a range of field surveys. The document will identify sensitive environmental areas and detail the construction methodologies to minimise environmental impacts.

Construction Safety Management Plan. A Construction Safety Management Plan will be developed to meet the applicable Esso policies, the Pipelines Act 2005, Australian Standard AS 2885 requirements and Victorian OH&S legislation. The document will detail the systems and processes the construction contractor shall implement including hazard alert protocols, incident reporting, safety meetings and hazard analysis processes.

Cultural Heritage Management Plan. A Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be developed from the data generated from desk-top studies, a standard assessment and if required a complex assessment. The document will detail the construction methodologies to minimise construction and ongoing operation impacts on sensitive cultural heritage areas.

Operations Environment Management Plan. In the development of an Operations Environmental Management Plan, ongoing activities that support the operation of the pipeline will be assessed and work practices defined to minimise impacts on the environment.

Operations Safety Management Plan. The Operations Safety Management Plan will be developed to provide an integrated safety management approach in line with Esso's existing safety management policies and practices for pipeline operations.

6.2.3 Project Introduction Material

A range of Project introduction material will be provided and reviewed with landowners and occupiers, by the Pipeline Surveillance Officer, including the material listed below:

- The approved Pipeline Consultation Plan.
- Project Fact Sheets.
- Preliminary routing sketches for each individual land parcel.
- Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey (Appendix 3).

Some key facts about the Project:

- Environmental studies and environmental assessment referrals will be completed prior to pipeline licence application.
- Environmental management plans will be completed prior to construction and operation of the proposed pipeline.
- Cultural heritage studies will be carried out and a Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be produced.
- Esso is committed to providing fair, adequate, and equitable compensation to impacted landowners for disturbance and loss of production in accordance with the Pipelines Act 2005.

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

All activities will be undertaken in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria and where relevant the Commonwealth of Australia. This includes, but is not limited to provisions under the:

- Pipelines Act 2005 – this is the primary Act under which the Project proposals are assessed.
- Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth).
- Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth).
- Environment Effects Act 1978.
- Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.
- Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.
- Water Act 1989.
- Environment Protection Act 2017.
- Road Management Act 2004.

6.2.4 Provision of Regulatory Notices

In order to protect the interests of landowners and occupiers, the Act requires a formal process for the giving of Notices to Landowners and occupiers. The Act also requires that, for this Project, Esso will be responsible for the giving of such Notices. The intended procedure for the giving of Notices is outlined below:

- A face-to-face meeting or virtual meetings with the landowner/occupier, organised by the PSO, for the purpose of explaining the related activity, and for giving of the Notice;
- Hand deliver the Notice at the meeting, or send electronically or by registered post where COVID protocols are in place and virtual meeting is required, and obtain the landowner's/occupier's acknowledgement via a signed receipt; and
- Should the landowner /occupier not be available for a meeting, the Notice will be sent via registered post, and a delivery receipt obtained.

Landowners and occupiers affected by the Project will be encouraged by Esso to seek independent legal advice on any concerns they may have with regard to legal implications of the Project which could include the Project's potential impact on their land and its use or any other legitimate concern.

Pre-defined and agreed reasonable costs incurred in seeking advice in relation to the Project will be reimbursed by Esso.

6.2.5 A Notice of Intention to Enter Land for the Purpose of Survey (Section 19)

Under s.19 of the Act, Esso is required to give a Notice to each landowner and occupier of affected land (including the Crown), advising of Esso's intention to enter the land for the purpose of a survey (such as an environmental survey). In issuing this notice, Esso will seek consent from the landowner/occupier to access their property to undertake survey works.

All reasonable steps will be made to reach agreement with each owner and each occupier of land in relation to the entry by the project onto the land for the purpose of a survey.

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

If after 14 days from the date that the notice of Intention to Enter Land for the Purpose of Survey is issued the landowner declines to grant access, there is provision under section 22 of the Pipelines Act for the seeking of Ministerial approval to do so.

Appendix 3 *Sample Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey* provides an example of a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey.

6.2.6 A Notice of Pipeline Corridor (Section 27 and Regulation 7)

Prior to applying for the Pipeline Licence, a Notice of Pipeline Corridor, as prescribed in regulation 7, must be given to each landowner and occupier of land inside the pipeline corridor.

Appendix 4 *Sample Notice of Pipeline Corridor* provides an example of a Notice of Pipeline Corridor.

This Notice must be sent to all directly affected landowners and occupiers. The Notice describes the proposed pipeline corridor, includes a plan of the proposed corridor and states the intended use of the proposed pipeline. This notice lapses after twelve months (unless the Minister in writing extends that period).

6.2.7 A Notice of Pipeline Licence Application (Section 32)

The Notice of Pipeline Licence Application will also be published in one or more newspapers that circulate generally in Victoria and throughout the areas to which the notification relates.

Following submission of the Pipeline Licence Application to the Minister, a Notice of Pipeline Licence Application (under section 32 of the Act) must be given by Esso to each landowner and occupier directly affected by the Licence Application.

There is a statutory opportunity for landowners and occupiers to make submissions to the Minister about the pipeline licence application. This is described in the Pipelines Act which can be found at 'Victorian Law Today' and 'Acts' at legislation.vic.gov.au. The Notice of Pipeline Licence Application provided to the landowner / occupier includes a date for submissions determined by the Minister. Landowners and occupiers have until the submission date to make a written submission to the Minister regarding the Pipeline Licence Application.

6.2.8 Rehabilitation of Easement (Section 145 and 148)

Under s.145 of the Act, Esso must rehabilitate following construction of the approved pipeline at its own expense. The land must be restored as far as practicable to the purposes for which it was used prior to disturbance in relation to pipeline construction.

Under s.148 of the Act, in the event that Esso fails to rehabilitate the land as agreed prior to commencement of construction, a landowner may do so in lieu of Esso, and may recover reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out the rehabilitation.

7. Overview of Construction

Using the Existing Easement

The preliminary design studies indicate there is adequate space within the existing easement for the new pipeline to be located adjacent to the five existing pipelines, some of which have been operating for over 50 years (refer Figure 2). Environmental and engineering design studies will ultimately confirm the space requirements and whether temporary construction workspace may be required outside the existing easement.

Setting up Work Areas

Environmental, cultural, and other surveys of lands impacted by setting up or work areas will also be considered where the works relate to the construction of the pipeline.

The construction process can include making provision for the following work areas and machinery:

- pipe lay down yards;
- construction material stockpiles;
- construction camps (if needed); and,
- setup areas for Horizontal Directional Drilling (if required).

These work areas are integral to the pipeline construction and help ensure it is installed in the shortest period possible and in a safe and environmentally sound manner.

Extra work areas, if required for construction, will be agreed with the relevant landowners and occupiers. Landowners and occupiers will be consulted over any proposed fence or gate realignments required, and their timing. Related compensation will be negotiated in advance of works commencing.

Clear and Grade

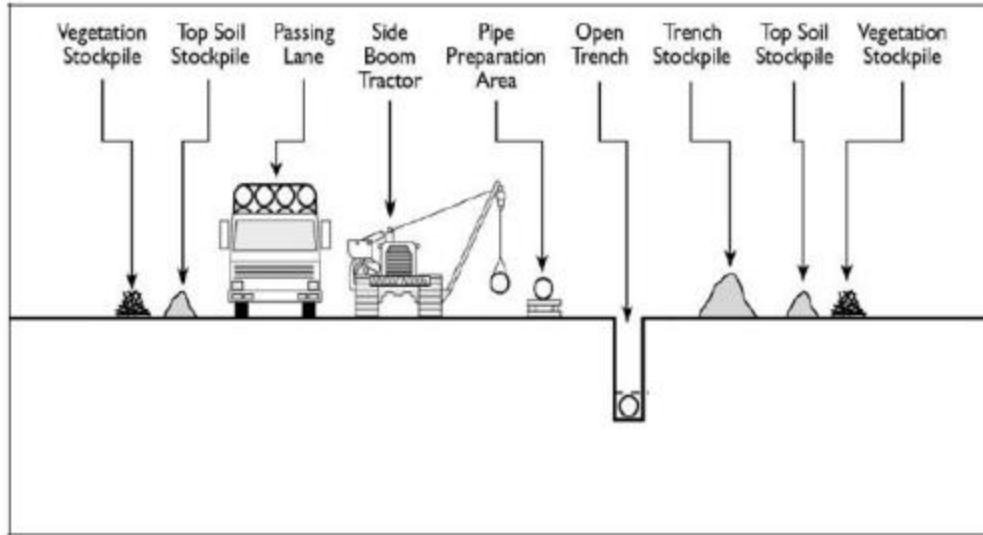
This construction phase involves preparing the pipeline easement, plus extra workspace as agreed with landowners and occupiers. The combined easement and extra workspace is commonly referred to as the construction right-of-way (ROW).

Common set-up within the construction right-of-way

The construction right-of-way will be clearly identified and fenced off if required. Landowners and occupiers will be consulted over aspects such as clear and grade timing, arrangements for fencing, dust and noise management, biosecurity, and traffic management, etc. They will have the opportunity to ensure issues agreed are satisfactorily managed.

Stringing and bending

Pipes are delivered to and laid out 'strung' on the ROW. Where required, specialised machinery will bend the pipe.



Example - typical right-of-way layout

Trenching

A grader stockpiles the topsoil in a windrow to the side prior to excavating the trench.

A decision on final trenching techniques will be decided in conjunction with the construction contractor, however a specialised rotary trenching machine or excavator would typically be used to dig the trenches.

Issues such as hours of operation and dust and noise management will be discussed with the landowners and occupiers and adjacent properties.

Horizontal Directional Drilling

Horizontal Directional Drilling is a pipeline installation method used when routine trenching techniques are not suited to the conditions, such as crossing watercourses or some public roads.

Specialist operators drill a hole beneath the surface, at a shallow angle, and then pull a welded length of pipe through the hole without disturbing the surface.

This technique may be adopted for this project, however detailed design is still to be determined.

Welding

Specially qualified welders join the lengths of pipes together adhering to relevant fire regulations and restrictions. Welds are inspected using x-ray or ultrasonic equipment, and the joint is then coated to protect against corrosion.

Lowering In

After final quality assurance checks, the pipe is lowered into the trench using specialist side-boom tractors or excavators.

Backfill

When the pipe is in place the excavated subsoil is compacted back into the trench. The topsoil or road surface is then re-instated over the disturbed trench area to the contour of the land/road.

Easement Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation of the site will be undertaken in accordance with the approved Environmental Management Plan taking into consideration any detailed additional landowner or occupier requirements.

Permanent markers to show pipeline location will remain after rehabilitation, as required by the Australian Standard AS 2885.

Hydrotesting

Hydrotesting of the pipeline verifies the strength of the pipeline and ensures that there are no leaks. Hydrotesting involves filling the pipeline with water and pressurising it. The hydrotest process is assessed by the regulator to ensure that the operation of the pipeline will not harm the environment and will operate safely. The regulator will also assess and approve hydrotesting noise and dust impacts.

The discharge of liquids used in hydrotesting into natural water bodies, and disposal, will comply with relevant regulations. Once the pipeline has been appropriately tested, it will be cleaned, dried, and purged before operations are started.

Eventual decommissioning of this proposed pipeline

A licenced pipeline must be decommissioned in accordance with the Australian Standard AS 2885 and the approved decommissioning plan. The Pipelines Act 2005 require this decommissioning plan to be approved by the regulatory authority.

If the decommissioned pipeline is left in place, appropriate measures will be taken to prevent contamination of soil or groundwater and to avoid land subsidence impacts.

The Rehabilitation Process Progressive Reinstatement

Once pipe laying is complete and trenches have been backfilled and compacted, rehabilitation crews will take over and start the following:

- confirmation of arrangements, applicable biosecurity procedures and rehabilitation schedule;
- rehabilitation, in accordance with agreed specifications, plus any supplementary contract documentation or conditions of project approval;
- reinstatement of drainage channels, pastures and waterways to pre-construction carrying capacity;
- specialised erosion and sediment control as agreed with the Landowner. Controls can include hydromulch, turf, broadcast seeding or erosion control blankets;
- subsoil preparation in accordance with regional practice and agronomic recommendations;
- replacement of road surface and footpaths
- re-spreading of cleared topsoil;
- replacement of removed fences, gates and other infrastructure;
- weed control, and,
- maintaining erosion and sediment controls.

Sign Off Procedure

Once initial land stabilisation is deemed to be completed, the landowner / occupier will be asked to

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

sign off that any of the property's infrastructure that was affected has been reinstated, and that the land is stable. Once this initial stabilisation is verified, the longer term restoration of the land can commence.

Long Term Restoration

To ensure rehabilitation objectives are met in the long term, the ongoing success of the rehabilitation will be monitored to ensure the land value is restored as far as possible to its pre-existing level.

All reasonable attempts will be made to restore land to its original condition. Where all attempts have been exhausted to restore to original condition, then compensation arrangements may apply.

Rehabilitation Bond

A rehabilitation bond is an instrument securing the payment of a specified amount of money for any rehabilitation work, clean-up work or pollution prevention work that may be necessary as a result of;

- the construction of a pipeline; or,
- decommissioning or removal of a pipeline.

For the purpose of the Project, Esso will obtain a rehabilitation bond that is acceptable to the Minister and is for an amount specified by the Minister.

The rehabilitation bond is the landowners' guarantee that the land and surrounding infrastructure will be reinstated and restored to its previous condition or better.

The rehabilitation bond will be held for the duration of the Project and only invoked if the Project fails to complete its rehabilitation commitments in accordance with the Project approval conditions.

7.1 Consultation Methods

Consultation frequency and method will vary throughout the Project and between landowners and occupiers. Frequency of consultation will be based upon the level of interest or involvement and will ensure that landowners and occupiers remain well informed.

Esso's consultation methods and activities have been designed to ensure that:

- Landowners and occupiers are provided with timely information;
- Landowners and occupiers can access information about the Project in a way that suits their needs;
- Landowners and occupiers are informed about the Project's potential impacts and proposed management measures; and,
- consultation begins early to build trust and foster harmonious relationships that continue throughout the Project.

Consultation methods with landowners and occupiers may include:

- face-to-face or virtual discussions and meetings;
- provision of letters;
- provision of fact sheets;
- information to access the Project Website;
- assigning a nominated Project Contact for each landowner / occupier; and,

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

- advice of public display of regulatory documentation.

The primary contact for landowners and occupiers will be the Project Manager. They will engage with landowners and occupiers to provide information, to identify issues and to facilitate the resolution of these issues. The role and responsibilities will be described in the Letter of Introduction which will be provided to all landowners and occupiers.

If the landowner or occupier is not satisfied with the level of information provided or is concerned with the behaviour of the Project Manager, they may contact the Project Sponsor, using contact details provided in the Letter of Introduction.

In Person or Virtual Discussion and Meetings

In person meetings with landowners and occupiers builds relationships and trust and is the preferred method to ensure landowners and occupiers understand the pipeline planning and construction processes. Where COVID / Quarantine protocols are in place, virtual meetings may be used as an alternative.

Letters

Letters will be used as an initial consultation tool to introduce the project to landowners and occupiers and establish appropriate forms of communication that will be used during the Project. They will be used throughout the Project to provide formal correspondence and also to inform landowners and occupiers of Project developments or upcoming activities. When appropriate, letters will also be used to provide a formal written response to landowners and occupiers in relation to specific issues, concerns, or requests.

Inclusion in existing community engagement activities

The project will be incorporated into Esso's existing community engagement forums and activities, including but not limited to:

- Monthly Connection e-newsletter.
- Community forums and information sessions.
- Updates to neighbours through the Gippsland Times or other media and letters.
- Presentations to local stakeholder groups.
- Media releases issued at key project milestones.

Website

The Esso website www.exxonmobil.com.au will be updated to include information regarding the Project. The website will:

- contain details on Esso and the Project;
- describe the permitting process;
- describe the benefits of the Project;
- contain any fact sheets or newsletters as they are developed;
- contain details of public displays and information sessions;
- allow documents produced for public display to be downloaded; and,
- provide methods for contacting, providing feedback to, or registering complaints with Esso.

Community Contact

To allow landowners and occupiers to gain information, provide feedback, or register complaints, a company phone, email and postal address will be established before first contact with landowners and occupiers, to operate at all times, but particularly for emergency or abnormal situations. All contacts will be logged, and the response will be assigned to the relevant member of the project team. The phone number will also provide an immediate out-of-hours response to urgent landowner issues.

Public Display of Regulatory Documentation

Assessment documents will be placed on public exhibition for comment as part of the statutory approval process following submission to the Regulator. Esso will publicise the timing of the public exhibition period and will display planning and assessment documentation on the Project website.

7.2 Statement of independent advice

Landowners and occupiers may seek independent advice in relation to the proposed pipeline and land valuations. Agreed reasonable costs associated with professional fees incurred in obtaining independent advice will be reimbursed by Esso.

7.3 Contact information

Proponent

The Gippsland Basin Joint Venture is the proponent of the proposed pipeline project. The proponent's contact details are:

Proposed licensee	Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd and BHP Petroleum (Bass Strait) Pty Ltd
Proponent representative	Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd
Proponent head office	Level 9, 664 Collins St Docklands VIC 3008
Proponent website	www.exxonmobil.com.au
Project website	www.exxonmobil.com.au
Project phone	+61 3 9261 0000
Project email address	consultation@exxonmobil.com
Project representative	Simon Kemp

Regulatory Agencies

Name	Role	Contact details
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)	Licensing of onshore pipelines and regulator under the Pipelines Act and Pipelines Regulations	Pipeline Regulation DELWP PO Box 500 East Melbourne VIC 8002 Phone: 0439 799 598 Email:

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

		pipeline.regulation@delwp.vic.gov.au Website: https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/pipelines
Energy Safe Victoria (ESV)	Safety regulator of onshore pipelines under the Pipelines Act and Pipelines Regulations	Gas and Pipeline Infrastructure Safety Division or Gas Technical Helpline ESV PO Box 262 Collins Street West VIC 8007 Phone: 03 9203 9700 or 1800 800 158 (freecall) Email: info@energysafe.vic.gov.au Website: www.esv.vic.gov.au

7.4 Further information

Alternative information sources for landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders are provided in 3.

Table 3 Reference documents for landowners, occupiers, and other stakeholders

Information type	Information name (and location)
Legislation	Website – http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au Victorian Pipelines Act https://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/in-force/acts/pipelines-act-2005/018 Victorian Pipelines Regulations https://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/in-force/statutory-rules/pipelines-regulations-2017/001
Australian Standards	AS2885.1-2012 Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum – Design & Construction AS2885.3-2012 Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum – Operation & Maintenance
Guidelines and Codes of Practice	APGA Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines (stakeholder-engagement-guidelines.pdf (apga.org.au)) APGA Code of Environmental Practice Onshore Pipelines Revision 4 (APGA Code of Environmental Practice)

7.5 Summary of notices and agreements

Table 4 provides a summary of the regulatory notices and deadlines for pipeline approval.

Where possible, all regulatory notices will be hand delivered to landowners and occupiers or sent electronically or via registered post.

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Where COVID / Quarantine protocols are in place, virtual meetings, and sending via email may be used as an alternative to in person meetings.

Table 4 Summary of regulatory steps and timing for pipeline approval

Item	Event	Timing
Access to land for purposes of pipeline survey (subject to prior regulatory approvals)		
1.	Approval of this PCP (subject to regulatory consideration)	21 days from submission date, or resubmission date
2.	Initial consultation and issue of Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey	Consultation occurs following approval and approved PCP will accompany Notice
3	Enter into agreement with each landowner and occupier to enter land and conduct surveys	As soon as practicable after Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey is issued
All reasonable steps will be made to reach agreement with each owner and each occupier of land in relation to the entry by the project onto the land for the purpose of a survey. If no access agreement with owner		
4.	Apply to Minister to enter relevant land	At least 14 days after issue of Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey
5.	Advise landowners and occupiers where no access agreements reached of application to Minister	At same time as application to Minister issued
6.	Landowner and occupier has option to make case for refusal to Minister in writing	No more than 7 days after receiving advice of the application to the Minister
7.	Minster makes decision about application to enter land	Decision made no more than 28 days after receiving application
Notice of Pipeline Corridor		
8.	Issue Notice of Pipeline Corridor to landowners and occupiers	As soon as practicable after decision made on pipeline route. Notice is accompanied by the approved PCP
Notice of pipeline licence application		
9.	Issue Notice of Application for a Pipeline Licence to landowners and occupiers as well as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning Minister and the Water Minister - Any relevant Crown Land Minister - Responsibility authority - Any Department Head of Government department, public authority, person, or body specified by the Minister - Additionally, the Notice will be published in a State-wide 	<p>The Issue Notice must specify a date determined by the Minister as the application submission date for the application (the submission date); and state that until the submission date any person who may be affected by the grant of the licence may make a written submission to the Minister about the application.</p> <p>The Minister determines the 'application submission date' once satisfied the application is complete</p>

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Item	Event	Timing
	newspaper	
10.	Any affected person may make a written submission to the Minister regarding the pipeline licence application	The written submission to be made on or before the close of submissions date determined by the Minister
11.	The Minister provides a decision on the pipeline licence application	Decision to be made within 28 days, unless decision is referred to a panel in which case the 28 days applies following receipt of the panel report. Full details of the regulatory requirements pertaining to pipeline licence applications are covered under Part 5 of the Pipelines Act 2005

Landowners and occupiers affected by the Project are encouraged to seek independent legal advice on any concerns they may have regarding the pipeline licence application or any legal implications of the Project.

8. ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE, TIMEFRAME FOR CONSULTATION AND CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

8.1 Approvals Process and Estimated Project Timeline

Prior to construction and operation of the pipeline, the proposed pipeline must be issued a Pipeline Licence under the Pipelines Act 2005.

8.2 Timing and Method of Consultation

Table 5 outlines the anticipated timeframe of key consultation with landowners and occupiers throughout the Project, along with the proposed consultation methods to be employed.

Table 5 Key consultation activities with landowners and occupiers

	Purpose	Method
	Stage 1: Initial Consultation (pending regulatory approval of PCP)	

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

	Purpose	Method
2022 – Q3	Initial meeting to introduce proposed pipeline project. Provision of approved consultation material and individualised Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey. Provision of Project contact details. Identify new occupiers of the land. Note that the initial consultation period will incorporate feedback from all relevant stakeholders	In person (or virtual meeting)
	Follow up meeting(s) to: Arrange survey activities and access requirements Landowner and occupier input to Project development including identification of constraints and considerations.	In person (or virtual meeting)
Stage 2: Surveys of proposed pipeline (pending landowner consent for surveys)		
2022 – Q3 and Q4	Consult with landowner and occupier prior to each survey to confirm access and any changes to conditions.	Contact made by preferred method (phone, in person or mail) with agreed notice prior to access
	Provide progress updates and address any concerns or issues raised by landowners and occupiers.	Various
Stage 3: Pipeline corridor		
2023	Meetings with landowners and occupiers to discuss construction and work areas.	In person (or virtual meeting)
	Provision of Notice of Pipeline Corridor to landowners and occupiers.	In person or mail
	Ongoing negotiation and consultation with landowners and occupiers on contractual arrangements including compensation.	In person, phone, email, or mail
Stage 4: Pipeline licence application		

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

	Purpose	Method
2023	Meeting arranged with landowners and occupiers to inform of the licence application and project status	In person (or virtual meeting)
	Provision of Notice of Application for a Licence to landowners and occupiers and explain opportunity to make a submission by the submission date.	In person (or virtual meeting)
Stage 5: Pre-construction phase		
2024	Ongoing consultation and updates on progress of regulatory applications. Acquisition of lands interests and development of access plans with landowners and occupiers.	In person, phone, email, or mail
	Ongoing meetings with landowners and occupiers prior to construction to assist in preparing plans.	In person (or virtual meeting)
	Meetings with other parties affected by construction to obtain consents and establish construction protocols.	In person or email
Stage 6: Construction phase		
2024 - 2025	Ongoing consultation with landowners and occupiers to confirm construction timing and duration and actions they need to complete.	In person, phone, or email
	Advance notice prior to land access or construction activity in accordance with individualised landowner and occupier PMPs or other relevant document.	As agreed with landowner and occupier
	Ongoing consultation throughout construction to address any issues raised by the landowners and occupiers.	In person, phone, or email
Stage 7: Operation phase (pending regulatory approvals)		
2025 +	Ongoing consultation with landowners and occupiers in accordance with the relevant agreements and plans.	In person, phone, or email
Stage 8: Rehabilitation		

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

	Purpose	Method
2025+	Ongoing consultation with landowners and occupiers about reinstatement and ensure outstanding actions or issues are addressed.	In person, phone, or email
	Meetings with landowners and occupiers to ensure reinstatement has been satisfactorily completed and gain consent to completion of works.	In person

9. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND RESPONSE TO STAKEHOLDERS

Esso will hold copies of correspondence, agreements, and records of contact with landowners and occupiers consulted by Esso during the Project using internal information management systems.

This will include a checklist of activities required for the completion of Project consultation and easement negotiations. It will also record enquiries, feedback, and complaints raised, and details of response resolution.

Following collection of information and feedback from landowners and occupiers there is a responsibility to communicate the views of the Project or information requested back to the parties.

The following response process will be implemented by Esso:

1. Feedback offered, enquiry made, or complaint raised.
2. Enquiry, feedback, or complaint recorded in the project file.
3. Project investigates and undertakes one of the following:
 - a. Accepts the suggestion/ question/ complaint.
 - b. Proposes an alternative to the suggestion or complaint.
 - c. Reports that the suggestion or complaint requires no further action or rejects the suggestion of complaint.
 - d. Defers action until the relevant information (e.g., outcomes from baseline studies) is known or made available.
4. Landowner / occupier is advised of the outcome and the reasons for the outcome, and this is documented in the project file.
5. Responses will be provided as quickly as practicable to landowners and occupiers. Information collected in discussions with landowners and occupiers will be used for Project purposes only by Esso and its Project contractors. Esso acknowledges the requirement to manage personal information in compliance with the Privacy Act 1988.

Media enquiries

All media enquiries related to the Project will be directed to Esso's Public and Government Affair group.

10. ISSUES MANAGEMENT

Esso takes complaints about its activities seriously. The issues management process for the Project has the following aims:

- to resolve landowner / occupier complaints with the Project in a timely fashion; and,
- to apply learnings from a complaint, to reduce the likelihood of complaints as the Project progresses.

The telephone contact line will be in operation and the associated response process will be implemented by Esso as follows:

1. Stakeholder makes an enquiry, leaves feedback, or registers a complaint.
2. Enquiry, feedback, or complaint recorded in the project file.
3. Project investigates and undertakes one of the following:
 - a. Accepts the suggestion/ question/ complaint.
 - b. Proposes an alternative to the suggestion or complaint.
 - c. Reports that the suggestion or complaint requires no further action.
 - d. Defers action until the relevant information (e.g., outcomes from baseline studies) is known or made available.
4. Stakeholder is advised of the outcome and the reasons for the outcome, and this is recorded

A response will be provided as quickly as possible, and if a timeframe has been committed, this will be monitored. If a committed timeframe cannot be met, then Esso will contact the stakeholder to provide an updated timeframe for response.

If a dispute cannot be resolved, then a mediator or arbitrator may be used to assist in such resolution. Estimated timelines for resolution will be communicated in advance.

Esso will use a dedicated stakeholder management database to record engagement and consultation activities and manage communications in an efficient and timely manner with landowners, occupiers, and stakeholders during the Project.

Privacy and use of confidential information

Esso's privacy policy will be followed during engagement and consultation with landowners, occupiers, and stakeholders.

Information collected by Project personnel involving landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders will only be used for Project purposes and will be managed in accordance with the Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988.

Statutory reporting

Esso will provide monthly reports to DELWP regarding the consultation undertaken with landowners, occupiers, and stakeholders in the preceding calendar month, including specific reference to issues and complaints. The report will be provided within five business days of the end of the reporting period (end of the month). The report will include the following minimum information:

- Nature of enquiry e.g., information only, feedback, complaint.
- Compliance with estimated response timeframe.

11. RESOURCING AND RESPONSIBILITIES

General

Esso recognises the benefits of landowners and occupiers having a clear understanding of who is responsible for various aspects of the Project because confusion over these matters can cause landowner or occupier frustration.

Esso has assigned Project personnel as shown in Table 6.

Table 6 Esso Project Personnel

Job Title	Description
Project Sponsor	Has overall responsibility for the conduct and delivery of the project
Project Manager	Responsible for consultation with landowners and occupiers. Also responsible for ensuring that commitments made by Esso to landowners and occupiers are communicated to Esso's pipeline contractors
Pipeline Surveillance Officer	Will engage with landowners and occupiers and support the project manager as required with community interaction
Pipelines Risk, Environment & Regulatory Advisor	Supports the Project Manager with regulatory requirements
Administration and support staff	Support above personnel as required

Measurement

In order to monitor the effectiveness of consultation as the Project progresses, Esso will measure the effectiveness of landowner and occupier consultation against the following criteria;

- All enquiries, feedback and complaints are recorded and documented.
- All enquiries, feedback and complaints are responded to, and responses documented including response timeframes.

12. COMPULSORY ACQUISITION - STATUTORY PROCESS

The Pipelines Act 2005 provides that Esso and the owner of any private land required for the pipeline, may enter into an agreement to obtain an easement over that land for the purposes of the pipeline. This is usually achieved through negotiation.

While compulsory acquisition is not anticipated, if a process for compulsory acquisition of land is required throughout landowner and occupier negotiations, Esso must adhere to the relevant sections of the Pipelines Act 2005, the Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986 (Vic) (LACA) and the Land Acquisition and Compensation Regulations 2021. This process is only established if Esso is granted Ministerial consent pursuant to the Pipelines Act, of an application for Consent to Compulsorily Acquire an Easement Over Private Land.

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

A Notice of Application, provided to all interested parties will contain a statement of rights and obligations, which will include the interested party's right to make a written submission to the Minister by a specified date, determined by the Minister. Esso will also promptly provide the Registrar of Titles with the prescribed Notice of Application, which the Registrar will record.

The outcome of the application for compulsory acquisition will be decided by the Minister within 28 days of the submission date. If the Minister grants the application, a Notice of Acquisition outlining the acquisition will be published in the Government Gazette, as well as provided to all interested parties and published in a local newspaper relevant to the era of acquisition.

Once the notice is gazetted, Esso has 14 days to make a fair and equitable compensation offer payable to the landowner/occupier. The interested parties then have a three-month period to respond to the offer and may lodge a counter claim for compensation with Esso within this period. Esso will consider the counter claim and must respond within three months of receiving the claim. If a settlement over the level of compensation payable cannot be reached, either Esso or the landowner/occupier may refer the matter to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal for amounts less than \$50,000 or may seek a court hearing for disputes greater than \$50,000.

Attempt to negotiate the terms of access must be undertaken by Esso, and a minimum seven days' notice must be given before entry into tenure of the land. In the case where the land is the primary place of residence or business of the landholder, Esso must allow three months from the date of acquisition to take tenure of the land, unless an agreement is reached with the landholder(s) for access and tenure of the land

13. APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Checklist of requirements for a Consultation Plan**
- Appendix 2 Draft brochures**
- Appendix 3 Sample of Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey**
- Appendix 4 Sample of Notice of Pipeline Corridor**

13.1 Appendix 1 Checklist of requirements for a Consultation Plan

Requirements for a consultation (Section 17 of Pipelines Act)	Reference to section of this document
A consultation plan must	
be prepared in accordance with the regulations; and	Pipelines Regulation does not contain any requirements in relation to a consultation plan
set out the information that the proponent is to provide to owners and occupiers of land to whom notice must be given under Division 2 or 3.	Section 6 describes all the consultation material to be provided to landowners and occupiers Appendices 2 to 4 includes draft brochures and sample notices
The information to be provided to owners and occupiers of land must include:	
general information about the types of activities to be undertaken by the proponent for the purpose of any survey under Division 2 or the construction and operation of the pipeline;	Refer to sections 6.2 for survey, construction, and operational activities Appendix 2 for draft brochure on pipeline construction and operational activities
information about how potential adverse impacts of the construction and operation of the pipeline on land, health, safety, and the environment are to be managed;	Refer to section 6.2
Details of the procedures that are to be followed under this Act and any other Act to permit the construction and operation of the pipeline including the procedures for any compulsory acquisition of land.	Refer to section 6.2 for requirements and procedures for compliance with the Act, summary of notices and agreements and section 12 Compulsory Acquisition
A statement -	
advising that owners and occupiers of land may seek independent advice on the pipeline proposal; and	Refer to section 6.2.4
setting out current contact information for the Department	Refer to section 7.3

13.2 Appendix 2 Draft brochures – Fact Sheets

About the Project

Pipeline Activities

Regulatory Approvals

13.3 Appendix 3 Sample of Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey

Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey

Pursuant to Pipelines Act 2005 – Section 19 and Pipelines Regulations 2007 - Regulation 6

To: [insert Name and address of the owner and occupier of the land for private land]
[insert Name and address of Crown Land Minister and name and address of the occupier]

Land: [insert SPI]

Certificate of Title: Volume [insert] Folio [insert]

Parish: [insert]

Municipality: [insert]

Address: [insert property address]

In accordance with Section 19(1) of the Pipelines Act 2005 (the Act), Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd (**Esso**) (ABN 62 091 829 819) of 664 Collins Street, Docklands, Victoria 3006 hereby gives you notice of its intention to enter your land for the purpose of a survey.

In accordance with Regulation 6 of the Pipelines Regulations 2007 (the Regulations), this Notice also contains the following information and is accompanied by the approved consultation information (the Pipeline Consultation Plan).

Intended use of the proposed pipeline

Esso is proposing to construct and operate a new pipeline within the existing easement for the transport of carbon dioxide from the Longford Gas Conditioning Plant to Valve Site 3 located at Golden Beach. The proposed pipeline will connect into the existing Bream pipeline at Valve Site 3 where the carbon dioxide will be transported within this pipeline to the existing Bream platform and injected into a known storage formation deep underground. The main benefits of the project will include significant reduction in carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere.

Details of proposed surveys

Field surveys are required to inform pipeline engineering design and development. Surveys may include cadastral, flora and fauna, cultural heritage, hydrology, geotechnical, soil assessments, physical features, and underground service locations. Details of the proposed surveys to be carried out along the proposed pipeline route are included in section 6.2.1 of the Pipeline Consultation Plan. Esso will be coordinating and managing all surveys, which will be conducted by contractors authorised by Esso. Esso will take all reasonable steps to maintain safety during survey activities and to avoid inconvenience or injury to members of public.

South East Australia Carbon Capture and Storage Project Pipeline Consultation Plan

Names and details of subcontractor personnel conducting the surveys will be provided to landowners and occupiers once finalised. (It is noted that a final list of the names and details of subcontractor personnel must be provided in the notice given to landowners and occupiers).

Map of the proposed pipeline route and survey area

A map is included with this notice in Attachment 3 and shows the following:

Map of land including existing easement

Relevant part of the land over which the survey is proposed to be made.

Consent to enter land

Esso will take all reasonable steps to reach agreement with each landowner and occupier to enter land and conduct the surveys. Esso is committed to clear and transparent communications during these discussions to ensure you have an appropriate understanding of the requirements of the survey. If Esso is unable to obtain your agreement within 14 days after this notice has been issued, Esso may apply to the Minister for consent to enter your land under Section 22 of the Act.

Signed for and on behalf of the proponent, Esso Australia
Resources Pty Ltd:

Dated:

ATTACHMENT 1



Example of service location truck



Example of a 4WD with a drilling rig used to undertake bore holing



Example of a truck with a drilling rig used to undertake bore holing

13.4 Appendix 4 Sample of Notice of Pipeline Corridor

Notice of Pipeline Corridor

Pursuant to Pipelines Act 2005 – Section 27 and Pipelines Regulations 2007 - Regulation 7

To: [Name and address of the landowner or occupier within the proposed pipeline corridor¹]

Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd (ABN 62 091 829 819) (**Esso**) is considering applying for a licence to construct and operate a pipeline over the following land:

[insert description of the land, title particular]

A copy of the plan showing the proposed pipeline corridor is attached to this notice.

Esso is proposing to construct and operate a new pipeline within the existing easement for the transport of carbon dioxide from the Longford Gas Conditioning Plant to Valve Site 3 located at Golden Beach. The proposed pipeline will connect into the existing Bream pipeline at Valve Site 3 where the carbon dioxide will be transported within this pipeline to the existing Bream platform and injected into a known storage formation deep underground. The main benefits of the project will include significant reduction in carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere.

[Description of the land (including, if appropriate, a sketch showing the relevant part of the land) and title particulars]

Information regarding the proposed pipeline, including the processes that will be followed for obtaining required approvals and details of how Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd proposes to consult with you [is attached][was given to you] on [date issued].

Signature of the proponent:

Date²:

¹ A pipeline corridor is an area of land being considered as a possible suitable location for the siting of a pipeline regulated by the Pipelines Act 2005. The final location of the proposed pipeline within the corridor is subject to consultation and approval under the Pipelines Act 2005.

² Under section 27(3) of the Pipelines Act 2005 this Notice lapses after 12 months from the date of this notice, unless the Minister administering that Act extends that period in writing.