AMCOR Lateral Pipeline Preliminary Survey Licence



Statement of Environmental Objectives





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1 Introduction

Epic Energy SA Pty Ltd plan to construct a 10km pipeline to supply natural gas to the proposed AMCOR glass factory approximately 2km south-west of Roseworthy. The pipeline will connect to the Angaston Lateral Pipeline at the Freeling Meter Station (refer to Figure 1).

This Statement of Environmental Objectives (SEO) has been prepared in support of an application for a Preliminary Survey Licence (PSL) to allow engineering and environmental investigations to be conducted in a 2km wide corridor for the AMCOR Lateral Pipeline. The document has been drafted to meet the requirements of Sections 99 and 100, of the South Australian Petroleum Act 2000 (the Act) and Regulations 12 and 13 of the Petroleum Regulations 2000.

The SEO applies to all preliminary survey activities to be conducted in the project area by Epic Energy and its contractors, namely:

- Land Survey;
- Geo-technical Survey;
- Ecological Survey; and
- Heritage Survey.

The intent of this SEO is to outline the environmental objectives to which these activities must conform and the criteria upon which the achievement of these objectives will be assessed. Objectives have been developed from an environmental impact assessment undertaken by Ecos Consulting (Aust) Pty Ltd and documented in the Environmental Impact Report (Ecos, 2001).

In accordance with Part 12 of the Act, this SEO will be reviewed within 12 months of gazettal. After the completion of this review the Minister will then consider the revised SEO for approval.

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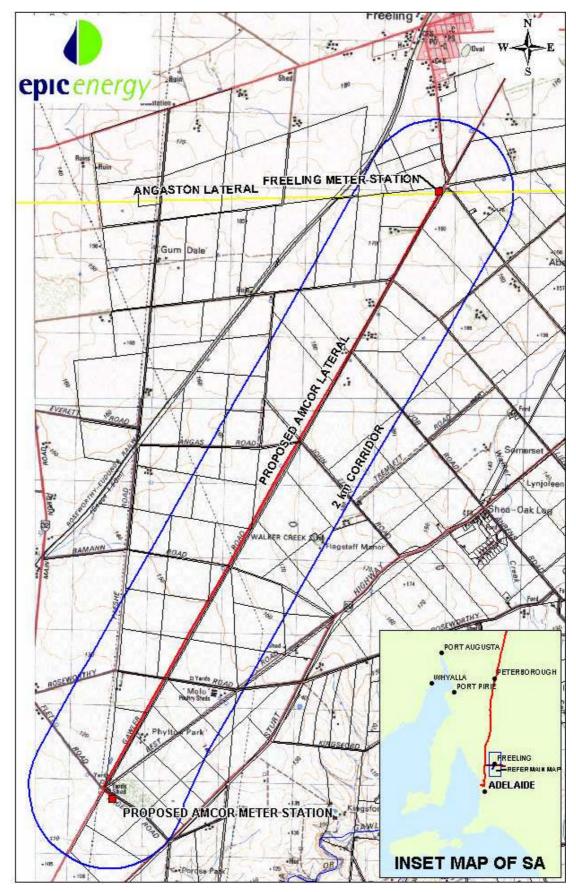


Figure 1: Location of Project Area

2 Environmental Objectives and Assessment Criteria

Potential environmental hazards and consequences associated with the preliminary survey activities were identified in the EIR (Ecos, 2001). Epic Energy have committed to achieving a range of environmental objectives in regard to these potential hazards, namely:

- To minimise disturbance to landowners.
- To minimise damage to crops and pasture.
- To minimise disturbance to stock.
- To minimise generation of dust.
- To avoid the introduction of weeds or disease.
- To avoid or minimise damage to native vegetation.
- To minimise visual impacts.
- To minimise soil disturbance.

The criteria for measuring the achievement of these environmental objectives are outlined in Table 1. Each statement in Table 1 will be assessed as to whether it has been adhered to, and comments on any variances will be recorded.

Table 1: Environmental Objectives and Assessment Criteria

Environmental Objectives		Assessment Criteria				
•	To minimise disturbance to landowners.	 A Lands Officer is appointed to the project with specific responsibility for maintaining contact with all potentially affected landowners. All landowners are consulted prior to preliminary survey activities and their specific requirements are recorded. All reasonable landowner requirements are incorporated into management strategies. Landowners are provided with information regarding the scope, schedule and duration of preliminary survey activities. The number of site visits are restricted to a few as practicable. Landowner complaints are recorded. 				
•	To minimise damage to crops and pasture.	 The number of site visits are restricted to a few as practicable. Existing tracks are used where available. The area utilised for excavation is restricted to the smallest practicable. Disturbance is restricted to the proposed construction right-of-way where practicable. Topsoil is kept separate from subsoil. Soil profile and contours are restored to landowner satisfaction, as soon as practicable Landowner complaints are recorded. 				

Environmental Objectives	Assessment Criteria
To minimise disturbance to stock.	 The number of site visits are restricted to as few as practicable. All landowners are consulted prior to preliminary survey activities and their specific requirements are recorded. Landowners are provided with adequate prior notice of proposed land access. Vehicles are driven at appropriately slow speeds to avoid undue disturbance. Gates are left as found. Landowner complaints are recorded.
To minimise generation of dust.	 The number of site visits are restricted to a few as practicable. Vehicles are driven at appropriately slow speeds to avoid undue disturbance.
To avoid the introduction of weeds or disease.	 Local weed and disease management issues are identified prior to the commencement of preliminary survey activities. All vehicles and equipment checked and recorded as free of soil and vegetative matter prior to entry to properties. The number of site visits are restricted to a few as practicable. All landowners are consulted prior to preliminary survey activities and their specific requirements are recorded.
To avoid or minimise damage to vegetation.	 Clearing native vegetation as part of land survey is prevented. Soil excavations are not conducted in areas of native vegetation. Samples of native vegetation are collected by qualified botanists under appropriate permits from the Department of Environment and Heritage.
To minimise visual impacts.	 Marker pegs are limited to those essential for identifying the proposed alignment. Excavations are restricted to areas away from general public view, where practicable. Excavations are restored as soon as practicable.
To minimise soil disturbance.	 The area of excavation is restricted to the smallest practicable. Disturbance is restricted to the proposed construction right-of-way where practicable. Topsoil is kept separate from subsoil. The soil profile and contours are restored to landowner satisfaction, as soon as practicable.

Conditions and Requirements

Section 100(1)(c) of the Act requires a proponent to list any additional conditions and requirements to be complied with in order to achieve the stated objectives. Epic Energy does not consider that there are any such conditions.

3 Reporting

Section 100(1)(d) of the Act requires an SEO to impose reporting obligations on a person carrying out regulated activities. Whilst Regulation 12(2) requires an SEO to identify events that could arise from regulated activities that could cause a serious incident or a reportable incident within the meaning of Section 85 of the Act.

Section 85 of the Act defines a serious incident as an incident arising from activities conducted under a licence in which:

- 1. A person is seriously injured or killed; or
- 2. An imminent risk to public health or safety arises; or
- 3. Serious environmental damage occurs or an imminent risk of serious environmental damage arises; or
- 4. Security of natural gas supply is prejudiced or an imminent risk of prejudice to security of natural gas supply arises.

Reportable incidents are incidents (other than a serious incident) arising from activities conducted under a licence issued under the Petroleum Regulations 2000.

Serious Incidents

Epic Energy considers that there are **NO** foreseeable serious incidents likely to occur as a result of preliminary survey activities.

Reportable Incidents

Epic Energy considers the only reportable incident to be a justified complaint from a landowner as a result of preliminary survey activities.

References

The following documents were used as part of the preparation of the SEO:

Ecos Consulting (Aust) (2000). AMCOR Lateral Pipeline, Preliminary Survey Licence, Environmental Impact Report. **Unpublished Report to Epic Energy**.

Abbreviations

EIR Environmental Impact Report prepared in accordance with Section 97

of the Petroleum Act 2000 and Regulation 10.

PIRSA Primary Industries and Resources, South Australia

PSL Preliminary Survey Licence issued in accordance with Section 10 of the

Petroleum Act 2000.

SEO Statement of Environmental Objectives prepared in accordance with

Section 99 and 100 of the Petroleum Act 2000 and Regulations 12 and

13.