Hydrogen Pipeline Consultation Plan

Hydrogen Park Murray Valley

Australian Gas Networks

Hydrogen Park Murray Valley

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

Hydrogen Park Murray Valley (HyP Murray Valley) is a world-first hydrogen blending project in terms of its market outreach to around 40,000 existing residential, commercial and industrial connections, and its co-location with the wastewater treatment industry. From mid-2023, the project's 10 megawatt (MW) electrolyser will produce renewable hydrogen for blending with natural gas at up to 10% volume into regional Victoria and New South Wales (NSW) at the twin cities of Albury-Wodonga, providing a stepping-stone to decarbonisation for more than 5.2 million gas connections in Australia.

HyP Murray Valley integrates gas, electricity and water facilities for the benefit of customers, delivering jobs and growth to the region and commencing the decarbonisation of gas consumption. The project will be situated at North East Water's (NEW) Wodonga Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWWTP), a strategic position providing easy access to industrial-zoned land with ideal water, gas and electricity infrastructure and opening an additional value stream in oxygen.

Figure 1 HyP Murray Valley Hydrogen Production and Storage Facility

Key components of the project include:

- Hydrogen Production Plant consisting of 10MW electrolyser and balance of plant
- Provision of a new 66kV power connection from the existing Ausnet electricity network to the Hydrogen Production Facility
- A new Hydrogen Pipeline (H_2 Pipeline) connecting the Hydrogen Production Plant to the hydrogen blending facility
- New surface facilities on the existing Wodonga Lateral (Pipeline Licence 219) to provide for the blending of Hydrogen into the existing gas distribution network

The purpose of this Consultation Plan is to addresses the requirements of Part 4 Division 1 of the *Pipelines Act 2005* (the Pipelines Act) in relation to the licensing of the new H_2 pipeline. The implications for other downstream pipeline and distribution licenses are discussed in Section 2.0.

Figure 2 **HyP Murray Valley Project Location and Components**

1	Hydrogen Production and Storage Facility	2	Tube Trailer Filling Station
3	Hydrogen Blending Facility	4	Hydrogen Pipeline
5	Natural Gas Pipeline – From Wodonga City Gate	6	Blended Gas Pipeline – To Albury-Wodonga
7	West Wodonga Wastewater Treatment Plant	8	Reclaimed Water, Wastewater and Oxygen Pipelines from/to Wastewater Treatment Plant
9	Electricity Grid Connection Feeder and Switchyard	10	Melbourne-Sydney Rail Line
11	Hume Highway / Murray Valley Freeway	12	United Petroleum West Wodonga
13	Proposed Biomethane Plant	14	Proposed 3MW Solar Plant

1.2 Proponent

HyP Murray Valley will be delivered by Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG) and ENGIE (the HyP Murray Valley Joint Venture (JV)) – two energy businesses with extensive experience in the emerging hydrogen sector in Australia as well as internationally. The alliance brings together skills and experience across the entire hydrogen value chain, delivering a low-risk value proposition.

Within the joint venture, AGIG has responsibility for the delivery of the proposed Hydrogen Pipeline and AGIG's wholly owned subsidiary, Australian Gas Networks (AGN) is the proponent for the purposes of this Consultation Plan.

AGIG is Australia's largest gas distributor and one of the largest gas infrastructure businesses in the country. Its origins date back almost 150 years. Today, AGIG has over two million Australian customers, 34,600km of distribution networks, 4,400km of gas transmission pipelines and 60 petajoules of gas storage capacity. AGIG is currently commissioning Australia's largest renewable hydrogen production facility at HyP SA and planning for Australia's first whole of network hydrogen production and blending project at HyP Gladstone.

Effective community, customer and stakeholder engagement are embedded into all aspects of AGIG and ENGIE's operations, from daily operations to individual projects. Both businesses actively engage with the communities where they operate and work collaboratively to deliver projects and services which promote social, economic and environmental prosperity. This approach will be carried through the HyP Murray Valley project, which will also leverage AGIG's experience as the only business in Australia to have undertaken a dedicated community engagement program for hydrogen blending.

1.3 Project Benefits

In 2017, the Australian hydrogen strategy group released Hydrogen for Australia's future which highlights the opportunities for hydrogen into the future. It details that Hydrogen, as a fuel source, has the potential to decarbonise our energy sector, provide new opportunities in the transport sector, and create a market for export. Within this, the opportunity was identified for Hydrogen to use existing natural gas infrastructure as an energy storage and distribution system with minimal retrofit. An initial target of 10% hydrogen (by volume) in distribution networks was selected based on an assumption that a gradual move to this target was considered achievable with no significant impact on distribution infrastructure or consumer appliances.

On 5 May 2021, the project was awarded $32.1 million in funding under the Australian Renewable Energy Agency's (ARENA) Renewable Hydrogen Deployment Funding Round. The project was chosen by ARENA due to its ability to, "*help kickstart renewable hydrogen production in Australia at a large scale*."[1]

1.4 Location

The proposed site of the Hydrogen Production Facility is located on the western boundary of Lot 1 on PS 416936 adjacent to Bidstrup Rd. HyP Murray Valley's location was selected based on a multi-criteria assessment led by industry and government bodies as part of the Australian Hydrogen Council's Regional Towns Project. In addition to its technical suitability, the location offers strategic value as it:

- delivers renewable gas to Australia's two most populous states, in high-growth regional towns which have some of the highest gas use per connection nationally
- facilitates a pathway to the technical and commercial viability of renewable hydrogen in Australia by addressing key market and regulatory barriers in Victoria and NSW
- supports industry to reduce emissions with potential for further decarbonisation through direct hydrogen supply to its adjacent industrial parks and other regional users; and
- is located on one of Australia's busiest road and rail transport routes being the Melbourne-to-Sydney transport corridor, with a clear pathway to develop complementary markets in mobility.

The project will be situated at NEW's WWWTP, a strategic position providing easy access to land, water, gas and electricity infrastructure while also opening an additional value stream in oxygen for use by NEW in the wastewater treatment process. Subject to further detailed investigation, co-location also provides the potential for additional synergies to be explored in the future, including:

- potential use of reclaimed water in the HyP Murray Valley facility
- potential use of behind-the-meter surplus solar from NEW's 3MW solar farm (expected to be completed in 2021) and/or electricity from the bioenergy facility; and

[1] https://arena.gov.au/news/over-100-million-to-build-australias-first-large-scale-hydrogen-plants/

- creation of a world-first Renewable Gas Hub in which hydrogen from HyP Murray Valley is used with carbon dioxide from the WWWTP to create synthetic methane, which, along with the planned delivery of biomethane from the facility can be blended into the nearby gas network (subject to separate approval and licensing considerations).

1.5 H_2 Pipeline Description

The Hydrogen pipeline is proposed to head west from the Hydrogen Production Plant across Bidstrup Rd before heading south. The pipeline will then cross Old Barnawartha Rd and connect to the existing Wodonga Lateral gas pipeline that runs along the southern boundary of Lot 2 on PS801096.

An investigation corridor for the proposed pipeline route, consisting of two primary options, is shown in Figure 3. The pipeline route will continue to be refined based on feedback from stakeholders including directly affected landowners and occupiers as well as the outcome of relevant technical investigations.

Two small surface facilities will be required within the existing Wodonga Lateral pipeline easement to blend the hydrogen into the existing pipeline. These surface facilities will fall within the scope of existing Pipeline Licence 219.

1.6 Schedule

The proposed timeframes for each stage of the Hydrogen Pipeline's development are summarised in Table 2.1. These stages are consistent with the phases of consultation that are further described in **Section 4.3**.

Table 2.1 Project Phases & Timing

Project Phase	Activities	Timing
Phase 1: Initial Stakeholder Engagement	Database establishment, consultation with regulatory agencies and initial landowner/occupier meetings.	2 Months Q3 2021
Phase 2: Obtaining Land Access for Surveys	Seek agreement for land access, issue Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey and undertake necessary field surveys.	1 Month Q3 2021
Phase 3: Agreement of Pipeline Corridor	Seek easement agreements from landowners and any required crossing agreements with third parties, issue Notice of Pipeline Corridor.	2 Months Q4 2021
Phase 4: Pipeline Licence Application	Make application for a Pipeline Licence (including other approval applications if required), issue Notice of Pipeline Licence Application, make application to amend conditions of downstream pipelines to allow transport of blended gas.	5 Months Q4 2021 – Q1 2022
Phase 5: Pipeline Construction	Construction – clear and grade, trenching, pipe stringing, welding, special crossings, lowering in, backfill and reinstatement.	3 Months Q2 2022
	Commissioning	1 Month Q3 2022

Project Phase	Activities	Timing
	Final release – acceptance of level of reinstatement (rehabilitation and damage releases to continue into operation of the pipeline).	1 Month Q3 2022
Phase 6: Project Operation	Operate the pipeline for the life of the asset	50+ year design life

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H_2 Pipeline Investigation Corridor

Figure 3

- Hydrogen Production Plant
- Pipeline Investigation Corridor
- Existing Easement
- Albury/Wodonga Gas Pipeline (PL219)
- Property Boundary

Date: 2/08/2021
Author: TOD
Reviewed: JF
Project: AGI-002

0 50 100 m

Scale: 1:2,500@A3

Data Source(s):
Property Boundary - Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2021)
Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community, Esri, USGS

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2.0 Purpose and Scope

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Consultation Plan is to addresses the requirements of Part 4 Division 1 of the *Pipelines Act 2005* (the Pipelines Act) in relation to the proposed new H_2 pipeline. The Pipelines Act is administered by the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP) on behalf of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. The Minister, or their delegate, is responsible for approving the Consultation Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

Amendments to other existing downstream licenses will also be required in order to permit the transportation of blended gas by those assets, including:

- PL 102 and 219 (Victoria)
- PL 501 and 502 (NSW)
- The relevant gas distribution licenses in Victoria and NSW.

Section 2.3 provides further information regarding how the consultation activities proposed under this plan relate to broader stakeholder engagement activities that are proposed for other aspects of the project including the downstream pipelines and distribution networks referenced above.

2.2 Objectives

The Pipelines Act requires proponents seeking to gain access and obtain easement rights to provide landowners and occupiers with early and ongoing information. A Consultation Plan is required to be developed and approved prior to a proponent giving notice, under the Pipelines Act, to each landowner and occupier of an intention to access their property.

The purpose of this Consultation Plan is to detail how the Proponent will engage with stakeholders, landowners and occupiers of land that may be affected by the H_2 pipeline component of the project. The Consultation Plan also sets out how AGN will meet the requirements, objectives and principles of the Pipelines Act. To meet the requirements of Part 4, Division 1 of the Act, this plan sets out the information that the proponent is to provide to owner and occupiers affected by the proposed pipeline throughout the consultation process.

All activities performed in accordance with this Consultation Plan shall comply with the relevant acts, regulations, standards, and codes of practice of all regulatory authorities having jurisdiction over the activities. When conflict exists between various applicable documents, the following order of preference shall apply, in decreasing order of precedence:

- Acts of law or other legislation
- Government licenses and permits
- AGN Standards; and
- Local standards.

Table 2.1 provides a checklist of this plan against the requirements for a Consultation Plan under the Pipelines Act.

Table 2.1 Pipelines Act Compliance Checklist

Requirement	Consultation Plan Reference
1) A consultation plan must–	
a) be prepared in accordance with the regulations; and	Part 2 and Schedule 1 of the *Pipelines Regulations 2017* outline requirements for certain notices to be provided to landowners and occupiers during the consultation process. Samples of the proposed notices addressing these requirements are included as **Appendix A.** The regulation also defines consultation requirements relating to Safety Management Plans (Part 6) and Environmental Management Plans (Part 7). These requirements are addressed in Section **9.0** of this Plan, and the required management plans will be created in the future.
b) 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 5.0** of this report provides details of the information to be provided to the owners and occupiers of land associated with the Project at each consultation stage. Template notifications and supporting collateral are provided in **Appendix A** and **Appendix B.**
2) The information to be provided to owners and occupiers of land must include[2]–	
a) 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;	**Section 7.0 and Section 8.0** of the Plan provide an overview of the activities that will be undertaken throughout the survey, construction, and operations of the pipeline. A table is also provided as an attachment to the Land Survey Entry Agreement and Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided in **Appendix A.**
b) 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;	**Section 9.0** of this plan provides reference to how impacts associated with the project will be managed through the development of a comprehensive suite of management plans.
c) details of the procedures that are to be followed under this Act and any other Act to	The procedures to be followed under the Act are outlined in **Section 5.2.4**

[2] In addition to the consultation materials and notices provided in Appendix A and Appendix B, AGN will also issue each directly affected landowner and occupier with a copy of the approved Consultation Plan

Requirement	Consultation Plan Reference
permit the construction and operation of the pipeline including the procedures for any compulsory acquisition of land.	
d) a statement–	
i) advising that owners and occupiers of land may seek independent advice on the pipeline proposal; and	**Section 4.5** provides details regarding the rights of the landowner or occupier to obtain independent legal advice.
ii) setting out current contact information for the Department.	**Section 10.2.1** provides contact information for regulatory agencies associated with the project.

2.3 Relationship to Broader Project Activities

This Consultation Plan specifically addresses the requirements of Part 4 Division 1 of the Pipelines Act in relation to the proposed H2 Pipeline. The Consultation Plan compliments and is in addition to a significant program of community and stakeholder engagement activities that will be implemented across the broader HyP Murray Valley project including consideration of the implications for downstream transmission pipelines and existing gas appliances and customers within the Wodonga and Albury gas distribution networks.

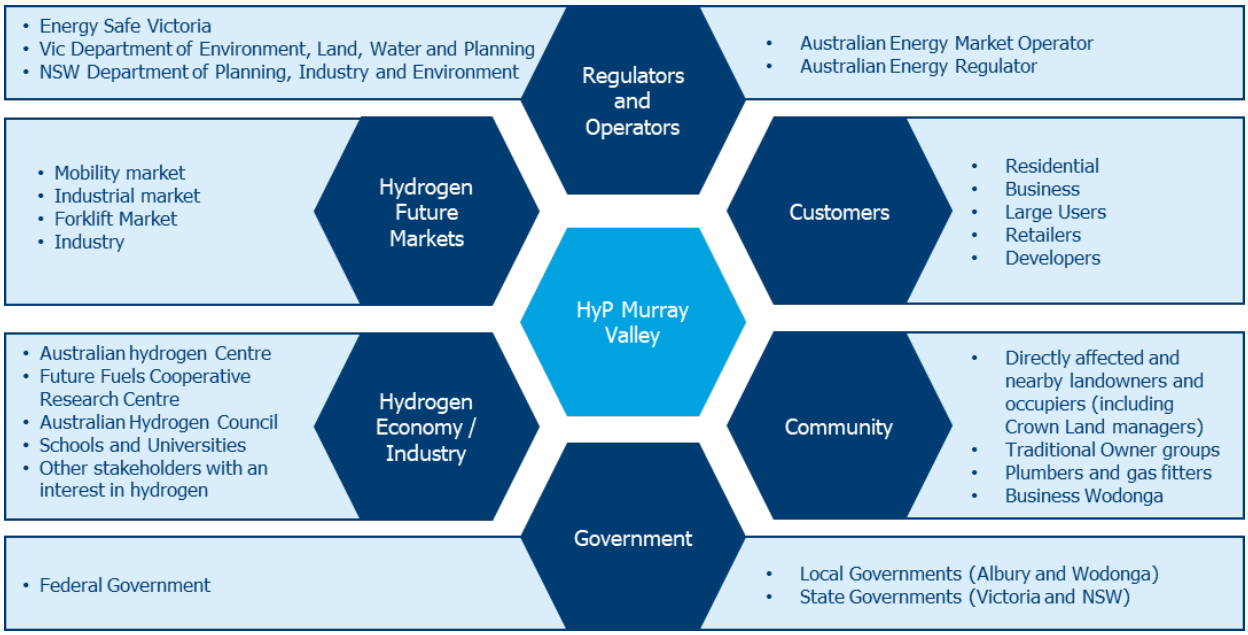
2.3.1 Project Wide Engagement

In addition to this Consultation Plan, the AGIG / ENGIE JV is currently developing a detailed engagement program for the HyP Murray Valley project as a whole, which will include:

- working closely with and across Government agencies
- working in alliance with the Wodonga and Albury communities to engage with key consumer representative groups
- engaging with major customers in Albury-Wodonga one-on-one to understand the nature of the gas appliances they have installed
- engaging with customers and the Albury-Wodonga community to explore customer values, communication needs and to test engagement activities
- developing communication tools (e.g. online, publications, media releases) to increase awareness of the project, gauge sentiment and address any concerns amongst key stakeholders and the community
- using each of AGN and ENGIE's established two-way communication channels to engage customers, communities and other project stakeholders in an aligned, consistent and effective manner, and collect feedback for consideration and/or action; and
- developing a program of engagement activities aligned with project delivery including community events, student (STEM) education activities and industry forums.

In addition to relying on insights from the Albury-Wodonga community, AGN will also draw upon the insights from engagement previously undertaken for other hydrogen blending projects, namely HyP SA and HyP Gladstone, to ensure any potential improvements are adopted.

Figure 4 HyP Murray Valley Stakeholder Mapping



AGN currently services approximately 40,000 residential, commercial and industrial gas customers across Albury-Wodonga. A key priority for the broader community engagement program will be to provide Albury-Wodonga gas network customers with access to information about hydrogen and provide opportunities for the local community to have their say and ask questions. Through this process, AGN will seek to:

- build community awareness about hydrogen and Australia's vision for a decarbonised gas network,
- ensure that the community has access to the necessary information to reach an informed position regarding the impact of hydrogen blending on their own interests, and
- build support for the emerging hydrogen industry in Victoria and NSW noting that social acceptance of hydrogen as a fuel source is key to industry commercialisation.

The knowledge and insights gained from the HyP Murray Valley engagement program will be used to facilitate future growth of the hydrogen industry by informing the proponent's future project development activities as well as contributions to key industry forums such as the Australian Hydrogen Centre, Australian Hydrogen Council and Future Fuels Cooperative Research Centre.

2.3.2 Safety Assessments for Downstream Pipelines and Networks

In addition to the safety assessments required as part of the licensing process for the H_2 pipeline, broader safety assessments will be completed assessing the suitability of pipelines, distribution networks and downstream appliances in the project area to accept 10% hydrogen blended gas. These additional downstream safety assessments are listed below.

Blended Gas Pipelines (VIC: PL219, PL102; NSW 501, NSW 502)

AGN will engage with DELWP and Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) to progress changes to the licence conditions of PL219 and PL102 to permit the transportation of blended hydrogen, and for the purposes of updating the pipeline integrity management documentation for both PL219 and PL102.

The licence condition changes for PL219 and PL102 will address the alterations required for hydrogen to be blended into the pipeline from the 100% hydrogen pipeline between the facility and PL219 and further downstream into PL102.

The pipeline integrity management documentation updates will address the impacts of hydrogen blending on the pipeline system, and through revised safety management studies, ensure the appropriate controls are in place to ensure the integrity and safe operation of the pipelines.

Likewise, AGN will engage with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment (DPIE) for the purposes of updating the pipeline integrity management documentation for the NSW 501 and NSW 502 pipelines.

Gas Network Compatibility

AGN will establish a technical working group consisting of AGN, DPIE and ESV, which will focus on key items relating to the Safety Case and SAOP (Safety and Operating Plan) revisions for hydrogen blending.

Safety Case and SAOP revisions will incorporate Formal Safety Assessments for the Albury and Wodonga distribution networks, which will address key integrity and operational aspects of managing safety in the distribution networks, as well as consider the downstream impacts on consumer installations and Type A and Type B appliances.

In addition to engagement with safety regulators, AGN will also engage with IPART in NSW for the necessary amendments to the distribution licence in NSW.

Type A Appliances

Domestic and light commercial appliances that have an approval badge from the Australian Gas Association (AGA) are Type A appliances. These include cookers, space heaters, central heaters, water heaters, catering equipment and leisure appliances.

AGN will continue engagement with the Future Fuels Cooperative Research Centre (FFCRC) to obtain results of RP1.4-05 research program on Type A appliance compatibility with hydrogen blends. Work will continue on risk assessments for Type A appliances to underpin Formal Safety Assessments for the network.

AGN will build upon experience gained through HyP SA and HyP Gladstone, to implement a comprehensive community engagement program to support the HyP Murray Valley project. A key element of this program will relate to Type A appliance and the reinforcement with customers of the need to ensure that appliances are installed and maintained by appropriately qualified gas fitters.

Type B Appliances

Type B appliances are appliances that do not carry an approval badge from the AGA. These require special certification before they can be installed.

AGN will build upon experience gained through the HyP Gladstone project, to implement a comprehensive Type B identification and engagement program within the Albury & Wodonga networks. This will include the creation of a Type B appliance register for the region.

Following identification of Type B appliances, AGN will work with appliance manufacturers, industry and academic experts to assess the compatibility of the Type B appliances with hydrogen blends. Where it is found that controls or adjustments are needed to address compatibility issues, AGN will work with appliance owners to develop and implement the required controls.

3.0 Identification of Stakeholders

Based on an initial review of the Project design, stakeholders to be engaged include, but are not limited to, those identified in **Table 3.1**.

Table 3.1 Stakeholder Identification

Stakeholder Group	Example Stakeholders	Reason for Engagement
Landowners and occupiers	• Directly affected landowners and occupiers • Neighbouring owners and occupiers of land (not directly impacted)	• Project infrastructure is located on or near land owned or occupied
Asset/infrastructure owners impacted by pipeline route	• 3rd party asset owners (i.e: North East Water, Telstra, NBN, Ausnet) • Relevant road and rail authorities (Wodonga Council, VicRoads VicTrack)	• Project infrastructure is located near existing infrastructure.
Regulatory authorities (State)	• DELWP, Aboriginal Victoria, ESV, North East Catchment Management Authority • Relevant Crown Land Minister (local roads)	• Project approval and licensing requirements. • Project infrastructure is located on land governed (in part) by the state of Victoria (road reserves).
Regulatory authorities (Commonwealth)	• Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment (DAWE)	• Potential referral triggers under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 *(EPBC Act)*
Registered Aboriginal Parties and Traditional Owner Groups	• Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation are the recognised traditional owner group for the project area.	• Seek feedback regarding proposed development and involve group in preparation of Cultural Heritage Management Plan.
Elected Representatives – All levels	• Relevant local Councillors and State and federal members of Parliament	• Project infrastructure is located within the electorate for which the members are responsible.
Local Councils	• Wodonga Council (Vic) • Indigo Shire Council (Vic) • Albury City Council (NSW) • Greater Hume Shire Council (NSW)	• Project infrastructure is located on land governed (in part) by the local council or local council hosts downstream network infrastructure that will receive blended gas
Community Interest Groups	• Wodonga Urban Landcare Network • Albury Wodonga Environment Centre.	• Project infrastructure is located within an area of interest for the community groups.
Media	• News organisations including print, television, digital and radio.	• Project is of a type and scale that may be of interest to media groups.

4.0 Consultation Approach

From the commencement of consultation activities, AGN will prioritise the development of positive and trust-based relationships with all relevant stakeholders. This will be achieved through the maintenance of pro-active communication and consultation activities throughout the project's planning and construction phases.

Customer and stakeholder input will allow AGN to understand what is important to the community; help us to maximise community benefits, minimise potential project impacts and ensure the community can reached an informed position regarding the proposed project. With this in mind, AGN is committed to best practice engagement and will ensure we listen, understand and respond.

The development and provision of timely and accurate information will facilitate the ability of landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders to reach an informed position regarding the project based on information provided by AGN as well independent advice from professional advisers where relevant.

4.1 Community Profile

Understanding the composition and values of a community is an essential step in ensuring that stakeholder engagement activities are undertaken in a manner that is culturally appropriate and considers the support needs of those in the community requiring assistance.

The cities of Albury and Wodonga are located on opposite sides of the Murray River, with Albury City located in New South Wales and the City of Wodonga located in Victoria. The cities are situated some 300 kilometres north-east of the Melbourne CBD and 570 kilometres south-west of the Sydney CBD. The combined estimated resident population of the Cities of Albury and Wodonga in 2020 was 97,717.[3]

Selected community characteristics of relevance to the development and implementation of this plan are summarised as follows[4]:

Table 4.1 Key Community Characteristics

Community Characteristic	Albury - Wodonga	Regional Victoria	State of Victoria
Age			
Median Age	38	43	37
Children under 18	23.4%	21.9%	21.8%
Persons aged 60 or over	22.5%	27.2%	21.0%
Indigenous Profile			
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population	2.6%	1.6%	0.8%
Ethnicity			
Birthplace			
Australia	82.1%	80.7%	64.9%

[3] https://profile.id.com.au/wodonga/about?WebID=210

[4] 2016 ABS Census Data as compiled and presented at https://profile.id.com.au/wodonga/about?WebID=210

Community Characteristic	Albury - Wodonga	Regional Victoria	State of Victoria
UK and New Zealand	3.2%	4.2%	5.1%
Other	7.3%	6.8%	23.2%
English Proficiency	92.5%	91.8%	89.4%
Language Spoken at home – Non-English	6.4%	6.0%	25.9%
Disability			
Need for assistance with core activities	5.9%	6.0%	5.1%

Albury-Wodonga's population age distribution is generally in line with Victoria as a whole with a slightly higher percentage of children under 18 (23.4% compared to 21.8%) and persons aged over 60 (22.5% compared to 21.0%). The percentage of persons aged over 60 is however significantly lower than that of Regional Victoria (22.5% compared to 27.2%) which likely reflects the more metropolitan nature of the Albury-Wodonga area compared to the balance of regional areas across the state.

The percentage of individuals identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander in Wodonga at the 2016 census was 2.6% (2,393 individuals) which is relatively high compared to 1.6% for Regional Victoria and 0.8% for Victoria.

Ethnic diversity is relatively low with 82.1% of the Albury-Wodonga population born in Australia compared to 64.9% for the State of Victoria. This relative lack of ethnic diversity is also reflected in language with only 6.4% of people in Albury-Wodonga speaking a language other than English at home (compared to 25.9% for the State) and 92.5% speaking English proficiently (compared to 89.4% for the State).

In 2016, 5.9% of the population of Albury-Wodonga reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability, which was broadly in line with Regional Victoria (6.0%) and Victoria (5.1%).

These demographic characteristics have informed the development of this Consultation Plan and the stakeholder engagement approach proposed for the Project. AGN will remain responsive to the background and needs of individual stakeholders and tailor its engagement process appropriately to ensure that all engagement remains appropriately accessible, culturally sensitive and that adequate time is provided to allow stakeholders to interpret information and respond based on their individual needs.

4.2 Consultation Principles

AGN's approach to consultation will be informed by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum of public participation and the stakeholder engagement guidelines set out by the Australian Pipeline and Gas Association (APGA). In particular, AGN will:

- value and respect all relationships with landowners, occupiers, and other stakeholders with interests associated with the project.
- focus on ensuring that it remains engaged with its stakeholders throughout the Project to inform and engage them in meaningful and productive ways.
- prioritise timely and consistent communication and engagement throughout the Project, with all communication and consultation with stakeholder provided in a clear and concise manner using plain English and minimal use of technical terminology.
- be clear with stakeholders on what elements of a project are negotiable, how to correctly raise concerns, and be pragmatic in the development of solutions.

- ensure that suitably trained staff are made available to administer consultation, with the utilisation of a records management system to provide feedback and ensure issues raised during consultation are addressed in an efficient manner.

4.3 Methods of Engagement

Early engagement with stakeholders begets genuine relationships characterised by trust, mutual understanding and cooperation. Better relationships lead to better outcomes for communities, stakeholders and environment and enhances the credibility of a Project. The program of engagement and consultation with landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders will be undertaken using the following methods:

- Face-to-face discussions and meetings at the stakeholder's residence or at a pre-agreed local venue.
- Phone calls directly between landowners or occupiers and AGN representatives.
- Letters delivered to the registered postal address of each stakeholder.
- Emails to the registered email address of the stakeholder.
- Fact sheets provided in publicly accessible locations.
- A website containing the most up-to-date project information and contact details.
- Public notification of the display of regulatory documentation across all distribution channels.
- Provision of a copy of this Consultation Plan to each directly affected landowner/occupier along the proposed pipeline alignment.

All documents required under the Pipelines Act will be provided in both hard copy and digitally to landowners and occupiers unless a landowner has advised otherwise. The engagement method to be adopted will be adjusted in response to the COVID-19 restrictions that apply at the time of the planned activity. Where COVID-19 protocols restrict face to face engagement alternative arrangements will be agreed with the relevant stakeholders.

4.4 Consultation Schedule

To assist in the planning and implementation of the Consultation Plan, the Plan has been developed to align with the logical stages of the Project's development. The levels and methods of engagement for each phase of consultation have been selected based on types of information to be communicated and the level of impact on the different stakeholder groups at each stage of development.

The broader project engagement program (as discussed in Section 2.3) will be rolled out in parallel with the schedule described below with consideration given to the coordination and alignment of key milestones such that all stakeholders have access to relevant information at an appropriate time.

The identified stages of development and phases of consultation are:

1. Initial stakeholder engagement

2. Obtaining land access for surveys

3. Agreement on pipeline corridor

4. Pipeline licence application

5. Pipeline construction; and

6. Pipeline operations.

Table 4.2 of this Consultation Plan provide greater detail on the purpose, means and timing of each stage of the Project's development.

Table 4.2 Project consultation schedule

Phase 1: Initial stakeholder engagement	
Phase Description	Phase 1 will occur following the selection of a preliminary pipeline route and will result in the first direct engagement between AGNand landowners and occupiers. This phase of consultation will build the foundation of trust and collaboration that will facilitate all future consultation activities.
Purpose of Consultation	• To provide details of AGN and background information regarding the Project. • To discuss any initial issues or concerns of stakeholders so as to incorporate them into refinement of the preliminary pipeline alignment. • To provide details of the landowner's rights. • To collect details pertaining to the property, which will be necessary to inform the design of the project and preparing other management plans associated with the Project.
Methods of Consultation	May include: • Face-to-face meetings • Email • Mail • Phone • Website.
Timing	Initial engagement with landowners and occupiers will be undertaken in parallel with the submission and approval of the Consultation Plan. Ongoing engagement will be undertaken once the Approved Consultation Plan is in place.
Phase 2: Obtaining land access for surveys	
Phase Description	Following completion of Phase 1, AGN will seek to negotiate access to land for necessary field studies (e.g. geotechnical, environmental and cultural heritage). Access to both private and public land will be negotiated in this phase. These surveys are necessary for AGN to understand any potential constraints in relation to construction and operation of the Project and to inform the specialist studies necessary for the preparation of management plans.
Purpose of Consultation	• To provide details of how AGN intends to carry out the proposed survey activities. • To provide details of the landowner's rights (in relation to access for surveys). • To provide the landowner with a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey (**Appendix A**), as required by the Pipelines Act 2015.

	• To secure agreement with the landowner in relation to the entry onto the land to undertake the necessary activities • To allow landowners an opportunity to provide information relating to local conditions and features of interest. • To confirm any conditions of access onto private and public properties. • Supply information on specific survey requirements (i.e. timing and duration) as this becomes available.
Methods of Consultation	May include: • Face-to-face meetings • Email • Mail • Phone
Timing	Following the completion of Phase 1 and allowance of adequate time for landowners and occupiers to appropriately review the information provided, considering their individual circumstances. Entry onto freehold and crown land will not be undertaken until agreement with the landowner has been secured. If no agreement is reached on one or more parcels of land, AGN may decide to apply to the Minister for permission to enter relevant land at least 14 days after issue of the Notice of Intention to Enter Land
Phase 3: Agreement of pipeline corridor	
Phase Description	Following the completion Phase 2 AGN will complete the necessary survey activities and use any identified constraints to inform refinements of the pipeline alignment and project design. Phase 3 of the consultation process will then seek to form an agreement with landowners in relation to a preferred pipeline alignment and any relevant arrangements that the parties would agree to minimise impacts from the construction and operation of the Project.
Purpose of Consultation	• To present AGN's preferred pipeline alignment as informed by feedback received from the landowner during Phase 1 and 2 as well as the outcomes of completed surveys and seek any additional feedback. • To provide a plan of the proposed pipeline corridor with the intention of confirming a satisfactory route. • To ensure landowners understand the rights and obligations related to an easement and the process that AGN proposes to undertake to negotiate an easement (e.g. principles of compensation, relevant documents). • To advise landowners that reasonable professional fees relating to the Project will be met by AGN • To discuss with the landowner in general terms the construction methodology and identify any specific issues, such as biosecurity, that may be important (if not already identified).

	• To establish any special conditions with respect to construction or property use or future use (if not already established) • To reach agreement in relation to a suitable amount of compensation. • To advise landowners of the process in the event that agreement on compensation cannot be met (i.e. that an application to the Minister for consent to compulsorily acquire the required easement under the Pipelines Act may be necessary). • To explain the purpose and need for temporary construction working spaces and to enter arrangements associated with temporary working spaces. • To provide landowners with a Notice of Pipeline Corridor that indicates their property is under consideration for a pipeline, as required by the Pipelines Act. • To identify landowners where an agreement is unlikely to be reached and it may be necessary to seek the Minister's agreement tocompulsorily acquire the required easement.
Methods of Consultation	May include: • Face-to-face meetings • Email • Mail • Phone
Timing	The process of seeking agreement with landowners for an easement to construct and operate the Project will occur once AGN's preferred pipeline alignment has been identified.
Phase 4: Pipeline Licence Application	
Phase Description	As part of the regulatory approval process, AGN will be required to obtain the necessary State and Commonwealth approvals applicable to the Project. This will include obtaining a Pipeline Licence under the Pipelines Act and any potential requirements under the *Environmental Effects Act 1978* (Vic) and Commonwealth EPBC Act.
Purpose of Consultation	• To notify interested stakeholders that an application has been made and that written submissions are sought on the application by the designated submission date. • To provide affected landowners with the Notice of Pipeline Licence Application, as required by the Pipelines Act. • To allow affected and interested parties to review the Project location / design, environmental assessment and proposed environmental management framework that is proposed for the Project. • To give affected and interested parties the opportunity to provide feedback to regulatory agencies on the pipeline route, environmental assessment and proposed environmental management framework that is proposed for the Project.

	• To adequately respond to and address any matters raised in submissions made during regulatory public consultation; and • To provide regulatory agencies with a summary of how any submissions have been addressed to give confidence in the adequacy of the response to submissions.
Methods of Consultation	May include: • Face-to-face • Email • Mail • Website • Public notices
Timing	This phase will commence with the issue of the Notice of Pipeline Licence Application to each landowner.
Phase 5: Pipeline construction (Subject to grant of Pipeline Licence)	
Phase Description	As the pipeline and associated infrastructure is relatively small in scale, impacts to individual landowners and occupiers are anticipated to be manageable through the implementation of suitable controls. The consultation associated with this phase will ensure that landowners are fully aware of proposed activities prior to the commencement of construction and have been provided an opportunity to give feedback regarding specific aspects of their property that need to be considered during construction (i.e: biosecurity arrangements, stock management, restricted areas etc). Appropriate communication protocols will be established in order to ensure that landowners and occupiers are informed of the timing and progress of planned activities and are able to provide feedback as necessary. Following the completion of construction specific engagement will be undertaken regarding the progress of reinstatement and rehabilitation of disturbed areas and any rectification work that may be required.
Purpose of Consultation	• To advise landowners of the construction commencement and details of the proposed construction schedule. • To introduce the construction contractor's representative to the landowner. • To advise the landowner of the appropriate communication protocols with both AGN and the construction contractor during the construction period. • To confirm with the landowner and the construction contractor property specific requirements that are to be followed with respect to individual landowner requirements. • To provide additional details on specific construction activities (where required). • Address enquiries, issues and complaints that may arise during the construction programme; and

	• Inspection of the reinstated areas following construction and rehabilitation to obtain landowner sign-off on the reinstatement (damage release).
Methods of Consultation	May include: • Face-to-face • Mail • Email • Phone
Timing	This phase of consultation is to occur prior to the commencement of construction activities and continue through construction of the Project until the landowner is satisfied with the rehabilitation of the disturbed areas.
Phase 6: Pipeline Operation	
Phase Description	The operation of high-pressure gas pipelines typically have a very low impact on landowners and other third parties.As the pipeline operation phase typically extends over decades, it is therefore necessary to take steps to ensure that awareness of the existence of the gas pipeline is maintained. During, operations, it is the goal of AGN to maintain a positive and open long-term relationship with stakeholders that may interface with the pipeline easement including landowners and occupiers, contractors undertaking works in or near the pipeline, and 3rd parties proposing to cross the pipeline with other infrastructure. An easement maintenance program will be implemented in order to maintain line of sight between established pipeline markers, ensure access along the easement is preserved and to manage physical land changes that may threaten the pipeline (e.g. erosion). Access for the purpose of maintenance will be negotiated in accordance with the agreed easement terms.
Purpose of Consultation	• To provide communication channels for landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders to provide feedback, raise queries and if necessary lodge a complaint. • To raise awareness of how AGN operates its gas pipelines and associated infrastructure. • To provide information of pipeline infrastructure. • To outline unauthorised activities and detail the approval process for undertaking work in the pipeline easement. • To provide information and support to mitigate land-use changes altering existing location classifications • Ensure that third parties are informed of AGN's planned activities with regards to their interests. • Provide knowledge to identify an emergency situation and what to do in such an event.
Methods of Consultation	May include:

	• Face-to-face • Mail • Email • Phone (including Dial Before You Dig) • Physical signage (pipeline marker signs) • Website
Timing	Handover of the asset from AGN project personnel to the operations team will occur within six (6) months of commencing operation of the pipeline, or following satisfactory rehabilitation of the land surface post-construction. Engagement with landowners and occupiers will be ongoing for the life of the asset with typical engagement activities likely to consist of annual information pack mail outs and a face-to-face visit by an AGN representative nominally every three years.

4.5 Response to Stakeholder Issues

AGN will seek to ensure that all feedback received from landowners and occupiers is responded to in a timely fashion (initial acknowledgement within 1 business day). Where substantive issues are raised AGN will provide a formal documented response in relation to each item including the proposed resolution.

4.6 Independent Advice

Landowners and occupiers, are encouraged to seek independent advice in relation to the proposed pipeline, relevant notices and agreements, easement documents and land valuations. Any reasonable and pre-agreed costs associated with professional fees for obtaining independent advice will be reimbursed by AGN.

4.7 Complaints Management

Various channels exist for stakeholders to air their grievances (e.g. phone, email, face to face and online) and these channels will be promoted during all consultation with stakeholders. AGN will also advise any complainant that they are able to raise issues with the pipeline regulator. The relevant contact details of the regulator are provided in **Section 10.2.1.**

AGN will establish a Complaints Register which will be maintained throughout the life of the Project. The Complaints Register will provide a structure for the lodgement and management of all information in relation to complaints. All interactions with stakeholders, related to complaints submitted, and all further actions taken as a result will be recorded in this system.

AGN will acknowledge a complaint within 1 business day of receiving it and provide a timeframe for the follow-up and close-out of any investigation.

The Complaints Register enables the generation of a variety of reports for the review, presenting and auditing of complaints throughout the life of the Project.

4.8 Collection of Stakeholder Information and Records Management

Stakeholder Management Systems are fundamental to sustainable management processes, providing a better understanding of the Project's positioning, an enhanced short-term responsiveness, and more informed strategic planning for long term project success.

To assist in records management throughout the consultation process, a suitable Stakeholder Management System will be established to hold copies of all outgoing and incoming correspondence, agreements, and records of contact with stakeholders consulted by AGN in relation to the Project.. The system will also be used to record issues raised and will include details of the issue resolution.

The system will include a progress tracker of the activities required to be completed with each landowner to conclude the negotiation of an easement and inform the Pipeline Licence application. Separate modules will be used to track engagement in relation to other aspects of the project including changes to the downstream pipelines and distribution network licences and engagement with gas customers.

All records will be entered into the Stakeholder Management System by a suitably trained and responsible party as soon as is practicable following an interaction with any stakeholder to ensure the system provides an up to date record of all consultation. Any hard copies of records will be scanned for inclusion in the system.

The Stakeholder Records Management System will use username and password security to protect the personal information collected as a part of the consultation process. This system will be monitored and maintained by AGN or its agents, with the system security protocols regularly reviewed as a part of regular system administration. Where data is required to be backed up, the backed-up data will be subject to the same security protections as the core system. All information contained within the system will be updated on a continual basis as additional information is made available.

4.9 Privacy and Use of Confidential Information

All information collected during engagements with landowners and occupiers and other stakeholders during the project shall only be used for project purposes only and be managed in accordance with the Commonwealth *Privacy Act 1988*. AGN will ensure that personal information is not discussed or disclosed without your prior consent, except if necessary to prevent a threat to life or health, required or authorised by law or reasonably necessary to enforce a law.

4.10 Statutory Reporting

DELWP will be provided with a monthly report summarising the consultation undertaken with stakeholders in the previous month, including specific reference to any relevant complaints or grievances.

The reporting will be undertaken until completion of the regulatory approval and licensing process, marked by the Pipeline Licence being issued and subsequent acceptance of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and Safety Management Plans (SMP) by the Minister (or Delegate) and ESV respectively. Regulatory reporting will then be in accordance with the EMP or other management documents.

This reporting of consultation activities will be based on a calendar month and provided to DELWP within five (5) business days of the end of the reporting period (being the end of the month). The report template is provided at **Appendix C.**

5.0 Information for Landowners and Occupiers

5.1 Communication Materials

AGN values the input of all stakeholders and is committed to the development and maintenance positive relationships. AGN is committed to meeting all legislative and regulatory requirements necessary to obtain all Project approvals, including those associated with obtaining access to land and tenure for construction and operation of the pipeline under the Pipelines Act and *Pipelines Regulations 2017*.

On the commencement of engagement, an information pack will be distributed to all landowners and occupiers identified. This pack will contain the required consultation information, as set out in section 17(2) of the Pipelines Act. At a minimum, the information pack will include:

- An introductory cover letter including contact details for AGN's representative
- A copy of the approved Consultation Plan
- A map of the preliminary pipeline alignment as relevant to the landowner or occupier's property
- Project fact sheet package (Appendix B)

The details of other key documents and information to be provided throughout the consultation process are provided in the following sections of this document.

5.2 Agreements and Notices

During Project design and validation process, AGN have identified preferred locations for necessary Project infrastructure. As some of this infrastructure is located on privately held freehold and crown land, AGN will seek to establish both long-term and temporary access agreements with associated landowners and occupiers. These agreements and notices will be discussed during the early phases of the consultation process, as described in **Table 4.1** of this document.

AGN will maintain clear and transparent communications throughout discussions with individual landowners and occupiers to ensure they have an appropriate understanding of their rights and responsibilities throughout the construction and operation of the pipeline.

5.2.1 Notice of Intention to Enter Land

The Pipelines Act states that, pursuant to Section 19, a notice is given to each landowner and occupier of affected land, advising of the proponent's intention to enter the land for the purpose of any survey. **Appendix A** provides an example of a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey.

5.2.2 Notice of Pipeline Corridor

Prior to applying for the Pipeline Licence, a Notice of Pipeline Corridor, as prescribed in Regulation 7 and set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations (Notice under section 27 of the Pipelines Act), must be served to each owner and occupier of land inside the pipeline corridor. **Appendix A** provides an example of a Notice of Pipeline Corridor.

5.2.3 Notice of Pipeline Licence Application

A pipeline proponent must apply for and obtain a licence, as issued under the Act, in order to construct and operate a pipeline. The licencing process mandates that AGN, in the event of proceeding with an application to the Minister, would give notice to all affected landowners and occupiers of the licence application ('Notice of Application' pursuant to Section 32 of the Act). The specific content of the Notice of Application has not been included in this document as the content will be informed by the consultation process.

5.2.4 Summary of Notices

The Pipelines Act and Pipelines Regulation outline the requirements for consultation and set out the procedures to be followed to permit the construction and operation of the pipeline, along with the processes to follow for survey access and easement acquisition. These requirements are summarised in **Table 5.1** below.

Table 5.1 Summary of notices and processes for survey access, easement acquisition and pipeline licence

Activity	Comments
Notice of Intent to Enter Land for Surveys	
AGN submits Consultation Plan to the Minister (s.18 of Pipelines Act)	Minister makes a determination within 21 days.
AGN undertakes initial engagement with landowners and occupiers (including Crown Land Minister) regarding access for surveys	Can be commenced in parallel with assessment of Consultation Plan by Minister
AGN issue Notice of Intent to Enter Land for Surveys to Landowners and Occupiers (including Crown Land Minister (s.19)	Content of notice approved as an attachment to the Consultation Plan.
AGN seeks agreements with landowners and occupiers to enter land and conduct survey activities (s.20). Consent also sought from Crown Land Minister as relevant (s.21).	
If an access agreement has not been obtained and AGN have taken all reasonable steps to reach an agreement:	
• AGN may apply to Minister for consent to enter the land (s.22)	• No sooner than 14 days after issuing Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey
• AGN advises landowner/occupier of application to the Minister (s.23)	• Upon application under s.22
• Landowners/occupiers may advise minister of their reasons for not granting access (s.24)	• Within 7 days of receiving notification of application from AGN
• Minister makes decision regarding application to consent to entry onto land (s.25)	• Within 28 days of receiving application
Notice of Pipeline Corridor	
AGN provides a Notice of Pipeline Corridor to landowners and occupiers (s.27)	Following confirmation of preferred pipeline route
AGN seeks to negotiate agreement with landowners and occupiers to obtain an easement over the pipeline	

Activity	Comments
corridor (or relevant licence/lease/easement for Crown Land)	
If an agreement to obtain an easement has not been reached and AGN have taken all reasonable steps to reach an agreement:	
• AGN may apply to Minister for consent to compulsorily acquire an easement (s.90).and give notice to the landowner and occupier of the application (s.91)	• No sooner than 6 months after issuing the Notice of Pipeline Corridor
• AGN notify the Registrar of Titles of the application (s.92)	• Without delay following application under s.90
• The landowner/occupier may choose to make a submission to the Minister regarding AGN's application (s.91)	• On or before the 'submission date' as determined by the Minister
• The Minister provides a decision regarding compulsory acquisition of the easement (s.95) *(Note: any consented acquisition would follow the framework of the Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986)*	• Within 28 days of either the submission date for the application or the determination of the pipeline licence application (whichever is later)
Notice of Pipeline Licence Application	
AGN may apply to the Minister for a Licence to construct and operate a pipeline (s.28)	Subject to AGN's completion of necessary inputs to support application (s.30)
Following application for a Licence, AGN must provide a Notice of Pipeline Licence Application (s.32) to: • All landowners and occupiers of land directly affected by the proposed pipeline • The Planning Minister • Any relevant Crown Land Minister for Crown Land affected by the pipeline • Each responsible authority for an area affected by the pipeline • Any Department Head of Government department, public authority, person or body specified by the Minister Additionally, the proponent must publish a notification in a generally circulated newspaper	The Minister determines the applicable 'submission date' for AGN to include in the notice. Notice then issued by AGN.
Any affected person may make a submission to the Minister regarding the licence application (s.34)	The submission is to be made on or before the submission date as determined by the Minister
The Minister provides a determination regarding the licence application (s.53)	The Minister provides a determination within 28 days of the submission date unless the application is referred to a panel (in which case the duration is 88 days). This timing is subject to the Minister's direction as per the conditions of Part 5 of the Act.

6.0 Technical Surveys

Environmental, cultural heritage and other surveys will be carried out to inform 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.

Table 6.1 summarises the types of surveys that may need to be carried out along the proposed alignment of the pipeline. This table is also provided as an attachment to the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey document to be provided to landowners and occupiers (**Appendix A**

Table 6.1 Summary of Surveys

Name of Survey	Description of Survey Activities
Flora and fauna	Assessment of discrete areas by a small team (2-3 people) on 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 pipeline. No ground disturbance is required. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
Cultural heritage	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 a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
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 effect (terrain, trees, building outlines, dams, water courses etc). These measurements and images may be taken from anywhere within a distance of 100m of the proposed pipeline route (shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey previously provided to you) and will typically be completed within a single day.. 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). Pegs will not be placed where they may present a hazard to livestock, horses or other animals.
Cadastral survey	A registered land surveyor and 1-2 support personnel travelling by foot or using a light vehicle to record the Property boundaries of the Land using surveying equipment. This survey will typically be completed within a single day.
Soil conductivity	Assessment of areas by a small team (2-3 people) travelling 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 20cm into the ground.

Name of Survey	Description of Survey Activities
	The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
Land condition survey	A small team of 2-3 people will use a drill, typically mounted on the tray of a 4wd utility vehicle, to collect soil samples and test for chemical characteristics to inform the pipeline design and construction approach. The drill samples are less than 20cm diameter, however can reach a maximum depth of 2m. Because of this maximum depth, a metal detector and water jet may be used to confirm the location of any other ground utilities to avoid causing damage to existing infrastructure. Waste water created during the use of the water jet is collected in a wastewater tank through a vacuum system. Both the drill holes and water jet holes will be backfilled and surface restored. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey previously provided to you and will typically be completed within a single day.
Geotechnical	This Survey informs pipeline design relative to existing railways, rivers and major roads. It involves a team of 3-4 personnel using a vehicle mounted drill rig (4WD or truck) to establish boreholes measuring 10 to 15cm 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. 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, approximately 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 survey period unless consent is granted for 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. Survey vehicles will typically consist of a 4WD utility or medium rigid truck with tray mounted drilling equipment. The geotechnical Survey will occur within the Survey Area shown on the map attached to the Notice of Intention to Enter for Survey provided to you for this activity and will typically be completed within two days.
Service location	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. These investigations will only be undertaken in the vicinity of existing services and will typically be completed within a single day by a team of 1-2 people.

7.0 Overview of Construction and Operations

A detailed summary of each stage of pipeline construction and operations is provided below. A condensed version on this process is also available in the fact sheets in **Appendix B.**

7.1 Setting up Work Areas

The construction process can include making provision for the following work areas and machinery to be located on a landowner's property:

- Pipe lay down yards;
- Construction material stockpiles; and
- Setup areas for Trenchless Construction/ Horizontal Directional Drilling (where 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.

The location of these work areas 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.

7.2 Clear and Grade

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

The construction right-of-way will be clearly identified and fenced off if required. Typically, the right-of- way can be between 25 – 30m in width. Landowners and occupiers will be consulted over aspects such as clear and grade timing, arrangements for fencing, dust and noise management and biosecurity. They will have the opportunity to ensure issues agreed as part of the Property Management Plan negotiations are satisfactorily managed.

7.3 Trenching

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

Hours of operation and other aspects will be discussed with the landowners and occupiers prior to construction commencing.

7.4 Trenchless Construction

Trenchless construction is used in the pipeline installation when routine trenching techniques are not suited to certain conditions, such as crossing under a public road. This technique may be used at the Bidstrup Rd crossing and the Old Barnawawartha Rd crossing.

With trenchless construction (e.g. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)), 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 to avoid impacts to existing infrastructure or environmentally sensitive areas.

7.5 Welding

Specialist welders join the lengths of pipes together, adhering to relevant fire regulations and restrictions throughout the process. To check the quality and safety of the welds, the joins are inspected using x-ray or ultrasonic equipment and then coated to protect against corrosion.

7.6 Lowering In

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

7.7 Backfill

Throughout this process, subsoil and topsoil have been separated. The excavated subsoil is compacted back into the trench once the pipe is in place. The topsoil is then re-instated to the contour of the land so that the natural groundcover can be rehabilitated.

7.8 Easement Rehabilitation

Pursuant to Section 145 of the Pipelines Act, AGN is responsible for all costs associated with rehabilitation activities following construction of the approved pipeline. The land must be restored to as close to the pre-disturbance use and condition as practical. This will be done in consultation with the landowner and occupier.

Rehabilitation of the site will be undertaken in accordance with industry standards taking into consideration any detailed additional landowner and occupier requirements. Permanent markers to show pipeline location will remain after rehabilitation, as required by Australian Standard AS 2885.

7.9 Hydrotesting

To verify the strength of the pipeline and ensures that there are no leaks a program of hydrotesting will be undertaken. 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 discharge of liquids following their use in hydrotesting will comply with relevant regulations.

Once the pipeline has been appropriately tested, it will be cleaned, dried and purged before operations are started.

7.10 Operations

During operations access requirements will typically be limited to regular inspection of the pipeline easement by operations personnel to monitor the condition of the easement including vegetation and weed management, signage integrity and erosion management.

All access to the pipeline easement will be undertaken in consultation with the relevant landowners and occupiers and in accordance with the agreed easement terms.

7.11 Decommissioning

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

The method of decommissioning will depend on the requirements of the regulation and standards of the day. 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.

8.0 Management of Potential Impacts

Consultation with landowners, occupiers and stakeholders will assist with the Project's understanding of current and any intentions for future land use, existing and planned installation of infrastructure, and allows local considerations to be incorporated into pipeline design, construction and operational activities. Questionnaires may be utilised as part of the consultation process to better inform safety management studies. Before commencement of any physical activities AGN will work to minimise impacts of noise, traffic or other impacts on landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders.

Specific methods of managing potential impacts on the environment will be documented in a comprehensive Environmental Management Plan which will identify the risks to the environment arising from construction and operation of the pipeline and set out what will be done to avoid or minimise those risks. A range of other management plans will also be prepared as outlined below.

8.1 Construction Environmental Management Plan

A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be developed to meet the requirements of Part 7 of the *Pipelines Regulations 2017,* AS2885 and in general accordance with the Australian Pipeline and Gas Association, Code of Environmental Practice: Onshore Pipelines (2017). The CEMP will describe the construction activities on the site that have, or are likely to have, an impact on the environment and the community and the measures to be undertaken by AGN to minimise those impacts.

This plan will be developed following the completion of technical studies, relevant surveys and submitted to the regulator for approval.

8.2 Construction Safety Management Plan

A Construction Safety Management Plan will be developed to meet the requirements of Part 6 of the *Pipelines Regulations 2017,* AS2885 and *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* and the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007*. 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.

The Construction Safety Management Plan will be prepared and submitted to the regulator for approval before the commencement of construction.

8.3 Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP)

A CHMP is a written report prepared by a Heritage Advisor. It includes results of an assessment of the potential impact of a proposed activity on both European and Aboriginal cultural heritage. It outlines measures to be taken before, during and after an activity in order to manage and protect cultural heritage in the activity area.

The CHMP is one of a series of technical reports required, and access will be negotiated with landowners and occupiers prior to commencement of these surveys. A copy of the final CHMP will distributed to relevant stakeholders.

8.4 Operations Environmental Management Plan

The Operations Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) will be prepared before the commissioning of the Project in accordance with Part 7 of the *Pipelines Regulations 2017,* AS2885 and in general accordance with the Australian Pipeline and Gas Association, Code of Environmental Practice: Onshore Pipelines (2017). The OEMP will describe the operational activities on the site that have, or are likely to have, an impact on the environment and the community and the measures to be undertaken by AGN to minimise those impacts.

This plan will be developed following the completion of technical studies, and access will be negotiated with landowners and occupiers prior to commencement of these studies. The plan will be provided to landowners and occupiers upon completion, and a copy will be made available on the Project website.

8.5 Operations Safety Management Plan

The Operations Safety Management Plan will be prepared before the commissioning of the Project in accordance with Part 6 of the *Pipelines Regulations 2017*. An Operations Safety Management Plan is a written set of guides for managing safety matters during operations. The plan will outline the risks associated with the project and the various procedures that are in place to ensure that the site is kept safe for worker, landowners or occupiers and neighbouring community (e.g. safety assessment, emergency response plan, safety management system).

Following approval, the plan will be distributed to landowners and occupiers, made available of the project website, and will be communicated to all those entering the project site for operational maintenance.

9.0 Further Information

9.1 Australian Gas Networks Contact Details

A summary of the relevant company information and the details of the company representatives are presented in **Table 10.1**:

Table 9.1: Entity & Contact Details

Item	Details
Entity	Australian Gas Networks
ABN	19 078 551 685
Address	Level 6, 400 King William St Adelaide SA 5000
Project Website	www.agig.com.au/renewable-gas
Contact	Neil Parry, Head of Land Management: +61 457 519 191

9.2 Regulatory Agencies and Advocacy Groups

9.2.1 Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

DELWP, among other functions, is responsible for maintaining a licencing system for certain gas pipelines and regulates the pipeline industry in Victoria to ensure that environmental management standards are met. The primary approval to enable construction and operation of a transmission pipeline is a Pipeline Licence, which is issued by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change.

The contact details for DELWP are as follows:

Pipeline Regulation

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

PO Box 500

East Melbourne VIC 3002

Phone: 0439 799 598

Email: pipeline.regulation@delwp.vic.gov.au

Website: https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/pipelines

9.2.2 Energy Safe Victoria

Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) is the independent technical regulator responsible for electricity, gas and pipeline safety in Victoria. Under the Pipeline Regulations, ESV's role is broad and ranges from

accepting industry's safety cases and safety management schemes for the design, construction and maintenance of electricity, gas and pipeline networks across the State to regulating against standards and administering regulations covering gas and electrical appliances and installations and energy efficiency. The relevant contact details for ESV are as follows:

Gas and Pipeline Infrastructure Safety Division

PO Box 262

Collins Street West VIC 8007

Phone: (03) 9203 9700

Fax: (03) 9686 2197

Website: www.esv.vic.gov.au

Appendix A

Notice Templates

LAND SURVEY ENTRY AGREEMENT

HYDROGEN PARK MURRAY VALLEY – HYDROGEN PIPELINE

Ref No: .....

BETWEEN **Australian Gas Networks Pty Ltd (ABN 19 078 551 685) (AGN)**
Address: Level 6, 400 King William St Adelaide SA 5000
Phone: 08 9223 4304

AND _____ (the "**Owner/Occupier**")

OF (Address) _____

_____

CONTACT NAME: _____

CONTACT No: _____

LAND DES: _____

LOT/PLAN: _____

TITLE DESC: _____

(the "**Land**")

PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT / AUTHORISED ACTIVITIES

AGN is investigating the feasibility of locating a hydrogen pipeline (the "**Pipeline**") in the vicinity of the Land.

The purpose of this Agreement is to allow access to the Land so that AGN can survey the Land and investigate its suitability for the Pipeline route. This survey may include the placement of pegs and markers on the Land on the understanding that they will be removed if necessary for safety reasons or for your necessary activities. This survey may also include geotechnical, environmental and cultural heritage investigations which may necessitate the minor excavation of land (the "**Access Purposes**").

A description of surveys to be undertaken is provided as **Attachment 1** of this Agreement.

AGREEMENT

The Landowner/Occupier agrees to allow AGN and its authorised consultants to enter the Land at their risk, at any time from **12 months** of the date of this Agreement and with such vehicles and equipment as may be reasonably required.

Entry on the Land by AGN and its authorised consultants must only be for the purpose of the Access Purposes and will be subject to any Special Entry Conditions written on this Agreement below.

The Landowner/Occupier will not be responsible for any injury to persons or damage to property of AGN, its officers and employees or authorised consultants which was caused by the negligent or wilful act or omission of AGN or its authorised consultants.

AGN will indemnify the Landowner/Occupier against any loss or damage incurred by the Landowner/Occupier directly arising from the exercise of entry rights under this Agreement by AGN or its authorised consultants (including any damage to improvements or personal injury), except to the extent that the loss or damage was caused, or contributed to, by the negligent or wilful act or omission of the Landowner/Occupier or the Landowners/Occupiers employees, agents and permitted invitees.

SPECIAL ENTRY CONDITIONS (If Any):

SIGNED BY LANDOWNER/OCCUPIER

SIGNED: _____ (*an authorised officer*)

DATE: _____

SIGNED BY AGN

SIGNED: _____ (*an authorised officer*)

DATE: _____

Attachment 1 – Description of Surveys

Name of Survey	Description of Survey Activities
Flora and fauna	Assessment of discrete areas by a small team (2-3 people) on 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 pipeline. No ground disturbance is required. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
Cultural heritage	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 a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
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 effect (terrain, trees, building outlines, dams, water courses etc). These measurements and images may be taken from anywhere within a distance of 100m of the proposed pipeline route (shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey previously provided to you) and will typically be completed within a single day.. 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). Pegs will not be placed where they may present a hazard to livestock, horses or other animals.
Cadastral survey	A registered land surveyor and 1-2 support personnel travelling by foot or using a light vehicle to record the Property boundaries of the Land using surveying equipment. This survey will typically be completed within a single day.
Soil conductivity	Assessment of areas by a small team (2-3 people) travelling 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 20cm into the ground. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
Land condition survey	A small team of 2-3 people will use a drill, typically mounted on the tray of a 4wd utility vehicle, to collect soil samples and test for chemical characteristics to inform the pipeline design and construction approach. The drill samples are less than 20cm diameter, however can reach a maximum depth of 2m. Because of this maximum depth, a metal detector and water jet may be used to confirm the location of any other ground utilities to avoid causing damage to existing infrastructure. Waste water created during the use of the water jet is collected in a wastewater tank through a vacuum system. Both the drill holes and water jet holes will be backfilled and surface restored. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area

Name of Survey	Description of Survey Activities
	shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey previously provided to you and will typically be completed within a single day.
Geotechnical	This Survey informs pipeline design relative to existing railways, rivers and major roads. It involves a team of 3-4 personnel using a vehicle mounted drill rig (4WD or truck) to establish boreholes measuring 10 to 15cm 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. 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, approximately 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 survey period unless consent is granted for 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. Survey vehicles will typically consist of a 4WD utility or medium rigid truck with tray mounted drilling equipment. The geotechnical Survey will occur within the Survey Area shown on the map attached to the Notice of Intention to Enter for Survey provided to you for this activity and will typically be completed within two days.
Service location	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. These investigations will only be undertaken in the vicinity of existing services and will typically be completed within a single day by a team of 1-2 people.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ENTER LAND FOR SURVEY

Pursuant to Section 19(1) of the Pipelines Act 2005

HYDROGEN PARK MURRAY VALLEY – HYDROGEN PIPELINE

TO: _____

(the "Owner/Occupier")

OF (Address): _____

WHEREAS: **Australian Gas Networks Pty Ltd (ABN 19 078 551 685) (AGN)**

OF (Address): Address: Level 6, 400 King William St Adelaide SA 5000
Phone: 08 9223 4304

NOTICE OF ENTRY: AGN is investigating the feasibility of locating a Hydrogen Pipeline (the "**Pipeline**") on the land described below which will transport hydrogen from a Hydrogen Production Plant on the corner of Old Barnawartha Rd and Bidstrup Rd for blending into the existing Albury-Wodonga gas distribution networks at up to 10%. Pursuant to the provisions of the Pipelines Act 2005 (the "Act"), notice is hereby given that AGN intends to enter part of the land, for the purposes described below.

PURPOSE OF THE ENTRY / AUTHORISED ACTIVITIES:

This Notice is provided to inform the landowner and/or occupier of the Land that AGN wishes to enter the Land for survey purposes and to investigate the Land for its suitability for the Pipeline route. This survey may include the placement of pegs and markers on the Land on the understanding that they will be removed if necessary for safety reasons or for your necessary activities. This survey may also include geotechnical, environmental, and cultural heritage investigations which may necessitate the minor excavation of land (the "**Access Purposes**"). The types of surveys proposed are as described in **Attachment 1.**

LAND DESCRIPTION (Title Particulars):

C.A.	C.P.	Section	Lot No.	T.P.	P.S.	Vol	Fol

(the "**Land**")

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY / AUTHORISED ACTIVITIES:

AGN must take all reasonable steps to reach agreement in relation to the entry onto the Land with each owner and occupier of the Land. If agreement cannot be reached, AGN may apply to the Minister for consent to enter the Land. AGN, its officers, employees, authorised consultants and agents, will enter the Land at their risk, during the Period of Access and with such vehicles and equipment as may be reasonably required.

Entry on the Land by AGN, its officers, employees, authorised consultants and agents must only be for the Access Purposes. The Landowner/Occupier will not be responsible for any injury to persons or damage to property of AGN, its officers, employees, authorised consultants and agents which was caused by the negligent or wilful act or omission of AGN, its officers, employees, authorised consultants and agents.

The names and addresses of AGN's Authorised agents in relation to the proposed Access Purpose access purposes are as follows:

<<Entity Name>>
<<ABN>>
<<Address>>

Other authorised consultants and agents may be added in the future subject to written notice being provided to the Landowner/Occupier.

AGN will indemnify the Landowner/Occupier against any loss or damage incurred by the Landowner/Occupier directly arising from the exercise of entry rights under this Notice by AGN, its officers, employees, authorised consultants and agents (including any damage to improvements or personal injury), except to the extent that the loss or damage was caused, or contributed to, by the negligent or wilful act or omission of the Owner/Occupier or the Owner/Occupiers employees, agents and permitted invitees.

AGN undertakes that it will not stay on the land any longer than is reasonably necessary, must leave the land as nearly as possible in the same condition as it was in before entry and will co-operate as much as possible with the owner and occupier of the land, and do as little damage as possible and must, if required within 2 years from the exercise of the powers, make full compensation to the owner of and all parties interested in any land for any damage sustained by them in consequence of the exercise of the powers.

SIGNED: _____ (*an authorised officer of AGN*)

DATE: _____

Attachment 1 – Description of Surveys

Name of Survey	Description of Survey Activities
Flora and fauna	Assessment of discrete areas by a small team (2-3 people) on 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 pipeline. No ground disturbance is required. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
Cultural heritage	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 a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
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 effect (terrain, trees, building outlines, dams, water courses etc). These measurements and images may be taken from anywhere within a distance of 100m of the proposed pipeline route (shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey previously provided to you) and will typically be completed within a single day.. 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). Pegs will not be placed where they may present a hazard to livestock, horses or other animals.
Cadastral survey	A registered land surveyor and 1-2 support personnel travelling by foot or using a light vehicle to record the Property boundaries of the Land using surveying equipment. This survey will typically be completed within a single day.
Soil conductivity	Assessment of areas by a small team (2-3 people) travelling 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 20cm into the ground. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in a Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey provided to landowners and occupiers and will typically be completed within a single day.
Land condition survey	A small team of 2-3 people will use a drill, typically mounted on the tray of a 4wd utility vehicle, to collect soil samples and test for chemical characteristics to inform the pipeline design and construction approach. The drill samples are less than 20cm diameter, however can reach a maximum depth of 2m. Because of this maximum depth, a metal detector and water jet may be used to confirm the location of any other ground utilities to avoid causing damage to existing infrastructure. Waste water created during the use of the water jet is collected in a wastewater tank through a vacuum system. Both the drill holes and water jet holes will be backfilled and surface restored. The survey will occur within the mapped targeted survey area shown in the Notice of Intention to Enter Land for Survey previously provided to you and will typically be completed within a single day.

Name of Survey	Description of Survey Activities
Geotechnical	This Survey informs pipeline design relative to existing railways, rivers and major roads. It involves a team of 3-4 personnel using a vehicle mounted drill rig (4WD or truck) to establish boreholes measuring 10 to 15cm 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. 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, approximately 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 survey period unless consent is granted for 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. Survey vehicles will typically consist of a 4WD utility or medium rigid truck with tray mounted drilling equipment. The geotechnical Survey will occur within the Survey Area shown on the map attached to the Notice of Intention to Enter for Survey provided to you for this activity and will typically be completed within two days.
Service location	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. These investigations will only be undertaken in the vicinity of existing services and will typically be completed within a single day by a team of 1-2 people.

Pipelines Act 2005

Pipelines Regulation 2017

TO: *[insert name and address of person(s) who owns or occupies land in the pipeline corridor (see Note 1)]*

OF (Address):

I, *Australian Gas Networks Pty Ltd (AGN), ABN: 19 078 551 68* am considering applying for a licence to construct and operate a pipeline over the following land:

LOT/PLAN: *[insert a description of the land (including, if appropriate, a sketch showing the relevant part of the land) and title particulars]*

TITLE DESC:

A copy of a plan showing the pipeline corridor is attached to this Notice. [attach copy of a plan drawn to an appropriate scale showing the pipeline corridor]

The proposed pipeline is: to transport hydrogen from a Hydrogen Production Plant on the corner of Old Barnawartha Rd and Bidstrup Rd for blending into the existing Albury-Wodonga gas distribution networks at up to 10%.

*Information regarding the proposed pipeline, including the processes that will be followed for obtaining required approvals and details of how AGN proposes to consult with you is also attached.

*Information regarding the proposed pipeline, including the processes that will be followed for obtaining required approvals and details of how AGN proposes to consult with you was given to you with the notice of intention to enter land for survey issued on: [insert date that written notice of intention to enter land for survey was given to owner or occupier under section 19 of the Act]

[*delete the statement that does not apply]

Signature of the proponent:

<NAME>

<Title of Authorised Officer> AGN

Date:

Note 1

A pipeline corridor is a corridor of land within which a pipeline is proposed to be constructed under the **Pipelines Act 2005**. The final route of the proposed pipeline within the corridor is subject to consultation and approval under the **Pipelines Act 2005**.

Note 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.

Enc: Plan of Pipeline Corridor

Appendix B

Consultation Collateral

Hydrogen Park Murray Valley

Australian Gas Networks

A pathway to cleaner energy
Investing in the long-term interests of our customers and the environment

Hydrogen Park Murray Valley

ABOUT AUSTRALIAN GAS NETWORKS

Australian Gas Networks (AGN) is Australia's largest gas distributor. AGN own and operate gas distribution networks (gas networks) serving more than 1.2 million customers in Australia, including customers in Wodonga and Albury.

AGN is part of Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG). In 2017, AGN, Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline (DBP) and Multinet Gas Networks (MGN) came together to form AGIG. The combined distribution, transmission and storage assets make AGIG one of the largest gas infrastructure businesses in Australia, with more than 2 million customers across every mainland state and the Northern Territory.

Our Vision is to be the leading gas infrastructure business in Australia. We will achieve this by delivering for our customers, being a good employer and being sustainably cost efficient.

We understand that the affordability, reliability and sustainability of energy is very important to Australians. We are committed to delivering these services to our customers today and in the future and are developing renewable gas projects to achieve this.

As a business we are responding, taking active steps to sustainable gas delivery today and tomorrow

Australian Gas Networks
Part of Australian Gas Infrastructure Group

communityengagement@agig.com.au
agig.com.au/renewable-gas

Our Decarbonisation Journey

Energy in Australia is changing

The science of global warming is well accepted and shows that greenhouse gas emissions from human endeavours are increasing and leading to rising temperatures across the globe.

Australia is committed to a reduction in carbon dioxide (CO_2) to between 26 to 28% below 2005 levels by 2030 and every Australian state and territory is targeting being net zero carbon by 2050 if not before.

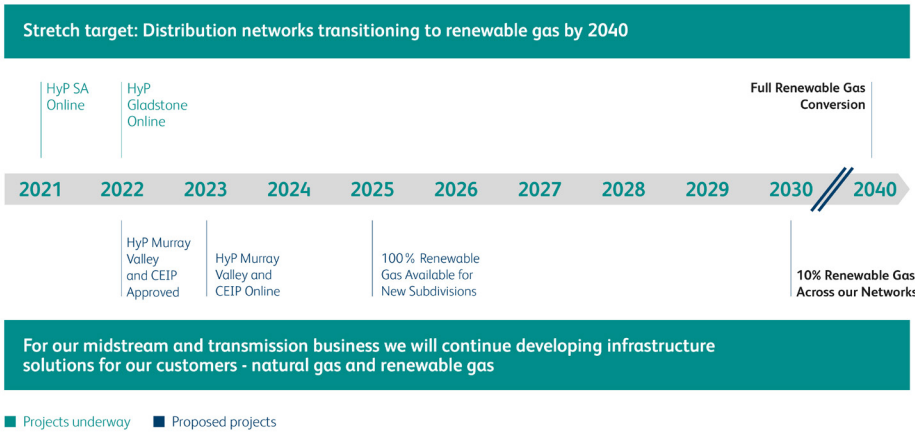
As a business we are responding, taking active steps to sustainable gas delivery today and tomorrow and investing in the long-term interests of our customers and the environment. We will do this through renewable gases such as hydrogen. Hydrogen can be used in the same way as natural gas for heating our homes and businesses, generating electricity and as a transport fuel.

The benefit of hydrogen is that it does not contain any carbon and can be blended with natural gas to create a cleaner gas before natural gas is fully replaced. This blend lowers carbon emissions relatively quickly without changes to appliances, pipes and meters.

Using renewable gas in place of natural gas means we can keep using existing infrastructure to deliver safe, reliable and lower carbon energy to customers.

Our net zero ambitions include:

- By 2025, have a 100% renewable gas product available for new subdivisions.
- By 2030, have all our distribution networks on a blend of up to 10% renewable gas.
- By no later than 2050 and by 2040 as a stretch target, we aim to convert all our distribution networks to 100% renewable gas



Reference:

Hydrogen Park South Australia (HyP SA) is our first renewable gas project, located within the Tonsley Innovation District.

Hydrogen Park Gladstone (HyP Gladstone) continues AGIG's hydrogen leadership by delivering the first whole of gas network decarbonisation project.

The Hydrogen Park Murray Valley (HyP Murray Valley) and the Clean Energy Innovation Park (CEIP) projects have both received funding from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency. They are the next step on our renewable gas journey in terms of scale and will seek to supply renewable hydrogen, blended with natural gas to customers on the existing gas networks.

Analysis indicates that renewable hydrogen can deliver decarbonisation at up to half the cost of electrification by avoiding new investment in electricity networks and storage

communityengagement@agig.com.au
agig.com.au/renewable-gas

Project Overview

ABOUT HYDROGEN PARK MURRAY VALLEY

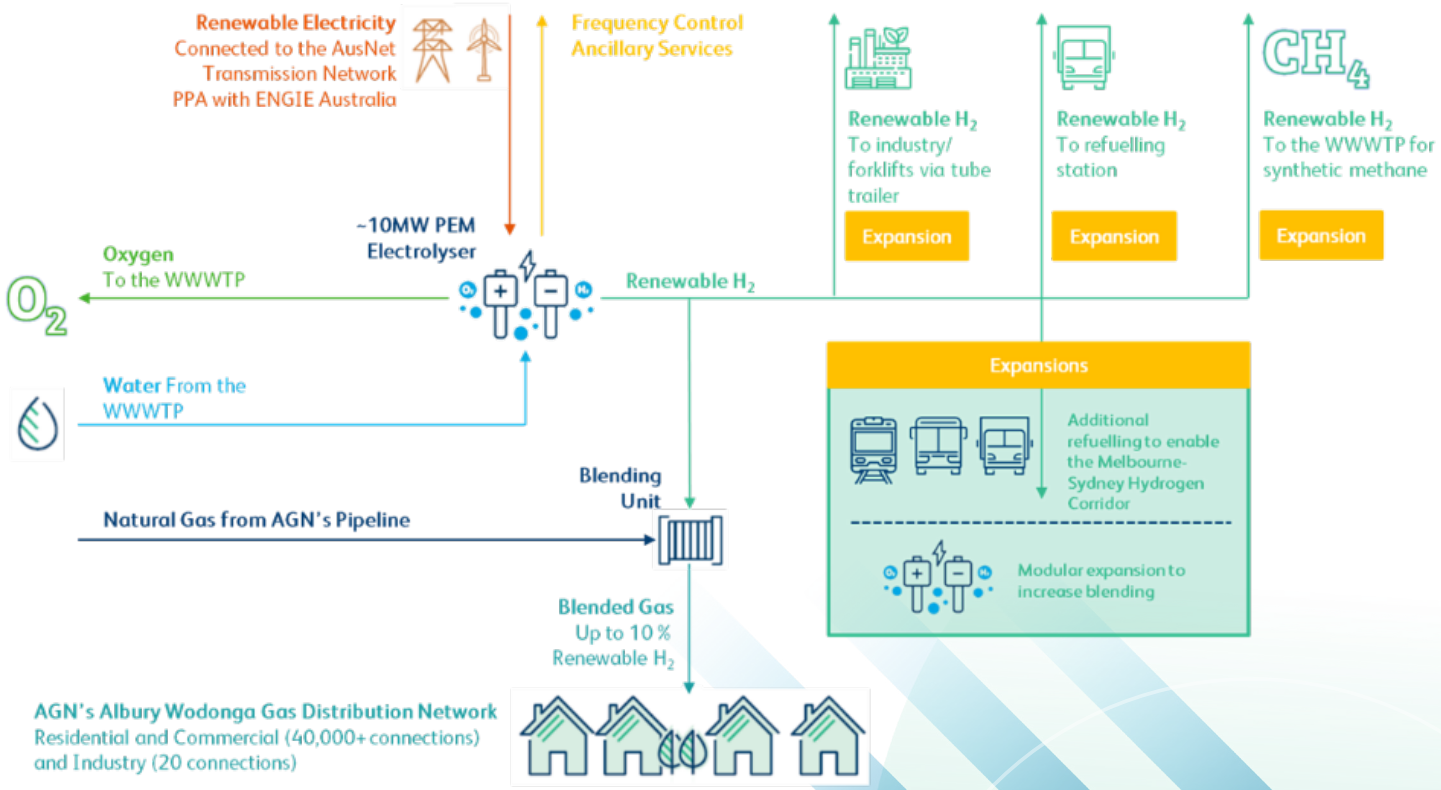
We're developing a renewable gas production project known as Hydrogen Park Murray Valley (HyP Murray Valley) alongside the West Wodonga Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWWTP).

At HyP Murray Valley we'll produce renewable hydrogen. Hydrogen is the most abundant element in the universe, but is generally found attached to another element so is not freely available. HyP Murray Valley will produce hydrogen from water using a 10MW electrolyser powered by renewable electricity such as wind and solar.

The renewable hydrogen will be blended into the existing natural gas pipelines owned by AGN to supply up to a 10% renewable gas blend to customers in Wodonga and Albury, with the facility also able to supply industry and transport markets. The facility also produces oxygen gas which will be supplied to the nearby WWWTP for use in their processes.

HyP Murray Valley is the next step on our renewable gas journey as we target 10% renewable gas across all our networks by 2030 and 100% renewable gas by 2040.

It builds on our other projects at Hydrogen Park South Australia (HyP SA) which came online in May 2021 and Hydrogen Park Gladstone (HyP Gladstone) which will begin production in the second half of 2022.



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WHAT IS HYDROGEN?

Hydrogen is the simplest and most abundant molecule in the universe. It is a colourless, odourless and non-toxic gas and a great carrier of energy. It can be used much like natural gas to heat homes, power vehicles and produce electricity.

Hydrogen is better for the environment as when burned it produces only water vapour and energy as heat, with no carbon emissions.

Hydrogen has long been used in Australia and around the world as a fuel for industry such as steel making, producing fertilisers, and for oil refining. With an increased focus on lower emissions and with technology improvements in producing hydrogen, we are now considering how we can use it more broadly.

PROJECT PARTNERS

AGN is developing the project with its partner, ENGIE.

ENGIE is a global reference in low-carbon energy and services, with a purpose to act to accelerate the transition towards a carbon-neutral world through reduced energy consumption and more environment-friendly solutions in gas, renewable energy, and services.

In May 2021, HyP Murray Valley was awarded funding from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency.

PROJECT LOCATION

The Project will be located alongside the West Wodonga Wastewater Treatment Plant on the corner of Old Barnawartha Road and Bidstrup Road, Wodonga.

PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE

The key infrastructure components of the project include:

- Hydrogen production and storage facility.
- New power connection from the existing electricity network.
- Underground hydrogen transmission pipeline.

The Town Gas we used to rely on was manufactured from coal and consisted of 50-60% hydrogen

1. Hydrogen Production and Storage Facility
2. Tube Trailer Filling Station
3. Hydrogen Blending Facility
4. Hydrogen Pipeline
5. Natural Gas Pipeline - From Wodonga City Gate
6. Blended Gas Pipeline - To Albury-Wodonga
7. West Wodonga Wastewater Treatment Plant
8. Reclaimed Water, Wastewater and Oxygen Pipelines from/to Wastewater Treatment Plant
9. Electricity Grid Connection Feeder and Switchyard

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Why is this Project Important?

HyP Murray Valley is delivering Australia's largest blended gas project to start to decarbonise Australia's two largest state gas networks. This is in line with Victorian and New South Wales Governments targets of net zero emissions by 2050, and customer expectations of delivering lowest-cost carbon emission reductions.

The project builds on other similar projects at Hydrogen Park South Australia (HyP SA) (online May 2021) and Hydrogen Park Gladstone (HyP Gladstone) (under development) to deliver up to 10% renewable gas blend which is an important step to lowering carbon emissions.

Renewable hydrogen has other benefits in that it can be used to generate electricity, to fuel vehicles and there is a growing demand for it overseas, meaning it can underpin a substantial new industry and jobs

KEY FEATURES

- **Australia's largest electrolyser - 10MW Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) facility**
- **Australia's largest hydrogen blending project – Up to 10% renewable hydrogen blend to 40,000+ connections**
- **Creating a hydrogen hub - Strategically positioned, near transport, industry**
- **Delivered by experienced parties - AGN and ENGIE have proven experience**

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Key Project Information

AGN is looking to develop the HyP Murray Valley project. As a component of the project, AGN is proposing a short pipeline which will allow hydrogen to be blended into the existing gas distribution network. The following sections outline relevant information regarding the proposed pipeline which may be of interest to project stakeholders, including directly affected landholders.

HYDROGEN PIPELINE OVERVIEW

A 300m long pipeline is proposed to enable the blending of the renewable hydrogen produced at HyP Murray Valley into the existing Wodonga/ Albury Gas Pipeline. It is proposed that the pipeline will cross Bidstrup Road before running south within private property, crossing Old Barnawartha Road, and then connecting with the existing gas pipeline on private property west of Greenhill Road.

The pipeline will be constructed of high strength steel and have a diameter up to 100mm. The pipeline will be buried with a minimum depth of cover of 750mm. Two small surface compounds are also proposed on the existing Wodonga/Albury Gas Pipeline to accommodate the infrastructure required to control the blend of hydrogen with the existing natural gas supply.

The construction methodology will involve the use of specialised trenching machines and will take into consideration current land uses. Trenchless construction methods will be used in more complex or environmentally sensitive areas.

PROJECT APPROVALS

A number of regulatory approvals are required prior to the construction and operation of the Pipeline. The Pipelines Act 2005 (Vic) (the Pipelines Act) and Pipelines Regulations 2017 (the Regulations), provide a regulatory framework under which the development of a proposed pipeline must be carried out. This includes guidance on engagement with regulatory authorities, landowners and occupiers and other stakeholders.

The Pipeline is also subject to a broad range of legislation not specific to pipeline construction and operation including:

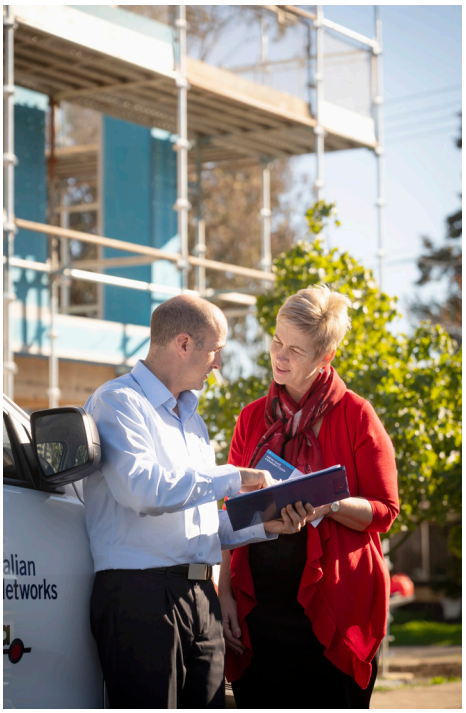
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 (Vic)
- Environment Effects Act 1978 (Vic)
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conversation Act 1999 (Cth)
- Gas Safety Act 1997 (Vic)
- Heritage Act 2017 (Vic)
- Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (Vic)
- Climate Change Act 2017 (Vic)
- Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)
- Planning and Environment Act 1987
- Water Act 1989 (Vic)

LAND ACCESS

AGN will be seeking landholder and occupier agreement to provide access to land along the proposed pipeline alignment so that more detailed investigations can be undertaken, such as ecology and cultural heritage surveys.

Land access would also be required to develop, construct and operate the pipeline. The type of access and nature of associated activities would vary throughout the life of the project.

AGN will initially be seeking to meet with landholders and occupiers to introduce the project and seek feedback regarding the preliminary pipeline alignment. Meeting directly with landowners helps us to better understand the nature of the impacted property and address specific concerns through design and construction stages.



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LAND ACCESS (CONTINUED)

The Pipelines Act requires that affected landowners and occupiers be provided the following 'notices' as a part of the consultation process:

1. Notice of Intent to Enter Land: Advice that the Pipeline proponent seeks access to the land to perform survey activities to inform pipeline development.
2. Notice of Pipeline Corridor: Advice of the proposed Pipeline corridor.
3. Notice of Licence Application: Advice if a proponent has applied to the Minister to construct and operate a pipeline.

INDEPENDENT ADVICE

Landowners and occupiers affected by the Pipeline are encouraged to seek independent legal and/or valuation advice regarding the implications of the activities which could include the project's potential impact on their land. Pre-agreed and reasonable costs incurred in seeking advice in relation to the Project will be reimbursed by AGN.

EASEMENT AGREEMENTS

AGN will seek to purchase easements from affected landowners following confirmation of the proposed pipeline alignment. An easement is an agreement registered on the title of the land that sets out the rights of a pipeline owner/operator to install, operate and maintain the pipeline and also defines the restrictions on the landowner in the area of the easement.

AGN is committed to dealing with all affected landowners in an open and respectful manner and providing fair, adequate and equitable compensation in reaching an easement agreement.

The Pipelines Act provides the framework for easement establishment, including potential application of the Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986 in the event that reasonable efforts to reach an agreement have been unsuccessful with affected landowners. Landowners would be notified of any request by AGN to the Minister for consent to compulsorily acquire an easement and would then have the opportunity to make submissions to the Minister before a decision is made.

MANAGING IMPACTS

AGN is committed to ensuring that the project is undertaken in manner that avoids, minimises and mitigates potential adverse impacts on land, health, safety and the environment. Our approach to managing impacts will be informed by consultation with landowners, occupiers and other stakeholders as well as the outcomes of detailed technical studies of the pipeline route including on-ground surveys. The outcomes of this work will inform the selection of the final pipeline route and the development of a series of management plans which will be subject to review and approval by the Minister administering the Pipelines Act and Energy Safe Victoria prior to construction commencing.

Specific methods of managing potential impacts on the environment will be documented in a comprehensive Environmental Management Plan which will identify the risks to the environment arising from construction and operation of the pipeline and set out what will be done to avoid or minimise those risks.

We will also prepare a Safety Management Plan for approval which will identify any risks to the public which may result from the pipeline operation and our ways of eliminating or reducing those risks.

communityengagement@agig.com.au
agig.com.au/renewable-gas

Pipeline Construction Process

1

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Prior to starting any activities, affected landowners and occupiers will be consulted about the timing and location of surveys and construction.

2

TECHNICAL SURVEYS

Environmental, cultural heritage and other surveys will be carried out to prepare project assessment documentation and management plans.

3

SETTING UP WORK AREAS

The construction process will include making provision for pipe laydown areas, stockpiles and machinery storage to be located on a landholder's property. The locations of these will be confirmed during the design process.

4

CLEAR AND GRADE

This construction phase involves clearing the pipeline easement and additional work areas as agreed with landowners and occupiers.

5

TRENCHING

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.

6

TRENCHLESS CONSTRUCTION

Trenchless construction is used for pipeline installation when routine trenching techniques are not suited to certain conditions, such as crossing under a public road. This allows the pipe to be installed without disturbing the surface.

7

WELDING

Specialist welders join the lengths of pipes together, adhering to relevant fire regulations and restrictions throughout the process. To check the quality and safety of the welds, the joins are inspected using x-ray or ultrasonic equipment and then coated to protect against corrosion.

8

LOWERING IN

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

9

BACKFILL

Throughout this process, subsoil and topsoil have been separated. The excavated subsoil is compacted back into the trench once the pipe is in place. The topsoil is then re-instated to the contour of the land so that the natural groundcover can be rehabilitated.

10

EASEMENT REHABILITATION

AGN is responsible for rehabilitation of the easement following construction of the approved pipeline. The land must be restored to as close to the pre-disturbance use and condition as practical.

Contact Us

Neil Parry

Head of Land Management

Australian Gas Infrastructure Group

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Email: neil.parry@agig.com.au

Directly affected landowners will be contacted by an AGIG representative who will act as a dedicated contact point throughout the project.

Additional information may also be obtained from:

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER AND PLANNING

T: 0439 799 598

E: pipeline.regulation@delwp.vic.gov.au

W: www.energy.vic.gov.au/pipelines

ENERGY SAFE VICTORIA

W: esv.vic.gov.au

T: 1800 800 158 (free call)

Hydrogen Park Murray Valley

Australian Gas Networks

Part of Australian Gas Infrastructure Group

ENGIE

Appendix C

Reporting Template

Monthly Consultation Reporting Template

Hydrogen Park Murray Valley Project			
Stakeholder Consultation Report			
Date			
Start		Finish	

INSERT GRAPHS THAT SHOW STATISTICS RELATING TO STAKEHOLDER EVENTS.

Event Type	Date	Stakeholder	Summary	Issues Raised	Response	Open/Closed