



Australia Pacific LNG Project

Volume 2: Gas Fields

Chapter 1: Introduction



Contents

1. Introduction 1

Figures

Figure 1.1 EIS structure..... 1

1. Introduction

Australia Pacific LNG Pty Limited (Australia Pacific LNG) proposes to develop a world scale long-term coal seam gas (CSG) to liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in Queensland. The 30 year project will involve:

- Development of the Walloons gas fields in the Surat Basin in the Queensland Western Downs region with up to 10,000 CSG wells to be drilled over the project life
- Construction and operation of a 450km main gas transmission pipeline to connect the Walloons gas fields with the LNG facility
- Construction and operation of a four-LNG production train LNG facility near Laird Point, Curtis Island near Gladstone for export of approximately 18 million tonnes per annum.

The environmental impact statement (EIS) is divided into six volumes as shown in Figure 1.1.

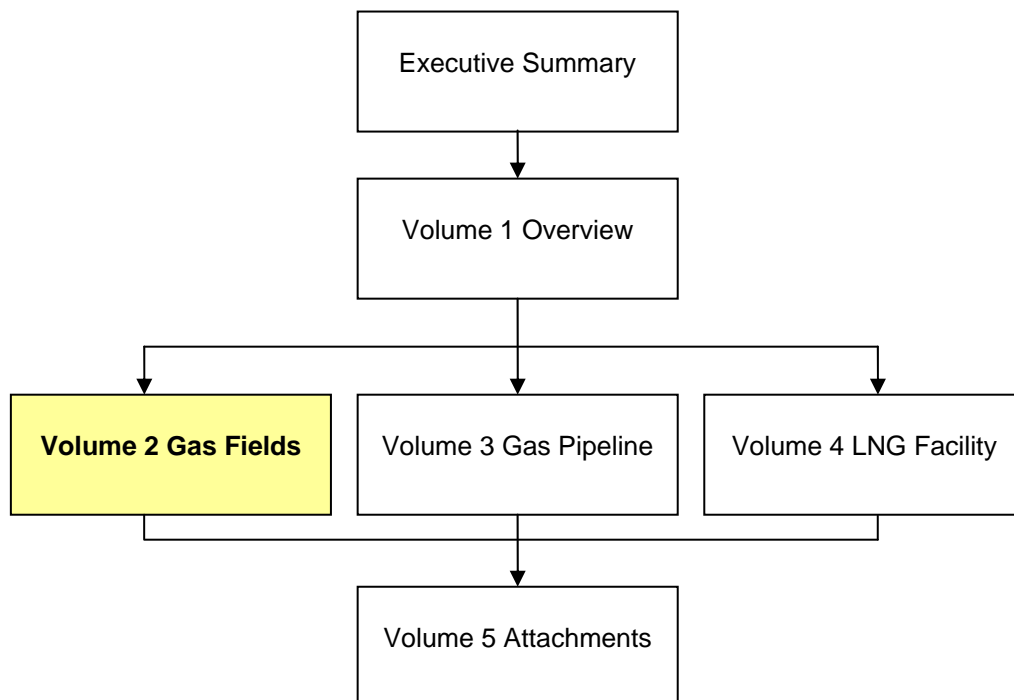


Figure 1.1 EIS structure

This volume details the gas fields which will be constructed and operated by Origin Energy on behalf of Australia Pacific LNG. The gas fields cover an area approximately 570,000ha and are located in three regional councils of Maranoa, Toowoomba, and Western Downs. The gas fields include the construction and operation of a range of components which are discussed below and in Volume 2 Chapter 3.

Coal seam gas wells will be typically drilled on a 750m well spacing across the gas fields ranging in depth from 600m to 1,000m. Production from each well will be separated at the surface into two streams – gas and associated water. A buried gas and water pipeline gathering network will be constructed to connect the wells to the gas processing facilities and water treatment facilities. The

associated water from the well is delivered to the water treatment facility which produces treated water (suitable for discharge or beneficial use) and brine (highly saline water). The gas produced from the well is transferred to the gas processing facility for compression and dehydration and is then sent to the main gas transmission pipeline (gas pipeline) for transport to the LNG facility.

The purpose of this volume of the EIS is to identify and assess the environmental impact of the gas fields' development on the existing environment including the surrounding social, economic and natural environment.

The EIS must also address the terms of reference set by the Coordinator-General under Part 4 of the *State Development Public Works Organisation Act 1971*. Subsequent to the impact assessment, recommendations for measures to mitigate, minimise or offset the potential adverse impacts have been identified.

It is intended that this volume of the EIS will form supporting documentation for the approvals required for the gas fields as detailed in Volume 1 Chapter 2.

An environmental management plan is presented in Volume 2 Chapter 24. This outlines the safeguards and management actions that Australia Pacific LNG will adopt to protect the environmental and social values identified in this EIS.