2 INTRODUCING THE EIS REFERENCE CASE

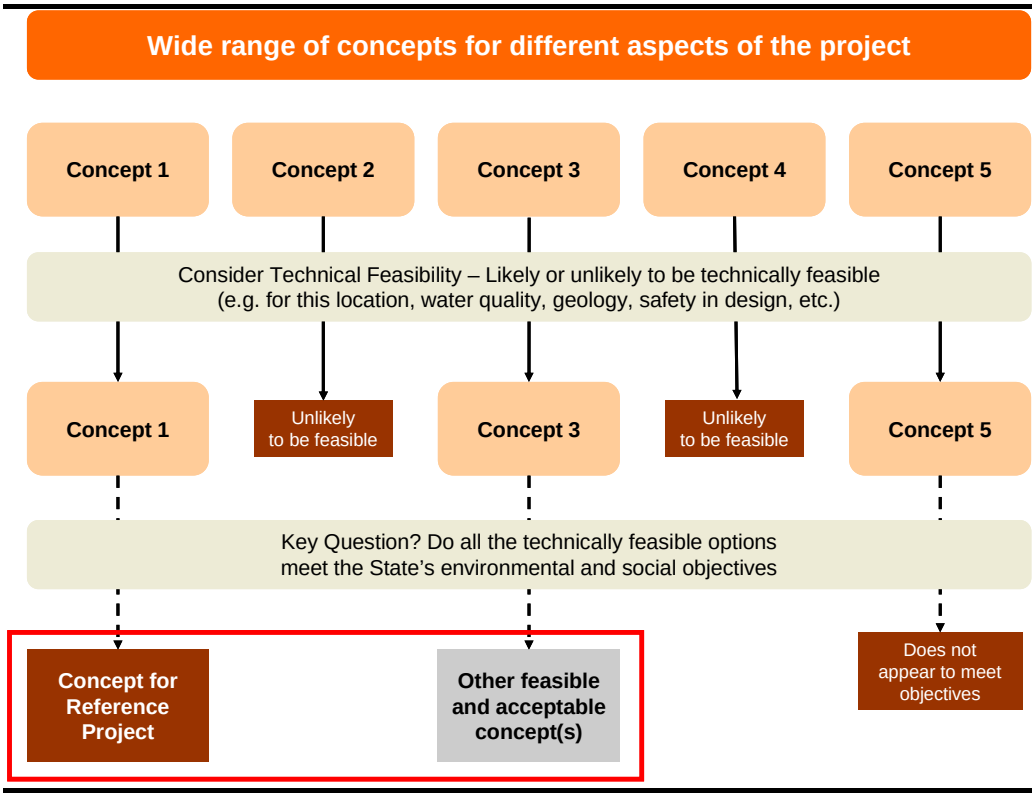
The EIS Reference Case for the Queensland Curtis LNG (QCLNG) Project represents a combination of technically feasible, regulatory, environmentally and socially acceptable preferred options and alternatives for aspects of the Project and its Components.

It is developed in response to the requirements of:

- relevant local, state, national and international laws, standards and policies
- the Value Assurance Framework (VAF) of BG Group, the parent company of QGC.

The process for establishing the EIS Reference Case, illustrated in *Figure 2.2.1*, begins with an investigation of concepts for each of the Project Components and their parts. Concepts deemed to be unfeasible were not assessed beyond this stage.

Figure 2.2.1 EIS Reference Case Process



Remaining concepts were then assessed against the overall objectives of the Project to produce a short list of concepts that were considered feasible and acceptable. These concepts, and the process and rationale behind their selection, comprise the EIS Reference Case.

The EIS Reference Case demonstrates how preferred options and alternatives for each of the Project Components were identified and assessed. More broadly, it demonstrates the QCLNG Project's overall feasibility and ability to provide acceptable environmental, social and economic outcomes.

2.1 RELEVANT LOCAL, STATE, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LAWS, STANDARDS AND POLICIES

All necessary permits and approvals under various legislation and statutory instruments to construct and operate the Project Components are detailed in *Volume 1, Chapter 5.*

2.2 BG GROUP'S VALUE ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK

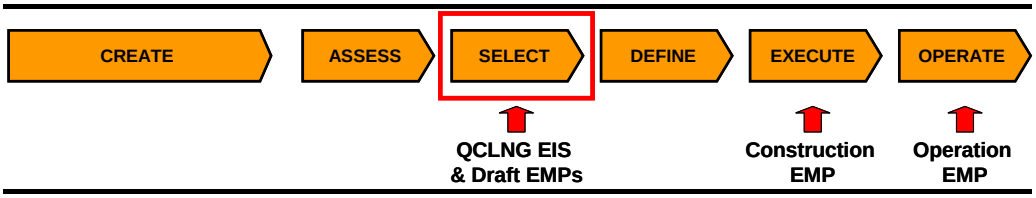
The QCLNG Project is guided by BG Group's Value Assurance Framework (VAF) which is an assurance process that independently reviews critical elements of the project to assure that a project's value is maximised and risks are managed and understood. Additionally, this process aims to ensure that all BG Group projects meet BG Group's social and environmental objectives and stakeholder expectations, while being economically and technically feasible.

The Value Assurance Framework is summarised by the following stages of the Project development cycle (see *Figure 2.2.2)*:

- **Create:** identification of a project opportunity and developing scenarios/options for further investigation
- **Assess:** assessing the feasibility of the range of options
- **Select:** selection of options for further investigation
- **Define:** definition of the preferred options through detailed Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED)
- **Execute:** execution of the Project through procurement, construction and commissioning
- **Operate:** operation of the Project.

The EIS for the QCLNG Project was prepared during the Select stage of the VAF in parallel with the ongoing process of concept selection and evaluation. The EIS Reference Case therefore describes the Project at a point in the Project's life.

Figure 2.2.2 The QCLNG Project EIS within BG Group's Value Assurance Framework



Due to the ongoing and iterative process of development and refinement from the Select stage to Define and Execute, various aspects of the Project are still under investigation and are not yet finalised. The EIS Reference Case therefore aims to reflect a broad and conservative description of the Project to ensure that the assessment of direct, indirect and cumulative impacts has considered the range of feasible options under investigation.

If subsequent project planning, engineering design and feasibility analysis results in material changes to the Project such that the findings of the impact assessment are no longer valid, then further studies will be commissioned and the impact assessment findings will be revised for the Supplementary EIS.

EIS Reference Case Components are defined in sufficient detail to convey the nature of the proposed technology, its location, expected footprint and role within the Project.