

East Coast Grid Expansion Project



Improving the energy security of the East Coast of Australia

Project overview

APA Group is proposing an expansion of gas transportation capacity on the East Coast Grid that links Queensland with southern markets, by approximately 25 per cent.

The expansion will be delivered in three stages and at a capital investment of around \$270 million. It will increase winter peak capacity of the East Coast Grid by 25 per cent through additional compression and associated works on both the South West Queensland Pipeline (SWQP) and Moomba to Wilton Pipeline (MWP).

The South West Queensland Pipeline and the Moomba to Wilton Pipeline are the key pathways for delivery of gas from Queensland and the Northern Territory to southern markets.

The first stage of expansion works have been completed and will increase Wallumbilla to Wilton capacity by 12 per cent. Stage 1 was commissioned ahead of forecast southern state winter supply risks identified in the 2021 AEMO Gas Statement of Opportunities.

Who is APA?

APA is a leading Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) listed energy infrastructure business. We own and/or manage and operate a diverse \$22 billion portfolio of gas, electricity, solar and wind assets. We are also one of the largest owners and operators of renewable power generation assets in Australia, with wind and solar projects across the country.

APA Group delivers around half of Australia's gas usage and connects Victoria with South Australia, and New South Wales (NSW) with Queensland through our investments in energy transmission assets.

The expansion will be delivered in a number of stages:

Stage 1: The first stage of expansion works includes the construction of a single site of compression on each of the SWQP and MWP and will increase gas transportation capacity by 12 per cent. Stage 1 is now complete.

Stage 2: The second stage of expansion works includes an additional site on the SWQP and MWP which will add a further 13 per cent of capacity. Stage 2 is currently under construction

Stage 3: APA is undertaking engineering and design works on a potential third stage (one additional compressor on the MWP and one on the Bomen to Culcairn Pipeline) of the East Coast Grid to add a further 25 per cent transportation capacity.

Most of the expansion works will occur on APA owned sites which have existing infrastructure.

The East Coast Grid Expansion Project presents an optimal opportunity to maximise gas supply via existing infrastructure with minimal environmental and social impact.



Compressor station

As a proudly Australian publicly listed infrastructure company, APA is committed to playing its part in securing Australia's energy future.

Project approvals

APA has obtained all required approvals for stages 1 and 2 of the East Coast Grid Expansion from both the NSW and Queensland Governments:

● New South Wales

APA lodged a Modification Report for Stages 1 and 2 with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) under Section 5.25 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* which was approved on the 5th October 2021.

Stage 3 approvals will be sought by way of a separate Modification Report.

A Modification Report is required for State Significant Infrastructure, such as the Moomba to Wilton Pipeline. The Modification Report describes how the project will be constructed, operated, maintained and decommissioned in an environmentally and socially responsible way.

APA also sought and received approval to vary the Pipeline Licence to include the additional works.

● Queensland

APA has amended both the Environmental Authority for the South West Queensland Pipeline through the Queensland Department of Environment and Science, and the Petroleum Pipeline Licence (PPL) through the Queensland Department of Resources. Both these amendments allow for the construction and operation of the additional compressor stations.

Indicative project timeline

Construction of Stage 1 was completed in early-2023 with commissioning following shortly after. Stage 2 is currently under construction.

The construction of each compressor station is targeted to take approximately nine months.

Workforce

The East Coast Grid Expansion Project is committed to maximising business supply and employment opportunities in the local regions around each proposed compressor station where possible.

Each site requires a peak workforce of around 80 people.

Key opportunities for local supply may include:

- Opportunities for contractors and trades including general civil, clear and grade, fencing, traffic management, water cartage, vegetation management and rehabilitation
- Accommodation for field personnel
- Services to temporary construction camps, including food, cleaning, waste management and security
- General trades for construction of temporary camps.



Community engagement

APA is committed to engaging and working closely with local communities to the East Coast Grid Expansion Project.

During the Project, we plan to continue to provide Project information and gather community and stakeholder input through:

- Engagement with First Nations groups
- Meetings and correspondence with landholders
- Consultation with Federal, State and Local governments
- Discussions with local businesses and representative groups
- Publication of various Project communication materials, including a Project webpage and information sheets, as well as media
- Operation of an 1800 information line and Project email address.



Landscape at one of the project sites in NSW

Connect with us:

We are dedicated to keeping you informed about APA's East Coast Grid Expansion Project and to ensure your views are heard and addressed.

To learn more about the East Coast Grid Expansion Project we encourage you to engage with us via:



Phone on 1800 856 001
Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm



Email at: EastCoastGridExpansion@apa.com.au



Our website at: www.apa.com.au