

Galilee Moranbah Pipeline Frequently Asked Questions

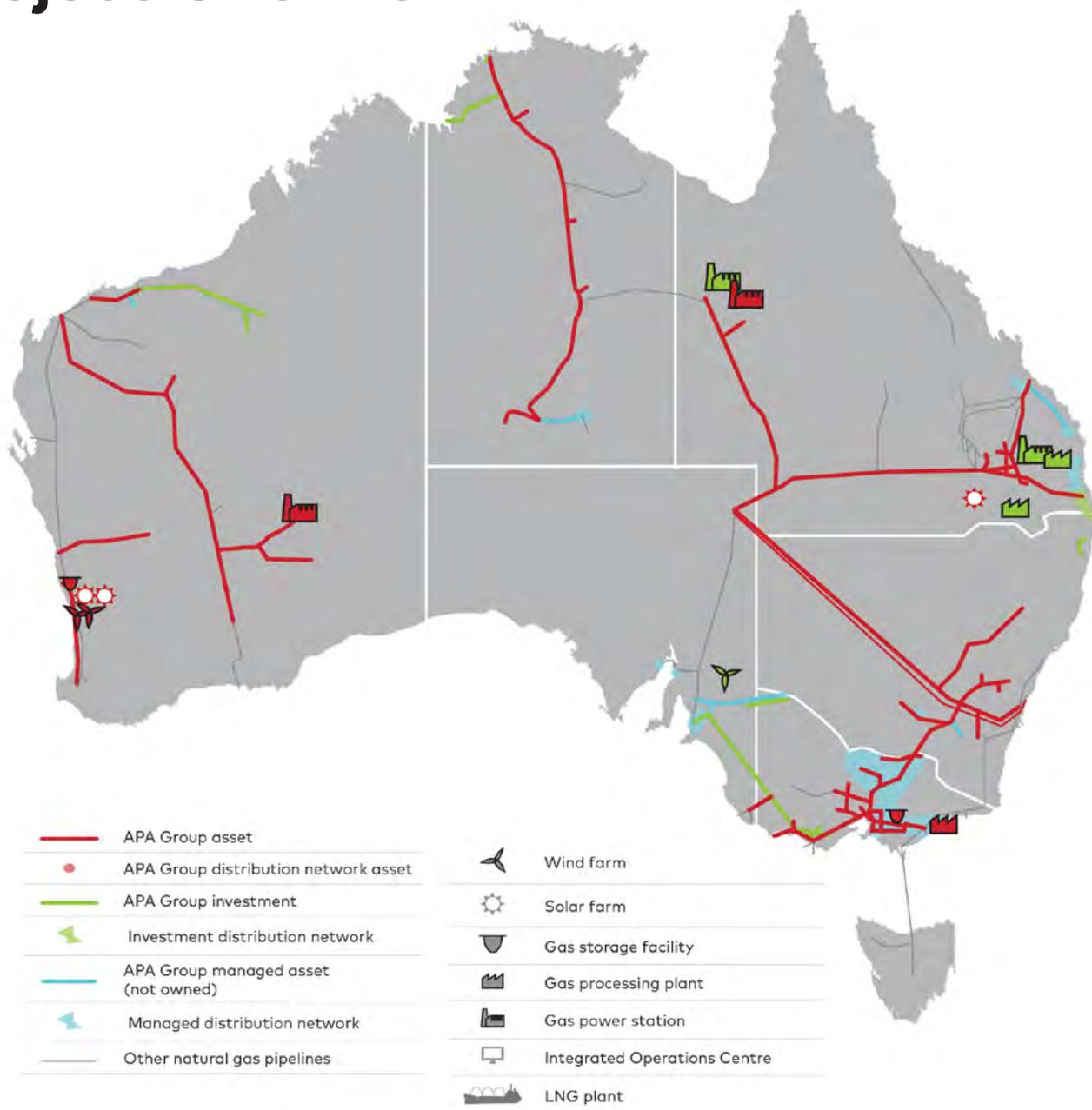


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1.0 Project Overview



Who is APA Group?

APA is a leading Australian natural gas infrastructure business, owning and/or operating approximately \$20 billion of energy assets. Its gas transmission pipelines span every state and territory in mainland Australia, delivering approximately half of the nation's gas usage. APA has direct management and operational control over its assets and investment.

APA currently owns and operates 15,000 kilometres of high pressure natural gas pipelines, as well as owning or having interests in gas storage facilities, gas-fired power stations and wind farms.

APA also has ownership interests in, and operates, the Allgas gas distribution network, as well as operating the Australian Gas Networks (formerly Envestra Limited), which together have approximately 27,000 kilometres of gas mains and approximately 1.3 million gas consumer connections.

Further information on APA operations and activities is available on the APA website: <https://www.apa.com.au>.

The Galilee Moranbah Pipeline Project

The proposed pipeline will be used to deliver gas from existing gas exploration tenements owned by Comet Ridge to Moranbah. More information on Comet Ridge's exploration can be found at cometridge.com.au.

What are the benefits of the project?

The key benefits offered by the project are as follows:

- Enabling transfer of gas from a previously untapped basin.
- Increasing gas supply capacity and certainty for users in central and northern Queensland.
- Providing gas to customers at a competitive price.
- Creating jobs in regional Queensland.

2.0

Pipeline Corridor Selection



Has a pipeline corridor been selected?

APA has identified a proposed pipeline corridor for the Galilee Moranbah Pipeline. At this stage, the pipeline corridor has been identified from a desktop perspective assessing key constraints. Considerations have included known environmental and cultural heritage values, terrain, existing and proposed infrastructure corridors and mines, watercourses and land use.

APA is now seeking to engage with relevant stakeholders and undertake studies on the proposed corridor to confirm its suitability. Detailed maps of the alignment will not be developed until the pipeline alignment has been confirmed.

Where is the proposed pipeline route?

The proposed pipeline corridor commences within existing gas exploration tenements in the Galilee Basin and travels east to a final termination point north of Moranbah. The pipeline will connect into the existing high pressure gas pipeline that operates from Moranbah to Townsville.

How was the proposed pipeline corridor identified?

A key objective in selecting the proposed pipeline corridor was to ensure the pipeline will have the minimum possible impact on the natural and built environment, landholders, communities and mining interests. APA is now seeking to undertake detailed assessment of the area to ensure key project constraints have been adequately considered. It is hoped that over the next 6-12 months APA can further refine the corridor to ensure potential impacts associated with the project are minimised.

Is the project likely to proceed?

Prior to any decisions being made about the pipeline proceeding, APA will need to undertake an extensive project assessment and stakeholder consultation to confirm the project is possible and viable. The type, quantity and quality of gas within the Galilee Basin will also need to be confirmed to ensure the project is economically viable.

3.0 Environmental Assessment and Approvals Process

What approvals does APA need to obtain to investigate proposed pipeline corridors?

Prior to undertaking any field investigation APA will obtain a Petroleum Survey Licence (PSL) and an Environmental Authority (EA). A PSL is an authority issued under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 that allows a suitable company to investigate the feasibility of a potential gas pipeline. The PSL provides certain access rights to access public and private land to allow pipeline feasibility investigations to be undertaken. Notification in the form of a Notice of Entry to any private landholder is required prior to initial entry. Additional information relating to PSLs can be found at [this web page](http://apa.com.au/qld-psl) (apa.com.au/qld-psl).

An Environmental Authority is issued under the Environmental Protection Act (1994) and its associated regulations and it outlines environmental conditions associated with any activity undertaken on a PSL.

What approvals does APA need to obtain to construct the proposed pipeline?

Prior to any pipeline construction works, APA is required to obtain a Petroleum Pipeline Licence (PPL) to authorise the construction works and an Environmental Authority (EA) to manage potential environmental impacts. Furthermore, APA will need to ensure it complies with the requirements of the Commonwealth Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999).

APA may also need to gain additional approvals for works associated with the pipeline construction, such as for temporary residential facilities for employees and contractors.

Will the project require an Environmental Impact Study (EIS)?

Several different approvals pathways can be used to assess project impacts and potentially approve the project. Some of these pathways require a formal EIS process and some don't. APA will undertake initial environmental assessments and engage with the State and Commonwealth Governments to identify which is the most appropriate pathway. The initial assessment and consultation is expected to take 6-12 months.

Will the project impact upon Black throated finch populations?

Detailed investigation will be undertaken into all flora and fauna impacts along the proposed pipeline corridor. Where impacts cannot be avoided through route selection, specific mitigation measures will be implemented if required. This will include specific assessments for potential black throated finch populations. The State and Commonwealth Government approvals pathways will not allow projects to proceed if potential impacts to any plant or animal species or communities are expected to be unacceptable.

4.0 Land Access



Information and feedback from landowner consultation plays an important role in the pipeline development process.

How do I know if my property is affected?

APA will make, or would have already made, contact with all landholders along the proposed pipeline corridor. If you have not been contacted but think your property may be on or near the proposed pipeline corridor then we would like to hear from you. Our project team can be contacted at 1800 290 598 or GMP_Pipeline_project@apa.com.au. We have prepared a [video showing landholder feedback](http://apa.com.au/landholders-vid) (apa.com.au/landholders-vid) from a pipeline recently constructed by APA in the Surat Basin.

What interest might APA seek to have in my land?

The appropriate tenure for a buried pipeline is an easement. An easement is an agreement registered on the title of the land that sets out the rights of a pipeline owner to install and maintain the pipeline. It defines the obligations on the landholder in the area of the easement, and the obligations of the easement holder. The principle restriction on the use of the land in the easement will be not to build structures or to undertake significant excavation without prior approval from APA. Compensation for the easement is payable to the landholder.

How wide is the proposed easement?

APA will, in most instances, seek an easement for what is required for the operation of the pipeline. The final easement width is subject to further detailed design, though it is likely to be 30 metres. APA may require additional working space to construct the pipeline (to accommodate truck turn-arounds or lateral access for construction vehicles) for the safe and efficient construction of the pipeline. APA will seek to enter into an agreement for the use of this additional land for the pipeline construction phase.

At what point will APA want to negotiate an easement?

Subject to the completion of all necessary investigations and the confirmation of a preferred alignment, APA will seek agreement with landholders for an easement for the pipeline.

What rights do I have?

Any land access requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 and the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014.

All land access must be undertaken in accordance with the Land Access Code, which can be found [here](http://apa.com.au/qld-lac) (apa.com.au/qld-lac). If you don't have reliable internet access, please let us know and we can arrange a copy to be provided to you. Additionally, you can contact the Gasfield Commission, which is an independent statutory authority with a charter to educate, engage and inform about all aspects of Queensland's gas industry. Their contact details are 07 3067 9400 or enquiries@gfcq.org.au. Its website is gasfieldscommissionqld.org.au.

5.0

Pipeline Construction

When is the project construction set to commence?

The exact timing of the potential construction of the pipeline is not yet known. It will take a minimum of 18 months to complete pre-construction activities.

How long will the construction process take?

The construction of the Galilee Moranbah Pipeline Project will take approximately 12 - 18 months. This duration is subject to weather and final project scope. In any one location, construction should be completed within a six-month period. In areas where there are to be above ground facilities, this duration would be longer.

What size is the construction workforce and where will they be accommodated?

The size of the construction workforce is not yet known. The diameter of the pipeline and the final location of the pipeline will impact upon the size of the workforce required. APA will better understand these parameters once detailed project studies have been completed.

Accommodation options for the construction workforce will be identified through the project feasibility activities.

Will I be able to access my property during construction?

Yes. Measures will be implemented during the construction phase to ensure landholders have continual access to their property.

What size pipeline is proposed and will it be buried?

The exact size of the proposed pipeline is not yet known. Specific engineering design will be undertaken to determine pipe diameter and specification. The pipeline will be buried to a minimum depth of 750 millimetres for its entire length. This excludes areas where above ground facilities will be required. In these areas the pipeline will be above ground and the areas will be fenced.

Will I still be able to use my land?

While there will be some disruptions to land use during construction, we will consult with landholders to ensure they are minimal.

APA owns and operates over 15,000 kilometres of easements for pipelines around Australia and the vast majority of these are located in rural land subject to ongoing grazing and cropping activities.

Is there any above ground infrastructure proposed?

For the majority of the pipeline the only above ground items you will see along the pipeline are marker signs, which locate the pipeline, gates in existing fences and small posts that allow the pipeline's corrosion protection system to be tested.

If a fenced above ground facility is proposed for your land APA will discuss with this you directly when sufficient information has been gathered.

What is the pipeline constructed out of?

The pipeline is constructed from high strength steel coated with a fusion bonded epoxy, anti-corrosion coating. The pipeline will be fully welded with all welds and coating being undertaken in accordance with strict quality assurance procedures.

How will impacts to my property and infrastructure on my property be managed?

APA will work closely with you to minimise any conflict with your property and any existing infrastructure.

Will you need to bring in additional sand or pipe bedding material for the pipeline and if so where will it be sourced from?

The bedding material for the pipeline will be sourced by screening fines from the trench spoil using specialist machinery. If there is a shortage of suitable material (for example, in rocky areas) additional material may need to be imported to site. Other options will also be fully considered including rock shield coatings and other mechanisms to protect the pipeline.

In the rare event of needing to source material from beyond the easement area, options such as existing borrow pits will be considered in consultation with the landholder. Any importation of material will be subject to appropriate weed and biosecurity protocols.

How long will it take for the pipeline easement to be restored?

Restoration of the easement is undertaken following construction so that it is returned to its previous condition within a reasonable timeframe. Activities such as compaction relief, respreading of preserved topsoil, reseeding and monitoring for weeds are all part of the restoration process.

How will APA manage biosecurity risks for the project?

APA is responsible for ensuring our activities during initial field surveys and later during construction and operation adhere to all legislative requirements and government policy applicable to biosecurity and weed management matters. These issues are not unique to the pipeline project. Successful management of biosecurity matters is a responsibility we take very seriously on all of our projects and operational assets.

During discussions with landholders prior to accessing the proposed route, APA will be seeking assistance to identify any known areas of weed infestation or other biosecurity concerns. This consultation will inform the planning of fieldwork and biosecurity protocols.

The findings of the field surveys as well as ongoing consultation with landholders and government agencies will be used to formulate specific commitments for the project management of biosecurity risks during construction and operation.

Restored easement



6.0

Pipeline Operations and Decommissioning

After construction is completed, how regularly will APA need to access the easement and for what purpose?

APA will need to access the easement on an ongoing basis to undertake ground patrols, conduct cathodic protection surveys and undertake maintenance work on the easement (for example, vegetation management). A typical inspection program for a pipeline would involve monthly aerial surveys from fixed wing or rotary aircraft. Ground traverses will also be required on an ongoing basis. We envisage that ground patrols of the pipeline would be undertaken at least once every three months.

During the 12-24 months immediately following construction, access will be more frequent as we monitor rehabilitation progress along the easement and address any ground settlement that may occur above the pipeline.

What is the life expectancy of the pipeline?

Pipelines of this nature typically have a design life in the order of 50 years. However, contemporary design, maintenance and inspection practices are such that it is not uncommon for pipelines to remain in operation well beyond this timeframe.

What happens to the pipeline when it is no longer operational?

Should the pipeline no longer be required to carry gas, a decommissioning program will be implemented by APA in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements at the time. This will include flushing of any remnant gas from the pipeline system and the removal of any unrequired above-ground valves or infrastructure.

We want to hear from **you!**

APA has commenced a comprehensive program of community and stakeholder consultation for the Galilee Moranbah Pipeline Project. Specific activities either completed or proposed include:

- Establishment of a project website, 1800 information line and project email address, including an online enquiry form for providing feedback about the project.
- Direct contact with landholders along the proposed pipeline corridor and regular ongoing contact.
- Consultation with relevant government agencies (federal, state and local).
- Engagement with local councils.
- Direct contact with a range of other stakeholders with a potential interest in the project.

How can I find out more information, provide feedback or register a complaint?

If you wish to register any comments, find out more information or provide feedback about the project, please contact us by telephoning 1800 290 598 (free call 24 hours / 7 days) or emailing us at gmp_pipeline_project@apa.com.au.

further information:

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- e** GMP_Pipeline_project@apa.com.au
- w** apa.com.au



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