

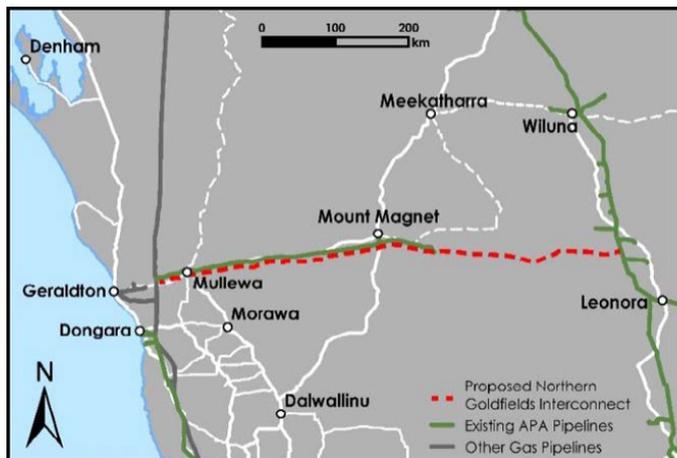


Northern Goldfields Interconnect Project

APA is embarking on a new gas pipeline infrastructure project that will connect new and existing gas provinces to existing gas pipeline infrastructure in the Northern Goldfields region of Western Australia.

The project will involve construction of the Northern Goldfields Interconnect (NGI), a new buried pipeline, approximately 580 kilometres long commencing at Ambania, approximately 50 kilometres east of Geraldton, connecting into the existing Goldfields Gas Pipeline (GGP), approximately 40 kilometres south of Leinster. The project will initially include compression at the inlet, with associated aboveground facilities located along the route of the pipeline.

The NGI will create new opportunities for the supply of natural gas for the mining industry and provide for other growth opportunities in the Goldfields region and beyond. The NGI will provide greater access to existing and new natural gas supply fields supporting the regions processing and power generation growth requirements.



Pipeline statistics

length	Approximately 580 kilometres
material	Epoxy-coated high strength steel line pipe
nominal diameter	300 millimetres
depth of cover	Minimum 750 millimetres cover, increased at third-party infrastructure crossing locations, such as roads, rail ways and waterways, or where deemed appropriate by land use or risk assessment outcome.

Note: adjacent to the Mid West Pipe line, the minimum depth of cover will be consistent with the existing depth of cover for the Mid West Pipeline.

design principles Strictly in accordance with the latest version of Australian Standard (AS) 2885 Pipelines Gas and Liquid Petroleum.

easement width Nominally 30 metres wide depending on location (larger areas for above ground facilities and reduced at areas of ecological sensitivity or other identified sensitive areas).

APA is a leading energy infrastructure business. Our purpose is to strengthen communities through responsible energy. We are listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) and own and/or operate a \$21 billion portfolio of gas, electricity, solar and wind assets around Australia. With a vision to be world class in energy solutions, at APA we are Always Powering Ahead.

With approximately 2,000 employees working across more than 60 urban, regional and remote locations, APA is truly a nationwide organisation. Our assets include 15,000 kilometres of gas transmission pipelines; gas storage and processing facilities; and wind, solar and gas-fired power generation. Furthermore, APA owns or operates almost 30,000 kilometres of gas distribution mains and pipelines connecting gas to more than 1.5 million Australians.

Pipeline route selection

APA identified a proposed pipeline alignment for the NGI from desktop studies considering known environmental and cultural heritage values, terrain, existing and proposed infrastructure corridors, the existence of mining tenements and land uses. In September 2020 APA commenced refining and firming up the pipeline alignment, based on the outcomes of the environmental and cultural heritage surveys, geotechnical and other technical investigations, and engagement with landholders and other stakeholders.

The pipeline alignment traverses agricultural land that includes a mix of cropping and pastoral land uses, and will make use of existing infrastructure corridors, where suitable, in order to reduce the extent of disturbance required for the project and in keeping with the proposed use of the land.

Pipeline design

The proposed pipeline will be designed and constructed in accordance with the latest version of Australian Standard AS2885 Pipelines Gas and Liquid Petroleum. AS2885 incorporates best-practice standards that the Pipeline's design and operation must satisfy. The pipeline will be licenced by a new Pipeline Licence issued under the **Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969 (WA)** allowing the construction and operation of the pipeline.

Land access

APA was granted 'Authority to Enter' the preferred pipeline route in accordance with Section 7 of the **Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969 (WA)**, to conduct ecological and cultural heritage surveys, cadastrals and centreline surveys, geotechnical and service locating investigations, and potholing. APA consulted with all landowners along the selected alignment to discuss details of the proposed project including surveys, investigation activities, pipeline construction activities and land use requirements.

APA has refined the preferred route and is now consulting and negotiating in order to obtain appropriate tenure to contain the proposed pipeline.

Approvals process

This project is subject to a comprehensive program of regulatory approvals, landowner and community consultation and internal approvals, which will assist APA in finalising the pipeline alignment and managing and mitigating and identified impacts.

APA has prepared a Construction Environment Plan which demonstrates how APA will manage any potential environmental impacts resulting from the Project. APA is working with relevant authorities to gain all necessary approvals for the pipeline development. These include approvals for Heritage, Environment, Licencing, construction, commissioning, and ongoing operations and maintenance.

Pipeline construction

After a rigorous tender evaluation process Nacap Pty Ltd (Nacap) has been awarded the pipeline construction contract. Nacap have over 30 years experience in the energy sector, including pipeline construction, within Australia.

APA and Nacap will work closely to ensure Project, environmental, cultural heritage, landholder and community commitments are met.



Indicative project timeline



Stakeholder engagement

Consultation with regulatory agencies landholders (private and public owners of land), traditional owners and other stakeholders.

Commencement: Q3 2020



Obtaining Land Access for Surveys

Seek agreement for land access and undertaking specialist investigations.

Completion: Q1 2021



Agreement of Pipeline Corridor

Seek consent agreements for construction and any required crossing agreements with third parties.

Completion: Q4 2021



Completion of Regulatory Approvals

Obtain relevant state and federal government approvals.

Completion: Q1 2022



Pipeline Construction

Construction and commissioning of the pipeline.

Target completion: Q3/Q4 2022



Pipeline Operation

Operate the pipeline for the life of the asset.

Once in operation, there will be minimal impacts along the pipeline route.



Further information

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