

Orbost gas plant project update.

Final steps to operation of the plant

APA is continuing to prepare the Orbost Gas Plant Facility for operations. The commissioning and start-up program that commenced in August 2019 is due to conclude in March 2020, when we will declare the plant operational.

Works to complete the commissioning of the plant continued throughout 2019. After bushfires impacted the East Gippsland region over the Christmas period, there was an evacuation of project resources from the area until early January 2020.

"APA commends the CFA volunteers and local community members who did a heroic job defending the town of Orbost in dire conditions in the days leading up to New Year's Eve," said Project Director Alex Kristovskis.

APA has in place a comprehensive Emergency Response Plan that was prepared in collaboration with emergency services and the relevant authorities. Work has resumed on site and we will continue to regularly monitor the bushfire activity in the region and consult with relevant emergency services.

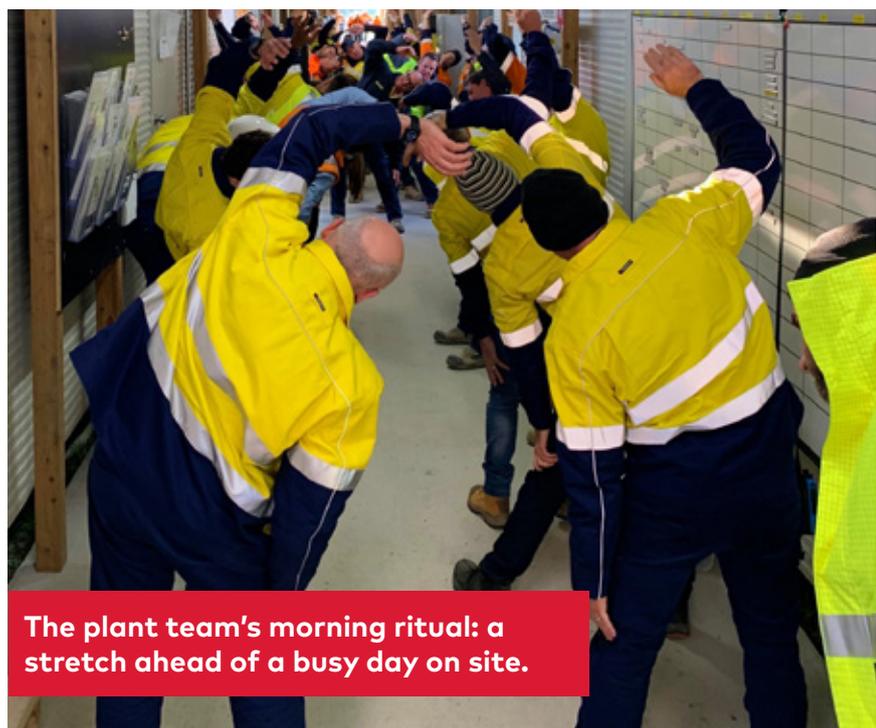
The current works on site includes flaring activity. Flaring is the process whereby you intentionally burn, in a controlled manner, the product within a natural gas pipeline. Flaring generates heat and noise, and may be seen from nearby properties and businesses. These works are conducted in a highly controlled environment after a significant amount of planning and preparation. APA is working to strict conditions during the commissioning period regulated by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) and Worksafe Victoria.

Visit the team at our information stand in Orbost

Visit the team at our next round of community engagement. We will be at Orbost Home Hardware and Timber over three days in March to provide information to the community on the final stages of work at the plant.

Drop by during these times:
Thursday 12 March – 9am-12pm
Friday 13 March – 1pm-5pm
Saturday 14 March – 9am-12pm

Orbost Home Hardware and Timber
 – 87-89 Nicholson St, Orbost



The plant team's morning ritual: a stretch ahead of a busy day on site.



Image credit: Orbost Snowy Rovers Football and Netball Club facebook page

Project Timeline

Mid-February 2020:

First gas introduced in to the plant.

12-14 March 2020:

Community Information Stand at Orbost Home Hardware and Timber

March 2020:

Gas Plant commences operation (subject to completion of commissioning works).

Further information:

To find out more information or provide feedback, please contact us:

Call: **1800 ORBOST / 1800 672 678**

Email orbostgasplant@apa.com.au

Bushfire recovery and support

APA is committed to supporting the community in recovery efforts. We have partnered with our environmental consultants from Biosis to donate first aid kits to wildlife shelters across East Gippsland. Additionally, direct contributions have been made from APA and staff to volunteer firefighting organisations, Red Cross and WIRES.

We will work with local council, the Community Advisory Committee for the project and other stakeholders on how APA can support further.

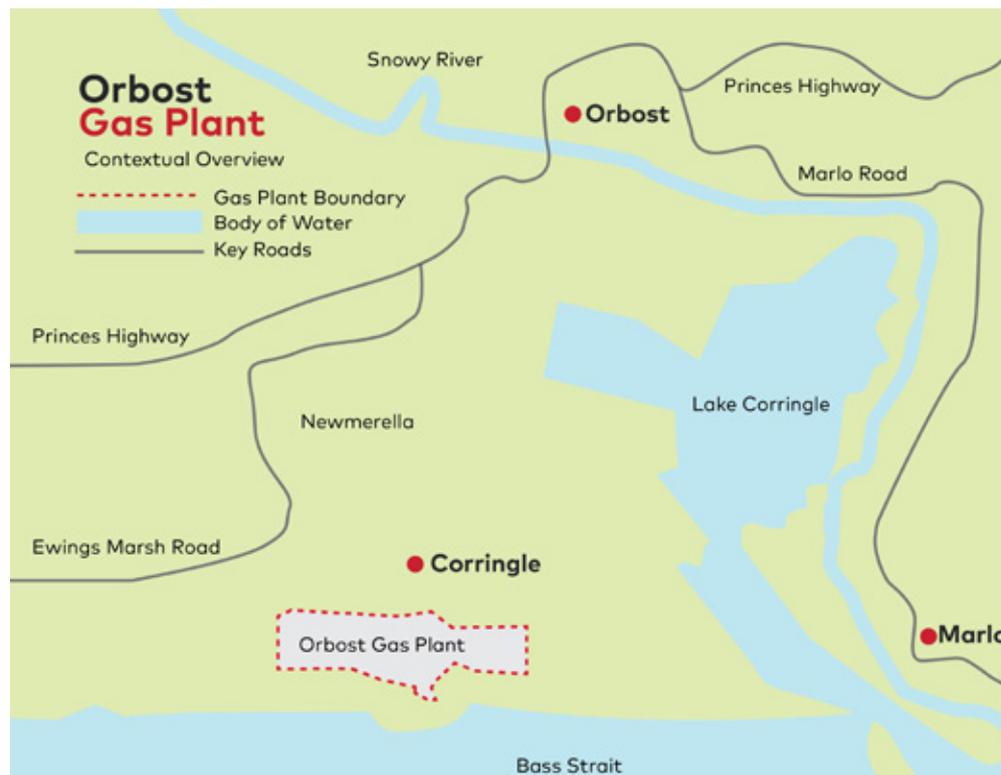
Community grants and sponsorships

As a local member in your community, we have ensured that, in addition to using local goods and services, we continue to provide support to clubs and organisations. We are thrilled to announce the local community clubs and organisations we will support in 2020:

- Orbost Snowy Rovers Football and Netball Club
- Orbost Cricket Club
- Orbost Basketball Association
- Orbost Hockey Club
- Orbost Little Athletics
- Orbost Agricultural Society
- Australian Wood Design Exhibition in Orbost

Additional requests for sponsorship can be sent to the team for consideration.

Email us: OGPULocalEol@apa.com.au



About APA

APA is a leading energy infrastructure business. We've been connecting Australian energy since 2000. From small beginnings we've become a top 50 ASX-listed company, employing 1,800 people, and owning and operating the largest interconnected gas transmission network across Australia. We deliver smart, reliable and safe solutions through our deep industry knowledge and interconnected infrastructure.

Visit www.apa.com.au to learn more about how we are connecting Australia to its energy future.

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