

Esso is reviewing and updating the Environmental Management Plan for petroleum activities in State waters, as required under the Victorian Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2010.

The review process must include consultation with relevant persons. These are individuals or organisations whose functions, interests, or activities may be impacted by the activities conducted under the Plan.

Activities description

- Operation of 8 pipelines between the Gippsland shore (Loch Sport to Seaspray) and the 3 nautical mile limit, conveying oil and gas.
- 2. Inspection, maintenance and repair of pipelines.
- 3. Transit of petroleum activity support vessels carrying supplies to production platforms.
- 4. Transit of vessels supporting decommissioning activities.
- 5. Transit of helicopters carrying personnel and urgent freight to and from the production platforms.

Timing

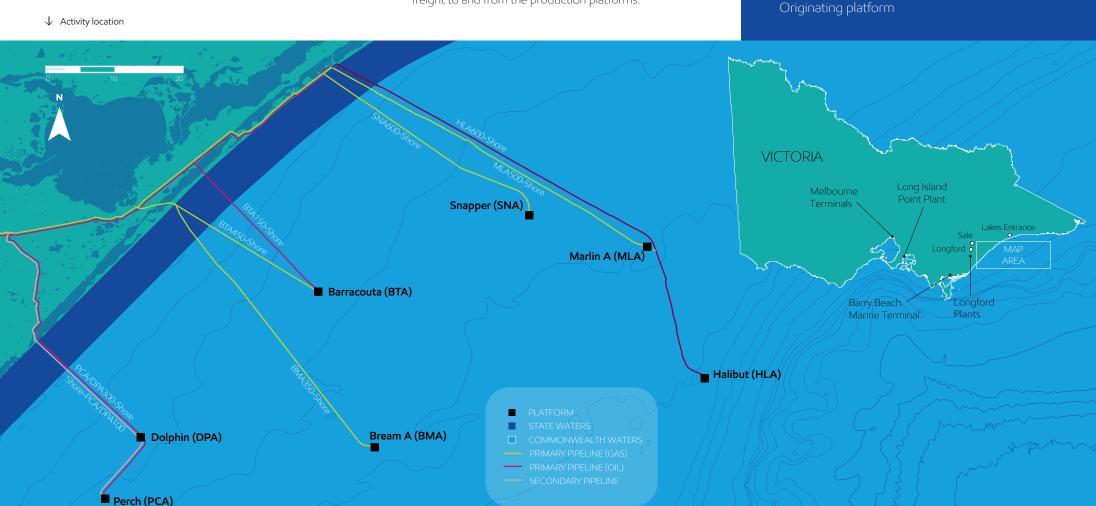
PIPELINE NAMING

BTA450-Shore

Esso has been operating pipelines in this area for over 50 years. This 5-yearly update of the Environmental Plan addresses the risks and control measures for activities that will be undertaken over the next five years, until late 2028.

Destination

Pipeline outside diameter



Risks and control measures

An overview of the environmental and social risks associated with ongoing operation and maintenance of the pipelines is presented below.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS	POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES	CONTROL MEASURES
Release of gas, oil, or suspension fluid to the marine environment.	Marine pollution Acute or chronic impacts to marine life (birds, mammals, reptiles, fish, flora) Interruption of commercial and recreational fishing Loss of amenity of coastline	 Pipeline Network Safety Case addressing operation and maintenance of all Esso offshore pipelines, including emergency preparedness & response, and approved by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA). Corrosion management processes Pipeline inspection and monitoring processes Isolation test plans Published navigational charts locating pipelines (for fishers) Overhead observation (from helicopter) Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (approved by NOPSEMA) Oil Spill Monitoring Plan (approved by NOPSEMA)
Release of contaminants during subsea maintenance.	Marine pollution – rapidly dissipated Temporary, localised reduction in marine fauna.	 Potential loss volume limited to 80 L Permit to Work System that provides for appropriate planning and risk identification and control Operating Integrity Management System (OIMS) that requires approved procedures for maintenance activities
Disturbance of the seabed during subsea maintenance	Disturbance of cultural heritage values	 Activity limited to previously disturbed areas Engagement with traditional owners if activities extend beyond previously disturbed areas
Support vessels - waste disposal and biofouling	Marine pollution Introduction of invasive species	 Strictly regulated by Department of Forestry and Fisheries and audited by Esso Comprehensive training for Ships Captains and Crews and record keeping required
Support vessels – noise, accidental collision with marine fauna	Acute or chronic impacts on marine fauna	 Legislative obligations to minimise impacts on wildlife Esso processes for selecting and monitoring contractors with appropriate systems for managing legislative obligations (OIMS)
Support vessels - accidental collision with other vessel (fuel spill)	Marine pollution	 Esso processes for selecting and monitoring contractors with appropriate training, qualifications and safety management systems Gippsland Port Authority controls on vessels in high activity areas
Helicopters – noise	Reduced amenity	Frequency of flights minimised by constraining to essential flights only



→ OIL POLLUTION EMERGENCY PLAN

Esso maintains an Emergency Response Manual that provides instruction on response to all identified potential emergency incidents, and an Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (OPEP), that provides detailed instruction on response to an oi spill.

The OPEP outlines how spills of varying sizes would be managed to minimise impact on people, environment, commercial resources and amenities. Protection priorities and response strategies take into consideration environmental sensitivities and social and economic values, including marine fauna, coastal ecosystems, heritage values and shipwrecks, commercial fisheries, recreational fishing, tourism, industry, ships and ports.

The OPEP outlines the resources (personnel and equipment) and response strategies to be implemented depending on the size and nature of the spill and interfaces with national, state and industry response plans, identifying lead response organisations and other responders.

Esso Australia is a member of the Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre (AMOSC), a co-operative national oil spill response organisation, which provides access to additional oil spill response resources if required.

