

**April 2023** 

**FACT SHEET** 

## **FIELD SURVEY**

#### **The Hunter Gas Pipeline**

Hunter Gas Pipeline (HGP) Pty Ltd is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Santos. The proposed underground pipeline route passes close to Santos' Narrabri Gas Project (NGP). The goal is to work with infrastructure developers and landholders to construct a pipeline that will deliver much-needed gas to the east coast domestic market in the shortest timeframe possible.

The 833-kilometre pipeline already has planning approval from the NSW and Queensland governments. Once constructed, it will potentially connect the Wallumbilla Gas Supply Hub in Queensland to NSW, providing a second route to southern markets for Queensland gas and adding competition to the domestic market.

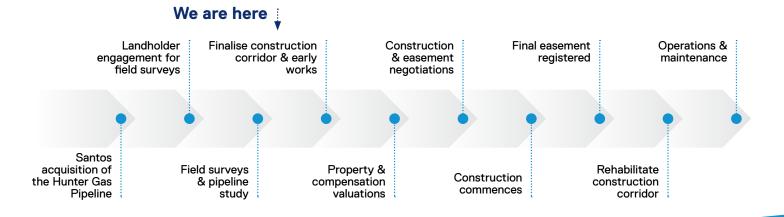
The HGP has been designed with offtake points at various regional towns along the route, and the corridor was selected to ensure minimum impact on communities, landowners, and the environment. The pipeline will also be designed to transport hydrogen as customer demand evolves during the energy transition.

#### **Project status**

Santos will continue to engage with the directly affected landholders, local councils and state government agencies to finalise the pipeline alignment within and around the approved corridor.

Early site survey work has commenced in some areas. The Santos team will continue to meet with landholders seeking permission to gain property access to conduct these investigations over the coming months. The exact location of the pipeline and the permanent 30-metre construction right-of-way will continue to be refined, taking into consideration potential constructability issues, landholder feedback and preferences, and environmental considerations identified in the survey work.

The pipeline is expected to commence construction in early 2024 once the route is finalised and all secondary approvals are completed.



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# Field survey activities



#### What is proposed?

Santos will undertake a range of field survey activities to assist in the design and environmental assessment of the potential pipeline alignment.

Environmental field studies that are likely to require access to private land include the following surveys:

- + Ecology flora, fauna, and aquatic ecology
- + Soils and geology
- + Cultural heritage

Cadastral and feature surveys will also be undertaken along the preliminary alignment.

Field survey teams will use 4wd-vehicles to drive and inspect the route. Wherever possible, existing access roads and tracks will be used. Areas will be accessed on foot if they are not passable by vehicle or where a more detailed inspection is required (e.g. heavy vegetation).

Soils will be sampled at selected sites along the preliminary alignment using a hand auger. This sampling method has a tiny disturbance footprint. In some instances, Santos may seek to use truck-mounted augers depending on soil/rock conditions. Santos will reinstate the land to its predisturbance condition if this is required.

Survey work will be undertaken during business hours on Mondays to Fridays unless agreed with the landholder.

# Why are we undertaking field surveys?

In order to determine the final alignment of the pipeline, Santos must undertake detailed investigations to address specific landholder feedback, resolve potential constructability issues, and environmental considerations. Santos will undertake a range of survey activities along the length of the preliminary pipeline alignment and immediately adjacent land, with initial works focused on the Narrabri to Hexham section of the pipeline route.

The proposed survey activities will be undertaken by specialist consultants operating under Santos' supervision. Before any survey works commence, Santos will meet with landholders to obtain consent on the areas of property to access and on what and when this will occur.

Each landholder will be provided suitable notice and specific details regarding the proposed activities, equipment to be used, areas of the property to be accessed and planned entry points.

Santos is committed to building positive long-term relationships with all landholders along the proposed alignment. We respect landholder rights and understand that while working on or near landholder property, Santos must consider how this work may affect landholders and their businesses.



### Landholder feedback

Santos recognises that landholders are uniquely placed to provide information regarding the features of their property. Santos welcomes feedback regarding the proposed alignment and any features or constraints that need to be considered during this project planning and assessment phase.

Landholders may also wish to accompany the survey team during the survey.

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### Landholder engagement process

As one of Australia's most significant domestic gas suppliers, Santos has partnered with many local communities, providing jobs and business opportunities while safely and sustainably developing Australia's natural gas resources and powering Australian industries and households.

Santos continues to consult closely with landholders, councils representing the broader communities, and all other stakeholders.

The diagram below outlines the engagement process Santos will undertake with landholders to access properties for field survey works.

# Compensation and access agreements

Landholders will be compensated for signing access agreements that allow Santos and its team onto the property for survey works.





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# Biosecurity controls

Protecting the environment, land, and land use wherever Santos operates is a core value of the company and all of our projects. Santos has a broad and deep knowledge of working with high valued and complex agribusiness, including Australian Certified Organic Standard properties.

Santos works with landholders to implement all practicable measures to prevent the introduction and spread of weeds, pest animals, and animal and plant diseases to minimise the risk of a biosecurity impact to a landholder's property.



#### Animals and livestock

Santos has been closely monitoring Indonesia's Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak. Santos shares the concerns of farmers, industry bodies and health authorities about the potential threat of FMD and other livestock diseases which pose a threat to Australian agriculture. Santos is committed to doing all we can to prevent an outbreak in Australia by closely monitoring the FMD situation and adjusting biosecurity plans accordingly.

Santos continues to stay informed and follow the advice provided by the federal and state governments and agricultural industry bodies including the National Farmers' Federation.

Santos has adopted all government requirements for international travellers returning to Australia, including restricting access to rural properties for travellers from Indonesia for seven days.

#### Weed control

All reasonable actions will be taken to ensure that, in carrying out our activities, we do not introduce or spread weeds, pests or pathogens. This is managed through Santos' policies and work instructions which are available on request.

Santos will ensure that all vehicles and machinery entering the land on Santos' behalf hold a current Vehicle Hygiene Declaration. Where vehicles and machinery have entered land that is known, or ought reasonably to have been known to be an area of biosecurity risk, a new Vehicle Hygiene Declaration will be completed prior to accessing the land.

On request, Santos will produce Vehicle Hygiene Declarations for each vehicle and machinery entering, passing over, or accessing the land.

#### **About Santos**

Santos is one of Australia's largest domestic gas suppliers and has been working in partnership with local communities to provide energy to homes and businesses across Australia and Asia for more than 65 years. Santos has been supplying natural gas to NSW since 1976 and has been operating in the state since 2008.

Our NSW assets include the NGP, with 100 per cent of Narrabri gas committed to the domestic market. Locally, the project is expected to provide up to 1,300 jobs during construction and 200 ongoing local jobs and deliver significant economic benefits to the region.

Once fully operational, the NGP has the potential to deliver more than half of the natural gas that goes into the NSW market each day, ensuring people in NSW receive locally produced gas creating a more secure and affordable supply for families and businesses.

#### **Contact details**

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