



Notification of
DECISION ON ASSESSMENT APPROACH

Construction of the North East Gas Interconnector Pipeline, Tennant Creek, Northern Territory to Mt Isa, Queensland (EPBC 2015/7569)

This decision is made under Section 87 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Proposed action

proposed action	To construct and operate a buried 622 km high-pressure gas pipeline from Tennant Creek (Northern Territory) to Mt Isa (Queensland) (see EPBC Act referral 2015/7569).
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Decision on assessment approach

assessment approach	The project will be assessed by public environment report.
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Person authorised to make decision

name and position	Deb Callister Assistant Secretary Assessments and Policy Implementation Branch
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signature

49-Sch4 - Signature

date of decision

11 December 2015



Australian Government
Department of the Environment

EPBC Ref: 2015/7569

Mr Philip Rowland
A/g Director
Impact Assessment and Operational Support
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr Rowland

Decision on assessment approach

**Construction of the North East Gas Interconnector Pipeline, Tennant Creek,
Northern Territory to Mt Isa, Queensland (EPBC 2015/7569)**

I am writing to you in relation to the Jemena Northern Gas Pipeline Pty Ltd's (the proponent) proposal to construct and operate a 622 km high-pressure gas pipeline from Tennant Creek to Mt Isa.

On 9 November 2015, the department received an email from 73(2) of EcOz Environmental Consulting advising, on behalf of the proponent, that the project is to be assessed by environmental impact statement under the Northern Territory *Environmental Assessment Act*. The email further advised an application for an Environmental Authority under the Queensland *Environmental Protection Act 1994* had been submitted and the assessment process had commenced.

I am now able to advise that the proposed action is to be assessed by public environment report. A copy of the document recording this decision is enclosed.

If you have any questions about the assessment process or this decision, please contact the project manager, Luke Hulbert, by email to luke.hulbert@environment.gov.au, or telephone 02 6274 2743 and quote the EPBC reference number shown at the beginning of this letter.

Yours sincerely

49-Sch4 - Signature

Deb Callister
Assistant Secretary
Assessments and Policy Implementation Branch

11 December 2015

November 2015

29

Sunday

30/11/12

P&G + QPWS meeting re. Jemena

333 - 32 Week 48

7:30 Brendan Tyndale, Jackie McKeay, Kylie Breakey, Alison Haycock,
7:45 Lachlan Griffiths

8:00

8:15 - Jemena has received permit to look into Payken Timber
8:30 reserve.

8:45 - GA holder will have to seek permit from QPWS as a land
9:00 being a land holder.

9:15 - Forestry Act permit required for any disturbance or even
9:30 for marking land area.

9:45 - Pipelines are permitted in state forests.

10:00 - Jemena may request quarry permit from DAFF

10:15 - Forestry not compatible with pipelines.

10:30 - No plans to harvest - only quarry existing - probably gravel

10:45 - Timber quarry, land management (rehab) is concern of
11:00 QPWS but no timber. Quarry permit under DAFF and

11:15 TP rehab under GA.

* 11:30 - why was state forest & timber reserve excluded from ESAs?

11:45 - DAFF permit - clear & construct

12:00 - Grazing lease over timber reserve.

12:15

12:30

12:45

1:00

1:15

1:30

1:45

2:00

2:15

2:30

2:45

3:00

3:15

3:30

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4:00

4:15

4:30

4:45

5:00

5:15

5:30

5:45

6:00

6:15

6:30

6:45

7:00

Page 25 - Fire map

January							February					March					April					May					June								
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31													
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30														

Jemena New Pipeline EA

7.10.15
Radhika, Danielle,
Aislinn

- activities in Cat B & Cat C
- Feedback not provided to Jemena on pre-lodged EA
- Pre-lodgement meeting 27/08/15
application (draft) submitted approx. 1 wk prior
→ meeting minutes
- Not provided information on ERAs
• not properly made application - check leg.
- check Charlie - biodiversity
- Cat B & Cat C
— Biodiversity 8A (smc)
- Standard conditions + SMC Biodiversity Rehab

Jemena

3/11/15

ER 1.3.7 - sparse

overlapping SEAs?

desk top studies

→ connectivity - run tool

offsets

1. activity prescribed activity
2. sign. impact
3. Is an offset available

Identify all mgs that are likely to be impacted. Identify if impact will be significant
Assessment of available land suitable for an offset.
more info. on website, guideline

CSS - prepared maps
(offset policy) → Strategic offset corridors
not done for all bioregions

Craig Hempel (CSS) → run connectivity tool on the proposed pipeline corridor

Could be multiple offset requirements

Need assurance that the impacts can be offset.

Jemena

9.10.15

Nothing in act states that must discuss MSES in applica
maybe some MSES that an offset may not be
available

missed identification of MSES (some)

email

Advice to keep in mind to find a
route where an offset can be done.

email draft EA

→ based on application will not be
authorising disturbance to ESAs

c

Jemena

11/11/15

decided properly made 12 Oct.

lost 4 days with palm

Notification started 22 Oct

KPI 46 days.

EHP RTI DL Release