



Marulan Gas Turbine Facilities | | | Environmental Assessment



VOLUME 1

URS

August 2008

MAIN REPORT



Statement of Validity

Submission of Environmental Assessment

Prepared under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Environmental Assessment prepared by

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Address URS Australia Pty Ltd

Level 3

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In respect of

Applicant & Land Details

Applicant (jointly)

Delta Electricity

EnergyAustralia

Darling Park, 201 Sussex Street 570 George Street Sydney NSW 2000 Sydney NSW 2000

Application No. MP07_0174

Subject Site Marulan, NSW

Land to be developed Lot & DP

Development Site Lot 2 DP1120270

Gas Pipeline Corridor Lot 2341 DP 62834, Lot 20 DP 113590, Lot 12 DP 727493, Lot 2 DP 732144, Lot 2 DP 750053,

Lot 41 DP 750053, Lot 76 DP 750053, Lot 77 DP 750053, Lot 78 DP 750053, Lot 89 DP 750053, Lot 92 DP 750053, Lot 95 DP 750053, Lot 99 DP 750053, Lot 100 DP 750053, Lot 104 DP 750053, Lot 105 DP 750053, Lot 106 DP 750053, Lot 107 DP 750053, Lot 108 DP 750053, Lot 140 DP 750053, Lot 141 DP 750053, Lot 144 DP 750053, Lot 152 DP 750053, Lot 153 DP 750053, Lot 154 DP 750053, Lot 155 DP 750053, Lot 157 DP 750053, Lot 158 DP 750053, Lot 160 DP 750053, Lot 161 DP 750053, Lot 162 DP 750053, Lot 167 DP 750053, Lot 177 DP 750053, Lot 162 DP 750053, Lot 167 DP 750053, Lot 178 DP 750053, Lot 179 DP 750053, Lot 180 DP 751298, Lo

Canyonleigh Road (Upper Lachlan Shire Council)

Note gas pipeline alignment to be refined during Project Approval

Project Summary Construction and operation of two gas -fired power stations and associated infrastructure.

Environmental Assessment

An Environmental Assessment is attached.

Declaration

I certify that I have prepared the contents of the Environmental Assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Regulation and that, to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is not false or misleading.

Signature

Name

Date

Nicole Brewer 29 August 2008 lan McCardle 29 August 2008

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Appendix C Consultation Material

Appendix D Noise & Vibration Assessment - Site Preparation

Appendix E Traffic Assessment - Site Preparation

Appendix F Flora and Fauna Assessment

Appendix G Cultural Heritage Assessment

Appendix H Preliminary Hazard Analysis - Gas Pipeline

Notes on Text

As a determination of the project will only be made after the Environmental Assessment has been on public display and submissions considered, the future conditional tense is used throughout this Environmental Assessment when describing the project, alternatives and assessing impacts. "Would" is, therefore, used throughout the text in preference to "will".

If all approvals are given for the project to proceed, all "would" references should be interpreted as "will", subject to final conditions of consent.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

AADT Annual Average Daily Traffic
ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
AGO Australian Greenhouse Office
AHC Australian Heritage Commission

AHD Australian Height Datum

AHIMS Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System

ANEPM National Environment Protection Measure for Ambient Air Quality
ANZECC Australia and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council

ARI Annual Recurrence Interval
AWS Automatic Weather Station
BCA Building Code of Australia
BoM Bureau of Meterology

Calmet A 3-D meteorological model designed to provide data for use in Calpuff

CalpuffAn airquality dispersion modelCASACivil Aviation and Safety AuthorityCCGTCombined Cycle Gas Turbine

CEMP Construction Environmental Management Plan

CHMP Cultural Heritage Management Plan

CFC Chloro-Fluorocarbons **CO**₂ Carbon dioxide

CO₂-e Carbon dioxide equivalent
DA Development Application
DCP Development Control Plan

DECCDepartment of Environment and Climate Change
DEHA
Department of Environment, Heritage and the Arts

DOP Department of Planning EA Environmental Assessment

ECRTN Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise

EMF Electric and Magnetic Field
EMP Environmental Management Plan
EMS Environmental Management Systems
ENCM Environmental Noise Control Manual

EP&A Act NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 **EP&A Reg** NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000

EPA Environment Protection Authority

EPBC Act Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

EPI Environmental Planning Instrument
ESD Ecologically Sustainable Development

GPS Global Positioning System

GT Gas Turbine

HAZID Hazard Identification

HIPAP Department of Planning's Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper

HHV Higher Heating Value

HRSG Heat Recovery Steam Generator
INP Industrial Noise Policy (EPA, 2000)
IPCC International Panel on Climate Change
IPRA International Power (Australia) Pty Ltd)
ISO International Standards Organisation

JSA Job Safety Analysis

LALC Local Aboriginal Land Council
LEP Local Environmental Plan
Local Government Area

Abbreviations

LHV Lower Heating Value
LoS Level of Service
MGA Map Grid of Australia
MSDS Material Safety Data Sheet

MSL Mean Sea Level

MLEP Mulwaree Local Environment Plan 1995

NA Not Applicable

NEM National Electricity Market

NEMMCO National Electricity Market Management Company

NEPC National Environment Protection Council
NEPM National Environment Protection Measure
NGRS National Greenhouse Response Strategy
NHMRC National Health and Medical Research Council

NO₂ Nitrogen Dioxide NO_x Oxides of Nitrogen

NP&W Act NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

NPWS National Parks and Wildlife Service

NSW New South Wales

Ozone

OCGT Open Cycle Gas Turbine

OEMP Operation Environmental Management Plan

PAD potential archaeological deposit
PAH Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
PASS Potential Acid Sulphate Soils

PB Parsons Brickerhoff
PFM Planning Focus Meeting
PHA Preliminary Hazard Analysis

PHLALC Peak Hill Local Aboriginal Land Council
PM10 Particles effectively less than 10µm diameter
PM2.5 Particles effectively less than 2.5µm diameter

POEO Act NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

REP Regional Environmental Plan

RFI Act NSW Rivers and Foreshores Improvements Act 1948

RNE Register of the National Estate
ROTAP Rare or Threatened Australian Plants

RPM Revolutions per Minute

RTA NSW Roads and Traffic Authority
SCR Selective Catalytic Reduction

SEDA Sustainable Energy Development Authority
SEPP State Environmental Planning Policy

SIS Species Impact Statement

SO₂ Sulphur dioxide

SOx Sulphur Oxides

SOOStatement of OpportunitiesTAPMThe Air Pollution ModelTCPTree Clearance ProtocolTOCTotal Organic Carbon

TPH Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons

TSC Act NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995

TSP Total suspended particulate

TSP Act NSW Threatened Species Act 1995

TSS total suspended sediment
VOC Volatile Organic Compound
WM Act Water Management Act 2000



Abbreviations

UNITS

μm Microns centimetres cm g GL Grams

Gigalitre (109 L or 106 m₃)

GWh Gigawatt Hour

Ha hectare hr Hour Hz Hertz Kilograms kg kĴ Kilojoules

Kilolitre (103 L or 1 m3) kL

Kilometre km

km/hr Kilometres per hour

kPa Kilopascals k۷ Kilovolts kW Kilowatts m Metres mg m² Milligrams square metres ${\rm m}^{\rm 3}$ cubic metres MHz Megahertz

Megalitre (10₆ L or 10₃ m₃) ML

MW Megawatts per annum pa Parts per million ppm per million per year pmpy

second SG Density Tonne t Yr Year

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Abbreviations

Aboriginal archaeological site (Aboriginal site)

A place where physical remains or modification of the natural environment indicate past and 'traditional' activities by Aboriginal people. Site types include artefact scatters, isolated artefacts, burials, shell middens, scarred trees, quarries and contact sites.

acid sulphate soils (ASS)

Soils containing pyrite which produces sulphuric acid when exposed to oxygen.

ambient aquifer

Surrounding environment.

background scatter

Rock formation containing water in recoverable quantities.

Aboriginal artefacts that cannot be usefully related to a place or focus of past activity.

biodiversity

First coined in 1988 as a contraction of biological diversity; diversity traditionally referring to species richness and species abundance. Biodiversity has been defined subsequently as encompassing biological variety at genetic, species and ecosystem scales (DASETT 1992). The maintenance of biodiversity, at all levels, is acknowledged internationally as a high conservation priority, and is protected by the International

Convention on Biological Diversity 1992.

bunds

An earthwork or wall to contain and control spillages, normally associated with tank farms, fuelling and chemical storage

facilities.

CO₂-e

The carbon dioxide equivalent relates to the greenhouse warming potential (GWP) of a certain gas compared to that of carbon dioxide where carbon dioxide has a GWP of 1. For example, methane (CH₄) has a GWP of 21, meaning that a release of 100 tonnes of CH₄ would be the equivalent to releasing 2100 tonnes of CO₂ in terms of global warming.

Construction Environmental Management Plan

An element of an Environmental Management Plan that addresses the control, training and monitoring measures to be implemented during the construction phase of a project in order to avoid, minimise or ameliorate potentially adverse impacts identified during environmental assessments.

conservation

The management of natural resources in a way that will benefit both present and future generations.

cumulative effect dB(A)

Refers to the accumulation of effects over time.

The A-weighting has a frequency response corresponding approximately to that of human hearing. People's hearing is most sensitive to sounds at mid frequencies (500 Hz to 4000 Hz), and less sensitive at lower and higher frequencies. Thus, the level of a sound in dBA is a good measure of the "loudness" of that sound. Different sources having the same dBA level generally sound about equally as loud, although the perceived loudness can also be affected by the character of the sound (eg the loudness of human speech and a distant motorbike may be perceived differently, although they are of the same dBA level).

dB(C)

The C-Weighting has a relatively flat response. C- weighting is used in evaluating annoying community noises such as low frequency sound.

Ecologically Sustainable Development

Using, conserving and enhancing the community's resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained and the total quality of life, now and in the future can be increased. **ecosystem** An interdependent system of interacting plants, animals and other organisms together with the non-living (physical and chemical) components of their surroundings.

effluent

emergency response

endangered species

environment

Environmental Assessment

environmental management

Environmental Management Plan

Environmental Management System

The outflow of liquid e.g. from sewage or an industrial process.

The reaction by emergency services such as Fire, Police, Ambulance, Industrial Fire Brigades, etc., to an emergency.

Those plants and animal species likely to become extinct unless action is taken to remove or control the factors that threaten their survival.

The physical, biological, cultural, economic and social characteristics of an area, region or site.

The orderly and systematic evaluation of a proposal, including alternatives and objectives, and its effects on the environment, including the mitigation and management of these effects.

That part of the overall management system which includes organisational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, procedures, processes and resources for developing, implementing, achieving, reviewing and maintaining environmental policy. (Refer to related term Environmental Management System).

The control, training and monitoring measures to be implemented during the design, construction and operation phases of a project in order to avoid, minimise or ameliorate potentially adverse impacts identified during environmental (being socio-economic, cultural, physical, biological) assessments.

The concept and major components of an Environmental Management System (EMS) are set out in the Australian/New Zealand Standard (AS/NZS) ISO 1400l. An EMS has several key components as set out below: organisational commitment, corporate environmental policy, environmental aspects register, objectives and performance indicators, environmental management program documentation (often called an Environmental Management Plan or EMP), operational and emergency procedures, responsibility and reporting structure, training and awareness program, environmental impact, regulatory and legal compliance, and environmental performance review audits performance monitoring and measurement.

Animals.

fauna



fire fence A gap in vegetation or fuels which prevents or hinders the

spread of fire.

flora Plants.

floristic composition The plant species present in a particular community, sub-

community or site.

free ammonia The toxic fraction of ammonia (NH₃) that is undissociated and

therefore available for uptake by organisms. The usual source of ammonia to waterways is domestic sewage and industrial

effluents.

GGAS The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Scheme (GGAS)

> commenced on 1 January 2003. It is one of the first mandatory GHG emissions trading schemes in the world and is specifically associated with the electricity generation sector. GGAS aims to reduce GHG emissions in NSW by 5% per

capita below 1989/90 levels by 2007, by encouraging project based activities to offset the production of GHG emissions.

geotechnical Relating to the form, arrangement and structure of the

geology.

Greenhouse Challenge Plus The programme integrates the Generator Efficiency Standards

> and the Greenhouse Friendly TM initiative into a single industry programme, focused on reducing greenhouse gas, promoting energy efficiency, integrating greenhouse issues into decision making and allowing for a consistent manner for

reporting greenhouse gas emissions.

Greenhouse Gas A gas which has an effect on the radioactive absorptivity of the

earth's atmosphere and the atmosphere's temperature.

Predicted global climatic change (e.g. global warming) associated with build up of certain gases (such as water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, chloroflurocarbons, ozone, nitrous oxide, etc.) within the atmospheric environment of the

earth. These are known as Greenhouse Gases.

Greenhouse gas intensity the amount of greenhouse gases per unit of energy produced

from a power station (eg in units of kg CO₂-e/MWh).

Greenhouse Gas Protocol A globally accepted procedure for companies to quantify,

report and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

groundwater Subsurface water contained within the saturated zone.

A term which encompasses Aboriginal and post-contact

archaeological sites and material remains (cultural resources).

The heat content of fuel, measured in a bomb calorimeter

when the products of combustion are cooled to the initial temperature and all of the water vapour formed during combustion is condensed to liquid. This gives the gross, or higher heat content of the fuel, which includes in the reported

value the heat of vaporisation of the water produced from combustion of hydrogen atoms in the fuel. The lower heating value excludes the heat of vaporisation of the water produced

from combustion of hydrogen atoms in the fuel.

heritage (cultural heritage)

higher heating value

Greenhouse Effect

Hydrocarbons A class or compounds containing only carbon and hydrogen in

various structures. Both naturally occurring and from

anthropogenic sources.

Hydrology Surface water and groundwater and their interaction with earth

materials.

Hydrogeology The study of subsurface water in its geological context.

INTANAL Specialist traffic model for intersection analysis.

Invertebrate An animal without a backbone.

Isolated find Single stone artefact, not located within a rock shelter which

occurs without any associated evidence of Aboriginal

occupation within a radius of 60 m.

La1 The noise level exceeded for 1% of the 15 minute interval.

La10 The noise level exceeded for 10% of the 15 minute interval.

This is commonly referred to as the average maximum noise

level.

Lago The LAgo level is the noise level which is exceeded for 90% of

the sample period. During the sample period, the noise level is below the LA90 level for 10% of the time. This measure is commonly referred to as the background noise level.

Laeq The equivalent continuous sound level (LAeq) is the energy

average of the varying noise over the sample period and is equivalent to the level of a constant noise which contains the same energy as the varying noise environment. This measure is also a common measure of environmental noise and road

traffic noise.

Laeq (1hr) The LAeq noise level for a one hour period.

Laeq (15 hr)

The LAeq noise level for the period 7am to 10pm.

Laeq (9 hr)

The LAeq noise level for the period 10pm to 7am.

Leq The equivalent continuous sound level in dB(A); that is, the

constant sound level which has the same acoustic energy as the original fluctuating noise for the same period of time.

Level of Service A description of the operating performance of a road or

intersection as defined in Austroads 'Guide to Traffic

Engineering Practice, Pt 2 – Road Capacity.'

Lithologies Rock types.

Lower Heating Value (LHV)The heat content of fuel, measured in a bomb calorimeter

when the products of combustion are cooled to the initial temperature and all of the water vapour formed during combustion is condensed to liquid. The lower heating value excludes the heat of vaporisation of the water produced from

combustion of hydrogen atoms in the fuel.

meanThe sum of n values divided by n.medianThe middle value of a set of values.

middens Evidence of Aboriginal occupation of an area.

Monitoring The checking of impacts of a proposal or an existing activity in

order to improve or evaluate environmental management practices. To check the efficiency and effectiveness of the environmental impact assessment process. To determine if the requirements of environmental legislation and associated

regulations are being met.

native vegetation A broad term for vegetation comprised of plant species which

occur naturally in Australia (but which are not necessarily

indigenous).

natural gasCombustible gas formed naturally in the earth.

Organochlorines A group or organic chemicals used in pesticides. Most

organochlorine pesticides have low water-solubility, but high chemical and biological stability. They are fat soluble and tend

to accumulate in the fat tissue of organisms.

Operation Environmental Management Plan An element of an Environmental Management Plan that

addresses the control, training and monitoring measures to be implemented during the construction phase of a project in order to avoid, minimise or ameliorate potentially adverse impacts identified during environmental assessments.

Ozone A form of oxygen having three atoms to the molecule. Ozone

is a powerful oxidising agent.

Particulate Small particles, usually in suspension.

hydrocarbons (TPH)] sources.

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Piles Type of foundation using columns of concrete, steel or timber.

Plume Area of impact extending from a source.

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons

(PAH)

A class of organic chemicals, PAHs are formed by incomplete combustion or organic material, diagenesis (during or throughout generation) and biosynthesis. PAHs are naturally occurring, however, a significant proportion are the result of

anthropogenic combustion.

potable water Water suitable for drinking.

potential acid sulphate soil (PASS) Soil material which is waterlogged and contains oxidisable

sulphur compounds, usually iron sulphide (pyrite) that has a

field pH of 4 or more (1:5 soil:water).

Register of the National Estate

A list of the National Estate developed under the provisions of

the Commonwealth's Australian Heritage Commission Act

1975.

risk Likelihood of a specific undesirable event occurring within a

specified period or in specified circumstances. Listed as a

frequency or probability.

risk assessment A process used to determine whether people and the

environment are at risk (e.g. health and safety) from exposure to hazardous substances used or produced (mainly in an industrial or work place) so that appropriate control measures or management practices can be introduced to prevent or

minimise the risk.

security fence A fence designed to prevent unlawful intrusion to a prohibited

area.

sediment/detention pond Artificial earthen depression to retain water runoff for a period

of time so as to control high intensity runoff.

sustainable use Use of organism, ecosystem or their renewable resource at a

rate within its capacity for renewal.

TAPM The Air Pollution Model is an air quality dispersion model

developed by the Commonwealth Scientific Investigation &

Research Organisation.

terrestrial Of or pertaining to the land as distinct from the water.

thermal efficiency The proportion of energy converted from the fuel to electricity

in the generation process is an indication of CO2 emissions.

total aromatic hydrocarbons

A class of organic chemicals which contain an aromatic ring

(e.g. benzene, anthracene, naphthalene and their derivatives).

Used in chemical and pharmaceutical industries.

total organic carbon (TOC)

The amount of carbon in the organic form contained in a

sample, measured as a percentage.

total suspended solids (TSS)

Total load of particulates in water, measured in mg/L.

turbidity Liquid's ability to intercept light. Measured in nephelometric

turbidity units (NTU). Cannot be consistently correlated with

the concentration of suspended matter.

visibility Measure of extent to which particular components of a

development may be visible from surrounding areas.

visual absorption capacity

An estimation of the capacity of the landscape to absorb

development without creating a significant change in visual

character or producing a reduction in scenic quality.

volatiles Any chemical compound which will evaporate quickly due to its

low boiling point.

vulnerable species Those that may soon become endangered unless action is

taken.

waders Synonymous with shorebirds.

weed Naturalised, non-indigenous plant species which may be

noxious weeds (or agriculture), environmental weeds or any

other generally undesirable introduced species.

wetlands Areas largely inundated with water, yet offering elevated land

as a habitat for wildlife, notably waterfowl. Can be landlocked.

wind climate

A description of the meteorological conditions created by the wind involving measurements of wind speed, direction and frequency of gusts for average, seasonal and annual conditions.