



ANNUAL REPORT

PRELIMINARY SURVEY LICENCE No. 17

**QUEENSLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, NEW
SOUTH WALES LINK (QSN LINK),
PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO AS THE BALLERA
TO MOOMBA INTERCONNECT (BMI)**

OCTOBER 2008

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 33(1) of Part 4 of the South Australian Petroleum Act 2000.

The report reviews the activities completed in association with the Preliminary Survey Licence for the proposed QSN Link (South Australian section only) for the period starting from 22 August 2007 to 7 April 2008. From the 7th of April, all activities commenced under Pipeline Licence 18 (PL18).

During this reporting period, activities were limited to desk-top engineering and design studies, community and stakeholder liaison, land access notification and survey activities.

2.0 ANNUAL REPORT

2.1 Summary of Regulated Activities

During this reporting period, activities were limited to desk-top engineering and design studies, community and stakeholder liaison, land access notification and route survey activities.

2.2 Compliance with the Act

All activities were completed in accordance with the Petroleum Act and Regulations.

An assessment of compliance with the Statement of Environmental Objectives is included in Attachment 1.

2.3 Actions to Rectify Non-Compliance

No non-compliances were identified for this reporting period. Therefore no remedial actions were necessary.

2.4 Management System Audits

The Internal Audit and Compliance Coordinator for Epic Energy conducted two relevant management systems audits in the previous reporting period. An audit of the Occupational Health and Safety systems and the Risk Management systems were conducted under the previous pipeline survey licence (PSL10) as part of this project. No non conformities were identified in these reviews and management has accepted a range of observations that are designed to deliver opportunities to secure continuous improvement as required under Australian Standard 4360:2004.

2.5 List of Reports and Data Generated

The following formal reports and notifications were generated during this reporting period;

- Cultural Heritage Work Area Clearance Addendum Report
- Issue of 21 day notice of entry periods to landholders/occupiers
- Right of Entry and Agreement to Grant Easement/Lease documents submitted to landholders/lessees
- Alignment sheets generated

2.6 Reportable Incidents

There were no reportable incidents

2.7 Foreseeable Threats

Not applicable.

2.8 Statement of Expenditure

Commercial in Confidence

2.9 Operations for Ensuing Year

There are no further activities required for the ensuing year under PSL 17.

ATTACHMENT 1

COMPLIANCE TO STATEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES

Environmental Objectives and Assessment Criteria

Environmental Objectives	Assessment Criteria	Objective Achieved
<p>1. To minimise disturbance to landowners/managers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project has a nominated person with specific responsibility for maintaining contact with all potentially affected landowners/managers. • All landowners/managers are consulted prior to preliminary survey activities and their specific requirements are recorded and addressed appropriately. • All reasonable landowner requirements are incorporated into management strategies. • Landowners/managers are provided with information regarding the scope, schedule and duration of preliminary survey activities. • The number of site visits are restricted to as few as practicable (under normal circumstances this will be four or less). • Landowner complaints are recorded and reported to the licensee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maloney Field services (MFS) have been engaged to liaise with and manage all landholder issues. • All landholders were contacted by MFS prior to entry activities, contact details and any issues raised have been recorded in the land management system. • All landholders have been provided with a QSN project brochure • The number of site visits have been kept to a minimum and all landholders have been contacted prior to each visit. • There have been no landholder complaints
<p>2. To minimise damage to crops and pasture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of site visits are restricted to as few as practicable (under normal circumstances this will be four or less). • Existing tracks are used where available. • The area utilised for excavation is restricted to the smallest practicable (ie approx 20 m² per site). • Disturbance is restricted to the proposed construction right-of-way where practicable (right-of-way width is likely to vary from between 10 to 25 metres). • Topsoil is kept separate from subsoil. • The soil profile and contours are restored to as near as possible to their undisturbed state as soon as practicable and to the landowner's satisfaction. • Landowner complaints are recorded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of site visits have been kept to a minimum and all landholders have been contacted prior to each visit. • Existing roads and tracks have been utilized. • There were no surface disturbance activities undertaken during this reporting period. • There have been no landholder complaints
<p>3. To minimise disturbance to stock.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of site visits are restricted to as few as practicable (under normal circumstances this will be four or less). • Landowners/managers are provided with adequate prior notice of proposed land access (as per requirements of Part 10 of the Act). • Vehicles are driven at appropriately slow speeds to avoid undue disturbance. • Gates are left as found. • Landowner complaints are recorded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of site visits have been kept to a minimum. • All landholders were notified in accordance with part 10 of the Act and prior to each visit. • Vehicles are driven in accordance with Epic's OH&S procedures and Health and Safety handbook requirements. There were no vehicle incidents or complaints during this reporting period.

Environmental Objectives	Assessment Criteria	Objective Achieved
4. To prevent disturbance to native fauna.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of site visits are restricted to as few as practicable (under normal circumstances this will be four or less). • Vehicles are driven at appropriately slow speeds to avoid undue disturbance. • Plan/rationalise preliminary survey activities to ensure the number of site visits is as few as practicable. • Clearing native vegetation as part of survey activities avoided. • Excavation holes checked regularly for wildlife. • Undertake ecological survey prior to geo-technical and land/cadastral survey and identify any "no-go" areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of site visits have been kept to a minimum • Vehicles are driven in accordance with Epic's OH&S procedures and Health and Safety handbook requirements. There were no vehicle incidents or complaints during this reporting period. • There was no clearing of native vegetation during this reporting period. • There were no surface disturbance activities undertaken during this reporting period. • Ecological surveys were undertaken prior to cadastral surveys.
5. To minimise generation of dust.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of site visits are restricted to as few as practicable (under normal circumstances this will be four or less). • Vehicles are driven at appropriately slow speeds to avoid undue disturbance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of site visits have been kept to a minimum • Vehicles are driven in accordance with Epic's OH&S procedures and Health and Safety handbook requirements. There were no vehicle incidents or complaints during this reporting period.
6. To avoid the introduction of weeds or disease.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify local weed and disease management issues prior to the commencement of preliminary survey activities. • Management procedures in place to prevent the spread of identified weeds/diseases/pathogens. • Ensure all equipment and vehicles are free of soil and vegetative matter prior to entry to and exit from properties and road sites. • The number of site visits are restricted to as few as practicable (under normal circumstances this will be four or less). • All landowners/managers are consulted prior to preliminary survey activities and their specific requirements are recorded. • Planning has taken account of season/climates, as some pathogen born diseases (eg dieback) are transported during particular conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No declared or non declared environmental weed species were identified during the field survey. • The management of diseases and pathogens (vehicle and equipment hygiene) is undertaken in accordance with Epic's <i>Weeds and Disease Management Work Instruction</i>. • The number of site visits have been kept to a minimum and all landholders have been contacted prior to each visit. • Existing roads and tracks have been utilized.

Environmental Objectives	Assessment Criteria	Objective Achieved
7. To avoid or minimise damage to vegetation and wildlife habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing native vegetation as part of land survey is prevented where avoidable in native vegetation areas. Where demonstrated to be unavoidable a location specific environmental management plan is developed and implemented. • Soil excavations are not conducted in areas of native vegetation. • Survey is undertaken by appropriately trained and experienced personnel. • Any sites of significance (due to size, density and/or presence of threatened species) are recorded for subsequent avoidance during construction. • Any areas of clearance are rehabilitated using local seed sources, where available, and appropriate methods. • Preliminary survey activities not conducted within any areas of intact vegetation without prior consultation with relevant government departments. • Samples of native vegetation are collected by qualified botanists or appropriately trained and experienced personnel under appropriate permits from the Department of Environment and Heritage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no clearing of native vegetation during this reporting period. • There were no surface disturbance activities undertaken during this reporting period. • All survey work was undertaken by qualified and experienced consultants. • All areas identified as being of environmental or cultural significance have been recorded and incorporated in Epic's design and planning phase. • Existing roads and tracks have been utilized
8. To avoid damage or unnecessary disturbance to cultural heritage sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey is undertaken by appropriately trained and experienced personnel. • The proponent has a mechanism in place to appropriately report and respond to any sites discovered during pipeline survey activities. • Any sites are recorded for subsequent avoidance during construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cultural Heritage Survey was undertaken by a qualified archaeologist and members of the Yandruwandha/Yawarrawarrka Native Title Group. • A Work Area Clearance Report has been prepared and all identified sites recorded and mapped on Epic's GIS system and alignment sheets.
9. To minimise visual impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marker pegs are limited to those essential for identifying the proposed alignment. • Excavations are restricted to areas away from general public view, where practicable. • Excavations are restored as soon as practicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable to the survey activities during this period.
10. To minimise soil disturbance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area of excavation is restricted to the smallest practicable (approx 20m² per site). • Disturbance is restricted to the proposed construction right-of-way where practicable (right-of-way width is likely to vary from between 10 to 25 metres). • Topsoil is kept separate from subsoil. • Vehicles use existing road tracks where 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable to survey activities during this period.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> practicable. The soil profile and contours are restored to as near as possible to their undisturbed state as soon as practicable and to the landowner's satisfaction. 	
Environmental Objectives	Assessment Criteria	Objective Achieved
11. To minimise impact of surface water, groundwater and drainage patterns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access tracks are located to avoid any diversion of water during flood inundation. Areas of inundation, which may result in bogging, or creation of heavy wheel track rutting (more than 200mm deep) are avoided. Vehicles parked away from watercourses or sensitive ecological environments (minimum 50m). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable to survey activities during this period. Existing roads and tracks have been utilized.
12. To minimise the impact on the environment of waste handling and disposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All rubbish is removed from survey site. All vehicle oil spills are managed appropriately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All rubbish generated from Survey activities was removed from site and disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility. There were no oil spills reported.
13. To minimise the risk of fire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diesel vehicles are used where practicable. Fire extinguishers and/or knapsacks are kept in all vehicles. Vehicles are not parked on, or driven through, long grass where avoidable. Requirements of the landowner/manager are met. All access to be prohibited on days declared Total Fire Ban. All requirements of the Country Fires Act 1989 have been met. Personnel do not smoke while conducting survey activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All survey vehicles used during this period were diesel and equipped with appropriate safety equipment. Existing roads and tracks have been utilized. All of the access requirements from landholders was captured on a "landholder questionnaire" and these requirements have been met, there have been no complaints. There were no site visits on Total Fire Ban days. Epic have a strict non smoking policy that applies to all personal.
14. To minimise erosion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any areas of erosion are rehabilitated or managed to prevent further erosion. The soil profile and contours are restored to as near as possible to their undisturbed state as soon as practicable and to the landowner's satisfaction. Any areas of excavation have been restricted to the smallest practicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable to survey activities during this period.