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AGL Gloucester Gas Project Aeromag Survey Fact Sheet

May 2013



AGL will conduct an aeromag survey using a helicopter with a magnetometer and spectrometer attached to it.

About us

Formed in 1837, AGL Energy Ltd is Australia's largest renewable energy company, selling gas, electricity and energy related services to 3.5 million customers across NSW, SA, VIC, and QLD.

AGL is committed to creating a sustainable energy future for our customers, investors and communities. The company is Australia's largest private owner, operator and developer of renewable generation assets. AGL is expanding its gas exploration and production to facilitate long term supplies for its domestic customers.

The Gloucester Gas Project (the Project) is a coal seam gas (CSG) project located in Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) 285, which fully encompasses the Gloucester Geological Basin in New South Wales. The project is wholly owned and operated by AGL.

In May 2013, AGL will resume the aeromagnetic (aeromag) survey using a helicopter over the Gloucester Geological Basin and its immediate surrounds from Gloucester in the north to just north of Stroud Road in the south.

An aeromag survey is one of the exploration methods geoscientists use to map the structures that lie beneath the Earth's surface. It enables the collection of information over a large area to be gathered quickly and with very little surface activity. To conduct the survey, a magnetometer and spectrometer are attached to the helicopter. The helicopter then flies 40 metres above the ground in grid-like lines over the survey area.

The magnetometer provides measurements of the Earth's magnetic field which can be used to develop a basin-wide geological picture. The spectrometer measures the natural radiation in the in the Earth's surface which can be used by geologists to identify certain rock types.

The magnetometer and spectrometer are both passive instruments and only receive information. The equipment does not transmit an electromagnetic field, soundwaves, radiation or any other type of emission. No take photographs or videos will be taken.

AGL expects the survey will start on 21 May 2013 and take three to four weeks to complete, weather permitting.

Frequently asked questions.

What information is the survey collecting?

The information collected is magnetic, radiometric and digital terrain data only. The helicopter will not be taking any photos or video.

Who will be conducting the survey?

AGL has contracted Thompson Aviation to undertake the aeromag survey.

What will the helicopter look like?

The helicopter to be used is a Bell Jet Ranger. (See photo on previous page.)

AGL will have the helicopter in Gloucester prior to the start of the survey work and members of the public are invited to attend an aeromag information session on Monday 20 May between 9am and 11am.

What are your hours of operation?

Flying times will be between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm on Saturdays. The survey will not be flown on Sundays.

When will the survey happen?

We expect the survey work to begin on Tuesday 21 May and take three to four weeks to complete, weather permitting. Indicative dates, times and route will be made available on the project website.

Will you require an access agreement to fly over my property?

This method of survey does not require AGL to obtain a land access agreement, although we will contact landowners to ensure any potential impacts on their property can be minimised.

If the helicopter is flying over my property does it mean further ground operations will be occurring on my land?

Not necessarily. The survey is done to gather information about the entire Gloucester Basin and does not indicate where additional activity will occur.

How many times will you pass over my property?

The frequency of the helicopter passing over a property depends on the size of the property, and the overlap with the proposed route. The helicopter will fly in lines in a grid-like pattern with an approximate spacing of 50 metres between each line. For a larger property, an aeromag survey could be conducted in a few hours. It is anticipated approximately 300 kilometres of survey lines will be flown on a typical day, with the survey to acquire more than 5,000 kilometres of data.

Will the aeromag be a noisy activity?

The helicopter emits some noise but AGL has made every effort to reduce noise by selecting the quietest aircraft available for this type of survey. We have determined certain areas where the survey will not be carried out, such as over Gloucester, Stratford, Craven and Wards River. Houses outside of the towns and villages will also be excluded from the survey. The survey does not extend to Stroud Road. Anyone with concerns, for example, owners of sensitive animals, should contact AGL on the project information line. This will allow us to make suitable arrangements before the survey starts.

Will the proposed route be made public?

Yes. Once a ground inspection has been completed the proposed route will be finalised and made available on the project website.

The website will be updated throughout the survey to provide residents with information on where work is being undertaken.

Will there be any long term impacts?

No. AGL will take the appropriate measurements, such as dust suppression, to minimise any short term impacts of the surveys on surrounding areas.

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