

ENSR Australia Pty Ltd (ENSR) ABN 34 060 204 702
PO Box 726 PYMBLE NSW 2073
T+61 2 8484 8999 F+61 2 8484 8989 www.ensr.com.au

31 July 2008



Mr Scott Jeffries
Department of Planning
23-33 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Scott,

**Re: PRELIMINARY PROJECT APPLICATION FOR GLOUCESTER
COAL SEAM GAS PROJECT**

Lucas Energy are proposing to undertake a project for the construction and operation of a coal seam gas extraction, processing and transportation system. The project would involve:

- Gas wells and gathering lines within a Field Area;
- A Central Processing Facility; and
- A pipeline corridor of 1 km width from Stratford to Hexham.

As previously noted, a Concept Approval is being sought for the whole project which is made up of those components as noted above. Concurrent Project Approval will be sought for:

- 60-90 gas wells and gathering lines within a sub-area of the total Field Area;
- The Central Processing Facility; and
- A 100m wide pipeline corridor within the of 1km concept corridor from Stratford to Hexham.

ENSR Australia Pty Ltd. (ENSR) has been engaged by Lucas Energy to assist in the preparation of documentation to support an application for planning approval under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) for the project.

The Major Project Application Form has been signed and is attached to this letter. At this stage, there is no signature providing landowner's consent on the Project Application Form. Landowners have been consulted and land agents are active on behalf of Lucas Energy. The required consents are being negotiated with the relevant landowners at the current time.

A Concept Plan Preliminary Assessment has been prepared by GHD to assist in the identification of key environmental issues and provides a more detailed understanding of the need for and characterisation of the project. The Preliminary Assessment is also attached to this letter.

The Director-General's requirements for the Environmental Assessment of the Concept Plan and the part project (as referred to above) are requested.

Your earliest attention to this matter would be appreciated. Should further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact Ruth Kelly on 8484 8910.

Yours sincerely,

ENSR Australia Pty Ltd (ENSR)

RP 

Ruth Kelly
Principal Environmental Consultant

Enclosures: Major Project Application Form
Concept Plan Preliminary Assessment (GHD, 2008)
cc: Stuart Galway
John Whaley

Major Project application



NSW GOVERNMENT
Department of Planning

Date received: 6/8/08

Project Application No. MP 08_0154

1. Before you lodge

This form is required to apply for the approval of the Minister to carry out a project to which Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) applies.

Before lodging this application, it is recommended that you first consult with the Department of Planning (the Department) concerning your project.

A Planning Focus Meeting (PFM) may need to be held for this project involving the Department, relevant agencies, council or other groups identified by the Department. If a PFM is held, the Department will issue the Director-General's requirements for the Environmental Assessment following the meeting.

All applications must be lodged with the Director-General, by courier or mail. An electronic copy should also be emailed to the assessment contact officer assigned to the project.

NSW Department of Planning
Ground floor, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 38 Sydney NSW 2001
DX 10181 Sydney Stock Exchange
Phone 1300 305 695

2. Details of the proponent

Company/organisation/agency

ABN

Lucas/Molopo Joint Venture

Mr Ms Mrs Dr Other

First name

Family name

Stuart

Galway

Position

Land & Approvals Manager

STREET ADDRESS

Unit/street no.

Street name

22

Tate Street

Suburb or town

State

Postcode

Gloucester

NSW

2422

POSTAL ADDRESS (or mark 'as above')

As above

Suburb or town

State

Postcode

Daytime telephone

Fax

Mobile

Email

stuart.galway@lucas.com.au

3. Identify the land you propose to develop

STREET ADDRESS (where relevant)

Unit/street no.

Street or property name

Suburb, town or locality

Postcode

Local government area(s)

State electorate(s)

REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Note: The real property description is found on a map of the land or on the title documents for the land. If you are unsure of the real property description, you should contact the Department of Lands.

Please ensure that you place a slash (/) to distinguish between the lot, section, DP and strata numbers. If the project applies to more than one piece of land, please use a comma to distinguish between each real property description.

OR detailed description of land attached.

MAP: A map of the site and locality should also be submitted with this application.

4. Major Project description and other requirements

Provide a brief title for your project.

Gloucester Coal Seam Gas Project

PROJECT APPROVAL

If you are applying for approval of a project, include in the project title, all significant components for which approval is being sought. If the application relates to part only of a project, the project title should reflect this.

Is the application for approval of a project?

Yes No

Is the application related to part only of a project?

Yes No

CONCEPT PLAN APPROVAL

If you are applying for approval of a concept plan, include in the project title, all components for which approval 'in concept' is being sought. If the application also relates to approval of a project, a description of this should also be included in the project title.

Is the application for approval of a Concept Plan?

Yes No

Is a project application being made concurrently for all or part of the project?

Yes No

You are also required to provide a Project Description and address any matters required by the Director-General in accordance with section 75E or section 75M of the Act. Failure to do so may lead to your application being rejected.

Is a Project Description attached?

Yes No

Does the Project Description include any additional matters required by the Director-General under section 75E or section 75M of the Act?

Yes No

Note: An electronic copy of the project description is also required as all applications must be provided on the Department's website. You should contact the Department on the correct electronic format.

ESTIMATED CAPITAL INVESTMENT VALUE

Please indicate the estimated capital investment value (CIV) of the project. The CIV includes all costs necessary to establish and operate the project, including the design and construction of buildings, structures, associated infrastructure and fixed or mobile plant and equipment (but excluding GST and land costs).

\$200 million

EQUIVALENT FULL-TIME JOBS

Please indicate the number of jobs created by the project. This should be expressed as a proportion of full time jobs over a full year.

Construction jobs (full-time equivalent)

100-150

Operational jobs (full-time equivalent)

30-40

5. Approvals from State agencies

Does the project require any of the following: (tick all that are appropriate)

- an aquaculture permit under section 144 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*
- an approval under section 15 of the *Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961*
- a mining lease under the *Mining Act 1992*
- a production lease under the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*
- an environment protection licence under Chapter 3 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (for any of the purposes referred to in section 43 of that Act)
- a consent under section 138 of the *Roads Act 1993*
- a licence under the *Pipelines Act 1967*

6. Landowner's consent or notification

As the owner(s) of the above property, I/we consent to this application being made on our behalf by the proponent:

Land

Refer attached letter

Land

Signature

Signature

Name

Name

Date

Date

Note: Under clause 8F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* (the Regulation), certain applications for approval under Part 3A of the Act do not require the consent of the landowner, however, the proponent is required to give notice of the application:

- in the case of linear infrastructure projects, by notice in a newspaper circulating in the locality prior to the commencement of the public consultation period;
- in the case of mining or petroleum production projects, by notice in a newspaper circulating in the locality within 14 days of this application being made;
- in the case of critical infrastructure projects, to the owner of the land within 14 days of this application being made, and
- in other cases, to the owner of the land at any time before the application is made.

7. Proponent's signature

As the proponent(s) of the project and in signing below, I/we hereby:

- provide a description of the project and address all matters required by the Director-General pursuant to section 75E and/or section 75M of the Act, and
- apply, subject to satisfying clause 8D of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation, for the Director-General's environmental assessment requirements pursuant to Part 3A of the Act, and
- declare that all information contained within this application is accurate at the time of signing.

Signature



Name

Stuart Galway

Date

30 July 2008

In what capacity are you signing if you are not the proponent

As Operator of Lucas/Molopo Gloucester Basin Joint Venture

Name, if you are not the proponent

Lucas Energy