



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

**Notification of
VARIATION OF PROPOSAL TO TAKE ACTION**

Gladstone LNG Project, Gas Pipeline (EPBC 2008/4096)

The Minister's delegate has accepted the variation to the proposal in accordance with section 156B of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Proposed action	To construct a gas transmission pipeline to transport gas from a coal seam gas resource near Roma to a proposed liquefied natural gas plant on Curtis Island near Gladstone, Queensland and as described in the referral received under the Act on 13 March 2008.
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Designated Proponent	Santos Limited (ACN: 132 321 192)
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Variation	As described in the variation request of 17 August 2010
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Decision-maker

Name and position	Mary Colreavy Assistant Secretary Environment Assessment Branch
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signature	
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date of decision	3 /09/2010
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17 August 2010

Mr James Barker
Director, Mining Section,
Environmental Assessment Branch
Approvals and Wildlife Division
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Sir

EPBC REFERRAL 2008/4096 – REQUEST TO VARY PROPOSAL TO TAKE AN ACTION GLNG PROJECT – GAS PIPELINE

Santos Ltd (**Santos**) and Petroliam Nasional Berhad (**PETRONAS**) request that the Minister for Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (**Minister**) accept a variation of the EPBC Referral 2008/4096 under sections 156A and 156B of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (**EPBC Act**) as set out in this letter.

The proposal by Santos and PETRONAS in EPBC Referral 2008/4096 (**Original Proposal**) to construct a gas transmission pipeline to transport gas from a coal seam gas resource near Roma to a proposed natural gas liquefaction and export park on Curtis Island near Gladstone, was referred to the Minister under Division 1 of Part 5 of the EPBC Act on 28 February 2008.

Details of Proposed Variation

Santos and PETRONAS seek a variation to EPBC Referral 2008/4096 to construct the gas transmission pipeline from the mainland to Curtis Island (across the "Narrows") in accordance with the alignment in the attached Figures 1 and 2. Further details of the variations between the Figures and the referral are described below:

Common Pipeline Infrastructure Corridor

Santos and PETRONAS seek approval for an amended route through a common infrastructure corridor (**Government Corridor**) proposed by the Queensland State Government within, and to the west of, the mainland portions of the Gladstone State Development Area (**GSDA**). The amended route is depicted in the Figures 1 and 2 and includes two options for the crossing of the Narrows (see below). The southern approach to the Narrows depicted in the referral is now not proposed to be pursued. The reason for the proposed variation is to locate the pipeline within the Government Corridor to minimise the cumulative impact of multiple pipelines. The impacts of the amended route through the Government Corridor have been assessed in the Supplementary Environmental Impact Statement.



The Narrows Crossing

Santos and PETRONAS seek approval of 2 alternative crossings of the Narrows being either:

1. a pipeline in a common corridor with the gas pipelines of other LNG facility proponents. Santos and PETRONAS are seeking approval for the pipeline required for their LNG facility only, but in a corridor common to other LNG pipelines and concurrent construction with other approved LNG pipelines. The Proposed Joint Pipeline Crossing is located to the north of the route depicted in the referral and is depicted in Figure 2; or
2. an independent pipeline corridor along the alternative route depicted in the attached figures. The route of the independent pipeline corridor is to the south of the Proposed Joint Pipeline Crossing and similar to the alignment depicted in the referral.

The pipeline corridor will also include any services required for the GLNG facility.

The reason for the proposed variation is that the Queensland Co-ordinator General requires that the construction of the pipeline across the Narrows be undertaken concurrently with the construction of the other pipelines of other LNG proponents where commercially feasible as part of a bundled pipeline construction methodology in a common corridor. If Santos and PETRONAS are unable to negotiate the joint pipeline crossing with other LNG Proponents by 1 September 2010, the Co-ordinator General will consider an alternative pipeline crossing proposal. The requirement arises from the desire to minimise and manage the overall environmental impacts of multiple pipelines from various LNG proponents by co-locating the pipelines and concurrent construction.

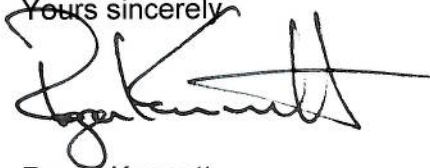
The EIS for the GLNG Project assessed a proposed route of the pipeline across the Narrows. The Supplementary EIS assessed 2 further options for the pipeline route across the Narrows. The assessment included the environmental impacts for each option including the Proposed Joint Pipeline Crossing option for the accommodation of gas pipeline in a corridor shared with the proponents of other LNG facilities (see Attachment E of the SEIS). Santos and PETRONAS are presently preparing additional information in relation to the joint crossing which will be provided to DEWHA.

Callide Range Alternative Route

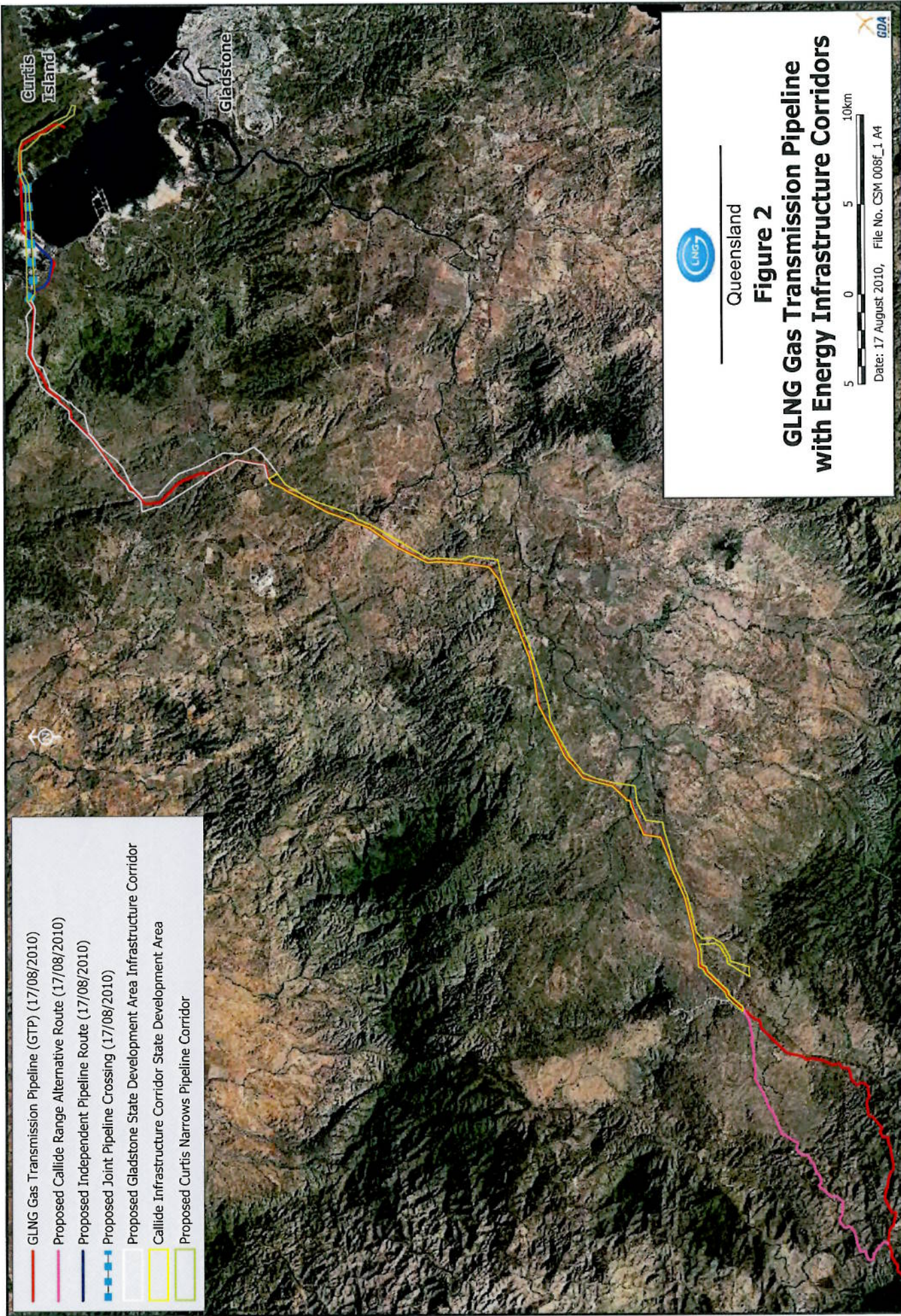
Santos and PETRONAS seek approval for an alternative route through the Callide Range in addition to the route identified in the referral. The Callide Range Alternative Route is depicted in the attached figures. The reason for the proposed variation to include the alternative is to minimise the impact of the pipeline route on the environment and costs of the pipeline. The environmental impacts of the Callide Range Alternative Route have been assessed in the Supplementary Environmental Impact Statement. As the alternative route will only become viable if an indigenous land use agreement is able to be agreed and is registered by the National Native Title Tribunal, Santos and PETRONAS also continue to seek approval for the route through the Callide Ranges identified the referral.

Please direct any enquiries to Mark McNamara, Senior Environmental Officer, GLNG Project at the above address.

Yours sincerely



Roger Kennett
Vice President GLNG Operations
Santos Limited



- GLNG Gas Transmission Pipeline (GTP) (17/08/2010)
- Proposed Callide Range Alternative Route (17/08/2010)
- Proposed Independent Pipeline Route (17/08/2010)
- - - Proposed Joint Pipeline Crossing (17/08/2010)
- Proposed Gladstone State Development Area Infrastructure Corridor
- Callide Infrastructure Corridor State Development Area
- Proposed Curtis Narrows Pipeline Corridor



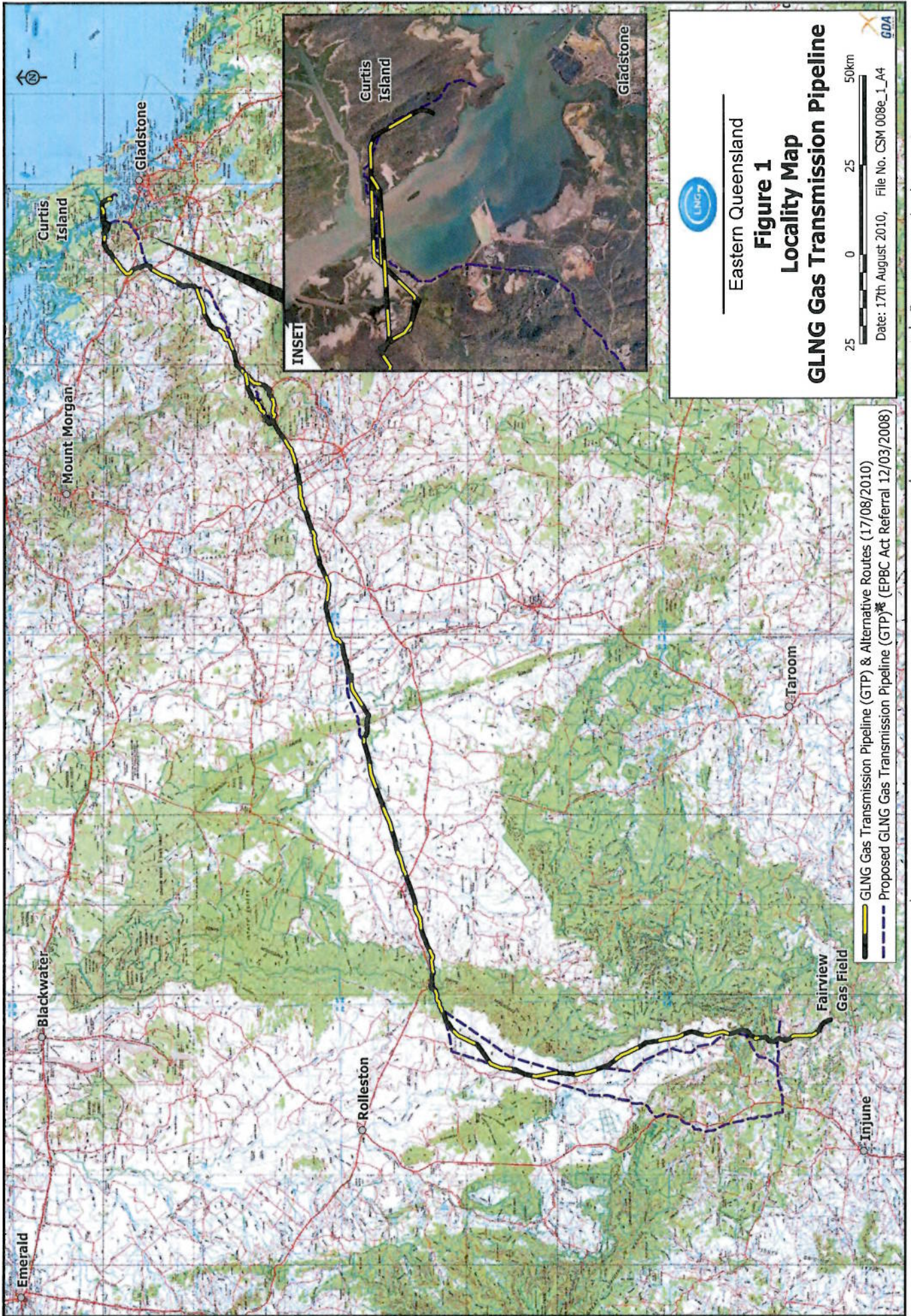
Queensland

Figure 2 GLNG Gas Transmission Pipeline with Energy Infrastructure Corridors

5 0 5 10km

Date: 17 August 2010, File No. CSM 008f_1 A4





* Note: The dashed pipeline route is no longer being pursued. It is the solid Black and Yellow line that illustrates the proposed pipeline route