

Fact Sheet:
Barossa Gas Field Project (Australia)
April 2025

Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES)

1. Project overview

Project purpose :

- 1) Offshore gas field development (LNG Production volume: 3.7 million tons per year)
- 2) FPSO (Construction of Floating Production, Storage & Offloading system)
- 3) New gas transmission pipeline approximately 383 kilometers in length connecting the Barossa gas field to the Darwin LNG plant¹²
- 4) Undersea production system, etc. Related submarine equipment setup

At the Barossa gas field, the produced gas will be transported and liquefied to/at the Darwin LNG plant via a pipeline. The Darwin LNG plant has been liquefying gas produced at the Bayu-Undan gas field since 2006, but it will soon run out.³ development of the Barossa gas field is planned as an alternative backfill project. This will extend the life of the Darwin LNG plant. As of April 12, 2025, construction of the Barossa gas field project is approximately 95% complete.⁴

However, under Australia's safeguard mechanism that came into effect on July 1 2023, CO2 reservoir emissions when mining new gas fields must be reduced to zero from the beginning of operation, and the Barossa gas field development project is also subject to the same regulation⁵. Given the policy, the Barossa project requires the installation of CO2 capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) technology at the start of operation and Santos⁶ needs to consider reducing CO2 emissions using CCUS projects. As of April, 2025, while Santos hopes to be a customer of the Bayu-Undan CCUS project, they do not think that the CCUS is a viable control measure for inclusion in the Environment Plan (EP) since it is not currently available⁷. The Bayu-Undan CCUS project has an estimated storage capacity of 10 million tons per year⁸. Final investment decision (FID) is in 2025⁹ and operations are planned to start by 2028¹⁰. The project will also capture CO2 emitted from Ichthys LNG, which is led by INPEX¹¹.

¹ <https://docs.nopsema.gov.au/A715657>

² <https://docs.nopsema.gov.au/A1130368>

³ As of August 21, 2024, it was assumed that the Bayu-Undan gas field would be depleted in the second half of 2024, but as of February 19, 2025, it is reported that LNG production is still underway from the field.

<https://www.santos.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024-Half-year-results.pdf> p.31

https://www.santos.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2024-Full-year-presentation-Master_FINAL.pdf p.12

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<https://www.offshore-mag.com/regional-reports/australia-new-zealand/news/55282620/santos-barossa-subsea-installations-nearing-completion-first-gas-on-track>

⁵ https://oilgas-info.jogmec.go.jp/info_reports/1009585/1009684.html

⁶ Santos is also planning CCUS business.

<https://www.upstreamonline.com/energy-transition/santos-betting-big-on-carbon-capture-in-bid-to-drive-down-emissions/2-1-1053585>

⁷ <https://docs.nopsema.gov.au/A1195547> p.319, p.333

⁸ <https://middlearmprecinct.nt.gov.au/Industries/carbon-capture.-utilisation-and-storage>

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<https://www.santos.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/220330-Release-of-2022-Climate-Change-Report.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://asian-power.com/environment/news/santos-proposed-bayu-undan-ccs-project-pipe-dream>

¹¹ <https://jp.reuters.com/article/australia-carboncapture-idAFL3N2X91S0/>

Site location (Barossa gas field):

Northern Territory, approximately 300 km north of the coast of Darwin City, approximately 100 km north of the Tiwi Islands

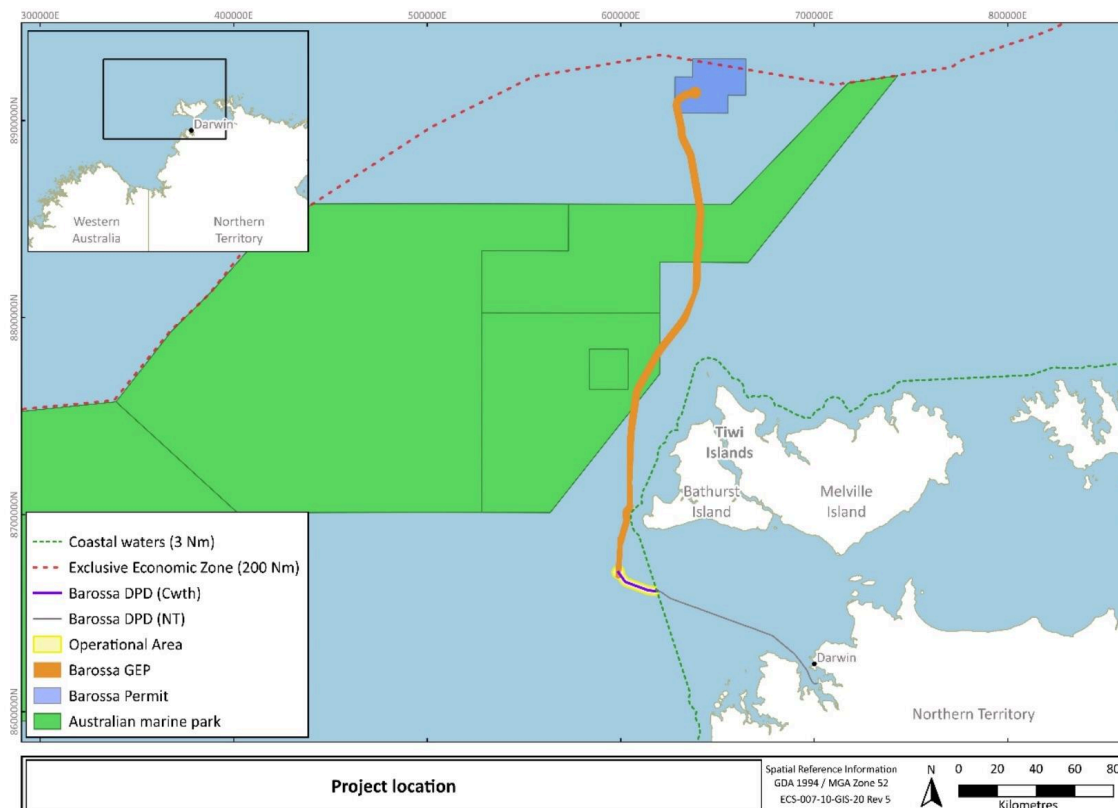


Figure 1-1: Location of proposed activity

Location of the Barossa gas field and the pipeline connecting it to the Darwin LNG plant¹²

Cost: 3.6 billion USD¹³

Project implementers:

Table 1: Investors of each business component and Investment ratio

Barossa gas field	Barossa FPSO	Darwin LNG Plant	Bayu-Undan gas field
Santos 50%	BW Offshore 51%	Santos 43.4%	Santos 43.4%
SK E&S 37.5%	ICMK Offshore Investment (JV between ITOCHU Corporation (50%) and Meiji Kaiun subsidiary (50%))	SK E&S 25.0%	SK E&S 25.0%

¹² <https://docs.nopsema.gov.au/A1130368> p.21

¹³ <https://www.santos.com/news/santos-announces-fid-on-the-barossa-gas-project-for-darwin-lng/>

Additionally, Santos will separately invest US\$600 million to extend the life of the Darwin LNG plant used in this project. This will extend the life of the plant by 20

years. <https://www.santos.com/news/santos-announces-fid-on-the-barossa-gas-project-for-darwin-lng/>

	25%		
JERA 12.5%	Macquarie Bank 24%	INPEX 11.4%	INPEX 11.4%
		Eni 11.0%	Eni 11.0%
		JERA 6.1%	JERA 6.1%
		Tokyo Gas 3.1%	Tokyo Gas 3.1%

※It has been reported that MidOcean Energy, an American company, has approached JERA to purchase JERA's 12.5% interest in the Barossa gas field development project¹⁴. It has been reported that JERA is concerned that Santos has not implemented specific net-zero measures aligned with the Australia's Safeguard Mechanism, and that the project has been delayed due to litigations, which has caused retrospective changes to its approval conditions¹⁵.

EPCI (design, procurement, construction, installation):

- FPSO: BW Offshore (also responsible for operations) (Norway)¹⁶
- Gas transmission pipeline: Allseas Group (Switzerland)¹⁷

EPC (engineering, procurement, construction):

- Subsea production system: Technip Oceania Pty Ltd (subsidiary of TechnipFMC (UK))¹⁸

Financing institution:

Gas field development component:

- Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC): Made a USD 346 million loan agreement with JERA, co-financing with private banks, total co-financing amounting to USD 497 million (name of private banks are not disclosed)¹⁹
- Korea Export-Import Bank (KEXIM): Decided total support of USD 180 million in 2017 and 2018²⁰. Additional support of 330 million USD was decided at the end of May 2022.²¹ In May 2024, SK E&S did not apply to KEXIM for an extension of the approval period for financial support, so the loan agreement for this project with KEXIM was terminated.²²

¹⁴

<https://www.afr.com/companies/energy/us-giant-midoccean-linked-to-barossa-gas-stake-interest-20250124-p5l6zp>

¹⁵

<https://www.afr.com/companies/energy/us-giant-midoccean-linked-to-barossa-gas-stake-interest-20250124-p5l6zp>

¹⁶ <https://www.santos.com/news/santos-awards-barossa-fpso-contract/>

<https://www.bwoffshore.com/about-us/recent-news/news/2021/march/signed-contract-for-barossa-fpso/>

¹⁷ <https://www.santos.com/news/another-major-barossa-contract-awarded/>

¹⁸ <https://www.santos.com/news/major-barossa-contract-awarded/>

<https://www.technipfmc.com/media/press-releases/2021/04/technipfmc-receives-notice-to-proceed-for-subsea-contract-for-santos-barossa-project-offshore-australia/>

¹⁹ <https://www.jbic.go.jp/ja/information/press/press-2021/1227-015708.html>

²⁰ <https://www.newspenguin.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=13254>

²¹ <https://www.sedaily.com/NewsView/2666NTEGVF/GD01>

²²

<https://www.smh.com.au/business/banking-and-finance/major-financial-institutions-cut-ties-with-santos-barossa-gas-project-20240610-p5jknf.html>

- Korea Export and Insurance Corporation (KSURE): Underwrote a 330 million insurance contract in May 2022²³. However, the insurance contract will end in January 2024.²⁴
- BNP Pariba: Served as a financial advisor to SK E&S, but resigned from the role in June 2024²⁵.
- Although it is unclear whether the relationship is related to this project, Australia and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ), The Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA), Westpac, National Australia Bank (NAB), ING Group, DNB ASA, Citigroup, Royal Bank of Canada, DBS Bank, Mitsubishi UFJ Bank, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, and Mizuho Bank have provided a total of 1 billion USD in loans to Santos²⁶.

FPSO component:

- For the Barossa FPSO, 9 banks including Mitsubishi UFJ Bank (US\$116 million), Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (US\$100 million), Korea Industrial Bank (US\$250 million), United Overseas Bank (US\$160 million), Clifford Capital (US\$116 million), Natixis (US\$116 million), Overseas-Chinese Banking Corporation (US\$116 million), ABN Amro (US\$96 million), Cooperative Rabobank (US\$80 million) provided a total of 1.15 billion USD²⁷.

Start of operation: Gas production is scheduled to start at the 3rd quarter of 2025²⁸, and continue for approximately 25 years.

LNG sales contracts:

- Diamond Gas International (100% subsidiary of Mitsubishi Corporation): 10 years with Santos. Signed 1.5 million tons/year LNG purchase contract²⁹
- TotalEnergies Gas & Power Asia Private Limited: Signed a contract with Santos to supply 20 LNG cargoes, or up to approximately 500,000 tons of LNG per year, over a period of three years and one quarter³⁰.
- Hokkaido Gas: Signed LNG sales contract with Santos to Ishikari LNG terminal³¹.
- Shizuoka Gas: Signed an annual LNG sales agreement of approximately 3.5 million tons with Santos³².

3. Main background

<Barossa gas field development>

²³

<https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/business/companies/20230127/sk-es-retains-govt-support-for-barossa-gas-project-in-australia>

²⁴

<https://www.smh.com.au/business/banking-and-finance/major-financial-institutions-cut-ties-with-santos-barossa-gas-project-20240610-p5jknf.html>

²⁵

<https://www.smh.com.au/business/banking-and-finance/major-financial-institutions-cut-ties-with-santos-barossa-gas-project-20240610-p5jknf.html>

²⁶ <https://equitygenerationlawyers.com/human-rights-2/>

²⁷

https://content.forourclimate.org/files/research/J18mFUe.pdf?_gl=1*14nttv7*_gcl_au*NTMyMjM5ODQ2LjE3NDQ2ODQ5NzE.*_ga*MjAzNTY2NDQ0Ni4xNzQ0Njg0OTcx*_ga_3HFQS8SMJN*MTc0NDc3ODcyMS41LjEuMTc0NDc3ODg3Mi42MC4wLjA. p.7

²⁸ <https://www.santos.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024-Half-year-results.pdf> p.2

²⁹ <https://www.santos.com/news/santos-and-mitsubishi-sign-spa-for-barossa-lng-supply/>

³⁰ <https://www.santos.com/news/santos-signs-mid-term-lng-supply-contract-2/>

³¹ https://www.hokkaido-gas.co.jp/news/20240528_2

³² <https://www.shizuokagas.co.jp/file.jsp?id=51257>

March 18, 2018	Australia's National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) approved the Offshore Project Proposal (OPP).
March 9, 2020	NOPSEMA approved ³³ the EP for the construction of the gas export pipeline: the Barossa Gas Export Pipeline Installation EP.
May 28, 2020	Santos acquired shares of the Barossa gas field from ConocoPhillips (ConocoPhillips withdraws from the project) ³⁴ .
March 30, 2021	Final Investment Decision (FID) announcement ³⁵ .
May 3, 2021	Santos signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Eni, a Italian energy company, to explore a business collaboration in Northern Australia and Timor-Leste ³⁶ , including consideration of the Bayu-Undan CCS project ³⁷ .
August 26, 2021	Australian Center for Corporation Responsibility(ACCR), an Australian NGO, filed a lawsuit against Santos, alleging that the company has misled investors and consumers by portraying LNG as a clean energy source ³⁸ .
November 7, 2021	Construction of gas transmission pipeline began ³⁹ .
December 8, 2021	JERA acquired shares of the Barossa gas field ⁴⁰ .
December 9, 2021	Santos submitted a revised EP for the gas pipeline construction to NOPSEMA ⁴¹ .
December 21, 2021	Solutions for Our Climate (SFOC), a South Korean environmental organization, filed a lawsuit against SK E&S, claiming that the company's incorrect advertisement that the LNG it plans to produce

³³ https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/353/show_public

³⁴ <https://www.santos.com/news/santos-completes-conocophillips-northern-australia-acquisition/>

³⁵ <https://www.santos.com/news/santos-announces-fid-on-the-barossa-gas-project-for-darwin-lng/>

³⁶ Australia has entered into the Timor-Leste-Australia LNG Partnership to collaborate to share LNG expertise, build industry and deepen trade and investment ties. Timor-Leste is keen on CO2 capture from the Barossa gas field to help offset billions of dollars in lost revenue as Bayu-Undan gas field begins to wind down.

<https://www.industry.gov.au/news/be-part-australias-liquefied-natural-gas-partnership-timor-leste>

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/east-timor-races-capture-carbon-santos-36-bln-barossa-gas-project-2021-10-21/>

³⁷

<https://www.santos.com/news/santos-and-eni-sign-mou-to-collaborate-in-northern-australia-and-timor-leste/>

³⁸

<https://www.accr.org.au/news/australasian-centre-for-corporate-responsibility-files-landmark-case-against-santos-in-federal-court/>

³⁹ https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/353/show_public

⁴⁰ https://www.jera.co.jp/information/20211208_809

⁴¹ https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/570/show_public

	from its Barossa gas field project is “zero CO2 emissions”, as even if the CCS facility is operated, most of the CO2 will be emitted. ⁴²
December 27, 2021	JBIC signed a loan agreement with JERA for the Barossa gas field development project ⁴³ .
March 9, 2022	Front end engineering design (FEED) of Bayu Undan CCUS project began ⁴⁴ .
March 14, 2022	NOPSEMA approved the Barossa Development Drilling and Completions Environment Plan (EP) related to the drilling of the Barossa gas field ⁴⁵ .
March 23, 2022	The Indigenous Tiwi and Larrakia Traditional Owners filed a lawsuit against the South Korean government to suspend their financing for the project through KEXIM and KSURE, alleging that the project operator had not properly consulted with them and had not secured the requirement of “free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).” ⁴⁶
May 23, 2022	South Korea's Seoul Central District Court dismissed a lawsuit by Tiwi and Larrakia Traditional Owners.
May 31, 2022	KEXIM decided to provide additional support of 330 million USD. ⁴⁷
June 3, 2022	The Tiwi people filed a lawsuit against NOPSEMA in the Federal Court of Australia, arguing that the Environmental Plan (EP) for the Barossa gas field drilling—approved by NOPSEMA in March of the same year—was granted without proper consultation with the Indigenous communities potentially affected by the project ⁴⁸ .
July 2022	The Tiwi people filed for a temporary injunction with the Federal Court to halt the drilling operations of the Barossa gas field ⁴⁹ , but the federal court rejected this injunction request.
July 2022	Santos started drilling of the Barossa gas fields ⁵⁰ .
July 15, 2022	Santos submitted a revised EP to NOPSEMA for the operation of the Bayu-Undan to Darwin gas export pipeline (BU GEP) ⁵¹ .

⁴²

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-12-22/gas-giant-in-korea-accused-by-activists-of-greenwash-advertising?fbclid=IwAR1PuFQA9CJQtYuq0BY9zQzQZSzG3xXvMKyGufmneRDZNYSD2-S8KQhmfK8>

⁴³ <https://www.jbic.go.jp/ja/information/press/press-2021/1227-015708.html>

⁴⁴ <https://www.santos.com/news/globally-significant-carbon-capture-and-storage-project-a-step-closer/>

⁴⁵ https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/458/show_public

⁴⁶ <https://sekitan.jp/jbic/2022/03/24/5479>

⁴⁷ <https://www.sedaily.com/NewsView/2666NTEGVF/GD01>

⁴⁸

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-06-07/nt-tiwi-islands-launch-court-action-santos-barossa-consultation/101128926>

⁴⁹ <https://www.edo.org.au/2022/07/08/tiwi-elder-seeks-urgent-injunction/>

⁵⁰

<https://www.edo.org.au/2022/08/19/federal-court-to-travel-to-tiwi-islands-for-on-country-evidence-in-legal-challenge-to-santos-barossa-gas-project/>

⁵¹ https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/597/show_public

August 2022	Santos withdrew its approval applications for EPs related to the construction of the gas export pipeline.
August 2022	In relation to the lawsuit filed by the Tiwi people against NOPSEMA, the judge and Santos' legal team conducted hearings on the Tiwi Islands ⁵² .
August 25, 2022	ACCR sued Santos for misleading information that blue hydrogen is "clean" and produced with "zero emissions," and for insufficient disclosure and inappropriate content about its net zero plan ⁵³ .
August 26, 2022	The Federal Court ordered Santos to temporarily suspend drilling operations until a judge is made on the Environment Plan (EP) related to the drilling ⁵⁴ .
September 2022	In a lawsuit brought by the Tiwi people against NOPSEMA, the Australian Federal Court (first instance) made a finding that the decision to approve the Drilling EP was invalid and ordered its removal within two weeks. NOPSEMA has appealed this judgment.
December 2, 2022	In the Federal Court (second instance), NOPSEMA's appeal was dismissed. The Federal Court ordered Santos to consult with the Tiwi people on a project's drilling EP and ordered Santos to stop pipeline construction activities ⁵⁵ . Since no appeal was filed by the appeal deadline of January 2, 2023, the case was concluded on the same day.
December 2022	NOPSEMA ordered Santos to investigate the impact of the project on Tiwi undersea cultural heritage.
February 2023	The Federal Court ordered court-supervised consultations between lawyers for both parties in ACCR and Santos case ⁵⁶
February 7, 2023	Santos conducted consultations with Tiwi people regarding the EP (project's drilling EP) related to drilling project ⁵⁷ .
April 4, 2023	The Tiwi people have filed human rights complaints with 15 financial institutions supporting the Barossa Gas Field development project ⁵⁸ .

⁵²

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-08-23/nt-santas-barossa-gas-tiwi-islands-court-hearing/101357588>

⁵³

<https://www.accr.org.au/news/australasian-centre-for-corporate-responsibility-expands-landmark-federal-court-case-against-santos/>

⁵⁴ <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-08-26/nt-santos-pauses-barossa-gas-drilling/101367896>

⁵⁵

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-01-25/nt-santos-pause-barossa-gas-pipeline-nopsema-direction/101888172>

⁵⁶

<https://www.accr.org.au/news/australasian-centre-for-corporate-responsibility-updates-case-against-santos-in-federal-court/>

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https://www.ntnews.com.au/subscribe/news/1/?sourceCode=NTWEB_WRE170_a_GGL&dest=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ntnews.com.au%2Fbusiness%2Fnt-business%2Fdozens-of-pirlangimpi-residents-attend-court-ordered-santos-consultation-on-the-barossa-gas-project%2Fnews-story%2F5ff752a3b892b48dc2cc7ebaa36bfd36&memtype=anonymous&mode=premium

⁵⁸ <https://equitygenerationlawyers.com/human-rights-2/>

June 26, 2023	ACCR filed a further amended indictment and brief in the greenwashing case against Santos ⁵⁹ .
October 30, 2023	Simon Munkara, an Indigenous man from the Tiwi Islands, filed a lawsuit in Federal Court alleging that Santos failed to adequately assess significant risks to cultural heritage, and requested an urgent injunction for the pipeline installation ⁶⁰ .
November 15, 2023	The Federal Court ordered construction of southern section of pipeline to be halted until sentencing in January 2024 ⁶¹ . Work on the northern part of the pipeline was permitted ⁶² .
December 15, 2023	NOPSEMA accepted the Development Drilling and Completions EP ⁶³ .
January 2024	KSURE stopped underwriting insurance for the Barossa gas field development project ⁶⁴ .
January 15, 2024	The Federal Court lifted construction injunction on construction activities on southern section of pipeline in November 2023 ⁶⁵ . Santos resumed pipeline construction work ⁶⁶ .
May 28, 2024	Santos concluded an LNG sales contract with Hokkaido Gas for Ishikari LNG terminal ⁶⁷ .
End of May 2024	KEXIM stopped financing for the Barossa gas field development project ⁶⁸ .
October 2, 2024	Santos signed a contract with TotalEnergies Gas & Power Asia Private Limited to supply 20 LNG cargoes, or up to approximately

59

<https://www.accr.org.au/news/australasian-centre-for-corporate-responsibility-updates-case-against-santos-in-federal-court/>

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<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-11-15/construction-of-barossa-pipeline-delayed-further-ahead-of-trial/103098124>

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<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-11-15/construction-of-barossa-pipeline-delayed-further-ahead-of-trial/103098124>

62 Same as above.

63 <https://docs.nopsema.gov.au/A1048236>

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<https://www.smh.com.au/business/banking-and-finance/major-financial-institutions-cut-ties-with-santos-barossa-gas-project-20240610-p5jknf.html>

65

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-15/santos-wins-barossa-project-battle-against-tiwi-islanders/103320182>

https://www.rigzone.com/news/santos_allowed_to_resume_barossa_gas_project_by_court-16-jan-2024-175390-article/

66 <https://www.santos.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2023-Fourth-Quarter-Report.pdf> p.11

67 https://www.hokkaido-gas.co.jp/news/20240528_2

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<https://www.smh.com.au/business/banking-and-finance/major-financial-institutions-cut-ties-with-santos-barossa-gas-project-20240610-p5jknf.html>

	500,000 tons of LNG per year, for a period of three years and one quarter ⁶⁹
October 16, 2024	NOPSEMA approved the EP for the Darwin Pipeline Duplication Project ⁷⁰ and the oil pollution emergency plan (OPEP) ⁷¹
October 28, 2024	ACCR filed a lawsuit against Santos and a trial began in Federal Court ⁷²
April 22, 2025	NOPSEMA approved the Production Operation Environment Plan which is the final EP for the project ⁷³ .

4. Main issues

(1) Impact on climate change

Consistency with the Paris Agreement

- The International Energy Agency (IEA), in its 2023 report, titled “Net Zero Roadmap: A Global Pathway to Keep the 1.5 °C Goal in Reach”, reiterated the conclusion from its 2021 report that in order to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and maintain 50% chance of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees, no new coal, oil or natural gas projects are needed. This means there is no room for new gas extraction projects like the Barossa gas field.
- The Barossa gas field is the gas field with the highest carbon emissions per unit compared to other already developed gas fields in Australia.⁷⁴ Extracting and burning Barossa gas will release 15.6 million tonnes of CO₂ per year.
- Gas, just like coal, is at risk of becoming a stranded asset. Furthermore, it is said that the risk of gas becoming a stranded asset will be faster than that of coal⁷⁵.

CCS (CO₂ capture and storage) business

- The operator of the Barossa gas field development is considering a CCS project using the existing Bayu-Undan gas field, and is trying to use this to reduce CO₂ emissions from the Barossa gas field. However, according to the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), transporting the CO₂ captured at the

⁶⁹ <https://www.santos.com/news/santos-signs-mid-term-lng-supply-contract-2/>

⁷⁰ Originally, there were plans to lay a new pipeline connecting the Barossa gas field to the Bayu Undan gas field-Darwin LNG pipeline (BU GEP), but in order to directly connect the Barossa gas field to Darwin LNG, the Darwin Pipeline Duplication Project, a project to lay an additional pipeline of approximately 123 km, was planned.

<https://docs.nopsema.gov.au/A715657> p.24

<https://docs.nopsema.gov.au/A1130368> pp.20-21

⁷¹ https://info.nopsema.gov.au/activities/546/show_public

⁷² <https://www.accr.org.au/news/greenwashing-proceedings-in-federal-court/>

⁷³

https://info.nopsema.gov.au/environment_plans/684/show_public?utm_source=miragenews&utm_medium=miragenews&utm_campaign=news

⁷⁴

https://ieefa.org/ieefa-santos-barossa-gas-field-emissions-create-major-risks-for-shareholders/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=ieefa-santos-barossa-gas-field-emissions-create-major-risks-for-shareholders

⁷⁵ <https://ieefa.org/stranded-asset-risks-for-gas-investments-climbing-quickly/> (Link broken in February 2023)

Barossa gas field approximately 880 km to the Bayu-Undan gas field via the Darwin LNG plant would require energy consumption for compression and processing, making it inefficient for storing CO₂. .. Even if CCS equipment is installed, it is estimated that there will be almost no reduction in emissions reduction.⁷⁶

(2) Lack of Indigenous consent

The pipeline from the Barossa gas field will be installed just 6km from the area where the Tiwi Islands' Indigenous people⁷⁷, the Tiwi people, have lived. There are concerns about the impact it will have on the marine environment, livelihoods, and culture of the Indigenous people. Under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, it is necessary to obtain the “free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)” of affected indigenous Peoples. However, it is clear that there was almost no consultation with Indigenous Peoples in this project. Not obtaining FPIC for affected Indigenous Peoples also violates the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) Guidelines for Confirming Environmental and Social Considerations and the Equator Principles, which are international environmental and human rights norms that private banks must comply with when lending.

Furthermore, there are concerns about the impact of the pipeline and its construction work on the undersea cultural heritage of the Tiwi people located on the seabed near the proposed pipeline site. This includes valuable heritage such as ancient stone tools, and damage to cultural heritage. Drilling on these sites undermines the historical significance of the heritage and the dignity of the Indigenous Peoples who have protected it.⁷⁸

(3) Impact on marine ecosystem

The Barossa gas export pipeline (GEP) will be built across protected areas in the Oceanic Marine Park, potentially endangering endangered species including whales, dugongs and sea turtles. Pipeline construction will cause extensive seabed disturbance, dredging, increased numbers of ships and helicopters, and severe noise and light pollution, posing a major threat to sea turtle nesting and hatching.

For inquiries regarding this matter:

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<https://ieefa.org/articles/ieefa-australia-even-duplicate-pipeline-and-ccs-emissions-santoss-proposed-barossa-project>

⁷⁷ Details of the land ownerships in Tiwi Islands are here:

<https://permits.tiwilandcouncil.com/documents/file/Tiwi-Islands-Land-Ownership-Map.pdf>

⁷⁸ <https://jp.reuters.com/article/australia-santos-indigenous-idAFL1N34908Q>