FACT SHEET

Pipeline Construction

Viva Energy Australia (Viva Energy) is one of Australia's leading energy companies and supplies approximately a quarter of the country's liquid fuel requirements. We operate the strategically located Geelong Refinery, manufacturing a range of fuels including for the aviation sector.

Viva Energy is proposing to construct and operate a new jet fuel pipeline to support the growing fuel needs at Melbourne Airport.

Melbourne Jet Pipeline Project

The proposed pipeline would connect the existing Somerton pipeline (located just south of the Airport Drive exit on the Western Ring Road) to the existing airport fuel storage facility located at Marker Rd in Tullamarine.

As the proposed pipeline is still under consideration, any subsequent commitment to proceed with the project are subject to relevant regulatory and Viva Energy Board approvals.

The pipeline would be 350mm in diameter and approximately 7km in length. It is proposed to be mostly buried underground with small above-ground sections at the two connecting locations.

The construction methodology will involve the use of specialised trenching machines and will take into consideration current land uses. Trenchless construction methods will be used in more complex or environmentally sensitive areas.

Key facts

Diameter: 350mm
Length: Less than 10km
Visual: Mostly buried underground with some aboveground components to connect with existing infrastructure.

Pipeline construction summary

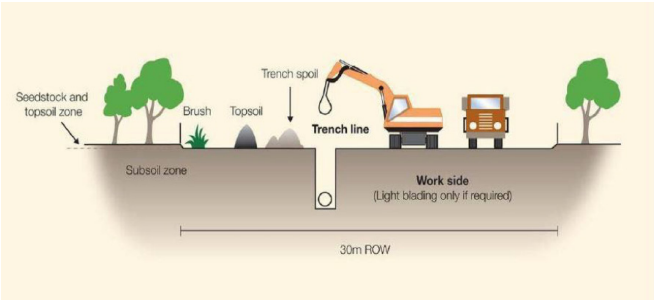
Viva Energy will engage with landowners, occupiers and stakeholders prior to and throughout construction of the pipeline.

Property management plans may be produced for each property and will identify aspects such as access, amenity, commercial implications and environmentally sensitive areas to be considered during the project's construction and rehabilitation phases.

We will seek to minimise interference with activities on the land both during and after the completion of construction work. Where impacts cannot be avoided, we will rehabilitate impacted land to the extent practicable in consultation with the landowner or occupier.

Rehabilitation will commence following the backfilling and compaction of the pipeline trench.

Construction works are subject to establishing all relevant and necessary agreements with landowners and occupiers.



A STEP-BY-STEP SUMMARY OF A TYPICAL PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS IS OUTLINED BELOW:

Survey Activities

Field surveys need to be conducted in conjunction with desktop assessments in order to inform pipeline design and development. Survey activities may include cultural heritage, flora/fauna, hydrology, cadastre and soil/land assessments, as well as identification of local features and services.

Landowners and occupiers will be consulted regarding these survey activities and associated requirements for land access. The Notice of Intent to Enter Land for Survey will be provided to relevant landowners and occupiers which will include a description of survey activities.

Construction Activities

Setting up work areas

Before construction can commence, work areas must be set up appropriately. These include lay down areas for equipment, construction material stockpiles and setup areas. Work areas are established through consultation with the community and other stakeholders.

Clear and grade

Clear and grade involves preparing the pipeline easement for construction and setting aside the extra work space as agreed with landowners and occupiers. The combined easement and extra work space is commonly referred to as the construction "right-of-way".

Right of way

The construction right-of-way is established and will be clearly identified and fenced off where required. Typically, the right-of-way can be between 25-30m wide.

Trenching

A specialised rotary trenching machine or excavator is used to dig the trenches along the pipeline route. Any material removed is placed on the side of the trench (stockpiled), within the construction set up area.

Potential impacts associated with this activity such as hours of operation, dust and noise management, will be discussed with affected landowners and occupiers prior to the commencement of works.

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How to contact us?

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Trenchless construction

Trenchless construction is used in more complex or environmentally sensitive areas. Specialist operators drill a hole beneath the surface at a shallow angle, and then pull a welded length of pipe through the hole without disturbing the surface.

These operations are carefully planned and are highly engineered and undertaken to minimise disturbance to properties and roads, in environmentally sensitive areas or to address construction issues.

Welding

Once the pipe lengths have been laid out or 'strung' along the construction set up area, qualified welders join the lengths of pipes together. Welds are inspected using x-ray or ultrasonic equipment to ensure their quality and are then coated, to reduce the likelihood of corrosion.

Lowering In

After final quality assurance checks, each completed pipe section is lowered into the trench using specialist side-boom tractors and excavators.

Backfill

When the pipe is in place, it is backfilled with suitable fill material (padding) to protect the pipeline coating from stones or other sharp objects.

The topsoil is then re-instated over the disturbed trench area to the contour of the land so that pasture or other groundcover can be rehabilitated.

Quality Assurance

Rigorous quality assurance, inspection and testing occurs during and after installation to confirm that the pipeline integrity meets or exceeds the design criteria.

Using water, the pipe is pressure tested (hydrotested) to ensure it is fit for operational service.

Pipeline operation and land rehabilitation

Commissioning and Operation

Prior to commissioning and operation of the pipeline, consent is required from the Minister administering the *Pipelines Act 2005* (Vic).

The pipeline must comply with the requirements of the *Pipelines Act 2005 and Pipelines Regulations 2017* and the Environmental Management Plan and Safety Management Plan must be approved by the Minister administering the *Pipelines Act 2005* (Vic) and Energy Safe Victoria respectively.

Easement and property rehabilitation

Disturbed areas will be reinstated and may include re-contouring to match existing landforms. Topsoil conserved during the construction process is re-spread over areas used for construction. Rehabilitation is undertaken in accordance with approval requirements and landowner considerations.

Signs are placed at regular intervals and within line-of-sight to one another to indicate the presence of a buried pipeline.