



Kimberley Browse LNG Precinct

Factsheet 05



Kimberley LNG Social Impact Assessment
Volume I: Scope and Profile

JULY 2009

Social Impact Assessment Scope and Profile

The State Government is committed to the development of a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) precinct that minimises potential impacts on the area while maximising opportunities for local people, businesses and employment.

Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is a process to anticipate and manage change and is an important part of planning for the precinct.

While the SIA process is underway, development of the LNG precinct will be subject to a range of Federal and State legislative assessments. These include environmental, heritage and social impact assessments together with industry evaluation of the economic viability of constructing and operating LNG processing plants in the precinct.

Managed properly, the Kimberley Browse LNG Precinct will generate favourable conditions for investment, business and employment for West Kimberley communities and will create further opportunities, particularly for Aboriginal people.

What does the SIA process involve?

The SIA process started with information gathering to gain an understanding of the current situation in Broome, the Dampier Peninsula and surrounding areas. It includes current and future trends

in population, employment, housing, community facilities and services, and estimates on the impact the proposed project could have on these areas.

The information will help create a Social Impact Management Plan to facilitate change management and identify required resources to accommodate and take advantage of changes resulting from the LNG Precinct.

The Kimberley LNG Precinct Social Impact Assessment Scope and Profile report is now available online at www.dsd.wa.gov.au/KimberleyLNG.

What's in the report?

The Social Impact Assessment Scope and Profile report outlines the assessment process, identifies the key issues and factors to be assessed and provides information on the proposed project, which will help communities plan for the future.

The report provides background information on the site selection process, the Precinct and the Browse Basin, including:

- The precinct site – where it is and information about its history and current use
- What may be built there – how big the development might be, construction timelines, economy and opportunities
- Cumulative social impacts – including support facilities such as supply base and aviation requirements

- Population projection – a snapshot of the current population and how it is predicted to grow even without additional development
- Indigenous community – including current demographics and opportunities for education, training and employment in the future
- Broome services review – current and proposed health, education, affordable housing, emergency services and infrastructure to cater for the growing population
- Economy and employment – what jobs would be in demand, what services would be required, how business could be affected in the future.

Community workshops

A number of community workshops have been held in Broome to provide local input and assist the SIA team identify any gaps in the process.

Service providers in the areas of recreation and lifestyle, infrastructure, housing and land, health, education, and heritage/sense of place were invited to attend presentations by the Department of State Development and Woodside Energy Limited, and then participate in a group discussion.

During this SIA process the local community was also invited to an Open Day hosted by the Department of State Development to receive information and provide input into the process.



The information gathered through these processes will be used to update the Scope and Profile report.

A Social Impact Assessment Management Plan will be developed to help mitigate and manage any social impacts resulting from development of an LNG precinct at James Price Point.

The management plan will form part of a Strategic Assessment Report which will be available for public comment.

Additional Impact Assessments

As part of the SIA process, four separate impact assessments will provide relevant information to the planning process for the project.

These include:

- a Tourism Impact Assessment commissioned by Tourism WA
- a Fishing, Pearling and Aquaculture Impact Study commissioned by the Department of Fisheries
- an Aboriginal Social Impact Assessment conducted by the Kimberley Land Council

- an Infrastructure Impact Assessment conducted by the Department of Planning.

The Tourism Impact Assessment, undertaken by Broome-based Kadar Pearson and Partners (KPP), is now complete and is available at www.tourism.wa.gov.au.

The study looked at a variety of accommodation, land-based tours, aerial scenic flights, tourist-focused retail, indigenous cultural experiences and marine based tourism and how these might be impacted by the development of an LNG precinct.

It also looked at the potential impacts and benefits to the tourism and hospitality workforce and accommodation, tourism products, including flights, tours and experiences and the 'sense of place' of Broome and the Kimberley.

A Fishing, Pearling and Aquaculture Impact Study, being undertaken by Big Island Research Pty Ltd for the Department of Fisheries, is near completion.

It will identify the potential positive and negative impacts on commercial fisheries, the pearling industry and aquatic eco-tourism activities and recreational fishing in the immediate region.

The study has been extended to include indigenous fishing and marine activities.

An Aboriginal Social Impact Assessment, conducted by the Kimberley Land Council, is underway. The assessment has been focusing on anticipating and managing potential impacts on indigenous land, heritage, culture and indigenous-specific services.

The Aboriginal Impact Assessment involves both Traditional Owners as well as members of the broader community. It focuses on the Dampier Peninsula but will also include issues of indigenous disadvantage shared across the Kimberley.

An Infrastructure Impact Assessment, conducted by the Department of Planning, is also underway. It will identify the infrastructure requirements for the operational life of the LNG precinct and the broad infrastructure impacts on Broome from the established precinct.

These additional impact assessments will be used by the SIA team in planning for the precinct.

For further information please visit:
www.dsd.wa.gov.au/KimberleyLNG