

Our ref: 4AKT 21806053
Contact: Allison Tansley
Direct Line: [REDACTED]
Direct Email: [REDACTED]
Principal: Kate Morris

Level 5, 707 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3008

DX 30970

16 September 2020

Meg Lee
Hall & Wilcox

Email: [REDACTED]

PO Box 633
Collins St West VIC 8007

Sophie Osborn
Ashurst

Email: [REDACTED]

T 03 9620 9399
F 03 9620 9288

ABN 98 076 868 034

harwoodandrews.com.au

Dear Meg and Sophie,

**Crib Point Gas Import Jetty and Pipeline Project (Project) Environmental Effects Statement (EES)
Inquiry and Advisory Committee hearing (IAC)**

We refer to our letter to you dated 14 September 2020 requesting further information regarding the EES.

In addition to the previously requested information, our client requests the below information regarding the potential impacts on shorebirds and waterbirds.

We request as a matter of urgency confirmation that your respective clients will provide our client (or its experts) with access to the following information:

In relation to EES Chapter 6: Marine biodiversity, Chapter 7: Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity, Technical Report A (Marine biodiversity) and Technical Report B (Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity):

1. The following further information regarding the shorebird surveys conducted for the EES:
 - a. The GPS coordinates of each sampling site and the position(s) of survey personnel.
 - b. Clarification as to how much of the site was surveyed (e.g. linear extent).
 - c. Clarification as to the weather conditions during the survey (e.g. wind, rain, etc.)
 - d. Clarification as to the tide state during surveys (e.g. run in run out, slack tide or randomised).
 - e. Clarification as to whether surveys were also done concurrently at control locations and, if so, how many sites/times and what were the counts there.
 - f. Clarification as to how long was spent at each site during each day of sampling.
 - g. An explanation of what was done to assess the shoreline habitat values for shorebirds, for example, as per Zharikov and Milton (2009).¹
 - h. Clarification as to whether the survey(s) were undertaken in accordance with the minimum data requirements in the *EPBC Act Policy Statement 3.21 Industry guidelines for avoiding, assessing and mitigating impacts on EPBC Act listed migratory shorebird species*.

¹ Zharikov, Y. and Milton, D. A. (2009). Valuing coastal habitats: predicting high-tide rook on-breeding migratory shorebirds from landscape composition. *Emu* 109: 107-120.

- i. Further information on the variability in abundance (at Crib Point and other areas for context), species richness and behaviours of migratory shorebirds.
 - j. A complete list of threatened shorebirds that have been identified as occurring or having potential to occur at Crib Point or the surrounding area.
 - k. Further information and analysis of the impact of the Project on the Pacific Golden Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*) (EPBC Act-Migratory, Victoria Threatened Advisory list-Vulnerable), which has been twice recorded at Crib Point on the Atlas of Living Australia (ala.org.au).
2. Survey(s) of diving birds (e.g. species of cormorants and gulls) at that Crib Point Jetty, including the information requested in 1a-h.
 3. Nocturnal survey(s) of shorebirds and waterbirds.
 4. An assessment of the effects of lightning from the Project during operation on nocturnal birds.
 5. An assessment of the cumulative and interactive impacts of the Project on shorebirds, including and at a minimum, the cumulative and interactive effects of noise, boat wash and other disturbances from the use of the Crib Point jetty by other vessels/operations and the Project vessels.
 6. An assessment of alternatives for the 'at sea' processes (i.e. what alternatives are possible for the operations proposed to be carried out using an open loop versus closed loop regasification process?)
 7. An updated and detailed mitigation and management program in relation to shorebirds, including:
 - a. adaptive measures to be adopted during the waders and waterbirds monitoring program noted in the EMP and OEMP; and
 - b. mechanisms for determining whether there will be disruption to breeding, feeding, migration and resting of migratory shorebirds.
 8. An updated assessment of the limits of acceptable change (LAC) to critical components, process and services (CPS) in the context of the Crib Point Study area not only the entire Western Port Ramsar site.
 9. A comprehensive analysis of the effects on migratory shorebirds from human disturbance from current operations at Crib Point jetty.
 10. A comprehensive assessment of the potential impact of the Project on penguin populations on Phillip Island and Barralier Island.

Should you have any queries, please contact Kate Morris [REDACTED] or Allison Tansley [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully,



Kate Morris
HARWOOD ANDREWS