

QCLNG pipeline – Reinstatement

QGC Pty Limited, the Australian subsidiary of BG Group, is developing coal seam gas in the Surat Basin of southern Queensland for domestic and export markets through its Queensland Curtis LNG (QCLNG) Project.

This fact sheet provides information on the process of reinstatement of the easement and associated areas required for the construction of the 540 kilometre QCLNG gas pipeline.

Reinstatement commitments

QGC is committed to returning the easement and any associated area impacted by construction of the pipeline to a state consistent with its pre-existing condition.

Reinstatement activities will primarily be conducted by QGC's contractor McConnell Dowell and Consolidated Contracting Company Joint Venture (MCJV), with other subcontractors engaged to complete specialised tasks as required.

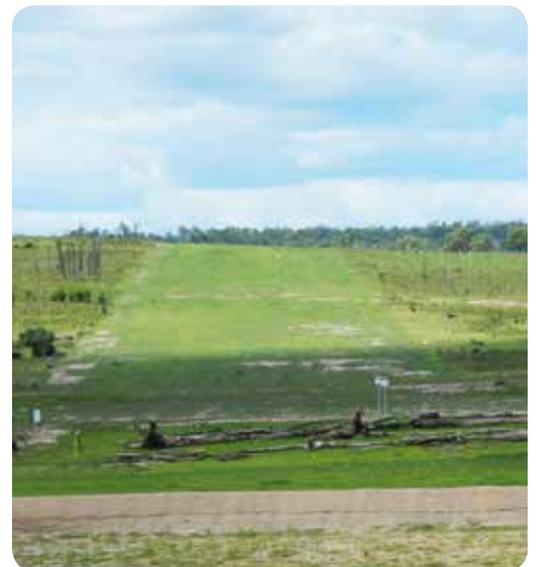
Environmental standards and regulations

Reinstatement of the pipeline easement will be completed in accordance with state and federal government regulations, which includes the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, QCLNG Environmental Authorities, project Environmental Management Plans, Australian Pipeline Industry Association Code of Environmental Practice and other relevant management plans, licences and approvals.

Working with landholders

We encourage landholder involvement throughout the reinstatement process. Each landholder will be invited to attend a meeting to discuss agreed reinstatement requirements in the easement document. The meeting will clearly set out what the landholder can expect as part of the reinstatement process.

After reinstatement activities have been completed, the landholder will be invited to a post-reinstatement meeting to inspect the easement, finalise a completion checklist and ensure that reinstatement has been completed in accordance with QCLNG's approvals. If the landholder has any concerns we will investigate the issues and implement appropriate remedies.



Pipeline specifications

- Pipeline length: 540 kilometres
- Diameter: 42 inches or 1.07 metres
- Single pipe length: 12 metres
- Number of pipes: 46,200
- Burial depth: up to 1.5m
- Pipeline construction completion: 2013
- Operating life: 40 years



Steps to reinstatement

The first stage in restoring the land will focus on removing construction equipment and material, re-establishing ground contours, installing erosion and sediment controls and re-spreading topsoil. These activities can take several months and are dependent on a range of factors including weather conditions. The second stage is rehabilitation, which is focused on re-establishing vegetation cover. Regeneration is a progressive process and can take many years.

The main steps of reinstatement are detailed below and occur concurrently:

1. Pre-reinstatement meeting and checklist:

The landholder will be briefed on the reinstatement process and given the opportunity to raise questions and complete a pre-reinstatement checklist.

2. Removal of construction equipment and material:

This will be ongoing throughout the reinstatement process.

3. Restoration of ground contours:

The trench will be backfilled and compacted. The easement will be restored to the natural contours of the ground and made stable similar to the pre-construction topography. Restoration of watercourses, terraces and levees will also involve restoring of ground contours, bed and bank profiles and natural channels where the pipeline crosses waterway and drainage lines.

4. Erosion and sediment control:

Where erosion and sediment control is required, diversion banks (soil berms) will be constructed across the easement to divert the flow of water away from the backfilled trench and off the easement. These low banks will be constructed using local soil and will extend across the width of the working area. Additional specialised soil stabilisation materials (such as jute matting, geo-fabric, netting mesh or rock rip-rap) may be used as required.

5. Compaction relief:

Where it is assessed that ground compaction relief is required, techniques such as ripping along natural contours to avoid soil erosion, may be carried out as required.

6. Removal and/or replacement infrastructure:

Temporary infrastructure will be removed and, where required, replaced with permanent infrastructure. This step will include restoring fences, access tracks and or replacing permanent fences and gates impacted by construction.



7. Re-spreading of topsoil:

Stockpiled topsoil will be re-spread evenly over the impacted area (easement, access roads, camp sites and laydown areas). The re-spreading of topsoil will occur after re-contouring and erosion and sediment controls have been put in place.

8. Placement of filter strips:

After the completion of all earthworks, any mulch, brush and selected tree timber will be placed in windrowed strips across a portion of the easement. These 'filter strips' will assist in regenerating vegetation, erosion control and provide fauna habitat. Our environmental authority does not allow us to burn timber or vegetation debris of any kind.

9. Revegetation of the easement:

Where appropriate for revegetation and/or erosion control a seed mix will be spread. The seed mix will be spread using ground and/or aerial methods.

10. Finalisation of reinstatement works:

Cathodic protection test points and above-ground signs will be installed above and adjacent to the pipeline. This will include warning signs for the buried fibre optic cable which has been installed adjacent to the pipeline.

11. Gate installation:

Gates will be installed to allow access to the easement during the operational life of the pipeline for monitoring and maintenance activities.

12. Approval of works:

Site inspection will be conducted with the landholder, QGC and MCJV to confirm completion of works as specified.

13. Safety information:

Before the pipeline becomes operational QGC will meet with landholders and provide information on how to conduct their activities safely.



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Reinstatement maintenance and monitoring

QGC has a responsibility to maintain and monitor the easement for the operational life of the project. Maintenance and monitoring activities are a very important part of the reinstatement process and they will help to ensure the easement and any disturbed areas are returned to their pre-existing condition. The easement will be maintained to allow access for maintenance and monitoring activities. Maintenance activities will include erosion and sediment control, weed and topsoil management.

Monitoring activities will be focused on the regeneration and stabilisation of the easement and depending on the vegetation cover and rainfall patterns can take a few years. During this time maintenance crews will monitor regeneration of the easement and remedy any areas that have not stabilised sufficiently.

Further information and assistance

For further information please contact your assigned Land Access Consultant from QGC or visit www.qgc.com.au

You can also contact the QGC Community Hotline on 1800 030 443 or email community@qgc.com.au

About QGC

QGC is a leading Australian coal seam gas explorer and producer focused on developing reserves in both the Surat and Bowen basins for domestic and international supply.

Our headquarters are in Brisbane and we employ more than 7,300 people across Queensland. In 2011, QGC produced about 20% of Queensland's gas demand.

QGC is wholly owned by BG Group, a leading oil and gas company with headquarters in the United Kingdom and operations in more than 25 countries.

Our commitments

We seek to minimise the effects of our operations on landholders and make a positive contribution to the protection of the environment.

We run our business in accordance with all government regulations, industry standards and the access rules that we agree with landholders.

Our staff, contractors and consultants follow QGC's Code of Conduct, outlined in the 'Information for Landholders' booklet and available at our website: www.qgc.com.au

Contact details

Please contact QGC for more information.
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