



**QGC**

# FLARING IN THE SURAT BASIN



**INDEPENDENT  
AIR QUALITY  
MODELLING AND  
QUEENSLAND  
GOVERNMENT  
MONITORING  
SHOWS NO HEALTH  
OR ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACTS RELATED  
TO FLARING.**

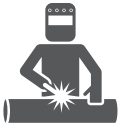
FLARING IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION PROCESS, ENSURING THE SAFE AND CONTROLLED BURNING OF EXCESS GAS.

Flaring is a safety mechanism which is used where gas cannot be reused or recovered. It can occur at gas processing and compression facilities, and on gathering pipelines.

Shell's QGC business has approval from the Queensland Government's Department of Environment and Science (DES) to flare at its natural gas facilities.

## WHY DO WE FLARE?

Flaring is essential to ensure our operations remain safe. Activities that may require flaring include:



### Construction

As new wells are connected into existing pipelines.



### Routine maintenance

Regular maintenance is essential for safe and efficient operations. Before maintenance, gas is removed from equipment and piping so workers can do the job safely.



### For safety stoppages

In unplanned safety stoppages, gas is quickly removed to allow our systems to safely restart.



### WHAT WILL I SEE?

Each flare is different, and the flame varies in height and brightness, depending on the amount of gas flared.

The frequency and duration of flaring depends on the location (gathering pipeline or facility), and the event (planned maintenance or unplanned occurrence).

### WHAT WILL I HEAR?

Flares can generate noise, depending on the amount of gas being flared, the time of day, and the distance from the flare.

We will endeavour to keep noise to a minimum, and will let you know if you are likely to hear noise ahead of planned flaring events.

## DOES FLARING AFFECT AIR QUALITY?

The gas predominantly burnt during flaring is methane.

During flaring, methane is broken down into water vapour and carbon dioxide, which has just  $\frac{1}{25}$ <sup>th</sup> the greenhouse impact as releasing unburnt gas.

The by-product of flaring is carbon dioxide, which the company reports under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System set by the Australian Government.

### IS IT SAFE?

We have strict safety controls in place around our infrastructure, including exclusion zones, fencing and bushfire management plans.

### WILL I BE NOTIFIED?

Before planned flaring, Shell's QGC business will endeavour to engage with landholders in proximity to the activity.

Firecom will also be advised.

Community members can register to receive regional activity updates – subscribe through [www.shell.com.au/qgc-opsbulletin](http://www.shell.com.au/qgc-opsbulletin).

Where flaring is unplanned, advance notice is not possible, but it is likely to be of short duration.

**Contact us, any time of the day or night, on (freecall) 1800 030 443.**

## CONTACT DETAILS

Please contact your Land Access Advisor or a member of the community engagement team for more information.

QGC Community Information Centre,  
18-20 Bell St, Chinchilla

QGC Office  
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1800 030 443 (toll-free)  
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