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RECEIVED

03 Sep 2018

DPTI

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State Planning Commission

Via email: DPTI.PlanningEngagement@sa.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Consultation on Draft State Planning Policies for South Australia

SEA Gas owns and operates the Port Campbell to Adelaide high pressure natural gas transmission pipeline which transports approximately half of Adelaide's total gas demand from South West Victoria. The pipeline primarily supplies natural gas for power generation and therefore plays an important role in the security of the South Australia's energy supply. Accordingly, the Port Campbell to Adelaide natural gas transmission pipeline is considered Critical Infrastructure for the State. The pipeline also supplies industrial, commercial and domestic gas users.

SEA Gas is very concerned that current planning processes are insufficient to ensure the impact on public safety from urban encroachment around pipelines is given appropriate consideration as part of the planning process. We have reviewed the Draft State Planning Policies for South Australia and believe that both the 'Key Resources' and 'Energy' policies could be improved, by making more explicit reference to key resource and energy infrastructure, including pipelines to ensure that it is clear to stakeholders where the risk management principles in the policies apply.

We specifically recommend the following amendments to each policy:

State Planning Policy 10: Key Resources

1. Paragraph 4 leading sentence should be changed to – *'It is essential that the land use planning, mining and petroleum legislation complement each other to:'*

(Pipelines are regulated under the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000*. Although the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 defines both the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000* and the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982* as 'Mining Acts', for the purpose of the planning policy it would be preferable to refer explicitly to petroleum legislation in order to make it clear that this important part of the policy applies to pipelines that fall under the Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000.)

2. Paragraph 4 dot point 2 should state - *'minimise the risk of adversely affecting the state's mineral and energy resource assets as well as associated infrastructure'*.

(The addition of the words ‘associated infrastructure’ ensures that pipelines are capture by this important principle.)

3. Paragraph 4 add a new dot point after dot point 4 – *‘Facilitate development that manages risk to public safety, the environment and security of energy supply.’*

(Additional pipeline risk control measures can often be implemented to manage the change in risk presented by urban encroachment. The pipeline industry is supportive of planning policy that encourages developers to address risk through implementation of additional controls rather than preventing development due to incompatible land use.)

4. Paragraph 5 first sentence should be changed to – *‘The planning system has a role to play in meeting these requirements, together with the spatial identification of existing mineral and energy resource assets and associated infrastructure as well as key resource opportunities,.....’*

(Spatial recognition of existing resource and infrastructure assets (as well as resource opportunities) is key to managing the impacts of urban encroachment.)

5. Policies (1) should be changed to – *‘Define and Protect mineral and energy resources operations, associated infrastructure.....’*

(This would align the policy terminology with Paragraph 4 and ensure the important policy clearly applies to pipelines.)

6. Policies (3) should be changed to – *‘Identify and maintain key infrastructure that supports mineral and energy resource activities and supply chains, including strategic transport corridors and pipelines used for energy transportation.’*

(The policy should be clear that pipelines are key infrastructure that support mineral and energy resource activities.)

7. **Non-statutory Guidance Notes - Regional Plans** should be changed to - *‘Regional Plans should implement state policies by identifying known mineral and energy resource areas, associated infrastructure including connections via strategic access routes, transport corridors and pipelines. Strategies shall be identified to minimise the impacts of encroachments by incompatible land uses and to manage risk to public safety, the environment and security of energy supply.’*

8. **Non-statutory Guidance Notes - The Planning and Design Code** should be changed to – *‘The Planning and Design Code should implement state polices by identifying key mineral and energy resource areas, including resource / processing areas, separation areas, transport routes and pipelines used for energy transportation. Policies should ensure sensitive land uses and other potentially incompatible land use applications are assessed against policies that prioritise land for the mineral and energy resource extraction.’*

State Planning Policy 12: Energy

- 1. Non-statutory Guidance Notes - Regional Plans** should be amended to add an additional sentence that states - *'Plans should also identify existing major energy infrastructure locations and corridors and identify strategies to minimise the impacts of encroachment by incompatible land on the safe and efficient delivery and function of the infrastructure.'*
- 2. Non-statutory Guidance Notes - The Planning and Design Code** should be amended to add an additional sentence that states – *'The code should implement state policies by identifying major energy infrastructure and ensuring sensitive land uses and other potentially incompatible land use applications are assessed against policies that prioritise public safety and security of energy supply.'*
- 3. Non-statutory Guidance Notes - Related Legislation and instruments** should be amended to include – *'Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000'*

(High pressure gas transmission pipelines transport gas to gas fired power stations, which generate more than 50% of electricity in South Australia. These pipelines are regulated under the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000*, accordingly this Act should be referenced under the Energy Policy.)

While the proposed changes to the policies are relatively minor, we believe that they will improve public safety by clearly stating the requirement for early consultation to assess the impact of land use change on existing high pressure transmission pipeline infrastructure. Please contact the undersigned (phone: [REDACTED], email: [REDACTED]) if you would like to discuss this submission further.

Yours sincerely



Liz Brierley
Head of Asset Management