fact sheet

gorgon project milestones summary

human energy

2017
March
LNG production commenced at Train 3.

2016
December
The project commenced continuous supply of domestic gas to the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline.
March
The Gorgon Project’s first LNG cargo set sail for Japan.
March
Gorgon produced its first liquefied natural gas.
January
The final module is delivered to Barrow Island, completing the delivery of all 51 modules required for the three LNG trains.

2015
December
The commissioning cargo arrived and cooldown of the LNG storage and loading facilities commenced.
December
The Train 1 startup sequence progressed with feed gas introduced into the plant.
October
The Jansz-Io field subsea infrastructure is fully complete, and the first two wells opened to the Jansz-Io pipeline, confirming the full operability of the subsea systems.
October
The second of five gas turbine generators (GTG 2) started up and is synchronised with GTG 1.
October
Commissioning activities are complete on the Fired Heater required to start up the Train 1 Acid Gas Removal Unit.
July
The LNG and condensate loading arms are successfully installed on Gorgon’s 2.1 kilometre jetty. The 10 loading arms were the final major components to be installed on the jetty prior to commissioning activities taking place.
May
The first module required for Train 3 is delivered to Barrow Island.
May
Hydrotesting activities are completed on the four monoethylene glycol (MEG) tanks required for Train 1 start-up.
May
Drilling activities are completed on all nine CO2 injection wells. Construction commences on the surface facilities at the injection drill centres. The second CO2 compressor module is placed on its foundations.
April
Commissioning gas is introduced into the plant, followed by the successful start-up of the first gas turbine generator.
April
Gorgon’s Quarantine Management System is awarded a Commonwealth Department of Agriculture Biosecurity Award.
January
All subsea pipelines, wellheads and associated facilities for Gorgon and Jansz-Io fields are completed.
January
Both LNG Tanks are ready for LNG.

2014
November
Deepwater Frontier completes the final Jansz-Io well. All 10 Jansz-Io wells and eight Gorgon wells are ready to flow.
November
Gorgon Project’s Jansz-Io subsea pipeline and scarp crossing innovation is awarded a national Engineering Excellence Award by Engineers Australia.
November
Permanent Operations Facility (POF) on Barrow Island achieves receipt of permanent power.
November
Gorgon perforations campaign is completed and all eight wells at the Gorgon field are ready to produce.
October
Jansz-Io field is connected to the LNG plant following the final tie-in welds between the offshore and cross-island pipeline systems.
October
Pipeline pigging completed on the Barrow Island section of the Domestic Gas pipeline.
September
Gorgon Project wins WA Engineering Excellence Award for Innovation for the Jansz-Io Scarp Crossing.
Completion of all Gorgon Train 1 and common pre-assemblies at the Australian Marine Complex.

All onshore pipelines installed on the Gorgon Project.

Final module required for the Project’s first natural gas processing train arrives on Barrow Island, completing the delivery of 21 modules required for plant start-up.

First carbon dioxide (CO2) injection module and the domestic gas module are positioned on site. While the modules will play very different roles in the gas processing plant, they will undertake a similar function – increasing the pressure of a gas so it can be transported through a pipeline.

All main 20 subsea structures which make up the major components of the subsea gathering system are installed offshore.

Final load of more than 1.8 million tonnes of rock safely installed offshore. The Nordnes rock installation vessel carried out the final rock placement work.

First of two liquefied natural gas (LNG) tanks on Barrow Island is hydrotested. Hydrotesting is undertaken to ensure the tanks - which will store the LNG before it is transported offsite - are structurally sound and leak proof.

First subsea structure is installed at the Jansz-Io field.

First Main Cryogenic Heat Exchanger in position on Barrow Island. The MCHEs form a major component of the refrigeration circuit in each Liquefied Natural Gas train, helping to cool the feed gas to -161 degrees Celcius and turn it into a liquid, 1/600th of its original volume.

First subsea structure is installed at the Jansz-Io field.

First Carbon Dioxide (CO2) injection well, Well CI-8, was spudded on Barrow Island and is the first of seventeen wells to be drilled on five drill centres in the initial drilling campaign.

Gorgon Project’s 18-month dredging program and construction of the Materials Offloading Facility (MOF) receives the Environment Award at the 2013 WA Engineering Excellence Awards.

Foundations have been poured for all five gas turbine generators (GTGs), with two GTGs placed on their foundations. The GTGs will provide standalone electrical power generation for the LNG plant and associated facilities.

Completed installation of subsea umbilicals which will connect the subsea equipment to the LNG plant and provide hydraulic and electrical power, fibre optic communications and contingency chemical supplies for the subsea production systems. Subsea umbilicals add up to a total length of 195 kilometres.

Gorgon Project’s commitment in local content spending hits $20 billion.

Gorgon accommodation village is named Butler Park in honour of Dr Harry Butler.

First of three amine absorber towers is lifted into position on Barrow Island. With the amine absorber tower weighing approximately 1100 tonnes, one of the largest land based cranes in the world had to be used for the heavy lift.

First LNG Train 1 modules set on its foundations. The two modules – the central pipe rack modules, known as TAJA and TAJB – weigh a combined total of 10,000 tonnes.

Construction of the shore crossings for Gorgon’s subsea pipelines receives Engineers Australia’s 2012 National Environment Award.

Main offshore pipe-lay activities are completed for the domestic gas pipeline.

Roof on the second LNG tank is raised into its final position.

All eight Gorgon wells are drilled and casted.

First two gas processing modules weighing a combined 2,894 tonnes arrived at Barrow Island. A total of 51 modules will form Gorgon’s gas processing facility.

Construction of the shore crossings for Gorgon’s subsea pipelines receives the Environment Award at the 2012 WA Engineering Excellence Awards.

Roof was raised on the first of the Gorgon Project’s two LNG tanks.

First shipment of four pre-assembled rack (PAR) modules arrived on Barrow Island. A total of 236 PARs will form the main ‘artery’ of the plant, carrying gas from one process unit to another.

Gorgon Project QMS receives the Business Award for Best Practice Program from the United Nations Association of Australia at its 2012 World Environment Awards.
2011
September  The Gorgon Project Quarantine Management System (QMS) receives the Environment Award at the 2011 WA Engineering Excellence Awards.
November  Chevron Australia signs two significant long-term domestic gas sales contracts with Western Australia’s largest energy retailer, Synergy and the State’s leading energy generator, Verve Energy. Verve Energy and Synergy have entered into separate gas sales contracts for a combined 125 terajoules/day for 20 years.
May  Chevron signs a Sales and Purchases Agreement with JX Nippon Oil and Energy Corporation for 0.3 million tonnes per annum of LNG for 15 years.
January  Chevron signs a Sales and Purchases Agreement with Kyushu Electric for 0.3 million tonnes per annum of LNG for up to 20 years.

2010
June  Groyne Barge Berth at WAPET landing commences construction.
June  Chevron announced the signing of multiple Heads of Agreements with Kyushu Electric Power for the delivery of LNG from the Chevron-operated Gorgon and Wheatstone Projects.
May  Gorgon Project’s 18 month dredging program commences to create an approach channel, turning basin and berth pockets to provide safe shipping access to the Barrow Island Marine Offloading Facility (MOF) and LNG jetty facilities.
May  Chevron Australia was awarded an APPEA award for excellence in innovation and environmental management for its Barrow Island flatback turtle study program.

2009
November  Chevron Australia signs a Sales and Purchases Agreement with Chubu Electric Power for 1.44 million tonnes per annum. Chubu Electric Power also purchased 0.417 percent equity from Chevron’s stake in the Gorgon Project.
December  Chevron commemorates the start of construction of the Gorgon Project with a ground-breaking ceremony at Barrow Island.
September  Chevron announces the final investment decision for the Gorgon Project.
September  Chevron Australia signs three binding long-term Sales and Purchase Agreements for its share of LNG from the Gorgon Project. Chevron will supply Osaka Gas 1.375 MTPA of LNG for 25 years. Osaka Gas also purchased 1.25 percent equity in the Gorgon Project. Tokyo Gas will be supplied 1.1 MTPA over 25 years and purchased a 1 percent equity stake. Chevron Australia Pty Ltd and Chevron International Gas Inc., have also signed separate agreements with GS Caltex Corp. for 0.5 MTPA of LNG for up to 20 years.
August  Chevron welcomes Australian Commonwealth Government Environmental Approval for the Gorgon Project.
August  Chevron welcomes the Western Australian Government Environmental Approval for the Gorgon Project.
April  The Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority recommends the expanded Project proceeds on Barrow Island subject to certain conditions.

Previous
2007  The State and Federal Governments grant environmental approval for a 10 million tonne per annum (MTPA) LNG Plant and domestic gas plant on Barrow Island.
2005  Chevron announces that the Gorgon Project has entered Front End Engineering Design (FEED). FEED contracts are awarded to the Kellogg Joint Venture – Gorgon (KJVG), an unincorporated joint venture between KBR, JGC Corporation, Hatch and Clough, for the downstream contract. The upstream contract is awarded to the Gorgon Upstream Joint Venture - a 50/50 joint venture involving the Australian entities of JP Kenny and Technip.
2005  The Gorgon joint-venture participants agreed to align their equity interests in individual licenses in the Greater Gorgon area. The agreement provides the basis for the combined development of natural gas at Gorgon and nearby gas fields as one world-scale project. The new interests will be: Chevron (50 percent), ExxonMobil (25 percent) and Shell (25 percent).
2003  WA State Government provides in-principle approval for Gorgon’s onshore gas plant to be based at Barrow Island.
1999  Chevron announces its upstream operating subsidiary, Chevron Australia Pty Ltd, will take over operatorship of oil and gas exploration and producing assets previously managed by WAPET.
1980  The Gorgon field was discovered by West Australian Petroleum Pty Ltd (WAPET) in deep water west of Barrow Island.