gorgon overview

The Chevron Australia-operated Gorgon project is one of the world’s largest natural gas projects and the largest single resource development in Australia’s history.

The Gorgon natural gas facility is located on Barrow Island, around 60 kilometres off the northwest coast of Western Australia (WA). It includes a three-train, 15.6 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant and a domestic gas plant with the capacity to supply 300 terajoules of gas per day to Western Australia (WA). The first LNG cargo departed Barrow Island in March 2016, with domestic gas supply to the WA market commencing in December 2016.

project participants
Gorgon is operated by Chevron Australia and is a joint venture of the Australian subsidiaries of Chevron (47.3 percent), ExxonMobil (25 percent), Shell (25 percent), Osaka Gas (1.25 percent), Tokyo Gas (1 percent) and JERA (0.417 percent).

offshore facilities
A subsea gas gathering system is located on the ocean floor at the Gorgon and Jansz-Io fields, approximately 65 and 130 kilometres respectively off the west coast of Barrow Island. Hydrocarbons from the two fields are transported to Barrow Island by subsea pipelines.

A 90 kilometre domestic gas pipeline runs from Barrow Island to the WA mainland, where it ties-in to the existing Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline.

onshore facilities
Facilities on Barrow Island include:
- A three-train, 15.6 MTPA LNG processing plant
- Domestic gas processing plant
- Two LNG tanks
- Four condensate storage tanks
- Marine facilities including a 2.1 kilometre materials offloading facility (MOF) and 2.1 kilometre long LNG jetty
- Operations and maintenance buildings
- Workforce accommodation village
- Carbon capture and storage facilities.
carbon capture and storage

Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a proven technology for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Gorgon incorporates the world's largest CCS system of its kind, where naturally occurring carbon dioxide (CO$_2$) from offshore gas reservoirs is injected into and permanently stored in a giant sandstone formation two kilometres beneath Barrow Island. More than 100 million tonnes of CO$_2$ will be mitigated over the life of the CCS system, reducing greenhouse gas emissions from Gorgon by approximately 40 percent.

The Australian Government committed $60 million to the Gorgon Carbon Dioxide Injection Project as part of the Low Emissions Technology Demonstration Fund.

maintaining future supply

Through the Gorgon Stage 2 and Jansz-IO Compression projects, additional wells and subsea infrastructure are being added to the Gorgon and Jansz-IO gas fields to maintain future gas supply to the three existing LNG trains and domestic gas plant. This was always envisaged as part of the original Gorgon development.

environmental stewardship

Barrow Island has been a Class A Nature Reserve since 1910. It supports 24 terrestrial species and subspecies not known to occur elsewhere and another five with restricted distribution. Four species of marine turtle nest on Barrow, with flatback and green the most common. There are also 378 species of native plants on the island.

Central to Gorgon's commitment to protect Barrow's conservation values is the Quarantine Management System (QMS), the largest non-government quarantine initiative in the world. The QMS includes hundreds of procedures, specifications, checklists and guidelines to help protect the ecology of Barrow Island and its surrounding waters.

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LNG sales and marketing

The Gorgon Joint Venture Participants have signed a number of sales agreements to supply LNG to key customer countries and adopted a flexible and innovative marketing approach where each participant secures markets for its share of gas.

domestic gas sales

Gorgon is a major source of gas to WA and key supplier of energy to the state for years to come. Long term contracts have been signed with WA customers (both industry and government) for volumes from the first tranche (~150 terajoules per day). A major recipient of gas from Gorgon is Synergy, WA’s energy utility.

local benefits

Gorgon has provided economic benefits on a scale never seen in Australia. During construction of the project, more than $40 billion was spent on Australian goods and services, more than 700 contracts awarded to Australian companies and more than 10,000 Australian jobs were generated at peak.

Now in operations, Gorgon supports local contracts and skilled long-term jobs in LNG and domestic gas plant operations, maintenance and logistics support.

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Economic forecasts are based on the period 2009 – 2040. Source: ACIL Allen Consulting independent research report October 2015.

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with operations expected to span more than 40 years, gorgon will provide enduring benefits

- $440 billion added to Australia’s gross domestic product
- 60,000+ direct and indirect full-time equivalent jobs created in Australia
- $69 billion direct taxation revenues paid to the Federal Government