



Australia's National  
Science Agency

**GISERA** | Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance

# Progress report

Monitoring community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG in  
Narrabri (Pre-construction phase)



**QGC**



**Santos**



Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources



Supported by  
**Government of  
South Australia**



# Progress against project milestones

Progress against milestones/tasks are approved by the GISERA Director, acting with authority in accordance with the [GISERA Alliance Agreement](#).

Progress against project milestones/tasks is indicated by two methods: Traffic light reports and descriptive Project schedule reports.

1. Traffic light reports in the Project Schedule Table below show progress using a simple colour code:

- **Green:**

- Milestone fully met according to schedule.
- Project is expected to continue to deliver according to plan.
- Milestone payment is approved.

- **Amber:**

- Milestone largely met according to schedule.
- Project has experienced delays or difficulties that will be overcome by next milestone, enabling project to return to delivery according to plan by next milestone.
- Milestone payment is withheld.
- Milestone payment withheld for second of two successive amber lights; project review initiated and undertaken by GISERA Director.

- **Red:**

- Milestone not met according to schedule.
- Problems in meeting milestone are likely to impact subsequent project delivery, such that revisions to project timing, scope or budget must be considered.
- Milestone payment is withheld.
- Project review initiated by GISERA Director.

2. Progress Schedule Reports outline task objectives and outputs and describe, in the 'progress report' section, the means and extent to which progress towards tasks has been made.

## Project schedule table

TASK NUMBER	TASK DESCRIPTION	SCHEDULED START	SCHEDULED FINISH	COMMENT
Task 1	Revising and conducting the 2022 survey	Jan-22	May-22	Completed
Task 2	2022 data analyses, interim report, and stakeholder communications	Jun-22	Nov-22	This milestone will be completed in April 2023.
Task 3	Repeating survey after a Financial Investment Decision (FID)	Jan-24 (depending on timing of any FID)	May-24	
Task 4	Post-FID data analyses, final report, and stakeholder communications	Jun-24	Nov-24	
Task 5	Extended dissemination of findings (various - GISERA article, papers, and conference)	Feb-25	Jun-25	

## Project schedule report

### TASK 1: Revising and conducting the 2022 survey

#### BACKGROUND

While the survey needs to stay essentially the same for monitoring over time purposes, there is an opportunity to make small revisions to ensure the survey is as useful as possible to the local community, industry and government. This task also involves interviewing selected key informants from community, government, and industry about potential revisions that may be useful.

#### TASK OBJECTIVES

1) To obtain ethics approval; 2) To establish technical reference group; 3) To revise the survey questionnaire, where useful and feasible, using interviews and related research data, and 4) to conduct a representative survey of residents in the Narrabri Shire

#### TASK OUTPUTS AND SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES

1. Ethics approved obtained
2. Technical reference group established
3. A revised survey instrument, while still being comparable to the 2017 survey on all the main dimensions of community wellbeing and social licence to operate.
4. A clean and representative dataset for 2022.

5. A factsheet outlining the project.

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

This milestone is complete.

The outputs and delivers for Task 1 were completed in August 2022:

- Ethics approved obtained
- Technical reference group established
- Survey revised and conducted
- A clean and representative dataset for 2022 obtained.
- A factsheet outlining the project posted to the GISERA website.

## **TASK 2: 2022 data analyses, interim report, and stakeholder communications**

### **BACKGROUND**

These interim findings will report on changes between the pre-approval and the continuing appraisal phase (post-approval).

### **TASK OBJECTIVES**

To assess any changes in community wellbeing and attitudes to CSG development after government approvals were given

### **TASK OUTPUTS AND SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES**

1. A weighted 2022 dataset for representativeness, which is linked to the 2017 dataset
2. An interim report
3. A knowledge transfer session and presentation of 2022 interim findings to key community, industry and government stakeholders. This may include a presentation of interim findings in Narrabri (COVID restrictions permitting).
4. A factsheet outlining the interim results

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

This project has been delayed three months due to delays collecting the telephone survey data. The telephone survey was initially planned for one month in May 2022, though it was postponed to June 2022 so as not to coincide with the Federal election and telephone polling in the region. The telephone survey commenced in early June 2022 and was planned to be out of the field by the end of June, based on 2017 timeframes. However, since 2017 there has been a marked increase in the percentage of residents unwilling to answer calls from unknown numbers. This industry wide phenomenon meant that our survey was in the field for an additional two months to collect the sample of respondents.

Regarding the four specific deliverables listed in Task 2 above, their progress status is as follows:

1. A 2022 dataset has been weighted and linked to the weighted 2017 dataset. (Completed)

2. The main findings have been analysed, though more detailed analysis is continuing. The Interim Report is presently in draft form. We expect this final draft to be finished in February, which will be internally reviewed in March, and released in April 2023 (In progress)
3. A presentation of preliminary findings was given to the Narrabri Community Consultative Committee in November 2022 outlining the main findings. Presentations of more detailed findings will be given to key community, industry and government stakeholders are being planned for March and April, 2023. (Partially completed)
4. A factsheet outlining the interim results will be drafted after and based on the Interim Report. The factsheet is now planned for release in April 2023 (Not yet started)


The delayed delivery of Task 2 will not impact on Task 3, scheduled for delivery in May 2024.

## Variations to Project Order

Changes to research Project Orders are approved by the GISERA Director, acting with authority, in accordance with the [GISERA Alliance Agreement](#). Any variations above the GISERA Director's delegation require the approval of the relevant GISERA Research Advisory Committee.

The table below details variations to research Project Order.

**Register of changes to Research Project Order**

DATE	ISSUE	ACTION	AUTHORISATION
03/12/21	To allow for the purchase of vouchers that survey participants would have the opportunity to win/draw, an additional \$4,000 is required.	An additional \$4,000 (\$3,200 GISERA funding & \$800 CSIRO in-kind) is allocated to overall project budget.	

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GISERA is a collaboration between CSIRO, Commonwealth and state governments and industry established to undertake publicly-reported independent research.

The purpose of GISERA is to provide quality assured scientific research and information to communities living in gas development regions focusing on social and environmental topics including: groundwater and surface water, greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity, land management, the marine environment, and socio-economic impacts. The governance structure for GISERA is designed to provide for and protect research independence and transparency of research.