



Australia's National  
Science Agency

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

# Progress report

Analysis of Dust Samples in the Vicinity of Coal Seam Gas (CSG)  
Operations in the Surat Basin, Queensland, To Assess Potential Presence  
and Distribution of Respirable Crystalline Silica



Australian Government  
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
1	Preliminary study	Feb-23	Mar-23	This milestone will be complete June 2023
2	Field Sampling	Mar-23	Aug-24	
3	Sample Analysis	Apr-23	Sep-24	
4	Project reporting	Aug-24	Jan-25	
5	Communicate findings to stakeholders	Full duration of project		

# Project schedule report

## TASK 1: Preliminary Sampling Study

### BACKGROUND

Preliminary sample study to establish methodology.

### TASK OBJECTIVES

One month sampling process at two sites (one background, one in proximity to CSG site). Sample preparation. Sample image acquisition. Image analysis. Brief report. Results also provided by CSIRO online image viewing software.

### TASK OUTPUTS AND SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES:

Interim report providing review of the sampling and analysis methodology including recommendations for any process modifications for the main study.

### PROGRESS REPORT

The preliminary sampling study has been deliberately delayed for the following reasons:

1. The initial project planning phase (Feb-Mar 2023) revealed a number of potential problems with the proposed small scale sampling campaign (two sites with only a single sample acquisition at each site during the month). It was recognised that the variability of weather conditions over the course of a month (or longer) would likely lead to substantial variation in the quantity and type of material sampled, and that a more comprehensive sampling campaign should therefore be undertaken that covered the entire month duration, rather than a single point in time.
2. Significant community engagement on this H4 project commenced upon finalisation of the H2 project which recommended further investigation of respirable silicates.

In preparation for the more comprehensive sampling campaign outlined above, the project team has sought quotations from local environmental sampling businesses in order to gauge the costs of a multi-sample process over a month. The team has also made plans for a site visit during this first month to observe the sampling process, familiarise ourselves with the location and the CSG facilities, and potentially undertake some initial community engagement.

This task will be complete in June 2023.

This delay will not impact the overall delivery date of the project.

# 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

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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.