



# Community Bulletin



*Pictured is our Barracouta platform in Bass Strait.*

## Building on 50 years with new investment in the Gippsland Basin

On the back of 50 successful years of operating in Bass Strait, ExxonMobil is investing further in the Gippsland Basin through the development of the West Barracouta gas field.

The project will deliver new gas supplies to the Australian domestic market and will be tied back to the existing Barracouta infrastructure offshore in Bass Strait, the first offshore field ever discovered in Australia. As it stands, the Gippsland Basin Joint Venture (GBJV) supplies approximately 40 percent of east coast Australian domestic gas demand.

"We continue to use advanced technology, along with our extensive, decades-long understanding of the Gippsland Basin, to ensure maximum production levels can be realised while supporting local employment opportunities," said ExxonMobil Australia Production Projects Manager Andrew Barton.

"Since the first Bass Strait well was drilled in 1965, about four billion barrels of crude oil and eight trillion cubic feet of natural gas have been produced. Through this project, our objective is to produce West Barracouta gas for the Australian domestic gas market by 2021," he said.

The new project builds on more than AUD \$5.5 billion invested by the Gippsland Basin Joint Venture in other recent projects in Victoria to supply Australian domestic gas demand, including the Kipper Tuna Turrum offshore project and the Longford Gas Conditioning Plant.





The Sale Big Fill carries a large pump and plays a critical role on the fire-ground by rapidly refilling fire trucks and carriers with water.

## Supporting our local firefighters

A high-capacity fire-fighting pump, sponsored by Esso Australia as part of the Gippsland Basin Joint Venture (GBJV) contributions program, played an important role in controlling a major bushfire that broke out near Rosedale in January.

The fire which originated in private bushland burnt a trail into the Holey State National Park before establishing a front that jumped the Longford-Rosedale road in a seven kilometre stretch. At this point the blaze consumed more than 10,500 hectares, the majority of the national park

Sale Fire Brigade Captain Phil Bloink said strategically positioned CFA and Forest Fire Management Victoria crews were able to pull up the fire in the paddocks parallel to the road.

However, by early Tuesday morning many of the strategic fire dams that both aircraft and ground crews were using to contain the fire were empty.

“The Brigade responded with the Sale Big Fill, which happened to be sponsored by Esso/BHP as part of a grant application with the brigade and the CFA back in 2014. From late Tuesday to Saturday evening the Sale Big Fill had transferred 1.45 million litres of water into bulk water carriers.

“With the fire water replaced the fire-bombing aircraft were able to return to the strategic dams thus reducing the turnaround time required to bring the fire to a contained and finally under-control status.

“A small investment into the brigade made by Esso/BHP some five years ago is still providing a benefit to the local and wider community. The brigade and the community are forever grateful for the companies’ support,” said Captain Bloink.

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## Enjoying a night at the opera with the Gippsland community

In December 2018, the Longford Plants and Sale office teams joined the local Gippsland community at The Wedge in Sale for an Esso Night at the Opera.

This free community concert was held in partnership with Wellington Shire Council, Orchestra Victoria and Opera Australia, whose principal artists dazzled the audience with opera classics such as ‘Largo al factotum’ from Rossini’s Barber of Seville, ‘Habanera’ from Bizet’s Carmen and the breathtaking ‘Nessun dorma’ from Puccini’s Turandot.

Longford Plants Manager David Anderson said holding the concert was a wonderful way to thank the Gippsland community and local workforce for their support over 2018.

“While Esso has enjoyed a long association with Opera Australia, our affinity with the Gippsland community dates back

to the 1960s when our local operations commenced. In subsequent years, we have strived to be a valued member of the community and the Esso Night at the Opera is a wonderful way for us to show our gratitude to the people of Gippsland.”





# Esso Chat

By David Anderson  
Longford Plants Manager



With consumption of energy growing consistently within Australia, our operations in Gippsland have been pivotal in meeting these demands. This is in great part due to the ingenuity and hard work of countless engineers, geologists, scientists and supervisors over the last five decades.

While I am extremely proud to be involved in an organisation that provides approximately 40 percent of east coast Australian domestic gas demand, even more gratifying is the fact that Esso has worked hand-in-hand with the local community to make this possible.

As we mark the 50th anniversary of the Gippsland Basin Joint Venture (GBJV) operations, it's important to contemplate what we have achieved beyond the eight trillion cubic feet of natural gas and more than four billion barrels of crude oil since the first well was drilled.

As someone who grew up in Gippsland, I have witnessed first-hand how the local community has thrived with the presence Esso over many years. This has come in the form of providing employment opportunities, supporting local businesses as well as local schools and community groups.

Today we continue to forge forward in Gippsland with our new plans to develop the West Barracouta gas field which will help us deliver more gas supplies to the Australian domestic market, create more jobs and ensure we can continue to grow our legacy in the area for many more years to come.

We have a lot to be proud of here at Esso in Gippsland and a lot to look forward to as well!

## Mentoring youth in Sale



*Rebecca Walker, Angela Jones and Chiara Centra from Esso's Sale office are participating as mentors in the 'Your Past, Their Future, Mentoring Program'.*

Six team members from Esso's Sale office have made a commitment to give a small portion of their time and a large portion of their hearts to mentoring local students who are at risk of disengaging from school.

As part of School Focused Youth Services' 'Your Past, Their Future, Mentoring Program', Esso's volunteer mentors were matched students from local primary schools in the Gippsland region to meet with for one hour each week during school hours. This one-on-one time is intended to build the relationship between mentor and mentee and engender an environment of trust.

During this time the Esso mentors have provided a non-judgmental friendship with the student by partaking in simple, constructive activities such as going for a walk, having a chat over a hot drink, baking, playing a board game or engaging in arts and crafts.

Esso Australia Community Relations Adviser Angela Jones said mentoring local students is one of the most rewarding and important activities she has undertaken in the local community.

"Something as simple as an hour of board games and chit-chat can make a real difference to the way a child perceives the world and their future.

"In the long-term, this can have positive effects such as decreased risks of alcohol and drug abuse, increased school attendance and improved confidence, resilience and self-esteem. I strongly encourage anyone in the local community to consider joining this outstanding mentoring program, it doesn't take a lot of time to make a big difference in the life of a young student," she said.



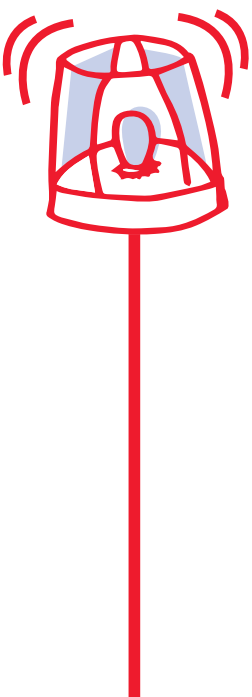
Longford Plants. "We have a number of ways to communicate with the local community."

## Finding information in an emergency

From time to time, unusual events like odours, noises, an evacuation or muster of employees, or emergency services attending the plant, do occur. When this happens, we have a number of ways to communicate with the local community including:

- Community Hotline 5149 6206 – anyone can call this number to obtain information about the Plant at any time.
- SMS Notification System – Esso sends a short message about events at the Plants to the mobile phones of people who have registered their details.
- Media Relations – in the event of a large-impact incident, Esso will use the mass media, such as radio or television news, to communicate important information to the wider community.

To sign-up to receive SMS messages from the Plant please call 5149 6206 to obtain a registration form or go to: [www.exxonmobil.com.au](http://www.exxonmobil.com.au)



### Siren

Community members should be aware that the siren at the Esso Longford Plants is sounded to alert on-site personnel only. People in the community do not need to take action in response to the sounding of this siren.

Please note that the siren is tested every Tuesday morning at 9.30.

In the case of an emergency, police and emergency services personnel will direct community members if action is required.

### Community Hotline

Call Esso's community hotline for information about Longford Plants.

**Ph: 5149 6206**



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