

LOCKYER CONVENTIONAL GAS DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

The Lockyer Gas Project (**LGP**) is located within the Yamatji Nation Determination Area (Determination Area).

In December 2019, the Federal Court of Australia authorised the Yamatji Nation Claim by authorising the Yamatji Nation Indigenous Land Use Agreement (Agreement). On 7 February 2020, the Federal Court made a determination that native title exists in parts of the Determination Area (*Taylor on behalf of the Yamatji Nation Claim v State of Western Australia [2020] FCA 42*). The Agreement was executed on 9 February 2020, confirming that Yamatji Nation holds non-exclusive native title rights and interests over select parcels of land within the Determination Area.

The Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation Ltd (**YSRC**) was established on 8 January 2020 following the settlement Agreement with the WA Government. YSRC was established to act as the Regional Entity to implement a best practice governance structure to manage benefits of the Agreement on behalf of the native title holders. The native title holders comprise of the peoples of Hutt River, Mullewa Wadjari, Southern Yamatji and Widi.

Notwithstanding anything in the Yamatji Nation determination, there are no native title rights and interests in the Determination Area in or in relation to:

- a. minerals as defined in the *Mining Act 1904 (WA)* (repealed) and the *Mining Act 1978 (WA)*;
- b. petroleum as defined in the *Petroleum Act 1936 (WA)* (repealed) and the Petroleum and
- c. *Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 (WA)*; or
- d. geothermal energy resources and geothermal energy as defined in the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 (WA)*;

except the right to take and use ochre to the extent that ochre is not a mineral pursuant to the *Mining Act 1904 (WA)*.

The LGP is located on freehold land where native title rights and interests have been extinguished; however, Aboriginal cultural heritage remains a relevant consideration.

Timeline for Development

The Project will be developed as a fast development to address the looming domestic gas shortage in Western Australia. The timeline for development is shown below.

Table 1: Project Milestones

Milestone	Estimated Date
Development Application Approval	March 2024
Construction Commencement	June 2024
Commissioning	June 2025
First Gas	November 2025

Heritage Overview

A search of the ACH Directory on the ACHIS as of November 2023 identified the following ACH places within the LGP area:

- Lockier River (ID: 24381);
- Irwin River (ID: 18907).

Mineral Resources Limited (**MinRes**) has engaged and will continue to engage with the YSRC and relevant knowledge holders to implement appropriate cultural heritage management measures pursuant to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 1972 (WA)*. As we develop, MinRes will work together with YSRC and identified knowledge holders to facilitate ongoing consultation and engagement about the LGP; this includes conducting heritage surveys and monitoring opportunities as required.

Since 2021, MinRes has maintained regular consultation with YSRC, including the engagement of Aboriginal Heritage Monitors to complete field assessments for a range of exploration activities within the Lockyer Gas Project footprint. As MinRes begins to transition from exploration to the development and production phases of the project, MinRes will continue to consult directly with YSRC, and members nominated for 'on country' Heritage Surveys and Monitoring.

2023 Monitoring and Heritage Surveys

Table 2: Monitoring and Heritage Surveys conducted/scheduled

Survey Date	Scope
27-28 September	Monitoring: Lockyer-4 Well Pad Clearing
19 October	Monitoring: Lockyer-5 Well Pad Clearing
6 December	Monitoring: North Erregulla-2 Well Pad Clearing
12-14 December	Heritage Survey: Lockyer Gas Development (pipelines, CPF)

Traditional Owner Engagement

The MinRes Communities and Heritage department ensure there are ongoing engagements with Traditional Owners to accommodate for both the legal and social licenses that MinRes

requires to operate. This ensures that not only the legal requirements are fulfilled, such as heritage compliance and native title obligations, but that proactive engagement aimed to further strengthen our relationships with Traditional Owners and provide further benefit to the groups, is undertaken. MinRes is committed to continuing to work with Traditional Owners, to develop our assets in a way which is socially and environmentally responsible.

MinRes and the YSRC have been engaging since 2021 on the exploration and development of gas in the northern Perth Basin, specifically the area between Dongara and Mingenew. MinRes have provided Activity Notices to the YSRC on the construction of well pads. Six well pads have been constructed since 2021, which have all been the subject of successful heritage surveys and/or heritage monitoring.

In 2022, MinRes undertook the acquisition of the Rococo 3D seismic survey. This was completed in consultation with the YSRC and a heritage survey was carried out prior to this. The survey was carried out on already disturbed land which involved minimum ground disturbance. Prior to the works commencing, MinRes and the YSRC organised for a cultural heritage induction to be carried out.

This engagement took place at the Mingenew Recreation Centre on the 6th of January 2023. A smoking ceremony was held as part of cultural heritage inductions for all Personnel who were participating in the works. These inductions were organised with and coordinated by the YSRC on behalf of the Yamatji Nation native title holders, to assist with the understanding of the Traditional Owner's heritage values for the region and being part of the management measures for the protection of these heritage values while the works were underway.

MinRes have had a positive and active relationship with the Yamatji Nation, with YSRC being supportive of MinRes's activities in the region and its management of the protection of heritage values.

MinRes commits to offering ongoing support to YSRC to continue building relationships with YSRC and its constituency. MinRes have:

- offered support at the YSRC Annual General Meeting held in November 2023;
- developed Lockyer Gas Project information flyers to be distributed to YSRC membership and shared on social media platforms and in YSRC newsletters etc;
- invited YSRC and broader community to attend community meetings i.e. Shire specific town hall information sessions (e.g. Mingenew and Dongara); and
- have also expressed an interest to attend any YSRC organised 'information expo's' as an opportunity for further engagement.

Since 2021, MinRes has maintained regular consultation with YSRC including the engagement of Aboriginal heritage monitors to complete field assessments for a range of exploration activities within the Lockyer Gas Project footprint. Please refer to the below table indicating formal engagement with YSRC in 2023.

Table 3: Formal engagement with YSRC (not including telephone or email correspondence).

Date	Purpose
6 January 2023	Cultural heritage engagement with YSRC, Traditional Owners and MinRes Personnel.
25 August 2023	Meeting with YSRC Heritage Manager to provide a project update/overview, discuss locations of proposed well pads, schedule heritage survey dates.
9 November 2023	Meeting with YSRC Heritage Manager to provide a project update, discuss upcoming heritage surveys and proposed pipeline routes, discuss Cultural Committee availability to meet in 2024.
14 December 2023	Meeting with YSRC Chief Executive Officer and YSCR's Social Reinvestment Officer to provide a project update, discuss MinRes meeting material for 17 January 2024 meeting with YSRC Cultural Committee and address any other matters.

MinRes have a scheduled meeting with YSRC's nominated Cultural Committee on 18 January 2024 to be held in Geraldton that will seek formal support for the Section 38 Part IV EPA Environmental Approval from the YSRC and build on the relationship.

Next Steps

As we begin to transition from exploration to the development and production phases of the project, MinRes will continue to consult directly with YSRC, and members nominated for 'on country' Heritage Surveys and Monitoring. MinRes will work together with YSRC to discuss opportunities for business development, employment, and other benefits for the local members of the group and will continue to work with the broader community to find other opportunities within the region.

Figure 1: Lockyer Gas Project footprint

