

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for Field Development in Block 11B/12B and Associated Production Activities, South Africa

Draft Scoping Report Non-Technical Summary



This summary contains underlined hyperlinks that provide readers of the electronic version with the option to access additional information on certain aspects, if interested.

1.0 Introduction

Main Street 1549 (Pty) Ltd (Main Street) is applying for an environmental permit (called an Environmental Authorisation) to develop an offshore gas field, with associated light oil (called condensate), that has been discovered in Block 11B/12B. The Block is located off the South Coast, approximately 75 km offshore at its closest point, roughly between Cape St Francis and Mossel Bay (**Figure 1**).

Following the discovery of this gas-condensate field in an area known as the “Paddavissie Fairway”, the Joint Venture (JV) partners at the time applied for a Production Right (PR) to develop the field. The JV, under the lead of TotalEnergies, also started the associated Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) process, which included a public participation process conducted in 2022 and 2023. Following the withdrawal of Main Street’s JV partners in late 2024, it elected to continue with the Project and became the company (or operator) responsible for managing and progressing the Project.

Main Street has chosen to assess two development scenarios for the field, which are outlined below and illustrated schematically in **Figure 1** (offshore) and **Figure 2** (onshore).

• Scenario 1: Gas transported to shore via pipeline

- An offshore production facility will be moored at one of two alternative locations: (1) in deep water near the wells or (2) in shallower water on the continental shelf.
- Gas and condensate extracted from offshore wells will be transferred to the production facility where they will be separated.
- Pipelines will transport gas from the production facility to the coast and onto a proposed gas receiving facility (e.g. the proposed gas-to-power (GtP) facility) and/or other potential gas users (also called off-takers).
- Condensate will be exported to local domestic and/or international markets by tanker vessels.

• Scenario 2: Gas processed into Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) offshore

- An offshore production facility will be moored at one of two alternative locations: (1) in deep water near the wells or (2) in shallower water on the continental shelf.
- Gas and condensate extracted from offshore wells will be transferred to the production facility.
- At the production facility, gas will be separated and converted (or liquefied) to create LNG.
- LNG and condensate will be exported to local domestic and/or international markets by tanker vessels.

Both these scenarios may be preceded by partial development by connecting to existing PetroSA infrastructure and facilities.

The area of interest for the ESIA extends from the southwest portion of the Block along the pipeline route and survey area

to the coast ~6 km west of Mossel Bay and then onshore to potential gas users.

Purpose of this Document

This document provides a **Non-Technical Summary of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR)** and informs you about:

- The proposed Project;
- The ESIA process;
- The biophysical, cultural, and socio-economic baseline environment of the project area;
- Potential project impacts,
- Specialist studies to assess these impacts; and
- How you can participate in the ESIA process.

Who are the Consultants?

SLR Consulting South Africa (Pty) Ltd (**SLR**) is an independent environmental consulting company and has been appointed by Main Street to conduct the ESIA process.



Your Role



If you are interested in this Project or feel that you are affected by it and therefore consider yourself an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP), you can:

- Register on the Project’s stakeholder database;
- Get information about the proposed Project;
- Attend meetings (see Table 4) and give your input; and
- Review and comment on DSR (see below)

All comments received will be recorded, responded to and included in the Final Scoping Report (FSR), which will be submitted to the Competent Authority for decision-making.

How to Register and Comment



Please register on the stakeholder database and comment by:

- scanning the QR code;
- following the [link](#) below; or
- contacting SLR at the details listed below.



Please submit your comments on the DSR to SLR by 15 October 2026.

<https://forms.office.com/e/a65veK87za>

SLR Contact Details

Tel: (021) 461 1118, **SMS/WhatsApp:** 071 586 5881

Email: 11b12bproduction@slrconsulting.com

Website: <https://www.slrconsulting.com/public-documents/11b12bproduction/>

Website Data Free:

<https://slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/public-documents/11b12bproduction/>

Post: 5th Floor, 9 Grove Exchange, 170 Main Road, Claremont, 7700



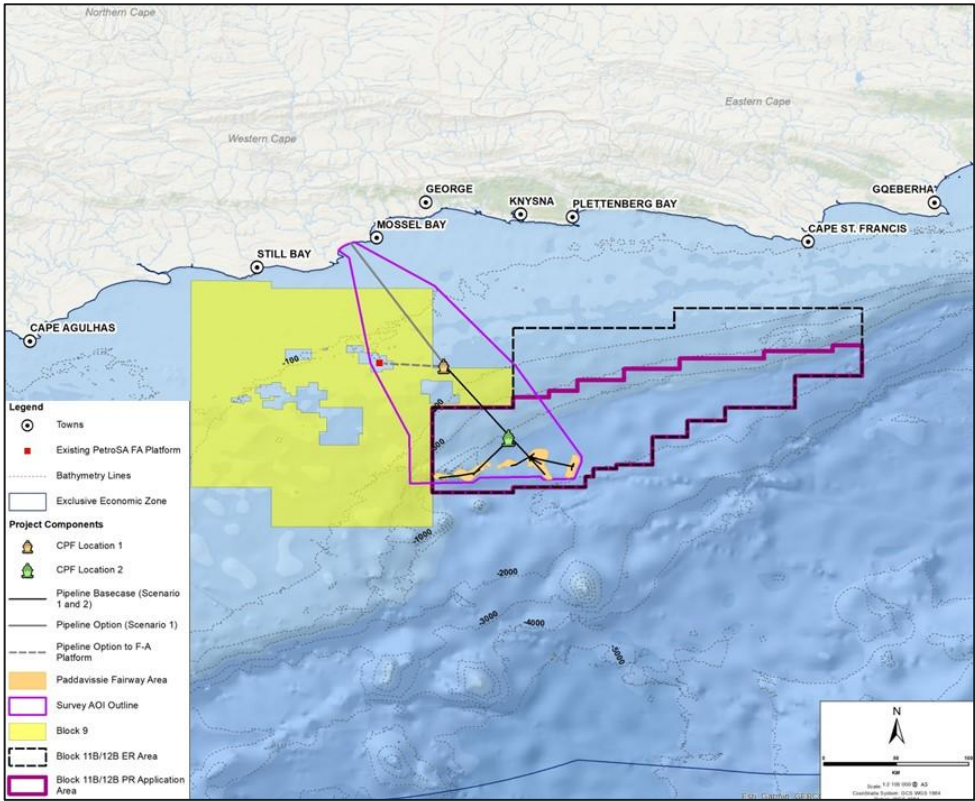


Figure 1: Locality of Block 11B/12B showing the offshore survey area, area of interest (Paddavissie Fairway) and Development Scenarios, off the South African South Coast

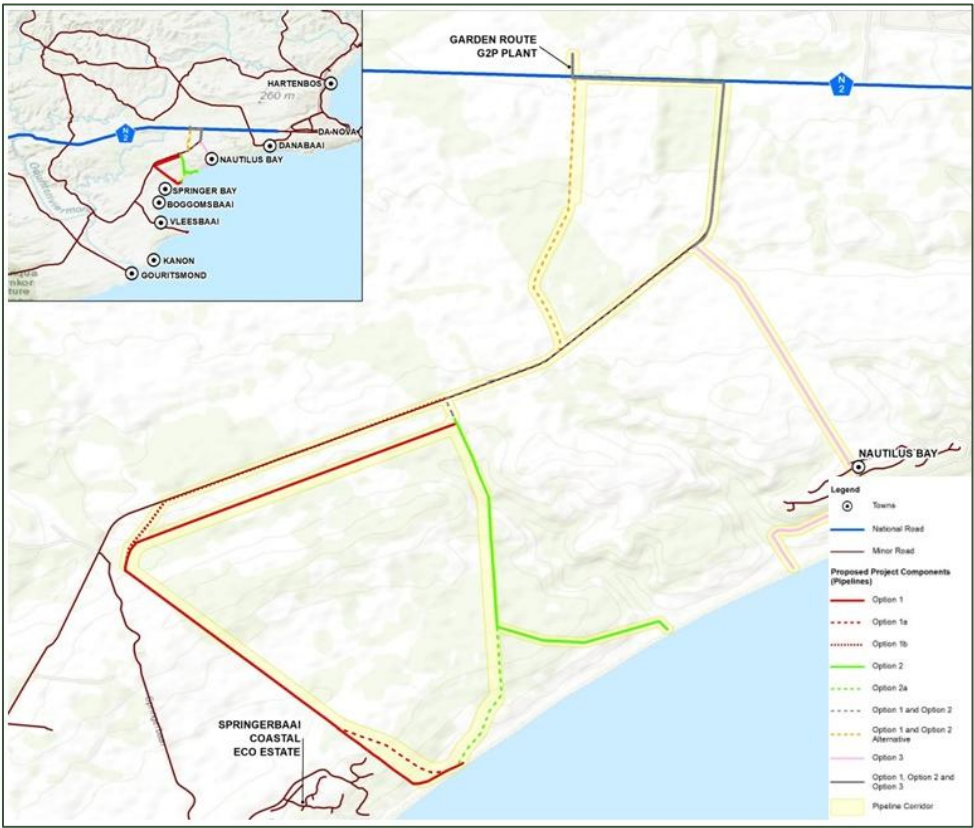


Figure 2: Locality map of proposed onshore pipeline corridors on the South Coast of South Africa (applicable to Production Scenario 1 only)



2.0 ESIA Process

Before starting, Main Street needs to get permission from the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR). As part of this process, an ESIA must be undertaken.

An ESIA is undertaken to identify and assess potential impacts of a project and help decision-making. The EIA Regulations, 2014 define whether and how an ESIA must be undertaken. This ESIA has two phases (**Figure 3**):

1. **Scoping Phase:** SLR gathers information about the environment and then identifies how the Project might affect the environment and society, and how to study these impacts. This is written up in the **Scoping Report**.
2. **Impact Assessment Phase:** Specialists investigate potential impacts of the Project and suggest ways to avoid or reduce negative impacts and increase positive impacts. This is written up in the **ESIA Report**.

The reports are **shared with the I&APs registered on the Project database**, who can then comment on the findings of the reports. The reports are then submitted to the **Petroleum Agency of South Africa (PASA)** and the DMPR, who decides whether the Project is approved and may proceed or not.

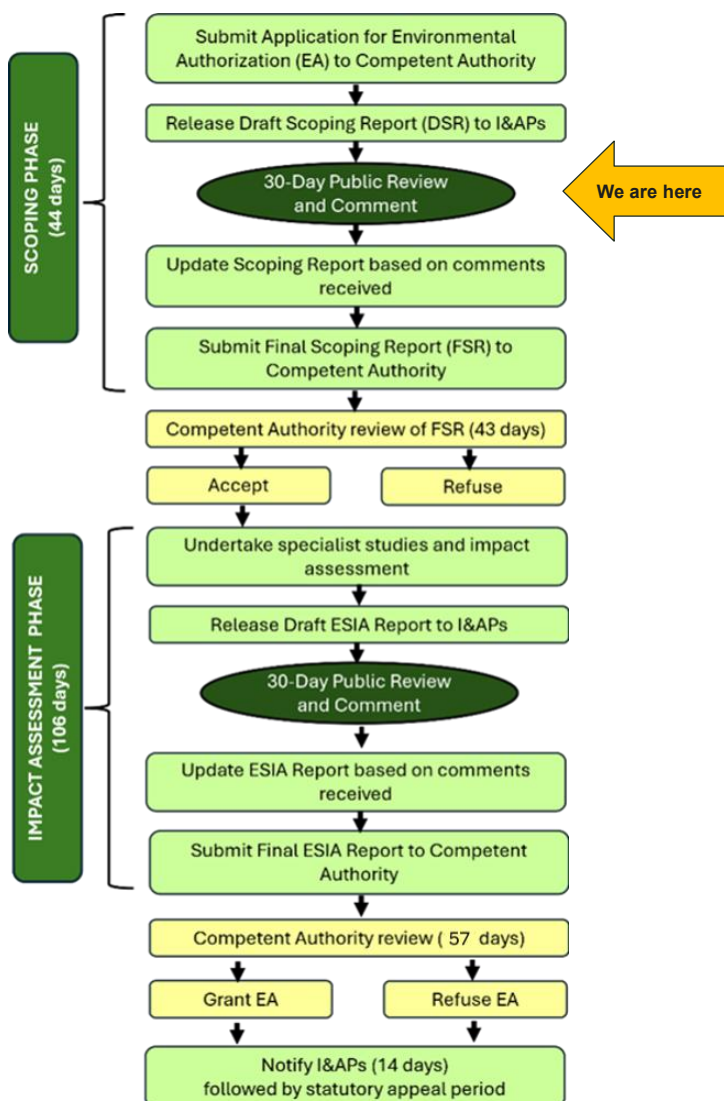


Figure 3: Key steps of the ESIA process

3.0 Public Consultation

Public consultation is an important part of the ESIA process and includes:

- Notifying I&APs of the proposed Project;
- Sharing information about the proposed Project, ESIA and public participation process; and
- Providing the opportunity to see Project information, ask questions and provide comment.

I&APs can review reports and attend public meetings in each phase of the ESIA process. To get involved in the ESIA process please refer to Section 8.0.

4.0 Need and Desirability

South Africa is working to balance energy security, economic development and climate change commitments as it transitions to a lower-carbon economy. While renewable energy is increasing, oil and gas are expected to remain part of the energy mix or the foreseeable future.

South Africa remains heavily reliant on coal for electricity generation and currently imports most of its natural gas, creating concerns about future energy security. In this context, the proposed Project could contribute energy security by providing a local source of natural gas and condensate, supporting economic development and potentially reducing reliance on imported gas.

Global demand for oil and gas is influenced by a range of factors, including energy demand, economic growth, energy security needs and the pace of the energy transition. In this context, the Project is not expected to materially influence global hydrocarbon consumption, and if it does not proceed, equivalent supply may be sourced from alternative domestic or international producers.

The Project is a declared Strategic Integrated Project (SIP) in terms of the Infrastructure Development Act, 2014. SIPs are considered as projects of significant economic or social importance to South Africa and contributing substantially to any national strategy or policy relating to infrastructure development.

Overall, the Project appears, in principle, to align with national objectives related to energy security, economic development and the just energy transition. However, its overall need and desirability will depend on the findings of the ESIA, including detailed assessment of potential environmental, social and climate-related impacts and the effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures. These impacts will be assessed during the Impact Assessment Phase of this ESIA.

5.0 Project Phases and Activities

Key project phases and activities are briefly described below.

5.1 Offshore Route and Site Assessment Surveys

Before any pipelines or infrastructure are installed, a range of site surveys will be undertaken both offshore and onshore. These site surveys are needed to better



understand the environmental conditions and seabed / ground along the proposed pipeline corridors.

- **Offshore:** Survey vessels (**Figure 4**) will collect information about the seafloor, seabed conditions, ocean environment, and proposed pipeline routes between the offshore gas fields and the shoreline. Most of this work will be non-intrusive, although some seabed samples may be collected.
- **Onshore:** Surveys along the pipeline route will mainly involve non-intrusive methods to understand ground conditions and identify any potential constraints. Some limited ground investigations, such as trial pits, coring and soil sampling, will also be undertaken.

Up to four offshore survey campaigns and two onshore / nearshore surveys will be conducted over a period of ~16 months.



Figure 4: Example of a survey vessel

5.2 Construction (Drilling and Installation)

Drilling

Up to 19 wells will be drilled in the offshore area of interest (known as the Paddavissie Fairway). Before they are completed, some wells may be tested to better understand the amount of gas and associated condensate present, and how they can be produced safely and efficiently.

A well is created by drilling a hole into the seabed using a cutting tool ("drill bit"), which crushes the rock into small particles, called "cuttings". Depending on the stage of drilling, these cuttings are either (1) discharged onto the seafloor next to the hole ("riserless drill stage" in **Figure 5**) or (2) brought up to the drilling unit through a riser where they are cleaned and released into the water from the drilling unit ("riser drill stage" in **Figure 5**).

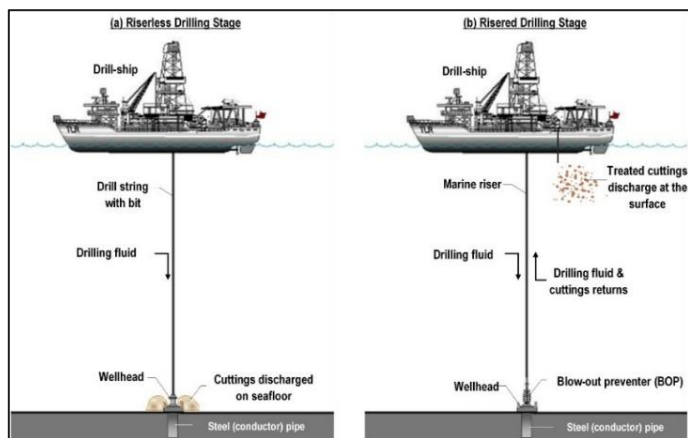


Figure 5: Drilling Stages

Once the desired depth has been reached, steel pipes are inserted and cemented into the hole to ensure it is stable and that the different geological formations are isolated.

Up to seven campaigns will take place at different times over a period of ~11 years (~7 months per three well campaign).

Offshore Infrastructure

Offshore construction will also include the installation and testing of infrastructure located on or below the seabed that is used to extract and collect the gas and condensate from the reservoir and transport it to the offshore production facility, where it will be separated and processed. Depending on the development scenario selected, the facility may consist of either:

- **Scenario 1:** A single facility that processes and stores product offshore called a Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) vessel (**Figure 6**); or
- **Scenario 2:** Two facilities working together, with one separating the natural gas and converting it to LNG (called a Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG) facility) and the other providing storage (called a Floating Storage and Offloading (FSO) vessel) before products are transferred to export tankers.

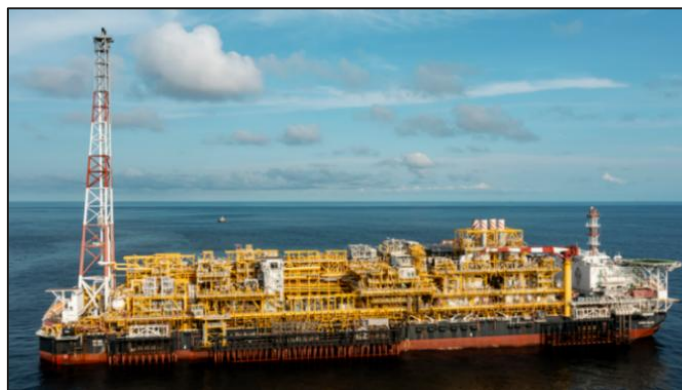


Figure 6: Example of FPSO vessel

Pipeline Shore Crossing (Scenario 1 only)

To connect the offshore pipeline to the onshore pipeline, a ~1.5 km micro-tunnel will be constructed beneath the coastal zone. The pipeline will be installed through this tunnel allowing it to pass under the shoreline, thereby reducing the disturbance to the beach and coastal environment. Once the pipeline is installed, all temporary equipment will be removed and affected areas will be rehabilitated where required.

Onshore Pipeline (Scenario 1 only)

An underground pipeline of up to ~13 km in length will be constructed to transport the gas to a gas receiving facility (e.g. the proposed Garden Route GtP facility). Construction will involve digging a trench, placing the pipeline in the ground, covering it and restoring the land as far as reasonably possible once the work is complete. The pipeline will also be tested to ensure it is safe and functioning properly before operations begin.

5.3 Production (Operation)

During operation, the Project will involve extracting gas and condensate from the offshore wells, separating these and associated fluids, storing products and transporting them to



market. The activities associated with each development scenario are summarised below.

Scenario 1:

Once production begins, gas, condensate and associated fluids from the offshore wells will be transported to the FPSO facility where they will be separated. The gas will then be transported to shore and onwards to the proposed gas receiving facility (e.g. the proposed GtP facility). Condensate will be exported to local domestic and/or international markets by tanker vessels.

Scenario 2:

Gas, condensate and associated fluids from the offshore wells would be separated and converted into LNG on the FLNG facility. The resulting products (LNG and condensate) will be stored on the FLNG and FSO facility, respectively, before being transferred to export tankers for transport to market.

Any associated produced water generated during the process (Scenario 1 and 2) will be treated and managed in compliance with environmental and regulatory requirements.

5.4 Decommissioning

At the end of the Project's operating life, offshore facilities will be safely taken out of service and the affected areas restored as far as reasonably possible. This will include permanently closing and sealing the production wells, cleaning and disconnecting pipelines and other equipment, and removing key offshore facilities. Some infrastructure may be left in place on the seabed if this is considered the safest and most environmentally responsible option. The offshore production facility will be removed from the area.

6.0 Key Environmental and Socio-Economic Components

Understanding the existing environment helps SLR and specialists understand the nature of potential Project impacts, and what needs to be studied in the next phase.

6.1 Receiving Offshore (Marine) Environment



6.1.1 Geophysical Environment

The marine Project area extends from the shoreline up to water depths of ~1 800 m off the South Coast. The seabed contains a mix of rocky areas and softer sandy or muddy sediments. The seabed is generally smooth in shallower waters, while in deeper waters towards the edge of the continental shelf it becomes more uneven with natural ridges, slopes and other seabed features.

The wider marine area is characterised by a broad underwater shelf that extends offshore, called the Agulhas Bank. This shelf becomes narrower towards the east and includes a clear transition between the shallower coastal area and the deeper ocean beyond (i.e. the shelf break and continental slope) (Figure 7).

6.1.2 Physical & Biophysical Environment

The Agulhas Current is the main ocean current influencing the area and plays an important role in moving water,

sediments, nutrients and marine life along the coast and across the continental shelf. Closer to shore, currents are generally weaker and more variable.

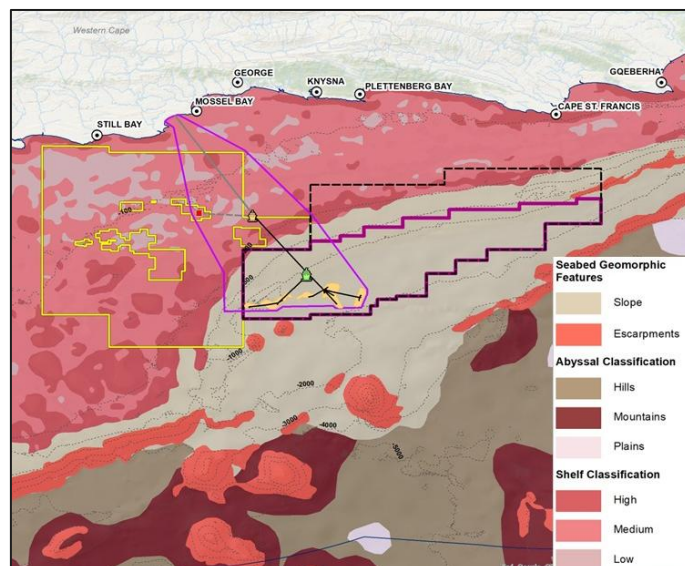


Figure 7: Seabed Characteristics

Waters in the marine Project area are typically warm at the surface and become cooler with depth. The waters are generally clear offshore with relatively low levels of nutrients and primary productivity, while coastal waters are more productive due to coastal upwelling processes.

The coastline comprises sandy beaches and rocky shores that support a variety of marine habitats and species. Offshore, the Project area extends from shallow coastal waters into deeper waters across the continental shelf. The seabed supports a variety of ecosystem and habitat types associated with shelf and slope environments.

6.1.3 Biological Environment

The types of plants and animals on the seabed vary depending on factors such as water depth, seabed conditions and ocean characteristics.



The marine Project area is a large offshore region with a range of seabed habitats that support different marine communities. Species present vary depending on local seabed conditions. Softer sandy and muddy seabed areas support worms, crustaceans, mollusks, sea stars, sea pens, and sponges, while other habitat types support different species. As expected in a large offshore area, marine life is not evenly distributed and varies across the Project area.

The communities in deeper reef areas and canyons are different from those in shallower areas, and are typically support fewer plant and animal species.

A variety of demersal fish (those that live and feed on or near the seabed) occur in the area, including steenbras, bream, spotted grunter, kob, snoek, musselcracker and red roman.

The open-water environment supports a range of pelagic species (those that live and feed in the open water), including:

- Plankton: Phytoplankton (tiny plants) and zooplankton (tiny animals) are most common in areas closer to the sea surface. The area east of Cape Agulhas is an



important breeding (spawning) and nursery area for commercially important fish species, including anchovy, sardine, hake, kingklip and squid, with currents transporting eggs and larvae across the region.

- **Fish and Squid:** The Project area supports a diverse range of fish and squid species. Important species include anchovy, sardine, hake, kingklip, chokka squid, elf (shad), geelbek, yellowtail, kob, seventy-four and Cape stumpnose. Larger migratory predators, including tunas, billfish and several shark species, also occur in offshore waters.
- **Turtles:** Some turtles may occasionally be found in the Project area, most likely Leatherback turtles.
- **Seabirds:** The South Coast supports a variety of seabirds, including Cape gannets, African penguins, cormorants, petrels, shearwaters and albatrosses. Coastal breeding species generally feed closer to shore, while oceanic (pelagic) seabirds are more common offshore, particularly around the shelf edge.
- **Marine mammals:** A diverse range of marine mammals may occur in the Project area, including humpback, southern right, Bryde's, sei and sperm whales, as well as common dolphins, bottlenose dolphins, striped dolphins, Risso's dolphins, pilot whales, beaked whales, killer whales and Cape fur seals. The continental shelf edge provides important feeding and migration habitat for many of these species.

6.1.4 Conservation and Protected Areas

The deeper offshore sections of the marine Project area are located within seabed (benthic) habitats classified as 'Least Concern' (i.e. widespread / abundant), whereas the shallower inshore sections occur within habitats classified as 'Endangered' and 'Critically Endangered' (high to very high threat level) (**Figure 8**). The majority of the oceanic (pelagic) ecosystem types (> 500 m deep) within the Project area is categorised as 'Least Concern'.

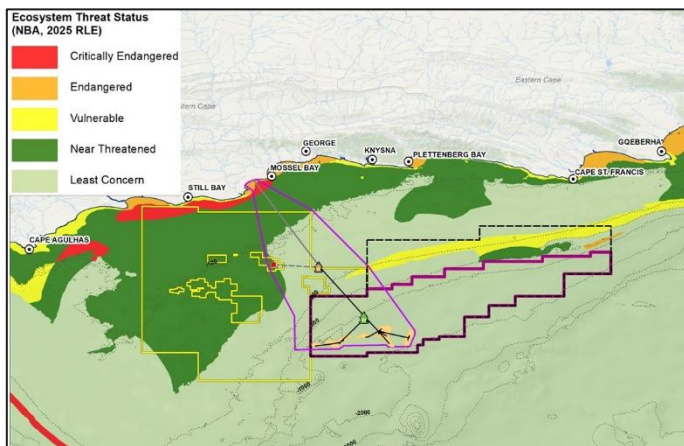


Figure 8: Seabed (benthic) ecosystem threat status

The marine Project area and associated infrastructure do not overlap with any Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) (**Figure 9**). A small portion of the survey area overlaps with the western extent of the Kingklip Corals EBSA, an area identified to be of ecological and/or biological importance (**Figure 10**). The proposed subsea pipeline also overlaps with areas mapped as Critical Biodiversity Area (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) (**Figure 9**)

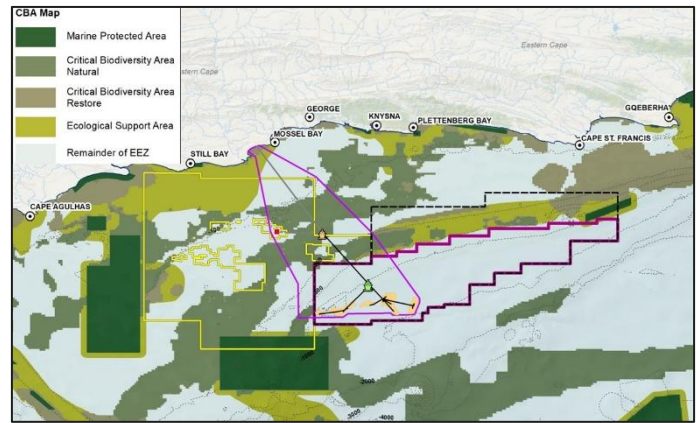


Figure 9: MPAs, CBAs and ESAs

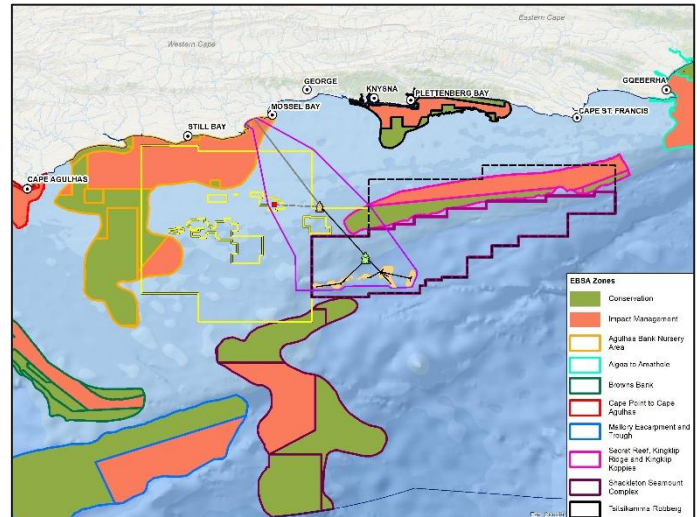


Figure 10: EBSAs

6.2 Receiving Onshore (Terrestrial) Environment

6.2.1 Physical Environment

The onshore Project area is located within a predominantly rural and agricultural landscape between Mossel Bay and Gouritsmond. The terrain is generally gently undulating, with localised valleys, depressions and coastal dune systems.

The region experiences a mild coastal climate with moderate rainfall throughout the year.

6.2.2 Onshore Biodiversity

The Project area falls within the Cape Floristic Region. Although much of the landscape has been transformed by agriculture and other development, significant areas of natural habitat remain, including fynbos, dune thicket, strandveld, coastal vegetation and freshwater features.

Several of these habitats are considered threatened including Albertinia Sand Fynbos and Hartenbos Dune Thicket (Endangered). The area supports a variety of plant and animal species, including protected plant species, threatened birds, and a range of mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates. Natural habitat remnants and wetlands also provide important ecological corridors that allow wildlife movement across an otherwise fragmented landscape.



6.2.3 Freshwater Ecosystems

The freshwater environment consists of a network of wetlands, seeps, drainage lines, seasonal watercourses and farm dams distributed throughout the agricultural landscape. These systems play an important role in storing and conveying water, reducing flooding, improving water quality and providing habitat for aquatic plants and animals (**Figure 11**).

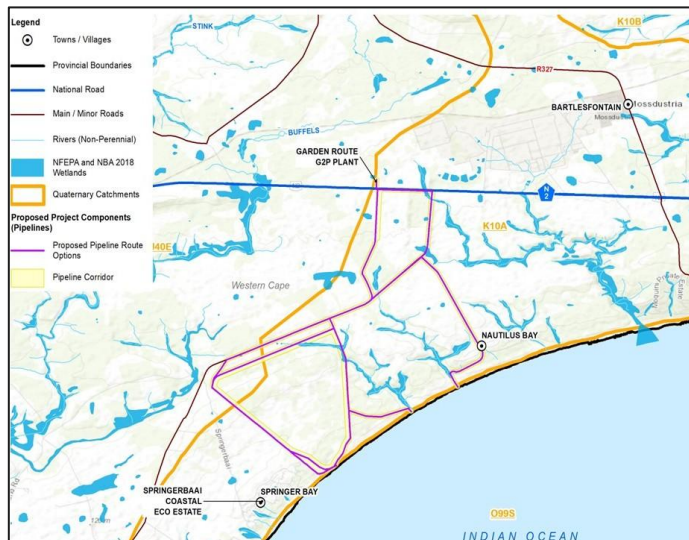


Figure 11: Surface water

6.2.4 Conservation

The Project area forms part of a region of high conservation importance and is located within the Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve and a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA). Although not a formally protected area, it occurs within a landscape that contains threatened ecosystems, important wetlands, CBAs, ESAs and other recognised biodiversity priority areas, and is surrounded by several conservation-oriented estates and stewardship initiatives (**Figure 12**).

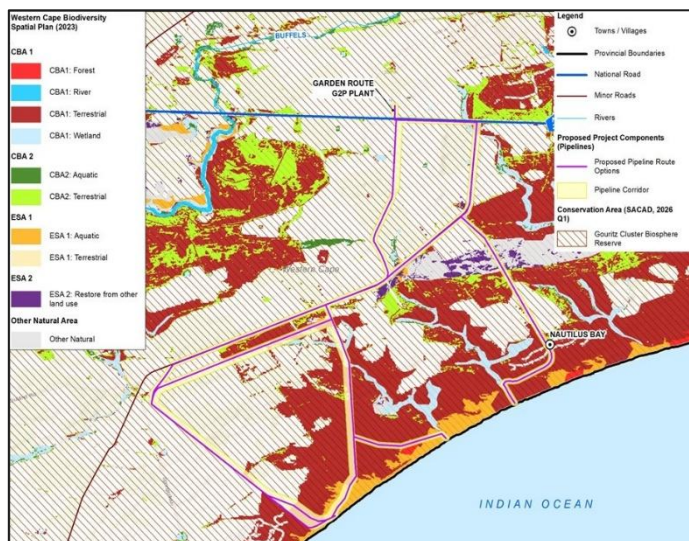


Figure 12: CBAs & ESAs

6.3 Socio-Economic Environment



The onshore Project area is located within a predominantly rural and agricultural setting. The broader area has experienced strong population growth and is supported by

relatively good access to housing, electricity, water, sanitation and healthcare services. However, many communities in the area face challenges related to unemployment, limited education opportunities, income inequality and poverty.

While tourism, recreation and fishing are important contributors to the wider regional economy, agriculture is the dominant land use in the immediate onshore Project area.

6.3.1 Fishing

The commercial fisheries operating off the South Coast include demersal trawl, longline, purse-seine, linefish, rock lobster and squid fisheries. Most fishing activity is concentrated close to shore, along the continental shelf, or within established fishing grounds. Small-scale fisheries also typically operate closer to shore (generally within ~15 km of the coastline), whereas the offshore production facility and field are located more than 65 km offshore.

In relation to the Project, overlap with commercial fishing activities is generally limited. Offshore infrastructure within the Block and the area of interest (Paddavissie Fairway) lies largely outside the main fishing grounds of most fisheries, overlapping with only the large pelagic longline fishery. The nearshore survey area and the proposed export pipeline show some overlap with the fishing grounds of the inshore trawl, mid-water trawl, demersal longline, rock lobster and squid fisheries.

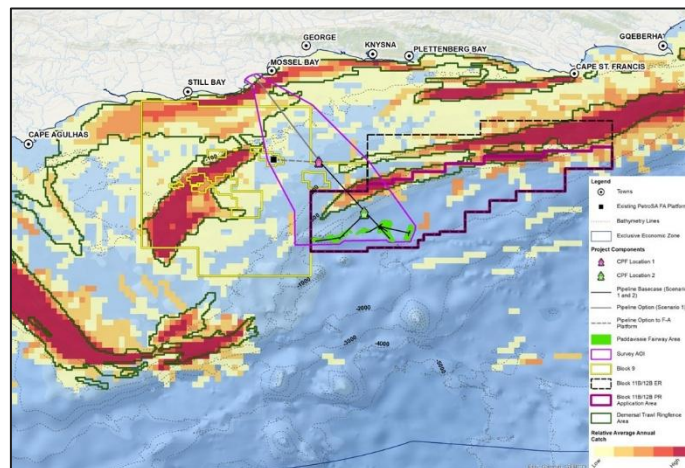


Figure 13: Demersal trawl fishery

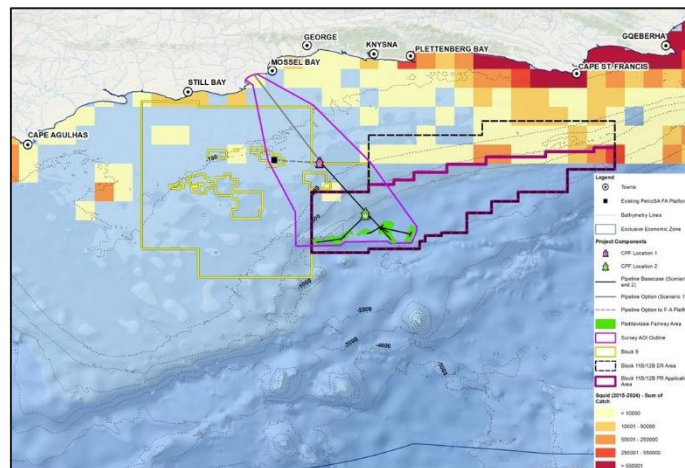


Figure 14: Squid fishery



6.3.2 Cultural Heritage, Archaeology and Palaeontology

The Mossel Bay coastline has a rich cultural heritage that reflects thousands of years of human occupation, from early hunter-gatherers and pastoralists to colonial settlement and modern development. The area contains archaeological sites, shell middens, historic farmsteads, graves and other heritage resources, with the highest sensitivity occurring in coastal dunes and undisturbed coastal areas.

7.0 Key Potential Environmental and Socio-Economic Impacts

7.1 Identified Potential Impacts

During the Scoping Phase, SLR compared Project activities with the existing environment and identified several potential impacts (**Table 1**). These impacts will be assessed by specialists in the Impact Assessment Phase (Section 7.2).

Table 1: Summary of potential key impacts

Potential Key Impacts
Marine Ecology Impacts
- Behavioural disturbance of marine fauna - Injury to marine fauna - Smothering and disturbance of benthic (animals that live in/on seabed) fauna - Ecological effects from pollutants in water column - Modification of benthic habitat
Fisheries Impacts
- Changes in catch due to behavioural change in fish - Displacement of fishing vessels - Loss of income from any disruption of fisheries
Biodiversity (Terrestrial & Aquatic) Impacts
- Loss of vegetation and faunal habitat - Displacement or disturbance of fauna and avifauna - Disturbance to and / or mortality of fauna - Soil disturbance, compaction and erosion - Reduced water quality - Alteration of site characteristics - Increased susceptibility and/or encroachment of alien invasive species - Degradation and/or fragmentation of terrestrial and aquatic habitats
Socio-economic Impacts
- Income and skills training for workers - Income from local procurement and spending - State income from taxes and levies - Loss of arable land - Deterioration of shore-based community health and safety - Health and Safety risks from Project activities - Disturbance to nearby residences - Altered sense of place / change to cultural landscape - Deterioration of cultural heritage links to the sea - Disturbance to archaeological and paleoethological resources

Potential Key Impacts

Climate Change and Air Quality

- Health impacts from atmospheric pollution
- Contribution to GHG emissions

The ESIA also considers unplanned events (**Table 2**). These are not expected to occur and have a very low likelihood of occurrence. Nevertheless, it is important that these potential impacts, if they happen, are understood, so that measures can be taken to prevent and minimise effects. Such unplanned events include gas and condensate spills or leaks from drilling, ship-to-ship transfer and pipeline rupture.

Table 2: Potential impacts of unplanned events

Potential Impacts from Unplanned Events
- Seawater pollution from a hydrocarbon spill could impact animals (and plankton) in the water column and on the sea surface - Fishing vessels may not be able to enter polluted sea areas for some time, and fish species may avoid such areas - Reduction of catch could decrease fishing income - Tourism and other coastal activities may have to reduce their activities and corresponding incomes in case of nearshore pollution - Risk / hazards to humans due to loss of containment from pipeline - Pollution could affect people's cultural heritage value of and links to the sea - Uncontrolled release of gas or evaporated oil could increase pollutants and GHG in the air

7.2 Assessment of Identified Impacts

Specialists will study and assess the key potential impacts and identify measures to avoid or reduce negative impacts to acceptable levels and enhance any benefits (positive impacts).

Technical modelling studies will predict how far disturbance may spread in the sea or land:

- Underwater noise modelling
- Drilling discharges modelling
- Liquid effluent discharges modelling
- Hydrocarbon spill modelling
- Quantitative Risk Assessment – this study evaluates potential risks related to an onshore gas pipeline rupture.

Results from the modelling studies may be used by some of the specialists to assess impacts that may occur. Proposed specialist impact assessments include:

- Marine ecology impact assessment
- Fisheries impact assessment
- Socio-economic impact assessment
- Intangible cultural heritage impact assessment
- Tangible heritage and palaeontology assessment (onshore and offshore)
- Terrestrial biodiversity assessment
- Aquatic biodiversity assessment



- Soils and agriculture assessment
- Air quality impact assessment (including modelling)
- GHG and Climate change risk assessment

These specialist studies will also be informed by a conceptual closure and decommissioning study.

8.0 Way Forward



Your participation in the ESIA process is important. How you can participate is explained below.

8.1 Register as an I&AP

Please register as an I&AP if you are interested in the Project or feel that you may be affected by it.

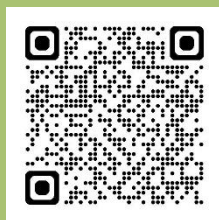
By registering as an I&AP you will receive updates and information about the ESIA process, including access to the reports for comment and notification of public open days.

Registering does not mean you support or oppose the Project and you can also ask to be removed from the stakeholder database at any time.

Please share this information with other people who may wish to register as an I&AP.

To register as an I&AP and submit comments: Please:

- Scan the QR code **or**
- Follow this **link** (<https://forms.office.com/e/a65veK87za>) **or**
- Contact SLR at the details above (see page 1).



8.2 Review Information and Submit Comments

The following documents are available for comment on SLR's: website and/or data-free website

- **Non-Technical Summary** (This document), available in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa;
- **Audio recordings** of the NTS, available in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa; and
- Full **Draft Scoping Report (DSR)** in English.

Copies of the DSR and/or NTS are also available at various public libraries / locations (**Table 3**). Please **submit any comments on the DSR by no later than 15 October 2026**. All comments will be included and responded to in the Final Scoping Report, which will be submitted to PASA / DMPP for decision-making.

SLR looks forward to your registration on the stakeholder database and receiving your comments. Should you have any questions please contact SLR.

8.3 Attend Meetings



Stakeholders are invited to **attend the public open days (Table 4)** where you can learn more about the Project and provide your feedback. I&APs can *attend at any time during open day hours* to view Project information and talk directly to the ESIA team.

You can also attend an **online (virtual) meeting**. To attend this online meeting, you must **register** using the link in **Table 4**.

SLR'S COMMITMENT REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION (POPI):

By being registered on the Project database, you authorise SLR to (1) retain and use your Personal Information as part of a contact database for this and/or other ESIA's, (2) contact you regarding this and/or other ESIA processes, (3) disclose the database to other authorised parties for lawful purposes, (4) process it for lawful purposes, and (5) include correspondence received in ESIA Reports. SLR will not process your Personal Information, other than as permitted or required by ESIA processes or as required by Law or public policy. SLR will use reasonable, appropriate security safeguards in order to protect Personal Information, and to reasonably prevent any damage to, loss of, or unauthorised access or disclosure of Personal Information, other than as required for ESIA processes or as required by any Law or public policy. You may request for your Personal Information to be deleted from the project database or comments to be excluded from ESIA Reports at any time by contacting SLR. However, you understand that SLR (and any authorised parties) may not be able to delete or destroy it for legal or public policy reasons. SLR will provide you with the reasons.

This is a non-technical summary of the Draft Scoping Report, which contains a lot more detail. If in doubt, information in the Draft Scoping Report will prevail.



Table 3: Report and NTS Placement

Location	Name of Facility
Full Report and Non-Technical Summary are available at:	
Still Bay	Still Bay Library
Mossel Bay	Kwanonqaba Library
Knysna	Knysna Tourism Offices
Plettenberg Bay	Plettenberg Bay Public Library
St. Francis Bay	Sea Vista Library
Jeffreys Bay	Jeffreys Bay Library
Gqeberha	Newton Park Library
Non-Technical Summary is available at:	
Struisbaai	Struisbaai Public Library
Arniston	Arniston Library
Gourits	Gouritsmond Library
Mossel Bay	Transnet Port of Mossel Bay
Mossel Bay	Mossel Bay Library
George	George Public Library
Sedgefield	Sedgefield Library

Table 4: Details of Public Open Days and Online Meeting

Town	Venue	Date	Public Open Session Time
Mossel Bay	D'Almeida Community Hall	14 September 2026	15:00-19:00
George	Conville Community Hall	15 September 2026	15:00-19:00
Knysna	Hornlee Community Hall	16 September 2026	15:00-19:00
Plettenberg Bay	New Horizons Community Hall	17 September 2026	15:00-19:00
Storms River	Clarence Anthony Draai Multipurpose Centre, Coldstream	18 September 2026	15:00-19:00
Kareedouw	Kagiso Heights Hall	19 September 2026	10:00-14:00
St Francis Bay	Sea Vista Community Hall	21 September 2026	15:00-19:00
Jeffreys Bay	Pellsrus Community Hall	22 September 2026	15:00-19:00
Online (Virtual)		1 October 2026	13:00-15:00
Registration to Attend Online (Virtual) Meeting Please click here (https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/23558359-3087-4a0d-b23a-5a53851e3a4d@109cec53-a877-42eb-93e8-b9f5c282ba38) or scan QR Code to complete the required form to register to attend the online public meeting. People who register will receive a link to attend the meeting.			

9.0 Frequently Asked Questions

Some questions that I&APs might ask at this stage are listed below. The EAP will provide responses to all questions and comments submitted during the Scoping Phase.

Question	Answer
What is an ESIA? 	An ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) helps plan and make decisions about a Project. The ESIA is broken up into two phases: the Scoping phase and the Impact Assessment phase. The Scoping Phase gathers information about the environment before the Project starts. Consultants then determine how the project might affect the environment and society, and how to study these impacts. In the Impact Assessment phase experts investigate both the good and bad impacts of the project and suggest ways to manage them. All of this information is put into reports, which are shared with the public. This information helps decision-makers and the public understand the possible impacts that the project may have. The public can review reports and attend meetings to



Question	Answer
	give their input. The final decision is made by the authorities, and I&APs will be informed about the outcome and their right to appeal if they disagree. A short video which explains the EIA process can be found on the SLR website (link above).
How do I get involved and what happens to my details when I register as an I&AP? 	To get involved in the ESIA process, please register as an I&AP (see Section 8.1 on how to register for this Project). By registering you will receive updates and information about the Project, including access to the reports for review and comment. During the process, the public have opportunities to review reports and attend public meetings (see Section 8.2 and 8.3), where they can learn more about the Project and provide their feedback. All personal information will be managed in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (POPI).
How many jobs will be created? 	The Project will create employment and business opportunities during both the construction and production phases, although the nature of these opportunities will differ over time. During the construction phase, there will be a significant increase in project activity over a relatively short period. Much of the specialised offshore construction and installation work is expected to be undertaken by experienced international contractors, as many of the required offshore skills, vessels and technologies are not currently available at the scale required in South Africa. However, this phase is expected to generate a range of temporary employment and business opportunities through support services such as logistics, port operations, transportation, accommodation, catering, security and other local services. The production phase will extend over many years and is expected to provide longer-term employment opportunities. While the Project will not create a large number of direct jobs, it will support ongoing skills development, training and the gradual transfer of knowledge to South African employees. Over time, local capacity is expected to increase as more specialised skills are developed within the country. In addition to direct employment, the Project is expected to contribute to the wider economy through a multiplier effect, creating secondary jobs and business opportunities in industries that support the offshore gas development and its associated infrastructure. Potential socio-economic impacts will be assessed by specialists in the Impact Assessment Phase.
How does the specialist know where we fish?	Commercial fishers must report their catch to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) who check that fishing is sustainable. The specialist uses the most recent data from the DFFE to identify key fishing grounds and also compares it with data from previous years. This provides a very good baseline to determine where fishing takes place and how much fish is caught.
What is the impact of the Project on fishing? 	Fishing remains very important to many coastal communities - how the project might affect it will be carefully assessed. Here are some ways the Project might affect fishing: - Fish may avoid an area around the Project vessels and/or drilling unit during offshore activities. If this affects areas where fish breed, feed, or where fishers usually go, the specialist will assess the impact and ways to reduce or avoid the impact. - Fishing vessels have to avoid certain Project vessels (as any other vessel) and / or infrastructure on the seabed but can fish in any other part of the marine Project area. Other ships can also pass through the marine Project area.
Does the Project affect coastal areas? 	Although the production facility and well field are located more than 65 km offshore, a subsea pipeline will transport the gas to the shore (Development Scenario 1 only). This pipeline will be drilled through the coastal zone to minimise potential impacts and will also be buried within ~42 km of the coast to mitigate potential interaction with trawl fishing activities within the 90 m water depth contour.
Do I&APs need to give an opinion or agree to the Project? 	The ESIA process (as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014) includes a public participate process that is open to all I&APs, and allows them to review all ESIA documentation, request clarifications, raise questions and provide their views. These views and comments are recorded and submitted to the Competent Authority together with the ESIA reports, so that the Competent Authority has access to all the comments submitted during the ESIA process. I&APs do not have to voice an opinion or agree to the Project.

