

**Golden Beach Gas Project**

# **Chapter 9 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage**

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## 9. Aboriginal cultural heritage

This chapter assesses the Aboriginal cultural heritage aspects of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Golden Beach Gas Project (the Project). The information in this chapter is based on the impact assessment presented in **Technical Report C: Aboriginal cultural heritage**.

### 9.1 Overview

Aboriginal cultural heritage places and objects are present across Victoria, however, they are a finite and irreplaceable resource. The Project will involve activities that have the potential to harm known and unknown Aboriginal places and objects, particularly during the construction phase.

Aboriginal cultural heritage places and values are of high significance to the community, particularly the Aboriginal community. Aboriginal places, objects and Aboriginal ancestral remains provide a tangible connection to the past, provide a sense of interconnectedness between past generations and present Traditional Owners, and facilitate a sense of belonging to the landscape. Appropriate management of any possible adverse impacts is of critical importance to ensure that impacts are avoided or minimised wherever possible and that only those impacts that are essential to the Project are undertaken. The management and mitigation of impacts will also allow for cultural and scientific data to be collected from Aboriginal places that may be impacted.

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 (Vic)* forms the framework within which Aboriginal heritage assessment is undertaken in Victoria and provides for the protection and management of Victoria's Aboriginal heritage. The Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLAWAC) are recognised as the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) for the study area and were consulted during the process of the Aboriginal cultural heritage impact assessment.

The main potential impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage is the disturbance of previously registered Aboriginal places during the construction phase, which has the potential to result in a loss of heritage value. Two previously registered Aboriginal places are located within the activity area of the Project, as well as an additional six Aboriginal places that have been identified as part of the assessment process for Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) #17031. There is also the possibility of Aboriginal ancestral remains on the shores of Lake Reeve, the Lake Reeve 'island' and on the coastal dunes between Lake Reeve and Delray Beach, although they are generally rare in the archaeological record.

A CHMP is currently being prepared for the Project which provides a process for protecting and managing Aboriginal cultural heritage. Areas of cultural heritage sensitivity are registered Aboriginal cultural heritage places as well as landforms and land categories that are regarded as more likely to contain Aboriginal cultural heritage. Registered Aboriginal Cultural Heritage places are those that are listed on the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register. The necessary processes to manage harm to identified Aboriginal places will be included within the approved CHMP.

### 9.2 EES Evaluation objective

The scoping requirements for the Project set out the specific environmental matters to be investigated and documented in the Project's Environment Effects Statement (EES), which informs the scope of the EES technical studies.

The evaluation objective for the Aboriginal cultural heritage impact assessment is defined in the scoping requirements:

- **Cultural heritage** – Avoid or minimise adverse effects on Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage and associated values.

This chapter and **Technical Report C: Aboriginal cultural heritage** addresses the Project's specific Aboriginal cultural heritage matters in response to the EES scoping requirements. Historic cultural heritage is addressed in **Chapter 20: Historic heritage** and **Technical Report N: Historic heritage**.

## 9.3 Methodology

The approach adopted for the Aboriginal cultural heritage impact assessment involved the following key tasks:

- a desktop assessment was undertaken to identify the known environmental, ethnohistorical, historical and archaeological context of the study area and the surrounding geographic region
- as part of the Aboriginal cultural heritage impact assessment and the preparation of the CHMP (#17031), an archaeological survey (i.e. standard assessment) was undertaken to identify any surface Aboriginal cultural heritage places within the study area and to determine areas of Aboriginal archaeological potential
- as part of the preparation of the CHMP (#17031), a formal archaeological excavation (i.e. complex assessment) was undertaken as part of the preparation of the CHMP (#17031). The excavation aimed to investigate the stratigraphy of sub surface deposits and soil types within the study area, to determine the nature, extent and significance of the Aboriginal places identified during the archaeological survey, and to identify any additional Aboriginal cultural heritage which may be present within the study area
- the finalised and approved CHMP (#17031) will incorporate the findings of the archaeological survey and archaeological excavation, as well as providing details on previously recorded Aboriginal places and the potential for further unknown Aboriginal places to be encountered through construction
- risk screening as described in **Chapter 6: Assessment Framework** to inform the impact assessment and development of mitigation measures.

## 9.4 Existing conditions

A desktop and field-based assessment was undertaken to understand the environmental, ethnohistorical, historical and archaeological context of the activity area and surrounding geographic region.

### 9.4.1 Study area ('Activity area')

The study area (referred to in this chapter as the 'activity area') comprises of approximately 26 kilometres of generally linear land in Longford, Dutson, Dutson Downs and Golden Beach. The activity area extends between Delray Beach in Golden Beach and Garretts Road, Longford and has a total area of approximately 114.4 hectares, as shown in Figure 9-1.

### 9.4.2 Geology, geomorphology and landforms

The activity area is made up of a variety of geology that has been laid down during different periods of time, some potentially as old as 2.58 million years. The geology of the activity area is made up of dune deposits, coastal dune deposits and alluvial terrace deposits.

The far eastern section of the activity area sits within the Lagoonal geomorphology unit with the remainder of the activity area sitting within the Plains with dunes geomorphological unit.

Coastal beach dunes occupy the eastern part of the activity area, backed by Lake Reeve to the west. Further west of Lake Reeve, the activity area is generally comprised of plains with east-west trending sand dunes.

### 9.4.3 Historical environmental context

Climatic conditions in Australia are known to have varied greatly over the 40,000 or more years that Australia has been occupied by Aboriginal peoples. Today, the activity area is subject to a temperate climate that involves hot and dry summers and cool and wet winters.

Vegetation in the activity area historically consisted of a wide variety that was used by Aboriginal people in the past for the construction of tools and weapons, medical purposes and as sources of food.

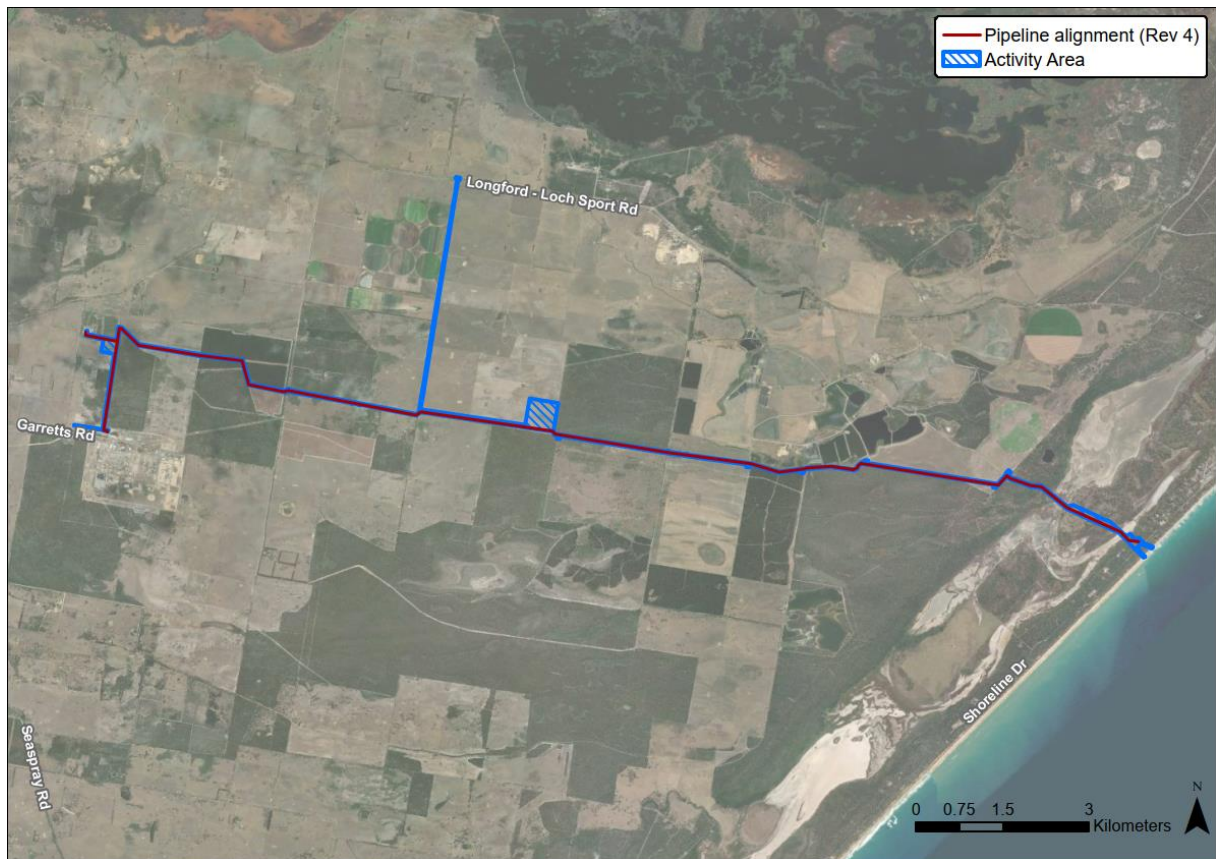


Figure 9-1: Activity area for the Aboriginal cultural heritage impact assessment

#### 9.4.4 Review of historical and ethnohistorical accounts

The activity area lies within the traditional land of the Tatungalung tribe, who are a sub-unit of the Gunaikurnai peoples and occupied the coast along Ninety Mile Beach, near Lakes Entrance and southwest to Merriman Creek, including the land around Lake Reeve, Lake King (including Raymond Island within Lake King), Lake Wellington and Lake Victoria. The Tatungalung was further subdivided into a number of clans and the activity area was most likely occupied by people from the Yunthur clan for which very little ethnographic information exists.

Steep declines in local Aboriginal populations were recorded soon after European settlement, although it is likely that by the time of official settlement of Melbourne in 1835, Gunaikurnai peoples had already suffered severe population decline due to the impact of conflict with settlers and fast-spreading infectious diseases. Certainly, from the 1840s onwards numerous conflicts and massacres of Aboriginal people across Gippsland occurred. In 1840 it was estimated that the population of the Gunaikurnai numbered in the hundreds with a further decline being recorded, resulting in a population of 51 in 1864.

Early historical accounts of the Gunaikurnai people's lifeways revealed patterns of seasonal resource acquisition, including the collection of shellfish, fish, plant foods and waterfowl during the spring and summer seasons, and acquiring kangaroos, wombats and plant foods during the autumn and winter months.

Further detail on the Gunaikurnai peoples is contained in **Technical Report C: Aboriginal cultural heritage**.

#### 9.4.5 Land use history

European settlement in the region occurred in the 1850s and 1860s with the townships of Sale and Bairnsdale being the largest. Farming became the principal industry, with much of the land completely cleared of vegetation in the region to make way for livestock and crops during the late 1800s and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Settlement at Golden Beach did not occur until the 1950s with the coastline encompassing Ninety Mile Beach being marketed as the next Gold Coast. The cold and often rough Bass Strait waters and some flood prone allotments meant this never fully eventuated. In 1964 offshore gas deposits were located and developed. This

had a significant impact on local communities and continues to have a major impact on the economy coupled with the dairy and agricultural industries.

Changes began to occur in the activity area during the 1970s and 1980s, with land being cleared and roads formed on the Lake Reeve 'island', development of plantation land, clearing of pastoral land and the development of the existing gas plant in the south east of the activity area. By 1991 construction had commenced on the Gippsland Water Dutton Downs Outfall pipeline in the eastern part of the activity area. This involved trenching and installation of the outfall pipe.

Conditions in the remainder of the activity area have remained generally unchanged, aside from the development of the Jemena gas compressor station in the northwest of the activity area and changes to the extent and location of plantation land.

### 9.4.6 Heritage register search

The Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) showed that there are 158 previously recorded Aboriginal places present within the identified geographic region shown in Figure 9-2. The different types of Aboriginal places and the number of these places have been summarised in Table 9-1.

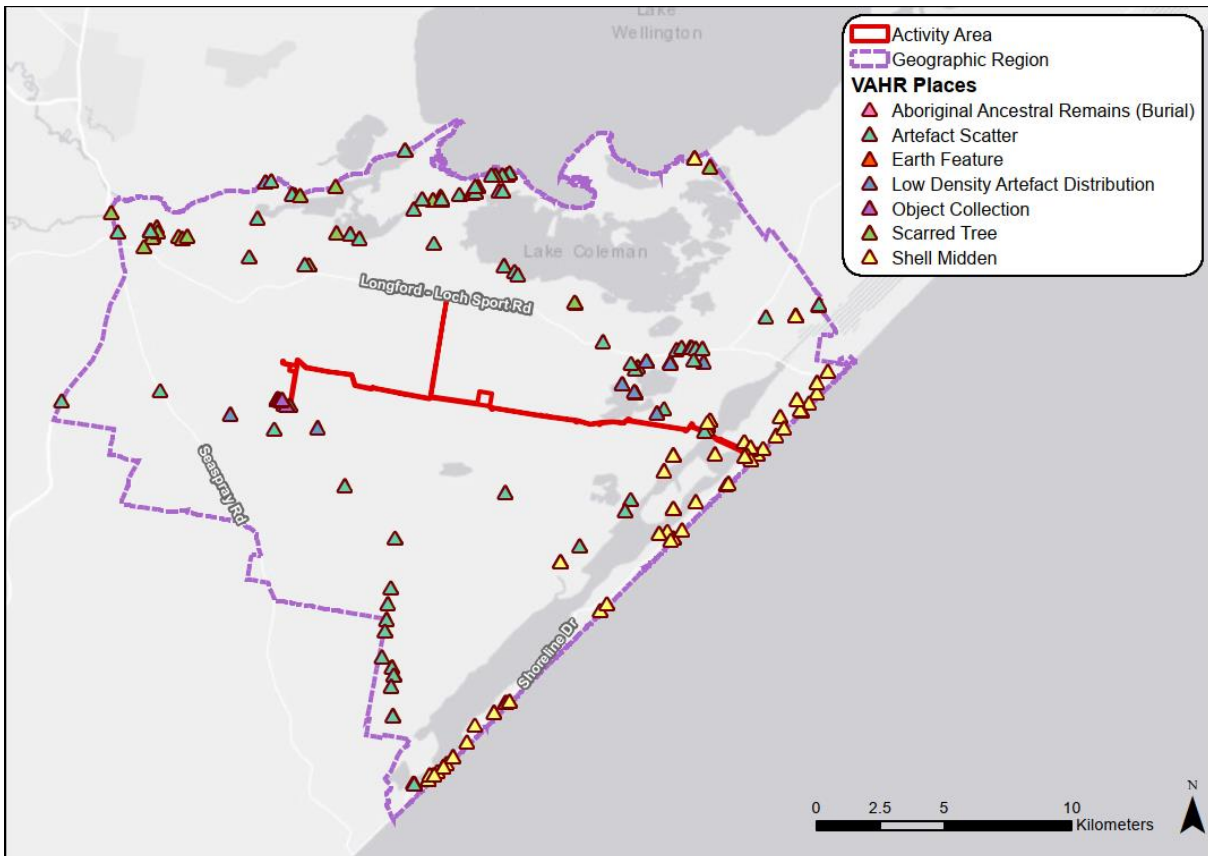


Figure 9-2: Aboriginal places within the geographic region

Table 9-1: Total of previously recorded Aboriginal places within the geographic region as shown in Figure 9-2

Site type	Number of sites
Artefact scatters	68
Shell middens	48
Scarred trees	20
Low density artefact distributions	12
Shell midden/arteifact scatters	7
Aboriginal ancestral remains (burial)/arteifact scatter	1
Aboriginal ancestral remains (burial)/shell midden	1
Shell midden/earth feature (soil deposit)	1

One of the low density artefact distributions and one of the shell middens make up two previously recorded Aboriginal places that are present within the activity area and are identified as:

- Delray Beach 6 DeBe6 (8321-0148 [VAHR])
- Longford LDAD 1 (8321-0455 [VAHR]).

#### 9.4.7 Review of previous archaeological reports

A number of previous regional and localised archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the geographic region surrounding the activity area. The studies were undertaken in relation to various infrastructure developments and resulted in the identification of a new Aboriginal place that is registered as Delray Beach 6 DeBe6 (8321-0148 [VAHR]) which is also located within the Project's activity area. At the time of its identification, sub surface testing was conducted to establish whether sub surface deposits were potentially at risk, however, no in situ sub surface deposits were found.

One further new Aboriginal place that was identified by a complex CHMP (#13566), located within the southwestern portion of the Project's activity area, is registered as Longford LDAD 1 (8321-0455 [VAHR]).

Further details of previously studies that have taken place within the activity area can be found in **Technical Report C: Aboriginal cultural heritage**.

#### 9.4.8 Archaeological survey

An archaeological survey (i.e. standard assessment) was undertaken for the activity area which involved a detailed pedestrian survey of the area. A number of areas of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity were identified during the archaeological survey, as well as four new Aboriginal places that all contained stone artefacts. The newly identified Aboriginal sites were registered as:

- Fergusons LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR])
- Fergusons East Dam AS (8321-#### [VAHR])
- Fergusons West Dam AS (8321-#### [VAHR])
- Signboard Lane LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]).

The full details of the archaeological survey will be available in the CHMP (#17031) once that document is approved and finalised.

#### 9.4.9 Archaeological excavation

The archaeological excavation (i.e. complex assessment) aimed to investigate the stratigraphy of sub surface deposits and soil types within the activity area. The assessment also aimed to determine the nature, extent and significance of the Aboriginal places that were identified during the archaeological survey and to identify any

additional Aboriginal cultural heritage which may be present within the activity area. These are listed in Section 9.4.8.

The archaeological excavation consisted of 38 1x1 metre test pits (TP) and 423 0.5x0.5 metre shovel test pits (STP). The sampling strategy targeted all areas of Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity within the activity area and ensured that the nature of sub surface deposits within the activity area were well documented. Notwithstanding this assessment, there remains a minor possibility that undiscovered Aboriginal cultural heritage may be present in unexcavated sub surface contexts within the activity area due to its large size.

Of the 38 TPs and 423 STPs that were excavated, 11 TPs and 29 STPs were found to contain stone artefacts. The full details of the archaeological excavations that were undertaken will be available in the CHMP (#17031) once that document is approved and finalised.

#### **9.4.10 CHMP #17031**

As a result of the detailed fieldwork assessments undertaken for CHMP #17031, seven new Aboriginal places were identified in addition to the two previously recorded sites. The newly identified sites include two artefact scatters and five low density artefact distributions (one of which is located outside the activity area) and these sites are currently undergoing the registration process.

## **9.5 Risk screening**

A risk assessment was undertaken to identify risks associated with the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project. This process was used as a screening tool to prioritise the focus of the aboriginal cultural heritage assessment and inform the impact assessment. The initial risk rating is based on compliance with legislation and standard requirements that are typically incorporated into projects of a similar type, scale and complexity.

The following risks were rated as medium or above and were identified for detailed impact assessment:

- partial disturbance of previously registered Aboriginal cultural heritage places during construction, resulting in loss of heritage value
- total disturbance of previously registered Aboriginal cultural heritage places during construction, resulting in loss of heritage value
- partial or total disturbance to unknown Aboriginal ancestral remains during construction, resulting in a loss of heritage value.

An impact assessment has been undertaken on these aspects and further detail and proposed mitigation measures are provided below.

Risks rated low or very low are not discussed in detail in this section, however mitigation measures have been included. Risks rated low to very low include:

- disturbing previously registered Aboriginal cultural heritage places during operation and decommissioning of the Project and resulting in a loss of heritage value
- disturbing not previously registered low, moderate and high scientific significance Aboriginal places during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project
- disturbing not previously registered intangible Aboriginal cultural heritage places (e.g. aesthetic, social, religious, historic or cultural values) during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project
- unauthorised disturbance of previously registered or unknown Aboriginal cultural heritage places outside of activity area in the CHMP during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project, resulting in loss of heritage value and breach of CHMP conditions.

For completeness, these aspects are discussed in the full impact assessment for Aboriginal cultural heritage in **Technical Report C: Aboriginal cultural heritage**.



## 9.6 Construction impact assessment

This section describes the impacts that have the potential to result in adverse effects on Aboriginal cultural heritage assets, values and uses from the construction of the Project. The greatest risk to Aboriginal cultural heritage relates to the potential impacts to previously registered and unregistered Aboriginal places during the construction phase of the Project.

### 9.6.1 Disturbance to known Aboriginal places

Two previously recorded Aboriginal places are present within the activity area, as shown in Figure 9-3:

- Delray Beach 6 DeBe6 (8321-0148 [VAHR])
- Longford LDAD 1 (8321-0455 [VAHR]).

As a result of the detailed fieldwork assessments undertaken for CHMP #17031, seven new Aboriginal places were identified (one of which is located outside the activity area), and these are also shown in Figure 9-3. These places include two artefact scatters and five low density artefact distributions. The registration process for the newly identified Aboriginal places is currently ongoing, however the artefact scatters will be registered as:

- Fergusons East Dam AS (8321-#### [VAHR])
- Fergusons West Dam AS (8321-#### [VAHR]).

The low density artefact distributions will be registered as:

- Fergusons LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]) – Note: this LDAD is outside the activity area
- Lake Reeve West LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR])
- Sandy Camp LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR])
- Signboard Lane LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR])
- Six Bulls LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]).

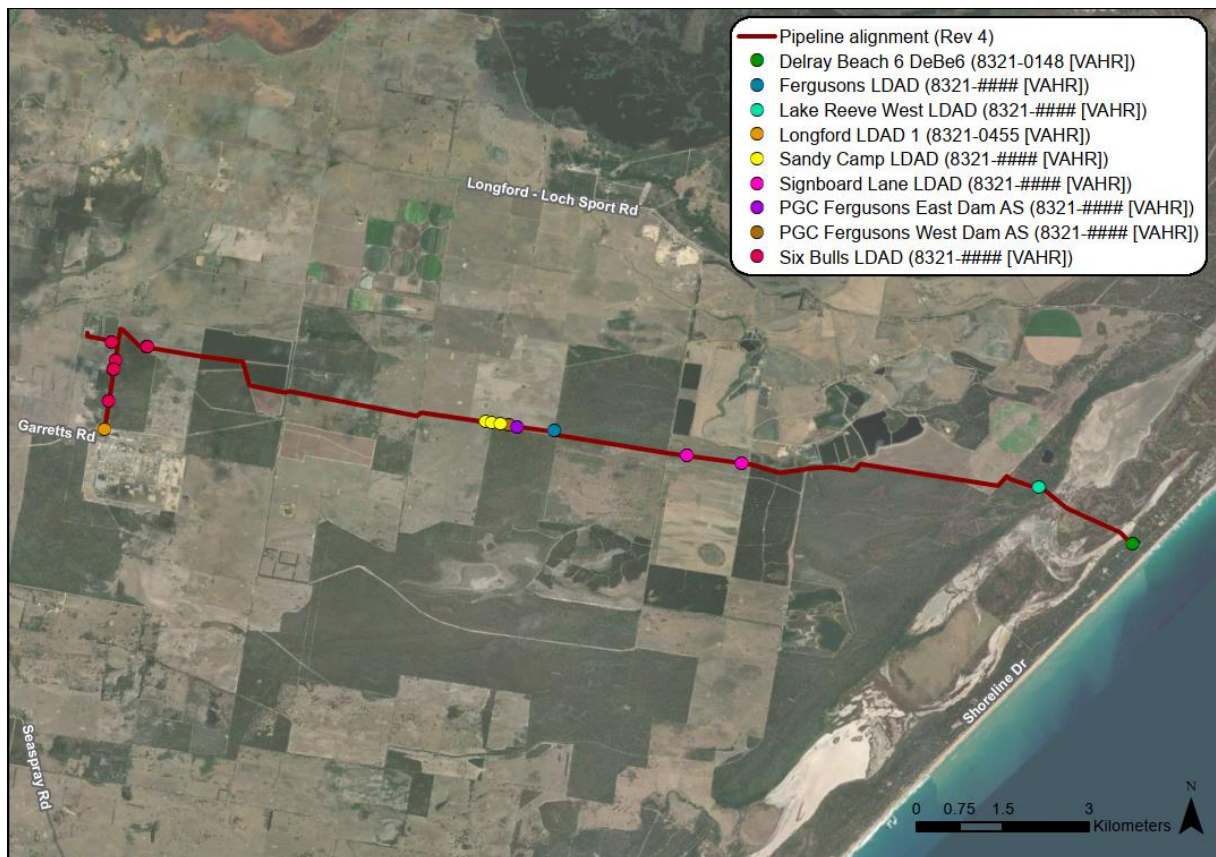


Figure 9-3: New and existing Aboriginal places that have been identified within the activity area (including Fergusons LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]) which is located outside the activity area)

By undertaking the required fieldwork assessments as part of the CHMP, the Project has been able to identify Aboriginal places within the activity area with a high degree of certainty. Identifying and understanding the Aboriginal cultural heritage present within the activity area has allowed the Project to reduce uncertainty.

Any ground disturbing works to be undertaken within the extent of these Aboriginal places (including topsoil stripping, trenching and excavation activities resulting from the construction of the Project) would result in direct impact and partial or total destruction of these places.

The RAP has indicated that total destruction of Longford LDAD 1 (8321-0455 [VAHR]), Fergusons LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]), Lake Reeve West LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]), Sandy Camp LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]), Signboard Lane LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]) and Six Bulls LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]) is acceptable and appropriate given that these places are of low scientific significance and low significance in accordance with Aboriginal tradition. No mitigation of harm to these low density artefact distributions is required. As mentioned previously, Fergusons LDAD (8321-#### [VAHR]) is located outside the activity area and therefore will not be impacted by the Project.

The RAP has indicated that disturbance to Delray Beach 6 DeBe6 (8321-0148 [VAHR]) is appropriate given that the place was unable to be relocated, may have already been destroyed, and is of low scientific significance and low significance in accordance with Aboriginal tradition. Moreover, no mitigation of harm to this shell midden is required.

The Project will partially disturb artefact scatters Fergusons East Dam AS (8321-#### [VAHR]) and Fergusons West Dam AS (8321-#### [VAHR]), however portions of these places are located outside the activity area and will be protected from harm by way of the installation of temporary fencing along the boundary of the activity area in the vicinity of these places. The partial impact to these artefact scatters is considered to be acceptable by the RAP as the places are considered to be of moderate scientific significance and moderate significance in accordance with Aboriginal tradition. Impacts to these artefacts will be mitigated by way of archaeological salvage excavations within each place.

A summary of the level of impact that is considered to be acceptable by the RAP is provided in Table 9-2. Further details are contained in **Technical Report C: Aboriginal cultural heritage**.

Table 9-2: Summary of the level of impact to each Aboriginal place that is considered acceptable by the RAP

Aboriginal place	Level of impact considered acceptable by the RAP
Delray Beach 6 DeBe6 (8321-0148 [VAHR])	Total destruction
Longford LDAD 1 (8321-0455 [VAHR])	Total destruction
Fergusons East Dam AS (8321-#### [VAHR])	Partial impact
Fergusons West Dam AS (8321-#### [VAHR])	Partial impact
Fergusons LDAD (8321-####[VAHR])	Total destruction (outside activity area)
Lake Reeve West LDAD (8321-####[VAHR])	Total destruction
Sandy Camp LDAD (8321-####[VAHR])	Total destruction
Signboard Lane LDAD (8321-####[VAHR])	Total destruction
Six Bulls LDAD (8321-####[VAHR])	Total destruction

Once approved, the CHMP will provide the necessary processes to manage and mitigate the proposed harm to these identified Aboriginal places. The preparation and approval of the CHMP, followed by the implementation of all required conditions in the approved CHMP, is in line with Section 5.5 of the *Australian Pipelines and Gas Association (APGA) Code of Environmental Practice for Onshore Pipelines* (2017).

As outlined in Section 9.9, the CHMP will provide all the necessary and appropriate mechanisms and processes by which to manage any potential harm to unknown Aboriginal places and values.

### 9.6.2 Disturbance to unknown Aboriginal ancestral remains

Aboriginal ancestral remains (burials) are known to be present in the vicinity of the activity area, on the Lake Reeve 'island'. Aboriginal ancestral remains (burials) are generally rare in the archaeological record, however it is possible that they may be present on the shores of Lake Reeve, the Lake Reeve 'island' and on the coastal dunes between Lake Reeve and Delray Beach.

Any ground disturbing works to be undertaken within the activity area may result in direct impact and possible destruction of unknown Aboriginal ancestral remains. However, due to the extensive investigations undertaken as part of the CHMP, it is considered unlikely that unknown Aboriginal ancestral remains will be present within the activity area.

The approved CHMP will provide processes to manage any harm to previously unrecorded Aboriginal ancestral remains encountered during the construction phase of the Project by way of detailed contingency plans. The preparation and approval of the CHMP, followed by the implementation of all required contingency plans in the approved CHMP, is in line with Section 5.5. of the *APGA Code of Environmental Practice for Onshore Pipelines* (2017).

## 9.7 Operation impact assessment

The operation of the Project is unlikely to impact Aboriginal cultural heritage places and values, as any impacts would result principally from the construction phase of the Project.

## 9.8 Decommissioning impact assessment

The decommissioning of the Project is unlikely to impact Aboriginal cultural heritage places and values, as any impacts would result principally from the construction phase of the Project.

## 9.9 Mitigation measures

Table 9-3 outlines the mitigation measures developed to avoid and minimise impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage. The focus of these mitigation measures is firstly avoiding impacts where possible, and secondly, developing, preparing and implementing project-specific measures to achieve acceptable outcomes for Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Table 9-3: Mitigation measures

Mitigation Measure Number	Project phase	Mitigation Measure
MM-ACH01	Construction Operation Decommissioning	<b>CHMP (#17031)</b> Project to be delivered in accordance with CHMP 17031 (currently in preparation). The Project must be delivered in accordance with the approved CHMP and typical management conditions will include (but not be limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• conditions for harm avoidance and/or harm minimisation measures</li><li>• conditions for harm mitigation measures where appropriate, including requirements for surface artefact collection and/or salvage excavations and appropriate analysis and reporting</li><li>• conditions for the removal, custody, curation and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage (artefacts) identified during the CHMP.</li></ul> The CHMP will also provide all the necessary and appropriate mechanisms and processes by which to manage any potential harm to unknown Aboriginal places and values. Typical management of unknown Aboriginal places and cultural heritage values will include, but not limited to:

Mitigation Measure Number	Project phase	Mitigation Measure
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a cultural heritage induction, with a focus on Aboriginal ancestral remains, must be attended by all personnel to be involved in ground disturbing works</li> <li>• contingency plans for the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage, including Aboriginal ancestral remains, unexpectedly identified during the construction phase of the Project</li> <li>• contingency plans for the removal, custody, curation and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage (artefacts) identified during the Project</li> <li>• review and compliance with the CHMP.</li> </ul>

Potential impacts to known and unknown Aboriginal cultural heritage places and values are well understood through the development of the CHMP for the Project which has been prepared in accordance with the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018 and approved by the RAP under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. Per table 9-2, the agreed level of impact considered acceptable by the RAP through the development of the CHMP, and representing the residual impact to Aboriginal cultural heritage is:

- Total destruction of five LDAD's, given that these places are of low scientific significance and low significance in accordance with Aboriginal tradition
- Partial impact and salvage of two artefact scatters in close proximity. The partial impact to these artefact scatters is considered to be acceptable by the RAP as the places are considered to be of moderate scientific significance and moderate significance in accordance with Aboriginal tradition.

By undertaking the required fieldwork assessments as part of the CHMP, the Project has been able to identify Aboriginal places within the activity area with a high degree of certainty. As such, the likelihood of encountering unknown Aboriginal cultural heritage is rare and unlikely to create any further residual impact to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage to what has been defined and accepted by the RAP above.

## 9.10 Conclusion

In order to prepare a CHMP for the activity area of the Project, an archaeological survey and excavation was undertaken to identify any Aboriginal cultural heritage places or objects. Seven new Aboriginal places were identified (one of which is located outside the activity area) in addition to the two previously recorded sites within the activity area.

Eight sites would be potentially impacted during construction. GLAWAC have indicated that total destruction of the five low density artefact distributions identified in the Project area is acceptable given that these places are of low scientific significance and low significance in accordance with Aboriginal tradition. No mitigation of harm to these low-density artefact distributions is required.

One shell midden that was previously recorded and was unable to be relocated and may have already been destroyed, could also be impacted by the works.

Two artefact scatters would be partially impacted, portions of these places are located outside the activity area and would be protected from harm by way of the installation of temporary fencing along the boundary of the activity area in the vicinity of these places. The partial impact to these artefact scatters is considered to be acceptable by GLAWAC as the places are deemed to be of moderate scientific significance and moderate significance in accordance with Aboriginal tradition. Impacts to these artefacts will be mitigated by way of archaeological salvage excavations within each place.

Aboriginal ancestral remains (burials) are known to be present in the vicinity of the activity area, on the Lake Reeve 'island'. Aboriginal ancestral remains are generally rare in the archaeological record, however it is possible that they may be present on the shores of Lake Reeve, the Lake Reeve 'island' and on the coastal dunes between Lake Reeve and Delray Beach. Any ground disturbing works to be undertaken within the activity area may result in direct impact and possible destruction of unknown Aboriginal ancestral remains. However, due to the extensive

investigations undertaken as part of the CHMP, it is considered unlikely that unknown Aboriginal ancestral remains will be present within the activity area.

The CHMP will outline the necessary processes to manage any proposed harm to these identified Aboriginal places. It will also include appropriate mechanisms and processes to manage any potential harm to unidentified Aboriginal places and cultural heritage values, with a particular focus on the potential for ancestral remains.

The preparation of the CHMP with the participation of the GLAWAC has allowed for Aboriginal cultural heritage values to be identified within the activity area of the Project, resulting in impacts being avoided or minimised.

In response to the EES evaluation objective described at the beginning of this chapter, impacts of the Project on the Aboriginal cultural heritage and associated values have been assessed and mitigation measures have been identified to avoid and minimise adverse effects to known and unknown Aboriginal cultural heritage places.