

**Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd**

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6 December 2023

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General Manager  
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By email: [gascode@acc.gov.au](mailto:gascode@acc.gov.au)

**Consultation Response: Proposed Determinations – Gas Market Code – Record keeping, reporting and publishing obligations**

Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd (**Esso**) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (**ACCC**) 'Proposed Determinations – Gas Market Code – Record keeping, reporting and publishing obligations' consultation paper (**Consultation Paper**).


Esso has an operating-participation interest in two joint ventures that produce oil and gas from Commonwealth waters offshore from Victoria. Gas processed at the Esso-operated Longford Gas Plants accounts for more than 40% of east coast Australia's domestically-consumed gas. In its own right, Esso sells all of its equity gas to domestic customers in Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania.

Esso is supportive of the Consultation Paper response provided to the ACCC by Australian Energy Producers.

Esso has also reviewed the Section 33 workbook in conjunction with the draft determination and our comments are included as an attachment to this letter.

Should you have any questions about Esso's response, please contact Stephen Del Monaco on 0457 504 536 or [stephen.j.delmonaco@exxonmobil.com](mailto:stephen.j.delmonaco@exxonmobil.com).

Yours faithfully,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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David Berman  
Commercial Director  
Esso Australia Pty Ltd  
For and on behalf of Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd

Attachment: Comments Section 33 workbook (gas-code-s33-workbook\_0.xlsx)

Tab	Column name(s)	Column	Column Reference	Comment / question
Agreements				Agreement type 'Master Gas Supply Agreement' will typically not include terms such as Annual Contract Quantity, Price, Take or Pay or Load Factor. Esso suggests customisation of mandatory field validation rules to reflect the nature of each Agreement type.
	Buyer's ACN	E	A1CB0005	ACNs starting with a zero are returning an error in the Excel validation. The leading zero is being 'stripped off' leaving an 8 digit value which fails the 9 digit validation.
	Buyer's ABN	F	A1AB0006	ABNs starting with a zero are returning an error in the Excel validation. The leading zero is being 'stripped off' leaving a 10 digit value which fails the 11 digit validation.
	Does the variation determine the price payable?	I	A1AV0001	Data are incorrectly validating to 11 digit input instead of Yes / No.
	Price escalation – CPI, Base Quarter & Year	AF	A1BQ0022	Data entry not possible as column is protected.
Variations				Propose ACCC provide guidance re data to be entered in event that a variation extends the term or increases the volume of a prior agreement re whether details of just the new volume or the total volume be inputted
	Buyer's ACN	D	V1CB0005	Data entered not validated.
	Buyer's ABN	E	V1AB0006	Data entered not validated.
	Annual Contract Quantity - 2023	N	V1CQ2023	Number format is date (D/MM/YYYY).
	Annual Contract Quantity - 2024	O	V1CQ2024	Number format is date (D/MM/YYYY).
	Annual Contract Quantity - 2025	P	V1CQ2025	Number format is date (D/MM/YYYY).

Tab	Column name(s)	Column	Column Reference	Comment / question
Offers				Offer type 'Gas Buyer Initial Offer' may not include all mandatory fields. Esso suggests customisation of mandatory field validation rules to reflect the nature of each Offer type.
	Buyer's ACN	G	B1AC0005	Refer comment for 'Agreements – Buyer's ACN' above (digit validation).
	Buyer's ABN	H	B1BA0005	Refer comment for 'Agreements – Buyer's ABN' above (digit validation).
	If the offer is a result of a gas EOI, specify the document identifier of the gas EOI?	I	B1GE0001	Data is incorrectly validating to 11 digit input (ABN).
	If exempt, specify the exemption type	K	B1AE0002	Drop down list of options does not include exemption types 'small supplier' or 'conditional Ministerial'.  Suggest ACCC provide guidance re how data should be recorded and reported in circumstances where more than one exemption applies.
	Did the offer proceed to an agreement?	L	B1IF0003	Only 'Yes' or 'No' inputs allowed. Section 95ZK notice templates contemplate circumstances where an offer forms part of a negotiation that has yet to conclude and hence allowed 'under consideration' as a valid input. Esso suggests ACCC consider inclusion of this option.
	Annual Contract Quantity	S – AD	B1CQ2023 – B1CQ2034	Template instructs input of "numerical digits only". Offer type 'Gas Buyer Initial Offer' may include a range of volumes. Esso suggests customisation of column instruction / mandatory field validation rules to enable input of a range of volumes.