

# FACT SHEET

## **NATURAL GAS FLARING**

#### WHAT IS FLARING?

Flaring is an important safety process that involves the controlled release and burning of natural gas. Flaring is generally undertaken at gas processing plants, such as the Iona Gas Plant, during maintenance or shutdown events or when testing a new well that is to be brought into production, such as the Seamer 2 well.

A flare looks like a large pole reaching out of the ground (a flare stack) with a flame at the end of it. Flaring can often create noise and can sometimes, understandably, create concern for neighbors and the community, especially when the flame is larger, more noisy or smokier than normal. But flaring is actually a safety procedure, acting as a pressure release valve to the gas well.

#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF FLARING?

Flaring significantly reduces the greenhouse gas emissions that would be created by simply venting the gas. When a new well is drilled for production, flaring helps to determine the flow, pressure, and composition of the gas from the well.

The flaring activity at the well site can sometimes last for several days, until the flow of liquids and gas from the well is stabilised. The flaring for the Seamer 2 well is only predicted to occur for 2 to 3 days following the drilling of the well. Flaring will be conducted during daytime work hours to reduce impact. Further details on timing will be provided as drilling draws near.

### **IS FLARING SAFE?**

Lochard Energy and its contractors follow the highest levels of safety precautions. Flaring is carried out in a highly controlled environment only after a significant amount of planning and preparation, and careful assessment of all potential risks. Lochard will implement flare management measures including the use of water carts, spotters and exclusion zones, as well as liaising with all relevant authorities.

#### WILL THERE BE ANY IMPACTS?

The process will create a flame at the top of the tall pole (the stack). Due to the pressure and velocity of the gas moving through the flare stack, you will hear some noise which can sometimes be quite loud. You may also smell the natural gas odour.

#### IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS:

Phone: 1800 848 879 Email: info@lochardenergy.com.au Website: www.lochardenergy.com.au