Golden Beach Energy Storage Project

Notification of Survey Works

The Project

The Golden Beach Energy Storage Project is a strategically located gas storage project being developed by GB Energy.

The project will initially produce natural gas from the Golden Beach Gas Field located in the Gippsland Basin, approximately 4 km offshore from the Ninety Mile Beach coastline in Victoria and close to the township of Golden Beach. The project will then transition to an underground gas storage facility, providing peak day supply to the east coast energy market.

Natural gas will be transported from the storage facility to an onshore processing plant near Longford via an underground pipeline.

Having gas in storage and available for use on peak days will help balance the energy market and ensure security of supply as more renewable energy enters the system.

Figure 1: Project Area – Golden Beach Energy Storage Project

GB Energy will be conducting non-invasive geophysical survey works between 23 March 2026 and 10 May 2026. This work will take place both onshore and offshore. More details are provided in this brochure.

Note that in order to minimise impacts on the community, no survey work will be conducted over the Easter 2026 long weekend.

GB Energy acknowledges the Gunaikurnai people as the traditional owners in our project area. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and sea country. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to elders past and present.

Offshore Geophysical Survey

An offshore Geophysical Investigation Program will be undertaken in the area between Golden Beach and Delray Beach to provide information on the safety and suitability of the seabed to support a jack-up drilling rig and a pipeline. Geophysical investigations collect seabed and shallow geological information to inform the safe location of this infrastructure.

The survey will be conducted by two vessels:

- A locally based offshore work boat suitable for the waters of the area, the "Bass Trek" will conduct the investigation approximately 4km offshore.
- A second close to shore survey at approximately 10m water depth will use a smaller work boat "Survey 1" (recreational type boat).

Figure 2 - Geophysical vessel - Bass Trek

Figure 3 - Nearshore vessel – Survey 1

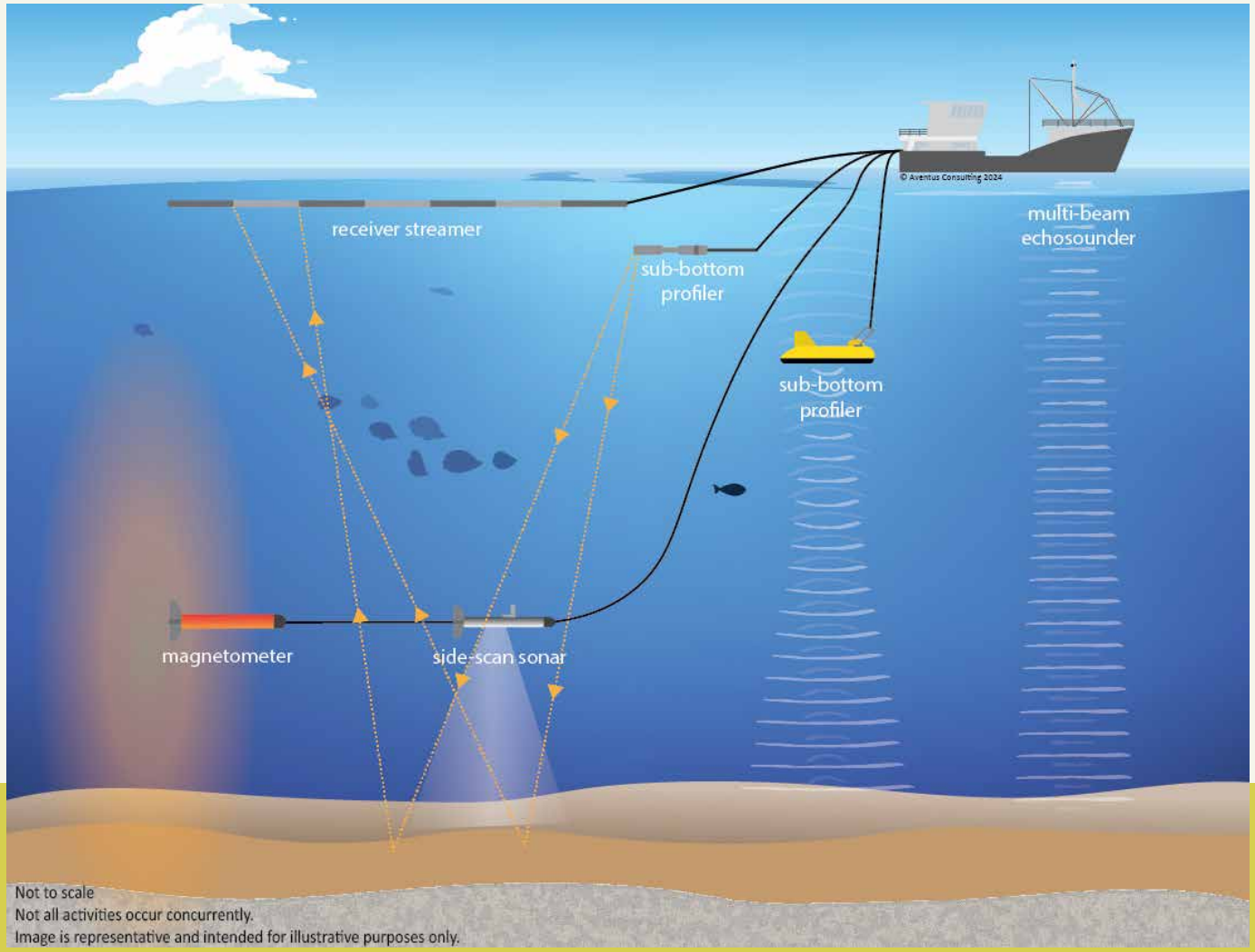

Figure 4 - A simplified representation of offshore geophysical investigation techniques.

Figure 5 – Map of the Survey Area between Golden Beach and Delray Beach

How does the Geophysical Investigations Program take place?

Geophysical investigations involve the following suite of tests:

- Assess water depths – using a multi-beam echo sounder.
- Detect seabed hazards such as pipelines, shipwrecks, reefs and anchors – using a side scan sonar.
- Map the structure and thickness of the uppermost seabed sediments (shallow geology) – using a sub-bottom profiler.
- Detect metallic objects on or below the seabed, such as cables, anchors, chains, buried pipelines – using a magnetometer.
- Map the near-surface geological hazards, such as shallow gas pockets – using a mini-airgun or sparker system.

The activity location boundary is set out by the following location coordinates

Point	Longitude	Latitude
1.	147° 21′ 09.83″ E	38° 15′ 02.84″ S
2.	147° 23′ 08.00″ E	38° 13′ 30.33″ S
3.	147° 26′ 40.17″ E	38° 14′ 08.51″ S
4.	147° 26′ 40.12″ E	38° 14′ 59.56″ S
5.	147° 25′ 19.76″ E	38° 16′ 01.19″ S

Potential impacts and risks and control measures

GB Energy is committed to conducting its Geophysical Investigations Program with minimal impact on the environment. The potential impacts and risks associated with these surveys are expected to be low.

The primary impact will be the generation of underwater noise, which is carefully managed and regulated through the approval process. This may result in temporary disruption to sound-sensitive fauna (i.e., whales, dolphins, some fish).

A Marine Mammal Observer will be present at all times. Marine Mammal Observers are trained professionals who monitor for protected species (whales, dolphins, turtles) during geophysical surveys to mitigate impacts from underwater noise. They ensure compliance with environmental regulations and enforce shutdowns in exclusion zones

Additionally, some low-level noise may result from the movement of survey vessels between local ports, berths and the survey area.

Onshore Geophysical Surveys

1. Foreshore Survey

A non-invasive geophysical survey will be conducted to better understand the subsurface materials between the Golden Beach foreshore and the proposed pipeline entry point.

The survey will cover accessible areas and existing tracks along:
- Flamingo Drive & Shoreline Drive
- The vegetated dune/back-beach corridor
- Shell Back Way
- Beach access tracks and the beach itself

There will be no digging, no drilling, and no vegetation clearing. We will use ground-based sensors to map subsurface conditions using natural and acoustic vibrations.

No heavy machinery is used for this onshore program. All equipment is portable and carried by hand.

Commitment to heritage & environment

This survey provides critical data for the shore crossing while maintaining a zero-footprint approach. By using man-portable equipment, we ensure the protection of the coastal landscape and any potential cultural heritage values in the area.

2. Lake Reeve Area Survey

A separate short survey will be conducted in the Lake Reeve area, crossing both the southern and northern arms of the lake.

This low-impact on-foot survey is conducted to identify and evaluate the presence of military munitions that may be present in the area, as this location was previously used as a Royal Australian Air Force training base. The primary goal is to reduce the risk of encountering any munitions which may cause a hazard during the construction of the project.

What to expect

- **Access:** No impacts to residential property access are expected. Works will remain at least 3m clear of road carriageways.
- **Exclusion zones:** Small, temporary areas may be coned or flagged around active survey lines for public safety.
- **Environment:** Survey lines are positioned to avoid vegetation. Sensitive habitats and dune vegetation are marked as ‘no-go’ zones for the field team.

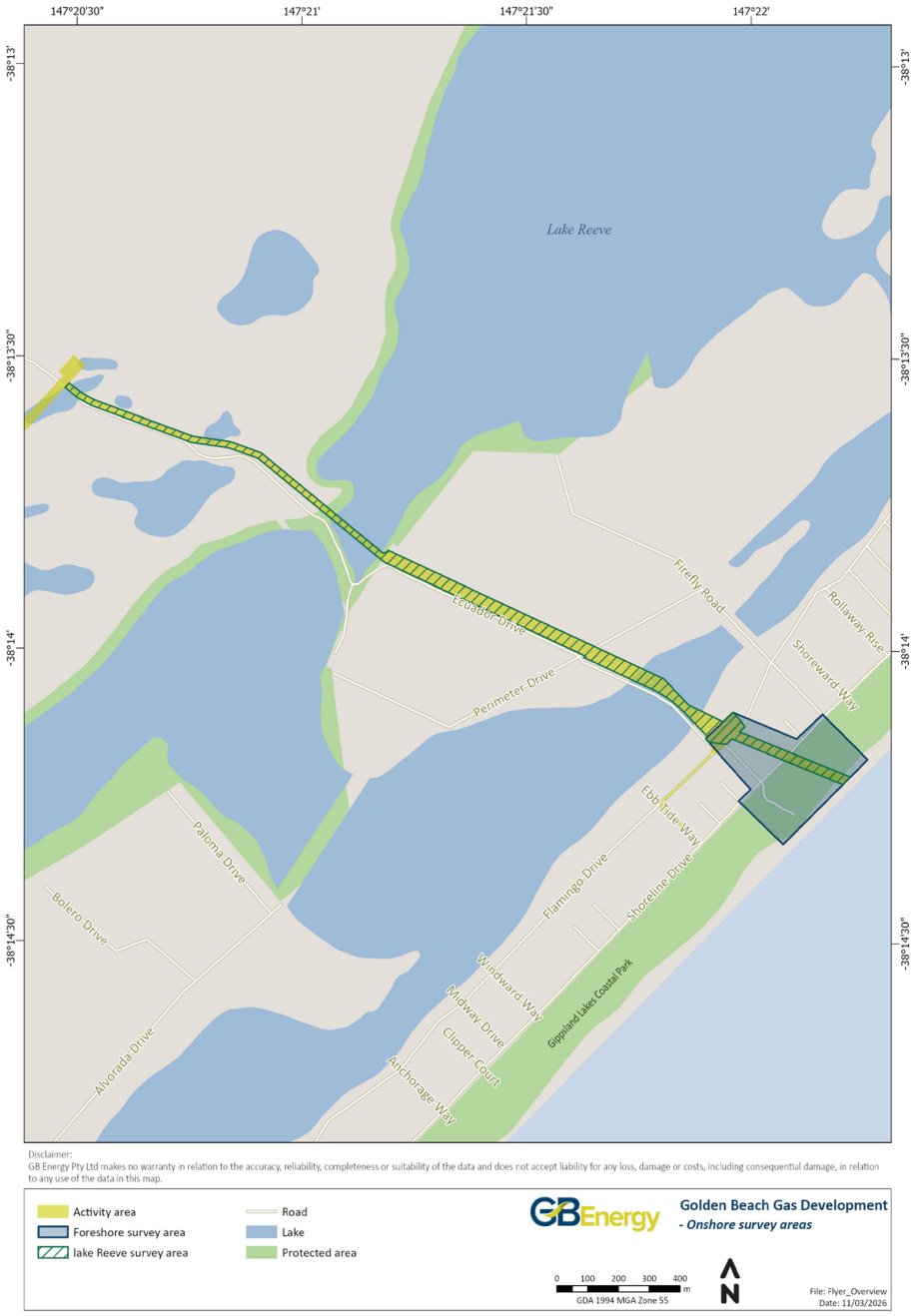

Figure 6 - Map of onshore Survey Areas

Environment Plans

Environment Plans (EP's) for these surveys have been approved by the regulator within the Victorian Government's Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA).

The EP is a comprehensive document detailing the existing environment, potential impacts and risks of the activity, and describes how the various Geophysical Investigation Programs will be conducted to manage, minimise or avoid environmental risks to be as low as reasonably practicable.

All geophysical activities will be subject to industry best practice standards and will be undertaken in accordance with all applicable environmental and safety legislation and regulations.

Copies of the approved Environment Plans for these surveys as well as other environmental approvals are published on the GB Energy website and can be accessed by clicking here

Further Information

Further details on the geophysical surveys or the project more generally can be found on the GB Energy website, www. gbenergy.com.au or by contacting us on 1800 423 637 or info@gbenergy.com.au