

Wombat Gas Project - Commercial Update

Key Highlights:

- Lakes Blue Energy's has been in discussions with several Victorian Government departments in relation to the strategic role the Wombat Gas Field could play in providing material support to Victoria's future energy security requirements.
- Lakes has prepared two briefing papers outlining the potential economic, energy and infrastructure benefits that successful development of the Wombat Project may deliver to Victoria specifically addressing.
 - Potential market contribution from the Wombat Project to future domestic gas supply given implied forecast Victorian gas supply shortfall; and
 - Examining the potential role of the Wombat Project in supporting the State Government's artificial intelligence and digital infrastructure objectives.
- These discussions clearly identify there is a very real and attractive market in Victoria for Wombat gas production. Modelling this demand for gas and field development scenarios that leverage the proximity of Wombat to gas transmission infrastructure Lakes believes that the Wombat Gas Project has the potential to underpin a A\$605 million (NPV10), 58% IRR development, with first gas targeted for Q1 2029

Lakes Blue Energy NL (ASX: LKO) (**Lakes** or the **Company**) advises that it has recently engaged in a series of constructive discussions with a number of Victorian Government departments regarding the potential role of the Wombat Gas Project in supporting Victoria's future energy requirements and emerging artificial intelligence and data infrastructure sectors.

The discussions have focused on the potential contribution of the Wombat Project to:

- improving domestic gas supply security in Victoria;
- supporting firm energy requirements associated with artificial intelligence and data centre developments;
- assisting regional development in Gippsland;
- complementing Victoria's renewable energy transition objectives; and
- supporting future industrial, digital and energy infrastructure requirements.

As part of these discussions, Lakes has prepared two briefing papers outlining potential development opportunities associated with the Wombat Project. The first paper considers projected Victorian gas supply shortfalls identified in market forecasts and outlines how future production from the Wombat Project may contribute to domestic gas supply. The second paper has been prepared at the request of Development Victoria and examines the potential role of the Wombat Project in supporting future AI-related infrastructure opportunities, including the possible development of integrated energy and data infrastructure projects in Gippsland.

Lakes emphasises that these discussions remain preliminary and do not constitute any agreement, commitment, endorsement, funding arrangement or development approval by the Victorian Government, Development Victoria or any other government agency.

Victorian Energy Context

AEMO (Australian Energy Market Operator) forecasts indicate declining Victorian domestic gas production and increasing reliance on imported gas supplies over the coming decade. Lakes believes that, should commercial production ultimately be established, the Wombat Gas Project has the potential to contribute to future domestic gas supply requirements.

Lakes also believes that local gas supply may play an important role in supporting firm energy generation requirements associated with future data centre developments and AI-related infrastructure projects. Lakes is in discussion with the Victorian Government about the role that the Wombat Gas Field can play in supporting that firm generation requirement.

Conceptual Development Study – Wombat Project

In conjunction with the engagement with the Victorian Government and utilising the data and technical studies with respect to the Wombat Gas Project, and nearby Trifon-Gangell accumulation, collected to date, Lakes has undertaken preliminary internal development studies to assess the potential economic contribution of the Wombat Project once developed.

The Wombat Project contains a certified 2C Contingent Resource of 329 Bcf¹. Further, previous independent production studies have modelled potential production rates of 50 to 55 TJ/day² from the Wombat Project under certain development scenarios. Based on these figures and the Reference Case Assumptions set out below, Lakes's conceptual study has modelled the following potential economic outcomes for the Wombat Project:

Economic Outcome

Post-tax NPV10

Post-tax IRR

Payback Period

Peak Annual Revenue

Reference Case

Approximately A\$605 million

Approximately 58%

Approximately 1.4 years from first gas

Approximately A\$265 million in 2040 (3% escalation basis)

The Parameters and Reference Case Assumptions on which Lakes's conceptual study is based are set out below:

Parameter	Reference Case Assumption
Working Interest (Lakes)	100% PRL 2
First Gas	Q1 2029
Production Life	Approximately 17 years
Total Production	Approximately 250 PJ (i.e. 240 Bcf of the current 329 Bcf 2C contingent resources at the Wombat Field)
Peak Production Rate	Up to 55 TJ/day
Initial Development Wells	8 (targeted to be drilled between 2027 and 2029)
Infill Wells	12 (targeted to be drilled in years 2029 to 2036 after first gas)
Initial Development Capital	Approximately A\$169 million
Infill Well Capital	A\$84 million (expected to be funded out of future revenue)
Abandonment Capital	Approximately A\$38 million (expected to be funded out of future revenue)
Plant Availability	96%
Reference Gas Price	A\$12/GJ
Discount Rate	10%
Royalties	Approximately 22% (Government and Lakes Royalty Trust)
Corporate Tax Rate	30%

The Reference Case Assumptions are further discussed and are the subject of the sensitivity analysis set out in Appendix 1.

Conceptual Study Assumptions

Lakes's conceptual study with regards to the economic potential of the Wombat Project is subject to the following key assumptions:

Key Assumptions	Discussion
Successful remediation of Wombat-5	The reference case assumes the planned Wombat-5 workover and remediation program is completed successfully and restores the well to suitable condition for flow testing and production. Lakes considers this reasonable on the basis of the engineering assessment underpinning the current remediation plan and the well and reservoir data obtained to date.
Future development well performance	Each well is assumed to perform in line with the type-curve and rate assumptions derived from the previous independent production studies for the Wombat reservoir. Lakes considers this reasonable given those studies reflect the field's geological and reservoir characterisation.
Pressure and permeability characteristics	Reservoir pressure and permeability are assumed to be consistent with values interpreted from existing well, log and test data. These parameters are considered reasonable on the basis of that data.
Future drilling outcomes	The 8 initial and 12 infill wells are assumed to be drilled successfully and to encounter reservoir consistent with the geological model. Prior to development drilling a 3D seismic survey will be conducted over the whole Wombat structure. Lakes considers that historic well data and 3D seismic interpretation will support optimum development well placement, while recognising drilling always carries some geological and operational risk.
Infrastructure availability	The study assumes timely access to existing pipeline infrastructure required to deliver gas to market. This is considered reasonable given the project's proximity to existing infrastructure and initial discussions with pipeline operators.
Availability of contractors, equipment and services	Drilling rigs, contractors, equipment and services are assumed to be available at the times and costs used in the model. This is considered reasonable in the context of current Australian onshore oil and gas sector conditions, recognising availability and cost are subject to market cycles.

No material adverse changes in economic, market or regulatory conditions.

The reference case assumes no material adverse change in economic, commodity market, fiscal or regulatory conditions over the development and production period. This is a standard modelling assumption; the impact of variation is addressed in the key risks below and the sensitivity analysis in Appendix 1.

Further, the conceptual model is particularly sensitive to future gas production rates. The assumed peak production rates of up to 55 TJ/day are derived from historical production studies and the vast majority of the assumptions set out above will impact peak production rates. Actual production rates may differ materially from those assumed in the conceptual study. Lower production rates would be expected to reduce project revenues, net present value, internal rates of return, annual cash flows and payback periods. Variations in production rates may also materially affect development timing, project capital requirements and estimated financial outcomes.

Conceptual Study Risks

Lakes's conceptual study with regards to the economic potential of the Wombat Project is subject to the following key risks:

Key Risks

Regulatory Approval Risk

Discussion

Lakes will need multiple regulatory consents, approvals and renewals before it is able to achieve first gas from the Wombat Project. A failure to obtain any of those consents, approvals or renewals would mean that the ability of Lakes to develop the Wombat Project will be limited or restricted either in part or absolutely. Further, where consents, approvals or renewals are granted, they may be on terms that are not acceptable to Lakes or otherwise are not contemplated by Lakes conceptual study. All of which may adversely impact the economic outcomes projected by the conceptual study.

Funding and Financing Risk

Lakes will need to raise funds to develop the Wombat Project, estimated to be \$169 million in the conceptual model. There is no assurance that Lakes will be able to secure sufficient funding whether by way of debt, equity or otherwise.

If Lakes is able to secure additional funding, there is no assurance that such funding will be on terms which are acceptable to Lakes or its shareholders; or that such funding will be sufficient to finance Lakes until it is able to generate cashflow from the sale of its products. Further, if Lakes is only able secure financing in part, it may delay its development of the Wombat Project, which will further impact on when it is

able to obtain first gas, and the economic outcomes projected by the conceptual study.

Additional equity funding will dilute the holdings of existing shareholders.

Development and Execution Risk

Development of the Wombat Project requires drilling of initial and infill wells, construction and commissioning of processing and related facilities, and integration with existing infrastructure. Projects of this nature carry risks of cost overrun, schedule delay, contractor or equipment unavailability, technical and operational difficulty, and failure to achieve design throughput. Any of these risks may increase the capital assumed in the conceptual study, delay first gas beyond the assumed Q1 2029, or reduce production. Each of these adverse scenarios would negatively impact the modelled economic outcomes projected by the conceptual study.

Reservoir Performance Risk

The conceptual study relies on assumptions regarding reservoir deliverability, pressure, porosity, permeability and recovery derived from previous independent studies and existing well data. The reservoir may not perform as assumed actual flow rates, decline behaviour, water production or recoverable volumes may differ from modelled values, and the assumed peak of up to 55 TJ/day and recovery of approximately 240 Bcf (of the 329 Bcf 2C Contingent Resource) may not be achieved. Lower reservoir performance would reduce production, revenue, net present value and internal rate of return, and may require additional wells or capital.

Production Risk

Sustained commercial production has not yet been demonstrated for the Wombat Gas Project. Production may be affected by well integrity issues, plant availability below the assumed 96%, deliverability constraints, gas quality, or the need for infill drilling earlier or with greater frequency than assumed.

Infrastructure Risk

The development assumes timely access to processing, pipeline, compression and related infrastructure on commercially acceptable terms. Such access may not be available when required, may be on less favourable terms than assumed, or may require additional capital from Lakes. Constraints on, or the cost of, third-party or shared infrastructure could delay the project and increase capital or operating costs, adversely affecting the projected economic outcomes.

Environmental and Permitting Risk

Issues can arise from time to time with respect to obtaining environmental approvals, abandonment bonds and costs, consequential clean-up costs and environmental concerns.

Market Demand Risk

While the conceptual study has factored in a cost for the abandonment and rehabilitation of development wells drilled for the Wombat Project, it is not possible to quantify any such contingent liability or any changes to environmental legislation that could lead to future liabilities. Further, the law governing environmental protection is constantly evolving. Future laws and regulations may be more onerous, resulting in an increase to the costs of Lakes's operations.

The sensitivity analysis set out in Appendix 1 demonstrates the impact that fluctuations in abandonment and rehabilitation costs can have on the conceptual study, however, there is no guarantee that fluctuations will be limited to the parameters assumed in the sensitivity analysis.

The supply and demand for commodities (especially oil and gas), prices of those commodities, exchange rates, Australia's inflation rates, taxation laws and interest rates are all in constant state of flux. All these factors have a bearing on Lakes's operating costs and its potential revenue. Further, energy prices are volatile and cannot be controlled. Energy prices have fluctuated widely in recent years, and if the price of hydrocarbons falls significantly and remains depressed, this could affect the revenue that Lakes is able to generate from the Wombat Project and therefore the economic outcomes projected by the conceptual study.

The sensitivity analysis set out in Appendix 1 demonstrates the impact that fluctuations in the price of gas and the corporate tax rate can have on the conceptual study, however, there is no guarantee that fluctuations will be limited to the parameters assumed in the sensitivity analysis.

Lakes cautions that the conceptual study and the derived forecast financial information presented above is based on numerous assumptions relating to production rates, gas prices, capital expenditure, operating costs, development timing, financing, regulatory approvals and market conditions, and is subject to various risks, the realisation of any of which can have a material adverse impact on the outcome of the conceptual study and the future of Lakes. There can be no assurance that these assumptions will be realised, or that those risks will not arise. Accordingly, actual results may differ materially from those presented and no final investment decision may be made in favour of developing the project. Further, Lakes cautions investors that the production rates used in the conceptual development studies have **not** yet been demonstrated by sustained commercial production testing.

Reasonable Grounds Statement

Having taken into consideration the assumptions and risks associated with the conceptual study, and the resultant forecast financial information set out above, Lakes considers that it has reasonable grounds for the production targets and forecast financial information contained in this announcement based upon:

- the existing certified 2C Contingent Resources of the Wombat Project;
- previous independent production studies;
- historical reservoir and well data;
- Wombat-5 drilling and testing results obtained to date;
- current remediation and workover planning activities;
- conceptual development studies undertaken by Lakes; and
- management's assessment of the technical and commercial development potential of the Wombat Project.

Whilst Lakes believes that it has reasonable grounds to make these forecasts, it nevertheless cautions that the production targets remain subject to significant technical, commercial, regulatory and funding risks.

Contingent Resources and Reserves

Lakes has not yet established Petroleum Reserves for the Wombat Project. The production targets and forecast financial information referred to in this announcement are based upon Contingent Resources. The estimated quantities of petroleum that may potentially be recovered by the application of future development projects relate to Contingent Resources and not Reserves.

There is no certainty that further appraisal work, well remediation activities, testing programs or future development activities will result in the conversion of Contingent Resources to Reserves. There is also no certainty that the development scenarios contemplated by Lakes will be realised.

Competent Person and Resource Information

Lakes confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in previous announcements regarding the Wombat and Trifon-Gangell Contingent Resources and confirms that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning those estimates continue to apply and have not materially changed.

The estimated quantities of petroleum that may potentially be recovered by the application of future development projects relate to Contingent Resources. These estimates have both an associated risk of development and an associated risk of commerciality. Further appraisal and evaluation work is required to determine the existence of economically recoverable reserves.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Lakes Blue Energy.

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Appendices

- 1 Key parameters, discussion and sensitivity analysis
- 2 Additional financial disclosure
- 3 Wombat Regulator Flyer
- 4 Wombat AI Data Centre Flyer

References

1 Wombat, Trifon-Gangell Gas Fields Source of Contingent Resources estimate: "Technical GIIP and EUR Estimate Update Post Wombat #4: Wombat Field", June 2010, Gaffney, Cline and Associates.

2 Source of Wombat-5 gas production potential: "Production Forecast for the Proposed Lakes Oil Wombat 5", September 2013, Stimulation Petrophysics Consulting LLC. Subject to a 12% royalty

APPENDIX 1

Key parameters, discussion and sensitivity analysis

Production Targets and Forecast Financial Information

The production targets and forecast financial information contained in this announcement are derived from Lakes's conceptual development studies for the Wombat Project. The production targets are based on estimated future production from the Wombat Project and associated development assumptions. The forecast financial information, including estimated NPV, IRR, payback periods and revenue estimates, has been derived from these production targets.

The reference case assumptions with regards to the parameters that underpin the financial forecasts in this announcement, and the basis for those assumptions is set out below:

Reference Case Assumption	Basis for Assumption
Working Interest of 100%	Lakes holds a 100% working interest in Petroleum Retention Licence (PRL) 2, which contains the Wombat field; the economics are modelled on that basis.
First Gas at Q1 2029	Reflects the assumed schedule; allowing for final investment decision to be reached at Q2 2027 end, followed by an approximately 18-month program of detailed design, construction, installation and commissioning.
Production Life of 17 years	Derived from the modelled production profile, under which the field produces from Q1 2029 until the recovery cap is reached in approximately Q1 2046.
Total Production of ~250 PJ	Represent recoverable sales gas of approximately 240 Bcf, being approximately 72% of the Wombat Field's certified 329 Bcf 2C Contingent Resource.
Peak Production Rate of 55 TJ/day	Previous independent production studies modelled peak rates of 50-55 TJ/day; the conceptual study's modelled peak is approximately 54 TJ/day, achieved early in field life.

Reference Case Assumption

8 Initial Development Wells

12 Infill Wells

Initial Development Capital requirement of \$169 million

Infill Well Capital requirement of \$84 million

Abandonment Capital requirement of \$38 million

Plant Availability of 96%

Reference Gas Price of A\$12/GJ

Discount Rate of 10%

Basis for Assumption

The number of initial wells assumed in the prior development studies to establish plateau production, drilled during the 2027-2028 construction period.

Additional wells assumed to be drilled progressively over 2032-2036 to maintain plateau production and maximise resource recovery as initial wells decline.

Comprises the processing plant and pipeline/facilities (approximately \$113 million) and the 8 initial development wells (approximately \$56 million).

The cost of the 12 infill wells (approximately \$7 million per well), incurred progressively over 2029-2036 and assumed to be funded from project cashflow.

The estimated cost of well abandonment and site rehabilitation at the end of field life, included as a cost in the final period and assumed to be funded from project cash flow.

Assumes the facilities have a downtime of 14 days per year, for planned and unplanned maintenance, a standard assumption for facilities of this type.

Set deliberately at the low end of Lakes' price assumptions, escalated at 3% per annum, providing a conservative basis for the reference case.

Consistent with rates commonly applied to resource projects in the current financial climate; "NPV10" denotes net present values at this rate.

Reference Case Assumption

Royalties of 22%

Corporate Tax Rate of 30%

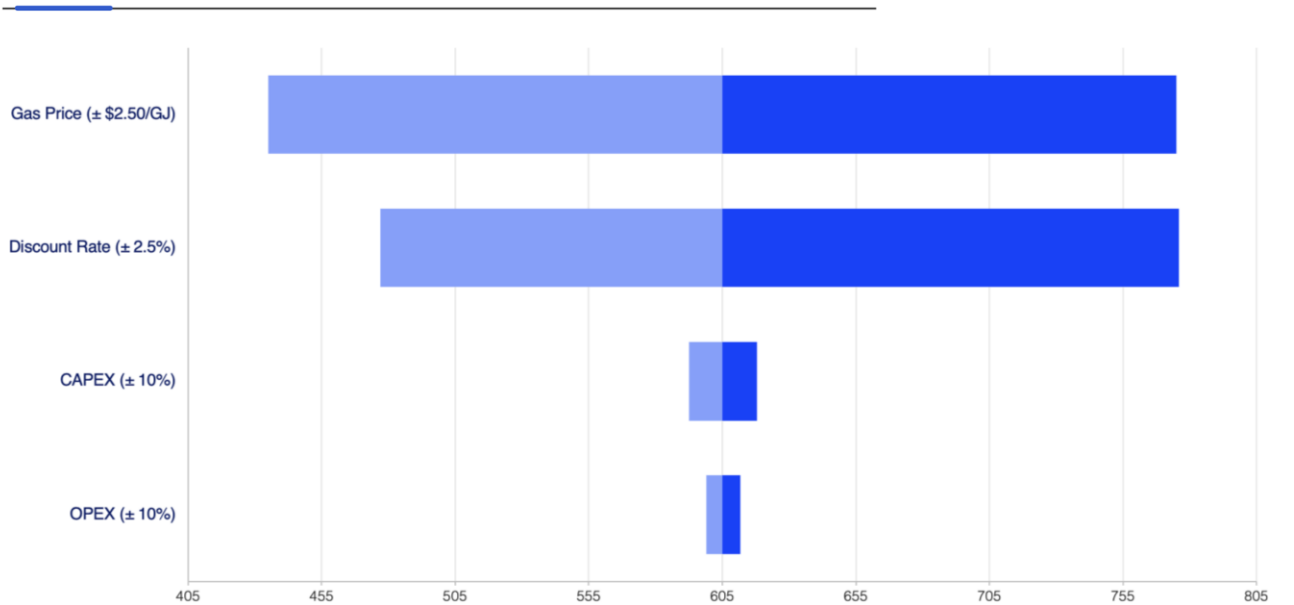
Basis for Assumption

Comprises a State royalty of 10% and a 12% Trustholder royalty, totalling 22% and applied per the applicable royalty arrangements.

Australian Corporate Income Tax Rate.

A sensitivity analysis of the key reference case assumptions is set out below to demonstrate a material change in those assumptions:

Wombat Project NPV₁₀ Tornado (A\$M), Base Case (\$12.00/GJ)



APPENDIX 2

Additional financial disclosure

WOMBAT BUSINESS CASE

~250 PJ

Wombat Resource
2C Contingent

~17 years

Production Life
Indicative

~55 TJ/d

Peak Rate
Subject to approved development plan

100%

Domestic Market
LKO Commitment

Investment highlights



Significant upside

Trifon Gangell 390 bcf (2C) and Baragwanath 700 bcf prospective resource beyond the base case.



Fast to market

First gas in ~2 years using nearby existing infrastructure.



Domestic focus

LKO has committed to delivering all PRL 2 gas to the domestic market.



Lowest-emissions gas

Impurity-free (no CO₂, H₂S, mercury) — minimal processing, low emissions.

Indicative average annual revenue at peak production

Gas price	Life-of-field revenue	Avg annual revenue	Peak annual
A\$8/GJ	A\$2,016M	A\$119M/yr	A\$161M/yr
A\$10/GJ	A\$2,520M	A\$148M/yr	A\$201M/yr
A\$12/GJ ★	A\$3,024M	A\$178M/yr	A\$241M/yr
A\$14/GJ	A\$3,528M	A\$208M/yr	A\$281M/yr
A\$16/GJ	A\$4,032M	A\$237M/yr	A\$321M/yr
A\$18/GJ	A\$4,536M	A\$267M/yr	A\$361M/yr
A\$20/GJ	A\$5,040M	A\$296M/yr	A\$402M/yr

★ Reference price (A\$12/GJ). Peak annual figures based on ~55TJ/d on a non-escalated basis.

WOMBAT ECONOMIC BASE CASE

A\$605M

NPV
post-tax, ungeared

57.6%

IRR
real, ungeared

4.1x

PROFITABILITY INDEX
PV in + PV capex

~1.4 yrs

PAYBACK
from first gas

Investment highlights



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Trifon Gangell 390 bcf (2C) and Baragwanath 700 bcf prospective resource beyond the base case.



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Lowest-emissions gas

Impurity-free (no CO₂, H₂S, mercury) — minimal processing, low emissions.

Base case assumptions

PRODUCTION & RESERVES

- 100% working interest, PRL 2
- First gas Q1 2029
- ~252 PJ over ~17 years
- Peak ~55 TJ/d
- Infill below 40 TJ/d

FISCAL & VALUATION

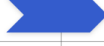
- 10% discount rate
- 30% corporate tax rate
- A\$100M carried-forward tax losses
- Royalties 10% state + 12% overriding
- Gas price A\$12.00/GJ, 3% escalation per year

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

- ~A\$169M to first gas
- Plant, A\$86M
- 8 initial wells, A\$56M
- Pipelines & flowlines, A\$27M
- 12 infill wells, A\$84M
- Abandonment 15%

OPERATING EXPENDITURE

- Fixed A\$3.2M/yr (plant, pipeline, G&A)
- Variable A\$0.50/bcf pipeline tariff
- 96% uptime
- 5% fuel, flare & own-use

Activity	2026				2027				2028			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Wombat 5 Well Test Planning												
Test Wombat 5												
Pre FEED Study												
Resource Certification												
FEED												
FID												
Detailed Design & Construction												
Install & Commission												
First Gas												

APPENDIX 3

Wombat Regulator Flyer

Wombat Gas Field Update

Targeted remediation to progress new domestic gas supply for Gippsland Victoria

Current Status: gas confirmed, flow restriction diagnosed and solved

Production testing and pressure build-up data support the presence of a gas-charged Wombat reservoir. Three gas-bearing zones have been confirmed across the approximately 1,500 metre horizontal section, with gas shows observed from methane through to pentane.

The key issue is not a lack of gas evidence. The well has identified a minimum of 237 metres of high-quality gas-saturated sands behind casing. Following detailed investigations, the current flow restriction is attributed to near-wellbore formation damage from drilling-fluid invasion and clay swelling, creating high formation skin and reducing connectivity between the wellbore and the reservoir.

Lakes has now moved from diagnosis to remedy and execution planning: the remedial program is targeted, technically defined and being advanced through the required regulatory pathway.

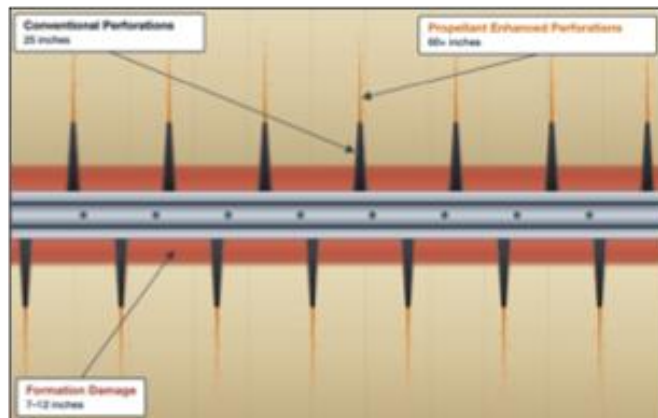


Figure 1. Wombat-5 remediation concept: propellant enhanced perforating is designed to bypass near-wellbore damage and access clean gas-bearing sands

Defined Workover & Flow-Test Pathway

1	Completion Fluid Compatibility Core and cuttings testing is being used to select a reservoir-compatible, non-damaging completion fluid before new gas-bearing sands are exposed.
2	Propellant Enhanced Perforating A minimum of 156 meters of the highest-quality gas-bearing sands are targeted. The perforating system under consideration provides ~60 inches of penetration, compared with an estimated 7-12 inch damaged zone.
3	Controlled Flow Testing The well will be flowed at controlled rates, shut in, and monitored to establish baseline flow performance from the newly perforated intervals.

Execution Discipline & Regulator Interface

Lakes has prepared a draft variation to the Wombat-5 Operating Plan and is working closely with the regulator to finalise the amended plan. The next phase is targeted for late August 2026, subject to regulatory approvals, completion of fluid testing and availability of equipment and services.

Industry leading specialist service providers are engaged across the technical work streams. Specific company names should remain withheld until they are cleared for public release.

This is a conventional onshore gas appraisal and testing program. The objective is a controlled, evidence-based workover that should allow Wombat-5 to demonstrate commercial flow.

Why This Project Matters for Victoria

Based on current projected profiles Victoria is projected to become a net gas importer by 2029. AEMO's latest Victorian gas outlook improves the near-term picture, but the long-term strategic limitations remain. By 2030, AEMO forecasts an available production of 114 PJ against a state total consumption figure of 154 PJ. **That is a 40 PJ annual production-consumption gap** before considering the shortfall risk of neighbouring states and winter demand pressure in Victoria and Summer demand in Queensland.

Wombat's potential contribution is material. Current modelling predicts supply of up to 20 PJ annually, supporting energy reliability and affordability in the exact window where Victoria is expected to become increasingly dependent on imported gas. Figure 2 below provides a clear visual outline of the importance of the domestic market contributions of the project.

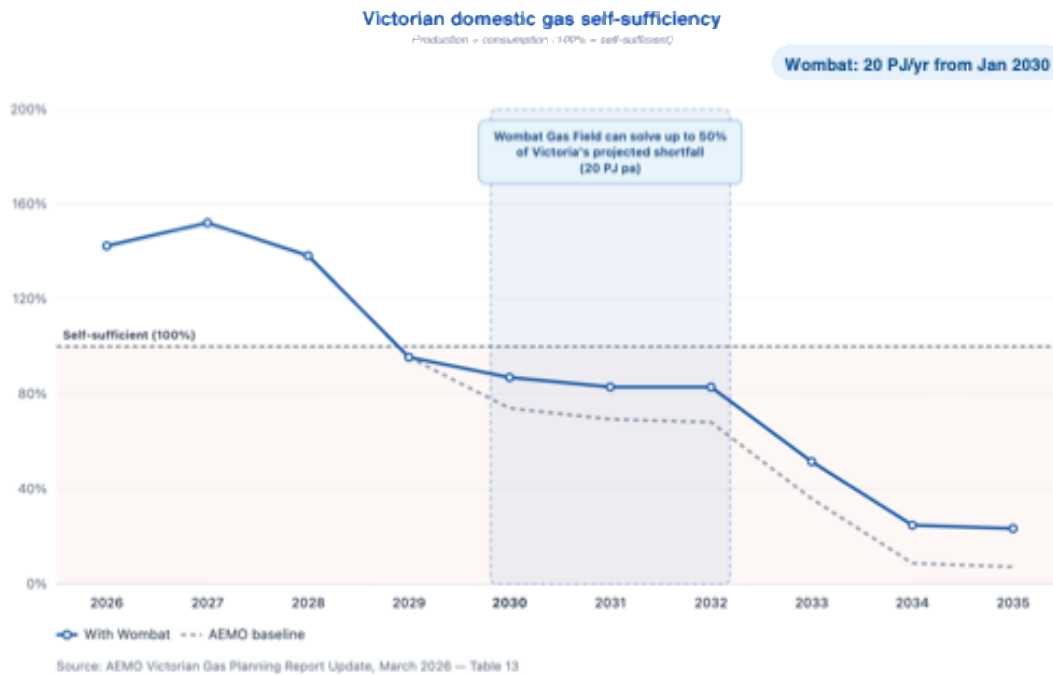


Figure 2. Wombat Supply Impact – Victorian Domestic Market

Domestic Contribution: what Wombat offers Victoria

Strategic placement

Wombat is in the Gippsland energy corridor, ~20 km from the Longford gas plant; the project ties in with existing infrastructure.

Winter supply security

Local gas supply is strategically valuable during winter, low renewable output periods, and gas-powered generation events.

Domestic market uplift

Wombat can contribute approximately 55 TJ per day of committed Victorian supply scale.

Gas policy alignment

The government are securing future supplies exclusively for Victorian manufacturers to protect local jobs and avoid shortfalls.

Practical Regulatory Outlook

The operations plan for the remedial work on Wombat-5 has been finalised and submitted to the regulator.

Subject to regulatory approval it is envisaged that the Wombat-5 remedial work will commence in early September 2026.

Wombat is moving from uncertainty to a defined remediation and test program. Lakes looks forward to efficient collaboration with all stakeholders to deliver this critical asset to the domestic market.

APPENDIX 4

Wombat AI Data Centre Flyer

Wombat Gas Field: Driving Victoria's AI Data Centre Requirements

Firm power and transmission-ready data infrastructure for Gippsland Victoria's AI economy

Victoria's AI-power constraint

Victoria is actively coordinating data-centre investment and AI capability, but that ambition is currently constrained by firm electricity supply. Modern AI and hyperscale data centres need high-density, always-on power; land availability and customer appetite only matter if dispatchable capacity can be delivered when needed.

Offshore wind remains a critical long-term pillar for Gippsland. The practical issue is timing: auctions, approvals, grid works and construction must progress before commercial capacity can reach scale. The Wombat Gas Field (WGF), in Gippsland, owned by Lakes Blue Energy (Lakes) is positioned as the near-term bridge - local, dispatchable energy that can enable early AI/data-centre load while offshore wind, storage and transmission mature.

Wombat can underpin up to ~55 TJ/day (20PJ/pa) of local gas supply — enough for ~250 MW of firm, dispatchable generation supported by Lakes Freehold Land

Project Background

WGF is a conventional onshore gas resource in Gippsland, Victoria's established energy corridor, with proximity to the Longford gas plant, the Latrobe Valley and the declared Gippsland offshore-wind transmission corridor.

- **Location:** ~20 km from the Longford gas plant hub and ~50 km from Latrobe Valley / Loy Yang power grid infrastructure.
- **Resource:** 329 Bcf certified 2C recoverable resource at Wombat, 390 Bcf at Trifon-Gangell*. 1BCF equals 1.05PJ of methane
- **Gas quality:** relatively dry, near pipeline-quality conventional gas with modest processing expected.
- **Corridor fit:** a potential connection can be planned around the Giffard-to-Loy Yang offshore-wind corridor, or by connecting Wombat to the gas grid (20km) nearby.
- **Development setting:** Lakes land and a regional workforce already familiar with major energy infrastructure.

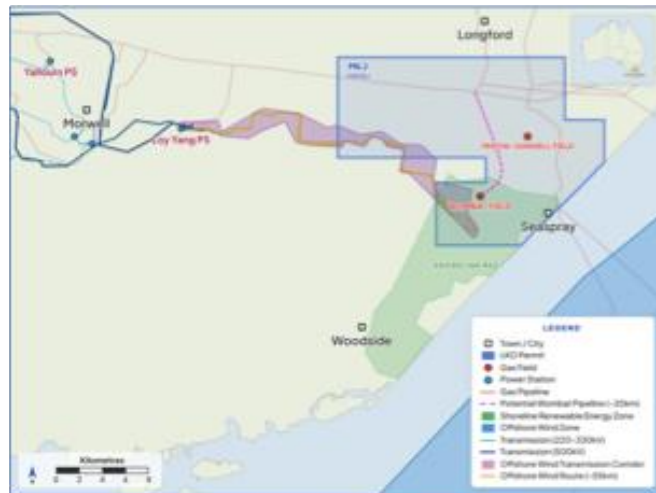


Figure 1. Strategic location near Longford and the Gippsland offshore-wind corridor

Scale & Reliability

Wombat is best positioned as an integrated energy and data-infrastructure project: staged local gas production, behind-the-meter firm power, transmission optionality and AI-ready data-centre capacity.

719 Bcf Wombat + Trifon/Gangell	~55 TJ/day** full-field supply potential	~250 MW firm power potential	~55 km Giffard-Loy Yang corridor	Q4 2028 target first commercial gas
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- **Staged pathway:** start as a firm-power and offtake-led project, then expand as AI/data-centre demand is contracted.
- **Transmission optionality:** front-end the offshore wind corridor by creating early utilisation and strategic load before offshore wind reaches scale.
- **Transition role:** gas-backed firming complements renewables during low wind/solar output and peak winter demand.
- **Approvals discipline:** timing remains subject to Wombat-5 deliverability, approvals, route selection, grid studies and FID.

*Source of Centigrade Resources estimate: "Backstop GWP and EUR Estimate Update Post Wombat F4: Wombat Field", June 2015, Gulfbay, China and Associates.

**Source of Wombat-5 gas production potential: "Production Forecast for the Proposed Latrobe Oil Wombat F", September 2013, Edmondson Persephysis Consulting LLC.

Project Overview & Delivery

The proposed development integrates local gas supply, modular firm generation, a transmission-ready connection strategy and a staged AI/data-centre campus.

- **Local supply:** conventional onshore resource near Longford and existing gas infrastructure.
- **Firm power:** dedicated AI data-centre power generation at Wombat wellsite, or via direct gas supply to the AI campus at Morwell.
- **Transmission corridor:** an indicative ~50-55 km pathway from Wombat to the Latrobe Valley high-voltage transmission backbone; potential strategic opportunity to utilise offshore-wind transmission corridor.
- **Data precinct:** land, fuel and firm capacity scaled progressively as offtake is secured.

Transmission Led Bridge Strategy

~50-55 km Indicative corridor to Latrobe Valley	VicGrid is already developing a 500 kV Giffard-to-Loy Yang transmission corridor for Gippsland offshore wind. Wombat can be framed as an early-load, early-utilisation project for the same corridor: it does not compete with offshore wind; it can front-end the infrastructure pathway that offshore wind will ultimately use. Positioning: dispatchable capacity now, with renewable integration optionality as offshore wind and storage reach scale.
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The bridge Victoria needs before offshore wind reaches scale

- **Demand is arriving now:** AEMO-commissioned forecasts show Melbourne data-centre consumption rising from 0.8 TWh today to 8% of Victoria's grid-supplied energy by FY30 under Step Change.
- **Firming risk is increasing:** AEMO's 2026 Victorian update forecasts production falling materially through 2030 and gas-powered generation usage rising as coal closures occur.
- **Offshore wind is essential but later:** Victoria targets at least 2 GW by 2032, 4 GW by 2035 and 9 GW by 2040, while transmission development, EES, tender and construction processes continue.
- **Wombat fills the bridge window:** local dispatchable supply can anchor early AI infrastructure while offshore wind, storage and grid projects mature.

Alignment with Government Priorities

The concept aligns with Victoria's data-centre investment agenda, regional development priorities and energy-system resilience needs.

Investment attraction Firm power and a staged campus make Victoria more bankable for hyperscale and AI operators.	Regional development Gippsland skills, land and existing energy infrastructure become part of the AI economy.
System resilience Dispatchable generation supports renewables during peak demand and low renewable output periods.	Practical transition A bridge asset that complements, rather than displaces, offshore wind and storage.

Invitation to Partner

We are engaging with government, hyperscale data-centre operators, power developers, industrial energy users and infrastructure investors to shape the staged development concept, offtake structure, transmission strategy and power-market integration.

This is an opportunity to secure near-term firm power and data-infrastructure capacity in Victoria's energy hub, while front-ending the infrastructure pathway that offshore wind will ultimately use.

We invite you to begin a direct conversation with us.

