

FACT SHEET

Kipper Tuna Turrum Project Offshore Installation

Work on the Kipper Tuna Turrum Project (KTT) is well underway, and there's a big focus on offshore activity in the coming months. In previous years there has been a huge amount of engineering, planning and preparation, along with construction of new facilities and installation of pipelines, but 2011 is going to be one of the busiest years as we install major pieces of equipment offshore.

In April and May, we will have around 600 people busily working offshore to get the Kipper subsea equipment into place on the sea bed, and the huge Marlin B jacket launched and secured to the sea floor.



The DB30 will install the platform.

A large offshore construction derrick barge, called the DB30, is being used to firstly lift the large Kipper subsea equipment – four coolers and a manifold – off a large cargo barge and position them precisely on to the sea bed. The DB30 will then install the Marlin B platform.

What's a launch?

Marlin B, which will produce oil and gas from the Turrum field, will be one of the biggest steel platforms in Bass Strait. In April, we expect to “launch” the jacket. The jacket can best be described as the substructure or base of the platform.



Marlin B Jacket float off in Westernport Bay.

To launch the jacket, it is slid off a barge and into the water, where it uprights itself due to the affixed buoyancy tanks. After this, the DB30 uses a crane to carry the up-righted jacket into location near the existing Marlin A platform.

Piles (heavy supporting columns) are then drilled 19 to 60 metres into the seabed using a large underwater hydraulic hammer and a drill rig. The piles are cemented to the foundation so that the entire jacket structure is anchored to the sea floor. This takes approximately eight weeks to complete. You can watch an animated video of the process at www.exxonmobil.com.au/ktt.

This is an immense amount of work and, as with all ExxonMobil projects, the focus will be on safety and the environment. We have put a lot of work into developing safety and environmental management plans to make sure that nobody gets hurt and there is no harm to the environment.

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What happens next?

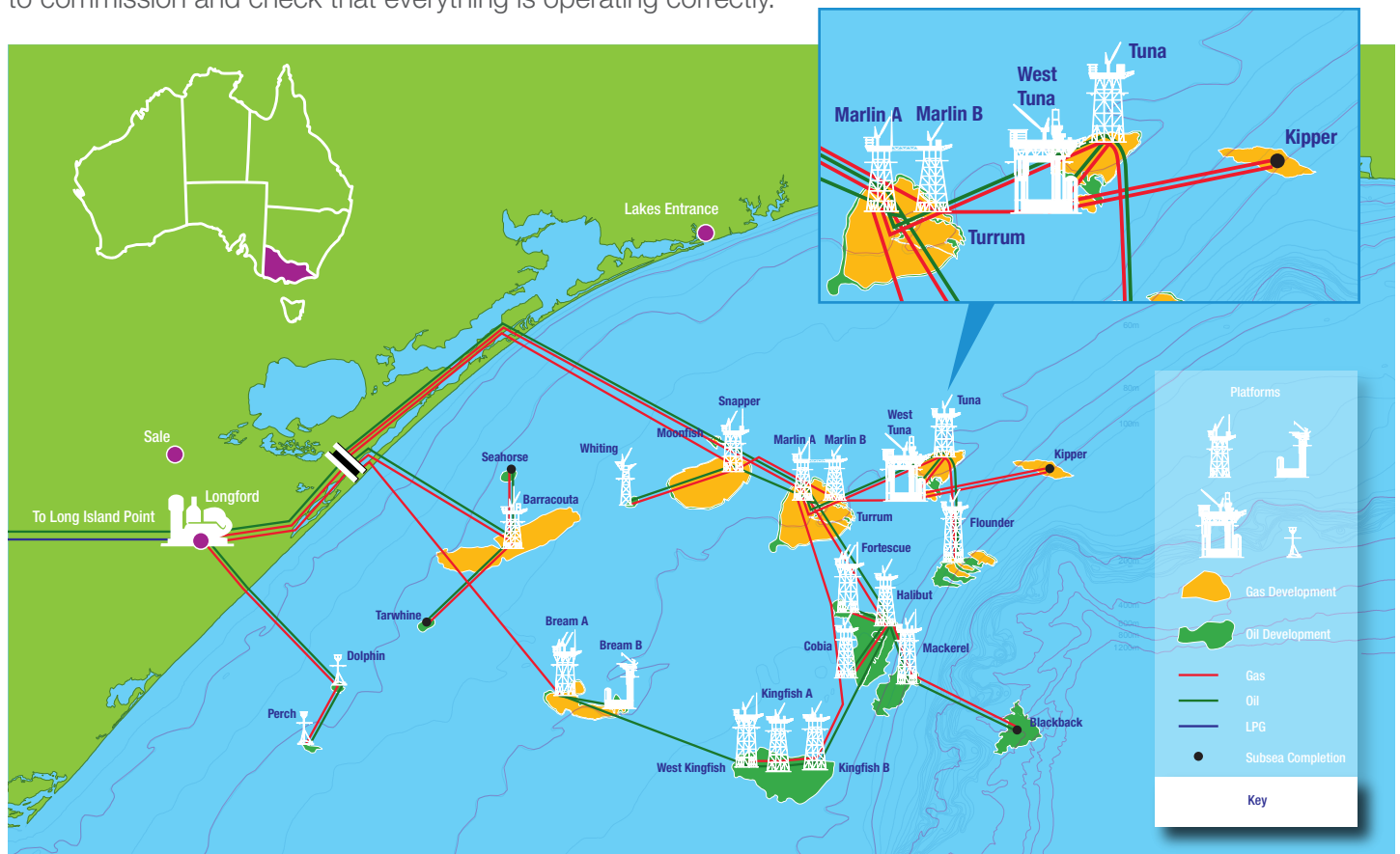
After the jacket has been secured, a module support frame will be lifted onto and welded to the top of the jacket. A 60 metre bridge which will link Marlin B to the Marlin A platform will also be lifted into place. The four modules – which house the platform’s processing equipment and kilometres of piping, tubing and electrical cabling – are then lifted on to and welded to the top of the module support frame. Finally, the flare boom is installed.

Another smaller, unstaffed satellite platform, called the Riser Access Tower, will also be installed approximately 50 metres from West Tuna. It will be linked to West Tuna via a bridge, and will connect the Kipper pipelines to West Tuna.

After all the equipment, including the Kipper subsea facilities, is in place, divers will connect the new pipelines (laid earlier this year), and umbilicals which control the operations. This will be followed by a nine-month-long process to commission and check that everything is operating correctly.

Did you know?

The Marlin B platform is the newest platform to be installed in Bass Strait in over a decade. The jacket alone weighs 4,700 tonnes – that’s the same as around 780 male African elephants!



About the Project

Located off the Victorian coast in Bass Strait, ExxonMobil Australia’s Kipper Tuna Turrum Project is currently one of the largest domestic gas developments on the eastern seaboard.

The \$4.4 billion project will develop cleaner-burning natural gas supplies to help secure Victoria’s energy future, and holds enough energy to power a city of a million people for 35 years.

The Kipper resource holds approximately 620 billion cubic feet of recoverable gas and 30 million barrels of gas liquids. The Kipper field is located approximately 45 kilometres south of Marlo, Victoria. The Turrum reservoir holds approximately one trillion cubic feet of gas and 110 million barrels of oil and gas liquids and is, approximately 45 kilometres south east of Lakes Entrance, Victoria. You can find more on the project at www.exxonmobil.com.au/ktt.

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*Esso Australia Pty Ltd and Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd are subsidiaries of ExxonMobil Australia Pty Ltd. The Bass Strait production facilities are owned by Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd and BHP Billiton Petroleum (Bass Strait) Pty Ltd in a 50:50 joint venture known as the Gippsland Basin Joint Venture (“GBJV”). The Turrum and Tuna fields are being developed by this joint venture. The Kipper Unit Joint Venture comprises Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd (32.5%), BHP Billiton Petroleum (Bass Strait) Pty Ltd (32.5%) and Santos Offshore Pty Ltd (35%).