



Economic Regulation Authority

Reference Service Proposal for the Dampier Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline

1 January 2026 – 31 December 2030

1 July 2024

Acknowledgement of Country

At the ERA we value our cultural diversity and respect the traditional custodians of the land and waters on which we live and work.

We acknowledge their continuing connection to culture and community, their traditions and stories. We commit to listening, continuously improving our performance and building a brighter future together.

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1. ERA's revised reference service proposal

Rule 47A of the NGR outlines provisions for the ERA to make or revise a reference service proposal when the ERA's decision is to refuse to approve a service provider's reference service proposal. On 1 July 2024, the ERA published its decision to refuse to approve DBNGP (WA) Transmission Pty Ltd's (DBP's) reference service proposal for the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (DBNGP)¹

In accordance with rule 47A(11) of the NGR, the ERA has drafted its own reference service proposal (this document) and revised the pipeline services to be offered on the DBNGP in the next (AA6) access arrangement period (Table 1) to include the data service and storage service. The ERA assessed these additional pipeline services against the reference service factors and considers that neither service should be a reference service.

Additionally, the ERA has revised the description of the part haul service (Table 1) to align this with the description in the current access arrangement and not use the description proposed by DBP in its reference service proposal.

In making this reference service proposal, the ERA had regard to matters required in a reference service proposal by the NGR, DBP's reference service proposal and the ERA's reasons for refusing to approve DBP's proposal.

As required under rule 47(A)(12) of the NGR, the ERA has published this revised reference service proposal and its decision to approve the ERA's proposal on its website. This approved reference service proposal will form part of DBP's access arrangement proposal for the next (AA6) access arrangement period, which is due to commence on 1 January 2026.

¹ A description of the pipeline is available on the AGIG website: <https://www.agig.com.au/the-pipeline>

2. List of pipeline services

Table 1: Pipeline services provided by the DBNGP

Pipeline service	Service description
Reference service	
T1 Full Haul	Forward Full Haul (subject to available capacity) with outlet point downstream of CS9, regardless of the location of inlet point upstream of MLV31.
P1 Part Haul	Forward Part Haul (subject to available capacity) with the inlet point upstream of the outlet point, regardless of the location of the outlet point, and is not a Full Haul Service.
B1 Back Haul	Back Haul (subject to available capacity) service where the inlet point is downstream of the outlet point.
Other (non-reference) services	
Spot capacity service	Allows access to gas transmission capacity on a day ahead basis where available via auction (subject to available capacity).
Pipeline Impact Agreement service	An agreement specified under the Gas Supply (Gas Quality Specifications) Act 2009 developed to allow gas producers to supply broader quality gas in Western Australia.
Inlet sales service (or Inlet Sales Agreement service)	A pipeline service that facilitates the trading of gas between shippers at a single inlet point on the DBNGP (subject to operational availability).
Pilbara service	An interruptible gas transportation service on the DBNGP where deliveries are within the Pilbara Zone (between I1-01 and MLV31, inclusive of I1-01 and MLV31).
Other reserved service	A suite of interruptible services offered on a bespoke basis to shippers with new projects and/or uncertain demand, often ahead of a firm service. The services have a reservation charge but exclude T1, P1, B1 and spot capacity.
Peaker service (or Peaking service)	An interruptible pipeline service where a shipper can obtain additional peaking limits to those set in standard terms (subject to operational availability).
Ullage service	A bespoke capacity service where gas is required to be delivered to the Karratha Gas Plant.
ERA revised additional non-reference services	
Data service	A service developed to assist gas marketers providing gas allocations on Shippers' behalf on the DBNGP (subject to operational availability).
Storage service	A Park and Loan Service, permitting limited Gas storage in the DBNGP, and/or taking of additional Gas from the DBNGP when required.

3. Reference services

The proposed reference services that will be offered during AA6 will continue to be the same three reference services as in the current period (AA5) (table 2).

Table 2: Reference services for the AA6 period

Pipeline service	Service description
T1 Full Haul	Forward Full Haul (subject to available capacity) with outlet point downstream of CS9, regardless of the location of inlet point upstream of MLV31.
P1 Part Haul	Forward Part Haul (subject to available capacity) with outlet point upstream or downstream of CS9 that is not Full Haul service, regardless of the location of inlet point.
B1 Back Haul	Back Haul (subject to available capacity) service where the inlet point is downstream of the outlet point.

All three have been assessed against the reference service factors in the ERA's decision on this reference service proposal. Additionally, the ERA has revised the description of the part haul service to align this with the description in the current access arrangement and not use the description proposed by DBP in its reference service proposal.