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SA Government

State Planning Commission

Submitted via email: plansasubmissions@sa.gov.au

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Greater Adelaide Regional Plan

AGL Energy (AGL) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission in response to the State Planning Commission's draft Greater Adelaide Regional Plan (Draft GARP).

Proudly Australian since 1837, AGL delivers around 4.5 million gas, electricity, and telecommunications services to our residential, small, and large business, and wholesale customers across Australia. AGL operates the largest electricity generation portfolio in Australia of any ASX-listed company, with a total operated generation capacity¹ of 7,982 MW as at 30 June 2024. Since 2006, AGL has invested billions of dollars in the construction and delivery of over 2 GW of renewable and firming capacity in the National Electricity Market.

We support Australia's ambition of net zero by 2050 and believe this will underpin the competitiveness of the Australian economy. As the global community responds to the risks of climate change, AGL recognises the large part that we must play in the transition to a low carbon economy. Our 2022 [Climate Transition Action Plan](#) (CTAP) outlines AGL's ambition for decarbonisation and our commitments.

AGL has also committed to repurposing its large thermal generation sites into integrated energy hubs. These energy hubs aim to support reinvestment into local communities and economies, reduce costs by repurposing existing infrastructure and assets, ensure productive future use of land and existing electrical infrastructure post closure, and provide future jobs for the workforce and next generation as well as local communities.

In late 2022, AGL announced the closure of the Torrens Island B Power Station in June 2026 along with an intent to repurpose the broader AGL Torrens Island site (refer to Attachments A & B of this submission) to an integrated energy hub (Torrens Energy Hub). The Torrens Energy Hub has the potential to drive new investment, create new job opportunities and expand into new markets including hydrogen and renewable energy. AGL's 210 MW Barker Inlet Power Station, commissioned in 2019, will continue operating at the Torrens Energy Hub, bolstering regional reliability and security of electricity supply and helping to underpin site redevelopment.

AGL is actively progressing opportunities for site redevelopment that is at the confluence of a responsible transition and SA Government priorities. In August 2023, AGL opened its 250 MW / 250 MWh grid-scale battery at the Torrens Energy Hub and has also signed a memorandum of understanding with global energy technology company SLB to pilot a nickel hydrogen battery (expected to be the first of its kind in Australia). Successful development of the Torrens Energy Hub requires support from the SA Government to create efficient planning pathways and appropriate investment signals.

The Draft GARP provides a useful context on South Australia's strategic planning goals into the future. AGL is committed to supporting the SA Government in achieving its objectives by leveraging the AGL Torrens Island

¹ FY24 installed capacity is the AEMO registered capacity, also taking into account the three 25MW upgrades to the Bayswater Power Station Units 4, 2 and 3 in FY20, FY22 and FY23 respectively.



site for future energy and industrial developments. This submission outlines AGL's concerns in regard to the classification of the AGL Torrens Island site in the Draft GARP, and the recommendation for its designation as a State Significant Industrial Employment Precinct (SSIEP).

AGL Torrens Island designation as an SSIEP

We note that the Draft GARP currently excludes the AGL Torrens Island site from being designated as either an SSIEP or a Prime Industrial Employment Precinct (PIEP). As stated in the Draft GARP, SSIEPs are "precincts of (actual or potential) scale, whose current and future activities are strongly linked with strategic and economic objectives of the state, and which accommodate (or will eventually accommodate) a critical mass of economic activity and employment." We believe that the AGL Torrens Island site has strong alignment with the criteria for SSIEP designation.

AGL's Torrens Island Power Station currently employs about 140 people, supplemented by a contractor workforce, and at its peak the site sustained a workforce of approx. 500 people. AGL has publicly committed to the redevelopment of the AGL Torrens Island site into the Torrens Energy Hub, which has the potential to drive new investment, create new job opportunities and expand into new markets. Master planning to evaluate concepts is currently underway and cover a broad range of potential use cases, such as: hydrogen and its derivatives; built environment and construction materials; energy critical manufacturing; and energy technology and innovation. These use cases are being explored alongside recent energy developments on the site.

There are a range of arguments to support the inclusion of the AGL Torrens Island site in the endorsed GARP as an SSIEP, such as (but not limited to):

- **Supporting the SA Government's strategic objectives and vision:** Supporting state objectives of harnessing the global green transition to foster innovation and employment growth;
- **Supporting employment land:** Recognising the lack of employment land, particularly well-located and serviced land that can support strategic employment;
- **Co-location:** Synergistic benefits of surrounding future industry with potential developments on the AGL Torrens Island site;
- **Enabling Infrastructure:** The site boasts excellent access to power generation, water supply, and transport networks, capable of supporting significant employment activities;
- **Buffer for Industry:** The extensive landholding provides a buffer for future industrial activities, mitigating impacts on surrounding sensitive land uses; and
- **Land Size:** At over 60 ha., AGL's landholding is sized to support future industrial needs.

The designation of AGL Torrens Island in the GARP should reflect the site's industrial capabilities and its strategic location with buffers to sensitive receptors. **We therefore recommend that the AGL Torrens Island site be designated as an SSIEP under the GARP.** This approach would leverage the site's potential for future economic growth and support the SA Government's long-term strategic objectives.

Should you have any questions in relation to this submission, please contact Liz Perrone, Head of Energy Hubs Commercial Development, at lperrone@agl.com.au or David Russell, Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement (SA & QLD), at drussell2@agl.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

AGL Energy

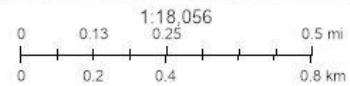
Attachment A – AGL Torrens Island site

Torrens Energy Hub



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-  Core site
-  Wider site

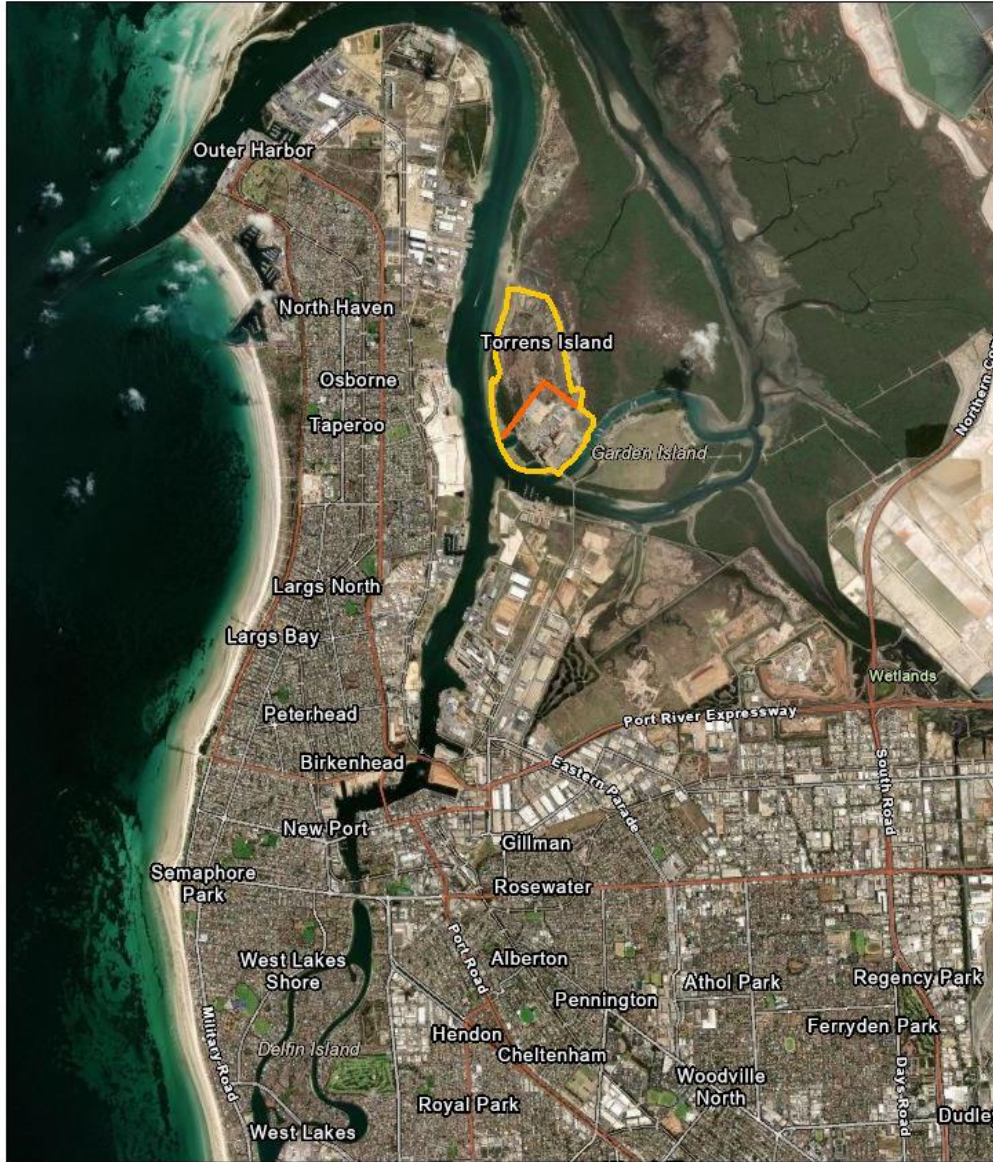


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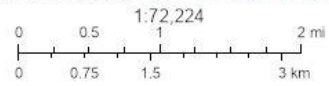
ArcGIS Web App
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Attachment B – AGL Torrens Island site in context of greater Adelaide

Torrens Energy Hub and Greater Adelaide



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-  Core site
-  Wider site

Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Earthstar Geographics

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