



Environmental assessment, approvals and licensing

The Star of the South project will go through comprehensive environmental assessment, approval and licensing processes before it can be constructed. There are several opportunities for public input to these important processes.

Environmental assessment

A coordinated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and an Environment Effects Statement (EES) will be used to assess potentially significant environmental, social, economic and planning aspects of the project.

We're preparing our environmental assessment. This involves:

- Studies to understand the existing environment
- Assessments to determine potential impacts
- Identifying measures to avoid or minimise impacts
- Consultation with stakeholders and communities.

Community feedback and input will be collected and used as we prepare our assessment, so that it responds to local interests, concerns and suggestions.

Outcomes of the assessment process will inform government approval decisions.

Environment and planning approvals

The Star of the South project will need:

- Approval under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act)
- Planning approval under the *Victorian Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- A marine and coastal consent under the *Victorian Marine and Coastal Act 2019*
- An approved cultural heritage management plan under the *Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

Other approvals and consents may also be needed. These will be identified through the assessment process and in consultation with regulators.



Licensing and regulation

Offshore wind projects in Australian Commonwealth waters are regulated under the *Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021*.

This Act enables the investigation, construction, operation and decommissioning of offshore electricity infrastructure.

After an area has been declared suitable for offshore electricity development, proposed projects can apply for a licence.

A feasibility licence allows investigations to test the feasibility of a project. A further commercial licence allows construction and operation of a project.

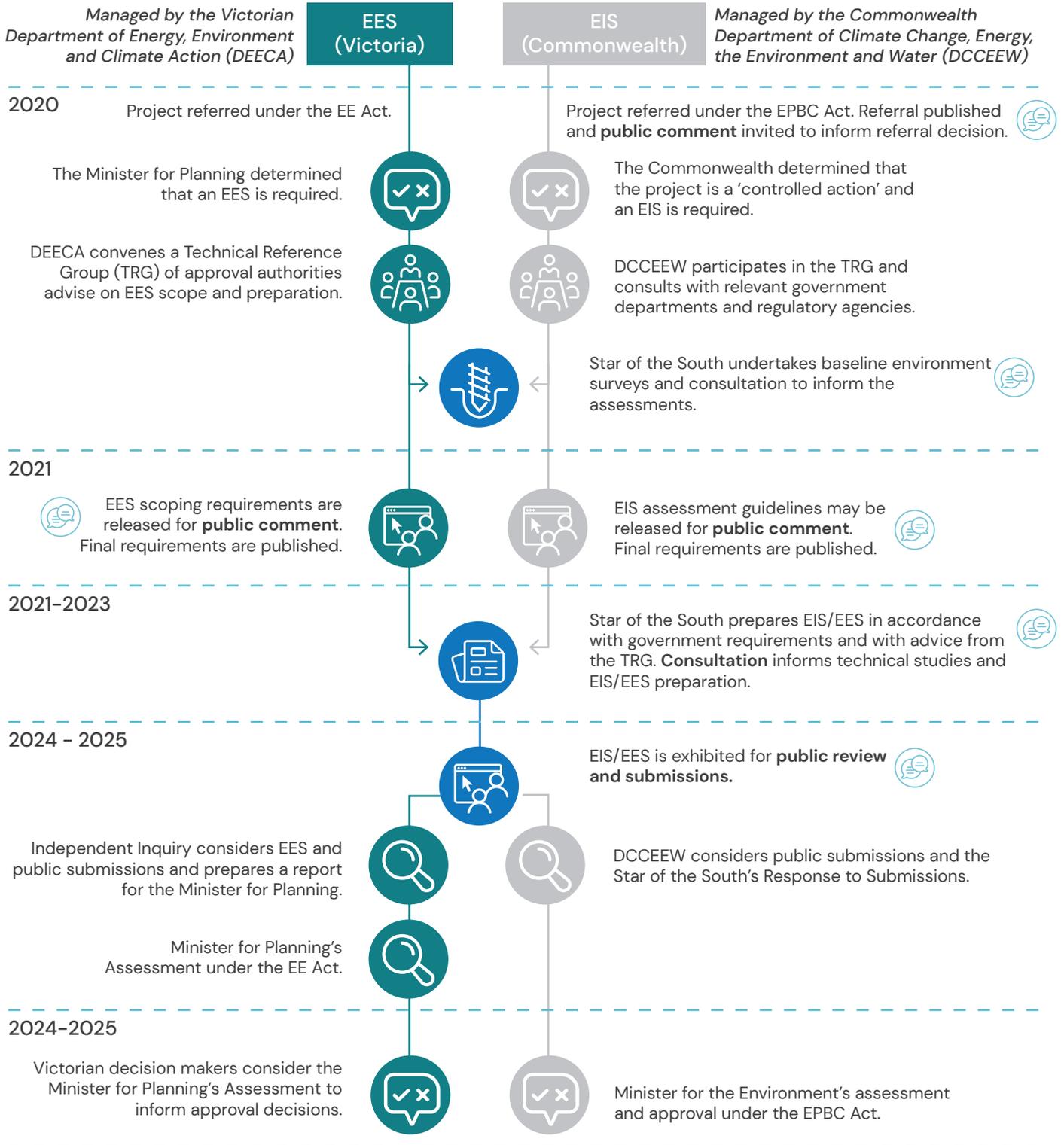
The Minister for Energy makes licensing decisions under the Act.

The Offshore Infrastructure Regulator is responsible for regulating offshore wind projects.

Further information is available at dcceew.gov.au

Key steps in the environmental assessment process

*Timeline is indicative and may change



GET INVOLVED

We're keen to hear from you as we continue investigating the Star of the South project and prepare our environmental assessments. There are many opportunities to get involved in government and project consultation. We'll consult to seek feedback and local knowledge and use what we hear to inform ongoing project development and preparation of our assessments.

More information

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We acknowledge people of the Gunaikurnai nation as the original custodians of country and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay respect to elders past and present.