Media Release
13 December 2017

Condamine River seeps show significant decline

The flow of gas from the Condamine River seeps has fallen sharply to the lowest levels recorded.

Recent measurements from late October show a 90% reduction compared to the peak rate recorded in early-2016.

Work to intercept gas migrating towards the river combined with local coal seam gas development to the south is having a positive impact in significantly reducing the seeps.

Regional Manager Tim Ogilvie said Origin, on behalf of the industry, has been investing in a program of research and monitoring since 2012, engaging independent technical experts and CSIRO and applying their methodologies and recommendations.

“This work pointed to the seeps being part of a geological migration pathway and the potential solution was to intercept and produce the gas before it reaches the river, effectively taking it out of the system,” Tim said.

“In the last 18 months we have expanded our approach to manage and mitigate the seeps - and our efforts appear to be working.”

Three intercept wells were initially drilled near the main seep in mid-2016. A dozen gas wells drilled directly south of the river were also brought into production earlier this year.

“Our experience and data we’ve collected since then has proved critical to our understanding of the seeps and the design of future development in the area,” Tim said.

“Work has now started on a targeted intercept and development solution across several local properties that are close to or back onto the river.”

Origin will drill fourteen CSG production wells and a further eight wells specifically designed to intercept shallow gas migrating towards identified natural geological faults that are providing pathways to the seeps in the river. The three existing intercept wells will also be modified or worked over as part of this planned development.

Seep flow rates will continue to be published on the Australia Pacific LNG website.

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