

Construction Method: Horizontal Directional Drilling

Project: Minerva Gas Field
Development Project,
BHP Billiton Limited

Location: Melbourne, Australia

Job Scope:

- ❖ Design Review
- ❖ Risk Evaluation
- ❖ Contractor Submittal Review
 - ❖ On-site Construction Management
- ❖ Contractor Procedure Development

Project Description:

Staheli Trenchless Consultants provided horizontal directional drilling expertise to a very challenging HDD project consisting of twin subterranean 24-inch diameter bores approximately 5,135 feet in length. The bores started from an onshore location and exited 2,510 feet offshore, with a 300 foot elevation difference between the entry and exit location.

Construction challenges included extremely long bores, boring beneath environmentally sensitive parklands, buoyancy control of casing pipes to enable their breakthrough onto the ocean floor, underwater operations, and lost drilling fluid returns.



Geotechnical issues included drilling through soft rock materials with low fracture gradients, loose cohesionless sands along the ocean floor, and karst features. A unique feature of the project was the installation of the casing and product pipe by pushing the pipe from the onshore location.

Staheli Trenchless Consultants

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