



## **IGI SUBMITS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE ONSHORE SECTION OF THE POSEIDON PIPELINE IN GREECE**

*Athens, July 31, 2018*

IGI Poseidon (IGI) submitted on July 31 2018, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the onshore section of the natural gas Poseidon Pipeline to the Ministry of Environment and Energy of Greece.

The EIA has been prepared together by Greek, Italian and international experts, in compliance with Greek and EU legislation.

The Poseidon pipeline will connect Greece with the Italian National Gas System enhancing Greece's security of supply, its role as a gas hub for the region as well as contributing to the development of the domestic energy market. The project promotes competition, system flexibility and the further integration of regional and European energy markets and competition.

The EIA incorporates a detailed description of the pipeline's proposed route and of the accompanying infrastructure – both temporary and permanent in mainland Greece, which will be built during the construction phase.

The Poseidon Pipeline consists of two sections, with a total length of about 976 km. The Poseidon pipeline will extend for approx. 760 km following a west-bound route from Kipi to its landfall in the Thesprotia regional unit (Florovouni) and for approx. 216 km to the landfall in Italy and the receiving terminal in the Apulia region (Otranto).

In the first phase that the Poseidon will connect with the Greek natural gas system as well as with the Interconnector Greece-Bulgaria in Komotini, while the second phase of development envisages a connection with the EastMed Pipeline.

The pipeline will cross the following 14 regional units:

Evros, Rodopi, Xanthi, Kavala, Drama, Serres, Kilkis, Thessaloniki, Imathia, Kozani, Grevena, Trikala, Ioannina, Thesprotia.

IGI's key consideration in preparing the EIA has been to protect the environment, respect cultural heritage and ensure the Poseidon Pipeline brings positive social benefits for the communities affected by the project.

Accordingly the design of the proposed route resulted from a process consisting of consultations with national, municipal and local authorities and an extensive assessment that has enabled the identification of the most environmentally and socioeconomically effective solution, mitigating any negative impacts. IGI intends to fully cooperate with the interested stakeholders in further optimizing the benefits of the Poseidon Pipeline during the public consultation process which will be authorized by the Ministry of Environment and Energy on conclusion of its completeness review of the submitted EIA.