The refinery plays a very important role in Victoria’s fuel supply chain and contributes to the local and state economy by providing employment opportunities, supporting suppliers and industrial customers and producing refined fuel products that are essential to everyday life.

Over the past five years, ExxonMobil has invested more than $400 million on improving the safety, reliability and viability of our refining and distribution facilities in Melbourne’s west in order to maintain our position as a major supplier of high-quality and reliable fuels to Victoria into the future.

Located 13 kilometres west of Melbourne, Altona Refinery supplies around half of Victoria’s fuel needs. It operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and processes crude oil into the full range of petroleum products.

**Fast facts**
- Commenced operation in 1949.
- Produces approximately 14.5 million litres of refined products per day, enough to fill around 330,000 cars.
- Produces a number of refined petroleum products, including unleaded petrol, diesel and jet fuel, to supply around half of Victoria’s petroleum fuel needs.
- Increases Victoria’s economic output by $270 million a year – however the full contribution of Altona Refinery to the Victorian economy, including direct and indirect benefits, is substantially higher.
- Employs more than 350 people and supports thousands of other jobs.
- Pays more than $1 million in rates to Hobsons Bay City Council, around $3 million in fees and charges to City West Water and more than $6 million in port fees and wharfage to the Port of Melbourne Corporation each year.
Our Altona Refinery operations

Altona Refinery plays an important role in converting crude oil into the range of petroleum fuels that we all rely on.

Imported crude oil arrives via tanker at Gellibrand Wharf and is transported to the refinery by pipeline. Victorian crude oil is also transported to the refinery by pipeline from the Gippsland Basin oil and gas fields.

At the refinery, the crude oil goes through various processes to become unleaded petrol, diesel, jet fuel and LPG. After processing, refined products are pumped into storage tanks to await distribution. There are almost 100 storage tanks at the Altona Refinery and in its tank farm.

Around 90 percent of products are transported by pipeline from the refinery to our Yarraville Terminal and other oil company terminals for distribution by road throughout Victoria and into parts of South Australia and southern New South Wales. Jet fuel is transported directly from the refinery by pipeline to Somerton, where it is then provided to Melbourne Airport.

The refinery supplies LPG as feedstock to the nearby Altona chemical complex, which produces the raw materials that are used in the manufacture of a multitude of consumer applications and products including dairy bottles, pipelines, wire insulation, sealants and adhesives and other plastics products.

Safety is our priority

We place the highest priority on operating flawlessly in all aspects of our business. One of the key tools in maintaining safe operations is the ExxonMobil Operations Integrity Management System which provides a systematic process to set objectives, measure progress, plan improvements and ensure accountability for results.

Altona Refinery has detailed response plans in case of emergency, including a number of ways to communicate with the local community. We conduct regular emergency drills and liaise closely with local authorities and emergency services.

Victorian Government regulations require the Altona Refinery to be licensed as a Major Hazard Facility as we store and handle large quantities of hazardous products. In line with this requirement, a detailed Safety Case has been developed, identifying risks associated with potential major incidents and putting in place controls to ensure these risks are reduced so far as is reasonably practicable.

Environmental management

We are committed to achieving and maintaining excellence in environmental care throughout our operations. Altona Refinery operates under an environmental licence issued by the Environment Protection Authority Victoria.

Community outreach

Altona Refinery is an active and engaged member of the local community. We host a Community Liaison Committee, including representatives of Hobsons Bay City Council, local residents and refinery management, which meets four times a year with meetings open to all interested people in the local area. At the meetings, we report on the refinery’s operations and environmental and safety performance and provides updates on progress achieved to meet targets and initiatives. A community newsletter is distributed to over 20,000 households to coincide with the meetings.

Additionally, Altona Refinery supports a number of community, environmental and education programs in the area by providing funding to local schools and kindergartens and community groups.