

6 Revised statement of commitments

6.1 Introduction

This chapter contains the revised Statement of Commitments (SoCs).

Following the exhibition of the EA between 19 September and 20 October 2008, 60 submissions from stakeholders were received and analysed.

These submissions and ongoing fieldwork have formed the basis for the revised SoCs.

6.2 Statement of commitments

The revised SoCs in the following table include:

- An objective.
- Details of the high level, principle based commitment.
- The timing of when the commitment applies.

Reference to any of the key sections of the EA, documents of guiding principles that influence the objective and implementation of the commitment.

Table 6.1 Revised Statement of Commitments

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Proposal overall				
Ensure sound environmental management of the proposal.	P1	Pipeline construction and management of environmental aspects of the pipeline construction and operation will be guided by the APIA Code.	Prior to construction, construction, and operation	APIA Code 2005 (or latest edition).
Ensure objectives of adaptive management are met.	P2	Each construction spread will have a qualified manager designated with responsibility for ensuring that the objectives of adaptive management and the SoCs are met.	Prior to and during construction	Chapter 18 of the EA
Pipeline route finalisation				
Ensure final route minimises impacts on natural and built environment.	RI	Final route alignment will be carefully selected by applying the route selection process, objectives and criteria described in Chapter 3 of the EA.	Prior to construction	Chapter 3 of the EA
	R2	Any alignment changes outside of the Study Area will be subject to a consistency assessment, informed through a desktop assessment of each of the environmental issues identified by applying the same methodology used in this EA. Any potentially significant impacts identified will be investigated and managed.	Prior to construction	Chapter 7 of the EA
	R3	Where any final alignment changes outside of the Study Area are significantly inconsistent with the Part 3A approval of the proposal, the proponent will apply for modification under section 75W of the EP&A Act.	Prior to construction	EP&A Act Chapter 7 of the EA
Continue to inform stakeholders of the progress of route refinement and finalisation	R4	A copy of the finalised pipeline route (scale of 1:140,000 A4) will be made available to DoP, DWE, DECC, DPI, DoL and relevant stakeholders.	Prior to construction	Chapter 3 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
	R5	Landholders directly affected at any future stage of the route refinement will be formally notified by letter of the finalised pipeline route.	Prior to construction	Chapter 3 of the EA
Construction management				
Management systems in place for protection of environment.	CM1	A CEMP will be developed in consultation with DECC, DPI, DWE, DoL and relevant CMAs to manage environmental issues assessed and implement identified mitigation and management measures where required.	Prior to construction	Part B of the EA Chapter 5 of the EA. APIA Code.
	CM1A	The proponent will direct its contractors to carry out the project in accordance with the conditions of approval, the revised statement of commitments and the CEMP.	During construction	
Minimise impacts associated with the location and operation of temporary construction camps, storage and depots.	CM2	Construction camps, pipeline storage areas and vehicle depots will be located in accordance with the criteria set out in Chapter 5.	Prior to construction and during construction	Chapter 5 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Minimise impacts on human amenity as a result of construction hours.	CM3	<p>Construction works would be undertaken between 7am and 6pm, seven days a week for 28 days and then nine days off, except in the following instances where extended construction hours may occur when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HDD drill rig is in operation until completion of the HDD bore (continuity of process required). Boring is in operation until completion of the boring. Water filling and hydro-testing of the pipeline is underway (continuity of process is required). Extenuating circumstances out of the control of the project (such as weather, industrial relations) result in delays to the pipeline program, notice would be given to the DoP Director-General with an outline of proposed work hours and schedule. Works do not pose an audible disturbance to any residences. Transport of plant, equipment and pipe by oversized trucks outside of hours as required by authorities for safety reasons. It is required in an emergency to avoid injury or loss of life, property and/or to prevent environmental harm. Agreement is reached with local residents in order to reduce the duration of construction activities and/or manage other traffic, amenity or disturbance issues. 	Construction	Chapters 5 and 11 of the EA
	CM4	<p>Where construction noise is audible at the major level at sensitive receivers, consultation with impacted residents will be undertaken 48 hours in advance of work and during the local construction period as necessary. The level of major audibility at sensitive receivers is 50dBA at isolated residences and 55dBA at township residences.</p>	Construction	<p>Chapters 5 and 11 of the EA</p> <p>The construction noise criteria within Table 11.2 has been set to correspond to DECCs <i>Environmental Noise Control Manual</i>.</p>
	CM5	<p>Blasting will be scheduled to 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday. No blasting will be scheduled for Sundays or public holidays.</p>	Construction	Chapters 5 and 11 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Minimise impact of trenching operations.	CM6	Construction spreads will endeavour to minimise the length of open trench by using staged construction methods and forward planning.	During construction	Section 5.3 of the EA
Management systems in place for protection of workers and the public.	CM7	A Safety Management Plan will be prepared consistent with the requirements of AS 2885.	Prior to construction	AS2885 <i>HIPAP No.4 (DoP, 1992).</i> Chapter 14 of the EA
Community and stakeholder consultation				
Ensure effective and receptive consultation with community and other stakeholders is continued.	C1	An integrated stakeholder consultation process will continue to be implemented throughout the project. The outcomes of ongoing consultation will continue to influence the project.	Prior to construction, construction, and operation	Chapter 6 of the EA
Ensure responsiveness to issues and concerns raised by the community.	C2	A 24-hour toll free contact telephone number will be established. A system to receive, record, track and respond to issues and concerns will be implemented.	Prior to construction and during construction	AS4269 Complaints Handling Chapter 11 of the EA
Ensure liaison with key government stakeholders.	C3	The proponent will establish a framework for a government liaison group (GLG) to liaise with DECC, DPI, DWE and DoP, DoL and relevant CMAs.	Prior to construction and during construction	Chapter 6 of the EA
Biodiversity				
Minimise impacts to riparian vegetation.	B1	Measures will be implemented to prevent and/or minimise harm to riparian vegetation that may result from construction and/or operation of the pipeline. Crossing points will be selected to minimise the extent of riparian vegetation clearing and limited to the narrowest area practicable.	During construction	Chapter 9 of the EA Commitment reference W1, C3
Minimise native vegetation disturbance.	B2	Equipment storage areas and stockpile areas will be located away from riparian zones within existing cleared or degraded lands.	During construction	Chapter 9 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
	B2A	Where feasible, the ROW will be aligned adjacent to complementary infrastructure to ensure minimal impacts on native vegetation and habitat relative to approved projects at that location.	Prior to construction	Chapter 4 of the Submissions Report
	B2B	In specified areas, construction activities would operate in a reduced ROW of not more than 20m.	During construction	Chapter 4 of the Submissions Report
	B2C	In specified areas, and in consultation with an ecologist, construction activities would ensure mature native trees are avoided.	During construction	Chapter 4 of the Submissions Report
	B2D	In specified areas, and where consistent with DECC guidelines, strategies will be developed for re-using vegetation that has been removed from the ROW in rehabilitation works.	During construction	Chapter 4 of the Submissions Report
	B2E	In specified areas, stands of threatened flora will be cordoned off and avoided during construction.	During construction	Chapter 4 of the Submissions Report
Minimise impacts to threatened reptiles.	B3	Construction timing will be developed in consideration of avoiding relevant sensitivities in the lifecycle of these species, including breeding times, following outcomes of identified fieldwork.	Prior to construction	Chapter 9 of the EA
	B4	Where identified potential habitat exists in the final ROW, a herpetologist will inspect the potential habitat prior to construction. Individuals, if found in the ROW, will be relocated to adjacent suitable habitat outside of the ROW.	During construction	Chapter 9 of the EA,
Minimise the spread and/or establishment of weeds.	B5	Weed management measures will be developed for incorporation into the CEMP, taking into consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of relevant desktop information relating to relevant noxious and environmental weed listings. • Results of biodiversity fieldwork. • Liaison with landowners regarding any locally occurring weed management issues or existing management arrangements. 	Prior to construction	Chapter 9 of the EA Commitment reference L3
	B6	Any excavated material containing weeds will not be stored near waterways or existing stands of native vegetation.	During construction	Chapter 9 of the EA
	B7	Noxious weeds in areas disturbed by construction activities will be managed for a minimum of two years post completion.	Operation	Chapter 9 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Minimise impacts to hollow dependent and other fauna in woodland areas.	B8	In those areas identified by survey as sensitive woodland areas for nesting fauna species, an ecologist will check hollow bearing trees prior to clearing in the ROW. Fauna found nesting will be relocated to suitable adjacent habitat.	During construction	Chapter 9 of the EA
	B9	Stands of vegetation in the ROW containing hollow bearing trees will be cleared using a two stage clearing process with adjacent non-hollow bearing trees to be cleared first.	During construction	Chapter 9 of the EA
	B10	Logs, dead trees, and other habitat features will be relocated from the area of clearing to provide habitat in adjacent areas where feasible and practical during construction. Habitat features will be reinstated within the ROW, following construction.	During construction and operation	Chapter 9 of the EA
	B11	In those areas where hollow bearing trees have been removed, and in consultation with an ecologist, nest boxes (as necessary) will be fixed to suitable retained vegetation, in a way that does not damage the tree.	During construction and operation	Chapter 9 of the EA B9
Minimise impacts to native fauna species.	B12	Designated personnel will survey the open construction trench ahead of construction works daily. Any trapped fauna species will be relocated. Additional measures to protect fauna during construction, including the provision of fauna refuges will be further explored.	During construction	Section 5.3, Figure 5.2 of the EA Chapter 9 of the EA Commitment reference P2 B18
Minimise impacts to aquatic habitat and fish species during crossing of identified sensitive waterways.	B13	Watercourse crossings for all sensitive waterways will be designed so as not to preclude fish passage, where necessary in consultation with the DPI.	Prior to construction	<i>Fishnote: Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings</i> (NSW Fisheries) Chapter 9 and Chapter 15 of the EA Commitment reference: W1, W5, W6, W7.

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
	B13A	Coarse woody debris and other in stream habitat features will be relocated from the area of construction, and reinstated in stream, following construction.	During construction	Chapter 4 of the Submissions Report
Minimise biodiversity impacts from operation of the proposal.	B14	Operations and maintenance staff will be informed of the importance of any reinstated habitat to ensure that it is not removed as part of operational activities.	Operation	Chapter 9 of the EA
Minimise impacts to woodland bird species.	B15	<p>In areas identified as potential movement corridors for avifauna, and in consultation with an ecologist, the following mitigation measures will be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the width of the ROW as necessary. • Site-specific revegetation and management plans to ensure that the route is restored as far as practicable to its original state. <p>Construction timing that is sympathetic to the lifecycle sensitivities of the relevant species identified through fieldwork surveys.</p>	During construction	Chapter 9 of the EA
Minimise impacts to Green and Golden Bell Frog, wetland bird species.	B16	<p>Specific measures will be developed to minimise potential impacts to Green and Golden Bell Frogs and wetland bird species, which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist advice from a herpetologist and wetland ecologist on construction methodology, and the implementation of relevant Chytrid Fungus controls. • Advice gained from liaison with the local CMA, and local representatives of DECC's Parks and Wildlife Group. • Maintenance of existing water quality. • Construction during winter months, and specifically outside of the Green and Golden Bell Frog breeding season of September to February. 	Prior to construction	Chapter 9 of the EA W6, W7
Minimise impacts related to the spread of Cinnamon Fungus and Chytrid Fungus.	B17	<p>Investigate management measures to minimise the spread of Cinnamon Fungus and Chytrid Fungus, taking into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcomes of a risk assessment conducted to determine areas of the ROW where risk of the disease may be high. • Advice gained from liaison with DECC and other relevant government agencies. • Current available initiatives relating to hygiene, and chemical or other control mechanisms. 	Prior to construction	Chapter 9 of the EA Commitment reference C3 <i>Hygiene protocol for the control of disease in frogs, DECC 2001.</i>

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Adaptively manage residual biodiversity constraints in accordance with precautionary principles.	B18	In constraint areas where spring fieldwork was precluded from lack of access permission, fieldwork will be carried out to determine applicable management measures that may be required. These measures would be developed using the existing framework in Chapter 4.	Prior to construction	Chapter 4 of the Submissions Report AM1
Prevent the spread of Cane Toads (<i>Bufo marinus</i>) from known areas of infestation.	B19	Specific measures will be developed to ensure that Cane Toads (<i>Bufo marinus</i>) are not transported away from known infestation areas by construction plant or equipment.	During construction	Stop the toad, check your load, DECC 2007.
Aboriginal heritage				
Minimise impacts to known sites of high significance (categorised as high impact sites).	AH1	The ROW has been aligned to avoid the following four sites based on the outcomes of an archaeological survey with elders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Euraba Mission Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming. Euraba Mission Burial. Euraba Whalan Creek Modified (Carved or Scarred) Tree Wallalong Brush Conflict site. 	Prior to construction	Section 10.1.5 of the EA Tables 10.4 and 10.5 of the EA Appendix E
	AH1A	The ROW will be aligned to avoid the Gil Gil Creek scarred tree once the outcomes of an archaeological survey with Aboriginal knowledge holders is known.	Prior to and during construction	Section 10.1.5 of the EA Tables 10.4 and 10.5 of the EA Appendix E
Minimise potential for accidental impact on sites of low to moderate significance (categorised as low to moderate impact sites)	AH2	Site types and sites categorised as low to moderate impact, where identified during pre construction surveys conducted by a qualified archaeologist with assistance from representatives of relevant registered Aboriginal stakeholders, will be managed in accordance with the measures indicated in Tables 10.4 and Table 10.5.	Prior to and during construction	Section 10.1.5 of the EA Tables 10.4 and 10.5 of the EA Appendix E

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
	AH3	All personnel and contractors working on site will receive training in their responsibilities under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> as part of an Aboriginal heritage induction program. Additional site specific training will be given to workers when working within identified sensitive zones, as per the predictive model.	Construction	Section 10.1.5 of the EA Table 10.4 of the EA Appendix E
	AH4	<p>A mechanism will be developed to provide for the management of impacts to artefact scatters above a given density. This mechanism will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State thresholds when works in the immediate vicinity will stop. Identify relevant project personnel with authority to stop works in the immediate vicinity when the prescribed threshold is reached. Include provision for verification of significance of the find by the project archaeologist or similar. Provide a framework for the resolution and management of the find, seeking input from relevant Aboriginal groups, and the DECC. 	Prior to construction	Section 10.1.5 of the EA Table 10.4
Minimise impact to other items of high significance.	AH5	Should any items or sites of high significance, including Aboriginal human remains, not previously identified be uncovered during construction, all works in the immediate vicinity of the find will cease. A mechanism will be developed to manage this contingency. Works will not recommence in the areas until appropriate clearance is given; specialist advice will be sought as necessary.	Construction	Section 10.1.5 of the EA Table 10.4 of the EA Appendix E
Conserving high significance sites.	AH6	The strategic approach described in Chapter 10 of the EA for identification of potential high significance sites through oral research with traditional knowledge holders will be completed and identified constraints mapped on alignment sheets in order that identified high significance sites can be avoided in the ROW alignment. The proponent will provide a copy of the research on a confidential basis to DECC and DoP and describe how the proposal has responded to these findings within the existing framework presented in Chapter 10.	Prior to construction	Section 10.1.5 of the EA Appendix E

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Contributing to understanding of indigenous cultural heritage values.	AH7	In relation to impacts on artefact scatters below the threshold identified in AH5, the proponent, in consultation with relevant registered local Aboriginal stakeholders, will develop a program to undertake within the 30m ROW in each of the five bioregions one strategic research project to determine cultural heritage significance and provide the outcomes of the research to the local Aboriginal stakeholders consulted in a form to be agreed.	Prior to construction	Section 10.1.5 of the EA Tables 10.4 and 10.5 Appendix E
Historical heritage				
Minimise impacts on known hard and moderate historical heritage constraints.	HH1	Use the heritage assessment to inform the final alignment of the ROW.	Prior to construction	Section 10.2 of the EA. Appendix F Chapter 5 and Appendix E of the Submissions Report
	HH2	Maintain consultation with the Heritage Branch of DoP, local councils and other relevant agencies and stakeholders.	Prior to and during construction	Section 10.2 of the EA. Appendix F Chapter 5 and Appendix E of the Submissions Report
	HH3	Include relevant known heritage constraints in the CEMP.	Prior to and during construction	Section 10.2 of the EA. Appendix F Chapter 5 and Appendix E of the Submissions Report
Minimise impacts on potential hard and moderate historical heritage constraints.	HH4	Identify and avoid within the ROW potential hard and moderate heritage constraints.	Prior to and during construction	Section 10.2 of the EA. Appendix F Chapter 5 and Appendix E of the Submissions Report

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
	HH5	Maintain consultation with the Heritage Branch of DoP, local councils and other relevant agencies and stakeholders.	Prior to and during construction	Section 10.2 of the EA. Appendix F Chapter 5 and Appendix E of the Submissions Report
	HH6	Include relevant potential heritage constraints in the CEMP.	Prior to and during construction	Section 10.2 of the EA. Appendix F Chapter 5 and Appendix E of the Submissions Report
Noise and vibration				
Minimise the impact of construction and operation noise and vibration on surrounding residents and property.	N1	Construction noise and vibration management strategies will be outlined in the CEMP. Construction and operation measures will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaising with community to advise on likely timing and duration of noisy activities. • Resolving complaints received from residents and landowners. • Using noise abatement measures where reasonable and feasible. 	Construction and operation	<i>Environmental Noise Control Manual</i> , EPA, 1994 <i>NSW Industrial Noise Policy</i> , EPA 2000 Chapter 11 of the EA
Minimise impacts of blasting.	N2	Blasting will be carried out in accordance with Australian Standard AS 2187.	Construction	AS2187 Chapter 11 of the EA
Minimise the impact of construction and operation noise and vibration on surrounding residents.	N3	Following route finalisation, any potential major noise impacts will be identified and if required specific localised mitigation measures will be developed in consultation with local residents and stakeholders.	Prior to and during construction	<i>Environmental Noise Control Manual</i> , EPA, 1994 Chapter 11 of the EA Chapter 18 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Minimise the impact of blasting.	N4	Blasting areas will be identified and management procedures defined in the CEMP in accordance with AS 2187.	Prior to and during construction	AS 2187 Chapter 11 of the EA Chapter 18 of the EA
Traffic and transport				
Minimise impact on road networks.	T1	Preparation of crossing plans in consultation with the appropriate road authority.	Construction	AS 1742.3 RTA TD 2006-05 Chapter 11 of the EA
	T2	Any oversized or over weight loads will be transported in accordance with RTA requirements.	Construction	<i>Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulations 2005</i> Chapter 11 of the EA
Minimise impacts on human receptors and local traffic networks.	T3	Specific localised traffic impacts will be assessed following the determination of the location of construction camps, pipeline storage areas, vehicle depots and ROW access points. If there are significant impacts identified then specific transport arrangements associated with pipe transport and storage and construction vehicle movements will be developed to minimise localised impacts on other road users.	Prior to and during construction	Chapter 11 of the EA Chapter 18 of the EA
Air quality				
Minimise reduction in air quality from dust and particulate matter.	A1	Working practices will be managed to minimise nuisance dust.	Construction	Chapter 11 of the EA
	A2	Blasting will be conducted at appropriate times, with consideration of site conditions and sensitive receivers.	Construction	AS2187 Chapter 11 of the EA
	A3	The burning of material on site will be prohibited, except under the instruction of fire services.	Construction	Chapter 11 of the EA
	A4	Vehicles will be maintained to ensure emissions are kept to the minimum practicable.	Construction	Australian Design Rules and relevant manufacturer specifications Chapter 11 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Containment of gas within the pipeline.	A5	Regular maintenance checks will be undertaken and a leak detection system will be installed.	Operation	AS2885.3 Chapter 11 of the EA
Socio-economic				
Minimise adverse social and economic impacts of access to private property.	SE1	Final route selection across private properties will be conducted in consultation with landowners to minimise impacts during construction and operation of the pipeline.	Prior to construction	Chapter 12 of the EA
Minimise impact of pipeline easement on landowners.	SE2	The proponent will continue negotiations with landowners regarding location of easement, aboveground infrastructure and compensation and terms and conditions of consent.	Prior to construction	Chapter 12 of the EA
Create employment opportunities.	SE3	Strategies will be put in place to maximise employment opportunities for local and indigenous workers (eg working with local employment and training agencies).	Prior to construction	Chapter 12 of the EA
Land use planning				
Minimise land use conflicts.	L1	The detailed pipeline alignment will continue to be refined to avoid land use conflicts, particularly in relation to existing and proposed urban settlements, extractive industries, environmentally sensitive land uses.	Prior to construction	Chapter 3 of the EA Chapter 13 of the EA
	L2	Construction scheduling will be mindful of avoiding seasonal constraints associated with existing land use activities.	Construction	Chapter 13 of the EA
Minimise impacts to agricultural activities.	L3	The proponent will endeavour to negotiate with each landowner terms and conditions relating to construction activities on their land, which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access; • Weed management; • Crop control in relation to genetically modified organisms (GMO); and • Livestock security. 	Construction	Section 5.3.13 Section 6.3.4 Section 13.1.1 Chapter 13 of the EA <i>Noxious Weeds Act 1993</i>
To avoid adverse impacts on known areas of mine subsidence and to ensure that engineering design is cognisant of relevant	L4	Further consultation will be undertaken with the Mine Subsidence Board and the DPI Minerals in order to continue to review proposed mine expansions that may impact the pipeline.	Prior to construction	Chapter 13 of the EA Chapter 18 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
To resolve potential conflicts between possible coal resource extraction and the pipeline alignment.	L4A	Further consultation will be undertaken with DPI Coal Advice in order to continue to review possible future developments of coal bearing strata (in particular, in the area southwest of Scone), that may impact the pipeline.	Prior to construction	Submissions Report Section 2.2.7
To avoid land use conflicts.	L5	Further review and route refinements to avoid potential land use conflicts in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardglan Quarry expansion. • Muswellbrook's new LEP. • Maitland Urban Settlement. 	Prior to construction	Chapter 13 of the EA Chapter 18 of the EA
Access to Crown Lands	L6	Once the route is finalised the proponent will consult with DoL regarding Crown Lands traversed by the pipeline. Easements will be acquired pursuant to the Pipelines Act 1967 which provides for notice of the proposed easement to be provided to DoL. For any areas of temporary occupation of Crown Lands outside the easement a licence will be obtained under the Crown Lands Act 1989.	Prior to construction	Section 7.2.2 of the EA <i>Pipelines Act 1967</i> <i>Crown Lands Act 1989</i>
Hazards and risks				
Minimise the risk of incidents during construction and operation.	H1	The pipeline will be aligned, designed and operated in accordance with AS2885, DoP risk criteria, and required safety management systems.	Prior to, during construction and operation	AS2885. <i>HIPAP No.4 (DoP, 1992).</i> Chapter 14 of the EA
	H2	The qualitative and quantitative risk assessments will be updated during the design phase.	Prior to construction	AS2885 <i>HIPAP No.4 (DoP, 1992).</i> Chapter 14 of the EA
	H3	The management measures developed in the Safety Management System will be compared to the Pipeline Research Council International protocols for assessing Stress Corrosion Cracking risk.	Prior to construction	AS2885 <i>HIPAP No.4 (DoP, 1992).</i> Appendix J of the EA

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	H4	The HAZOP study and revised safety analysis will be completed, in accordance with AS 2885.	Prior to construction	AS2885 <i>HIPAP No.4 (DoP, 1992).</i> Chapter 14 of the EA <i>Pipelines Act 1967</i>
Surface and groundwater				
Adopt appropriate water crossing technique.	W1	The proponent will engage with DECC, DPI and DWE and relevant CMAs with regard to crossing methods and site specific management measures for high sensitivity watercourse crossings.	Construction	Chapter 15 of the EA <i>Fish Passage – Requirements for Waterway Crossings, NSW Fisheries, Fairfull, S. and Witheridge, G, 2003</i> APIA Code
	W1A	Site specific watercourse crossing methods will be prepared in accordance with the APIA Code and in consultation with DWE prior to commencement of construction of that crossing.	Prior to construction	APIA Code
Minimise changes in waterway channel or bank form.	W2	The proponent will implement all practicable measures to limit impacts on watercourses and channels during construction of the pipeline. Measures to be implemented will be guided by industry and government guidelines and policies.	Construction	<i>Fish Passage – Requirements for Waterway Crossings, NSW Fisheries, Fairfull, S. and Witheridge, G, 2003</i> APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Mimimise pollution of surface or groundwater.	W3	Soil and water management measures will be implemented during the construction phase through the CEMP. Management measures will be prepared in accordance with <i>Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction</i> (Landcom, 2004) as appropriate to pipeline construction.	Construction	<i>Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction</i> (Landcom, 2004) <i>Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Engineering Guidelines</i> , Institute of Engineers Australia (IEAust, 1996) APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA
	W3A	A contingency plan will be prepared for events that have the potential to pollute or contaminate surface or groundwater sources. The plan will include threshold levels, remediation actions (including monitoring) and communication strategies.	Prior to construction.	<i>Protection of the Environment and Operations Act 1997</i>
	W4	Trenches will be compacted and reinstated in such a way as to compensate for settling of backfill. Where crowns are used, crown breaks will be created at regular intervals and at drainage lines to permit continued surface water flows and prevent scouring along the trench or ponding.	Construction	APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA
	W5	A spill response procedure, addressing fuels, lubricants and other chemicals will be outlined in the CEMP.	Construction	APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA
Mimimise changes to existing surface and groundwater regimes.	W6	The proponent will implement all practicable measures to limit potential impacts on existing surface and groundwater regimes and this will be documented in the CEMP.	Construction	APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA
Mimimise impacts on water quality and geomorphology.	W7	HDD will be used for the crossing of the Hunter River in the Tomago area.	Construction	APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA
	W8	Where practicable watercourses will be crossed when they are dry.	Construction	APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Minimise the risk of pollution of surface and groundwater and adverse impact on surface and groundwater bodies.	W9	Any water extraction required for the proposal, will be in accordance with the relevant Water Sharing Plan and water legislation.	Construction	Relevant Water Sharing Plans under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> Chapter 15 of the EA
Minimise potential impacts on surface and groundwater.	W10	Further assessment will be undertaken on watercourses identified as being of high sensitivity to finalise crossing locations, methods and site specific management measures.	Construction	<i>Fish Passage – Requirements for Waterway Crossings, NSW Fisheries, Fairfull, S. and Witheridge, G. 2003</i> APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA Chapter 18 of the EA
	W11	The DPI, DWE and DECC will be consulted on waterway crossing methods and mitigation measures employed for high sensitivity waterways. A profile of the waterway crossing would be provided to DPI, DWE and DECC.	Construction	<i>Fish Passage – Requirements for Waterway Crossings, NSW Fisheries, Fairfull, S. and Witheridge, G. 2003</i> APIA Code Chapter 15 of the EA

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	W12	If identified by the relevant landholder, the location of unregistered nearby groundwater bores will be mapped and the pipeline route will avoid these bores.	Prior to construction	Chapter 15 of the EA
Infrastructure				
Minimise adverse impacts on other infrastructure during construction and operation.	I1	Stakeholder engagement with infrastructure owners and managers will be ongoing to ensure their requirements for crossings and works in the general vicinity of their infrastructure are implemented during construction and operation.	Prior to construction	Code of Practice for Work Near Overhead Powerlines, Workcover, 2006 Roads Act 1993 Standards of all relevant utilities, including ARTC, Country Energy, Hunter Water, Energy Australia, Transgrid, RTA and Telstra Chapter 16 of the EA
Coordinate multiple infrastructure and service impacts.	I2	A collaborative management approach involving the relevant infrastructure owners/managers will be ongoing to coordinate management measures in areas where multiple infrastructure services are affected.	Prior to construction	Chapter 16 of the EA
Minimise impacts on the pipeline and utilities and infrastructure during maintenance.	I3	Cooperative management approach will be developed with utility or infrastructure providers for maintenance and access arrangements.	Operation	Chapter 16 of the EA
Resource and waste management				
Ensure waste generated is managed appropriately.	RM1	Waste materials will be classified and managed in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC, 2008).	Construction	Waste Classification Guidelines, DECC, 2008 POEO Act 1997 Chapter 17 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Minimise impacts on water resources, erosion and water quality as a result of hydrostatic testing.	RM2	Appropriate water sources for construction activities including hydro-testing will be investigated and identified. Relevant irrigation groups, water users/owners and DWE will be consulted. Where licensing of surface or groundwater extraction is required for the identified water sources, the proponent will obtain the relevant licence or exemption from DWE.	Prior to construction	Section 7.2.4. of the EA Chapter 15 of the EA Section 17.1 and Table 17.3 of the EA Chapter 18 of the EA
	RM3	<p>Prior to the commencement of hydro-testing activities, a hydrostatic testing program/procedure will be prepared. This will include measures to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirming quantity of water extraction. • Preventing/minimising temporary depletion of water resources due to water extraction for hydrostatic testing • Erosion at site of hydro-test water discharge. • Changes to water quality of receiving water environment. 	Prior to construction	<i>Analysis of Hydrostatic Test Water, CMIT Report No: CMIT-2005-259, 5th December 2005</i> POEO Act 1997 Chapters 15 and 17 of the EA
Contaminated land				
No significant harm to human health and environment from excavation in contaminated sites.	CL1	Management measures will be prepared as part of the CEMP to outline procedures to review site conditions including potential contaminants and where necessary, outline measures to ensure appropriate action will be undertaken during construction to avoid any potential impacts to the environment or human health.	Construction	<i>Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i> Chapter 17 of the EA
Contamination resulting from accidental spills.	CL2	Site environmental management measures will be developed and outlined in the CEMP with the purpose of minimising the potential for spills to occur and implementing remedial actions.	Construction	Chapter 17 of the EA
Soils and geology				
Manage soils.	S1	Soil types will be identified and delineated along the alignment.	Prior to construction	Chapter 17 of the EA
	S2	Soil management measures will be developed according to soil type and be documented in the CEMP.	Prior to and during construction	Chapter 17 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Expansive soils.	S3	The depth of expansive soils will be identified and where practicable the pipe installed below the depth of expansive soils.	Construction	<i>Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Engineering Guidelines</i> , Institute of Engineers Australia (IEAust, 1996) Chapter 17 of the EA
Minimise loss of top soil.	S4	Erosion and sediment management controls will be prepared as part of the CEMP to manage and minimise erosion and control sediment impacts associated with the construction of the pipeline.	Construction	<i>Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction</i> (Landcom, 2004) <i>Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Engineering Guidelines</i> , Institute of Engineers Australia (IEAust, 1996) APIA Code Commitment reference W3 Chapters 15 and 17 of the EA
Prevent rising groundwater and salinity.	S4	The proponent will implement all practicable measures to limit any impact the construction and operation of the pipeline may have on rising groundwater and salinity (eg avoid building on the side of hills and extra depth of cover where possible).	Construction	Chapter 17 of the EA
	S5	Options to vegetate the ROW with saline tolerant vegetation would be investigated in consultation with DECC and landholders, where appropriate.	Operation	Chapter 17 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
Minimising impacts of Acid Sulfate Soil.	S6	Acid Sulfate Soil management measures will be prepared as part of the CEMP in accordance with relevant industry practice guidelines and procedures.	Construction	<i>Acid Sulphate Soil Manual, Acid Sulphate Soil Management Advisory Committee, 1998</i> Chapter 5 of the EA Chapter 17 of the EA
Minimise impacts to soil.	S7	A targeted geotechnical investigation will be undertaken to map soil constraints.	Prior to construction	Chapter 17 of the EA Chapter 18 of the EA
Visual amenity				
Maintain visual amenity along the ROW.	V1	Areas that are visually sensitive will be identified in the CEMP and revegetation carried out in accordance with the APIA Code.	Operation	APIA Code Chapter 17 of the EA
Maintain visual amenity in the vicinity of aboveground ancillary infrastructure.	V2	Visual amenity will be taken into consideration in the detailed design and location of aboveground infrastructure facilities.	Operation	Chapter 17 of the EA
Greenhouse gas emissions				
Minimise exhaust emissions from transportation and production.	GG1	Adequate planning and maintenance to ensure efficient use of vehicles.	Construction	Commitment reference A4 Chapter 17 of the EA
Minimise gas leaks.	GG2	Continuous monitoring system to detect leaks and a maintenance program to minimise fugitive emissions.	Operation	Chapter 17 of the EA Chapter 5 of the EA
Minimise gas releases.	GG3	Practicable measures will be implemented to minimise planned releases for maintenance work.	Operation	Chapter 17 of the EA

Objective	Ref #	High level principled commitment	Timing	Reference
	GG4	Pipeline maintenance and safety measures (eg signage) to minimise the risk of accidental gas releases.	Operation	AS2885 Chapter 17 of the EA
Adaptive management of environmental constraints				
Minimise serious or irreversible environmental damage.	AM1	Further refinement of the pipeline alignment will seek to improve environmental outcomes through avoidance of relevant constraints, and as necessary the mitigation of any additional adverse impacts.	Prior to construction	Chapter 18 of the EA
Ensure adaptive management of environmental constraints.	AM2	The proponent will carry out the fieldwork referred to in Table 18.1	Prior to construction and construction	Chapter 18 of the EA Table 18.1

