



# Warrell Creek to Urunga Upgrading the Pacific Highway

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

### VOLUME 1 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

January 2010

ISBN 978-1-921692-63-5

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## 8. Environmental management

*This chapter outlines the RTA's environmental management framework and the management procedures to be followed during construction and operation of the Proposal.*

### 8.1 RTA environmental management framework

The RTA's Environmental Policy provides the framework for continually improving the RTA's environmental performance. The policy sets commitments for managing potential environmental impacts. The RTA is committed to undertaking its activities in an environmentally responsible manner and effectively managing any risks that may lead to an impact on the environment. The RTA would do all that is reasonably practical to ensure that there is continuous improvement in its environmental performance, including ongoing communication and awareness raising, active reporting of environmental incidents and continuous learning from experience.

### 8.2 Environmental management plans

A CEMP would be prepared by the construction contractor(s) prior to construction of the Proposal to address management measures that need to be implemented to ensure compliance with the Minister for Planning's conditions of approval, including the commitments made in this environmental assessment. The CEMP would cover the environmental protection practices, resources and the sequence of activities required.

The plan would provide a centralised mechanism through which all environmental aspects, impacts, risks and obligations relevant to the Proposal would be managed. In addition, it would outline a management framework of procedures and controls for managing the environmental impact of construction.

The plan would:

- Outline how environmental safeguards and mitigation measures identified in this environmental assessment would be incorporated in the Proposal.
- Document mechanisms for demonstrating compliance with the Statement of Commitments and Conditions of Approval.

The construction environmental management plan would ensure specific environmental management measures are implemented during construction and would include the following:

- Roles and responsibilities for planning, approval, implementation, assessment and monitoring of environmental controls.
- Required licences, approvals and permits.
- Proposal control and mitigation measures to be implemented.

- Objectives and targets for environmental performance.
- Environmental monitoring programs and a mechanism for evaluating environmental performance.
- Communication procedures.
- Document control procedures.
- Emergency response and environmental incident procedures to mitigate potential environmental damage.
- Training, competence and awareness assessment procedures and programs.
- An environmental auditing program and a mechanism for control and management of non-conformances.

### 8.3 Operational environmental management plan

An operational environmental management plan would be prepared to coordinate ongoing monitoring and maintenance after the Proposal is opened to traffic. It would include details of statutory and other obligations that would be required to be fulfilled, and requirements for maintenance, monitoring, auditing and reporting. The operational environmental management plan would be consistent with the commitments made in this environmental assessment and the Minister for Planning's Conditions of Approval.

Chapters 10 to 19 identify individual design and management responses to potential key environmental impacts identified within this environmental assessment. Appendix D - *Draft Statement of Commitments* provides a summary of proposed management measures, demonstrating the RTA's commitment to preparing and implementing environmental management plans and associated mitigation measures.