

6.0 Consultation

This chapter summarises the consultation undertaken in respect of the project and includes consideration of the requirements of the Director-General with regard to the EA, the comments of relevant government agencies and issues raised by the local community.

6.1 NSW Formal Procedures

This EA has been prepared in accordance with Part 3A of the EP&A Act and its Regulation. Part 3A of the EP&A Act ensures that the potential environmental effects of the proposal are properly assessed and considered in the decision making process.

In preparing this EA, the DGRs have been addressed as required by Clause 75F of the EP&A Act. The key matters raised by the Director-General for consideration in the EA are outlined in **Table 12** below, together with the relevant section of the EA which addresses that matter. A full copy of the DGRs for the project is provided in **Appendix B**.

Table 12: Director-General's Requirements

DGRs	Reference in EA
General Requirements	
A description of the existing and approved operations and infrastructure, including all statutory approvals.	Planning history – Section 1.1.2 (approvals to date) Existing Works and Infrastructure – Chapter 4 (current site operations and infrastructure)
The existing environmental management and monitoring regime.	Project Description – Chapter 4 (Current operation; RP and measures undertaken to date; existing water, air and rehabilitation management controls)
Project description including project need, alternatives considered and project timeframe.	Assessment of Alternatives – Chapter 3 (need, alternatives and consequence of not proceeding) The Project – Section 4.2 (detailed project description)
Risk assessment to identify key issues for further assessment.	Issues prioritisation – Chapter 7 (matrix to address the significance of environmental issues)
Assessment of the existing environment; Cumulative impacts; Policies, guidelines and statutory requirements, strategic planning and potential land use conflicts; and mitigation measures.	Environmental assessment – Chapters 8 - 21 Cumulative impacts – Chapter 21 Statutory Planning – Chapter 5 (consideration of planning legislation, policies and guidelines)
Statement of commitments outlining environmental management and monitoring issues.	Statement of commitments – Section 22.3 (environmental management and monitoring measures)
Justification on economic, social and environmental grounds that considers the objects of the EP&A Act.	Need for the Project – Section 3.1 (project justification) <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> – (consideration of EP&A Act objectives) – Chapter 5
Consultation with relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups or affected landowners. Particularly: Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water Department of Industry and Investment Roads and Traffic Authority Liverpool City Council	Consultation and issues identification – Chapter 6

DGRs	Reference in EA
Key Issues	
Noise – Construction, operational and off site road.	Noise – Chapter 9 and Appendix F
Transport – Predicted road traffic impacts on road network and potential measures to upgrade/maintain road networks.	Traffic and Transport – Chapter 13 and Appendix G
Air Quality– Quantitative assessment of Greenhouse gas emissions and minimisation measures.	Air quality – Chapter 8 and Appendix E
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Section 8.5 and Appendix E
Soil and Water – Site water balance and water management systems. Modelling of potential surface and ground water impacts, particularly in relation to Badgerys creek and its riparian zone. Flood impacts and mitigation measures.	Geology, soils and contamination – Chapter 14 Water quality and management – Chapter 10 and Appendix C Groundwater – Chapter 11
Visual – Measures to minimise visual impact.	Visual impacts – Chapter 16
Biodiversity – Potential impacts on terrestrial and aquatic threatened species, populations, ecological communities, habitats or ground water dependent ecosystems. Measures to maintain or improve biodiversity.	Ecology – Chapter 17
Heritage – Aboriginal and non – aboriginal.	Heritage – Chapter 16 and Appendix K
Waste	Waste – Chapter 19
Quarry closure and Rehabilitation – including: measures taken upon quarry closure and a detailed rehabilitation strategy that considers the strategic planning of the site and surroundings. Measures to ensure that finance is in place to carryout rehabilitation.	Rehabilitation – Section 4.3 and Appendix D
Social and economic – Assessment of the projects socio-economic impacts and demand on infrastructure.	Socio economic impacts – Chapter 18

6.2 Consultation with Stakeholders and Relevant Authorities

6.2.1 Statutory and Other Relevant Authorities

The Proponent has undertaken consultation with key local and State Government agencies as specified in the DGRs during the preliminary design phase and preparation of this EA. The key agencies that AECOM has referred to include:

- The DoP;
- The DECCW;
- The NSW Office of Water (NOW);
- The DII;
- The RTA; and
- LCC.

The purpose of this consultation has been to provide an overview of the project and to seek input into matters that stakeholders would like to see addressed in the EA.

In this regard, comments were sought from relevant statutory agencies identified in the DGRs to assist with the preparation of this EA. Copies of agency responses received are included in **Appendix B. Table 13** below summarises the outcomes of the consultation together with the relevant section of the EA that addresses the matter.

Table 13: Summary of Agency Responses

Agency	Issue	Reference in EA
NSW Office of Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of a sustainable water supply; • The protection and rehabilitation of waterways and riparian land consistent with the Riparian Corridor Management Study stream categorisation of waterways; and • Groundwater and groundwater dependent ecosystems. 	Existing environment – Chapter 10 (water supply), Appendix C Wetlands – Chapter 17 (ecological impacts) Groundwater – Chapter 11 (potential impacts)
NSW RTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport objectives of the Metropolitan Strategy for the South West Growth Centre; • Daily and peak traffic movements. • Traffic analysis of the intersection of Elizabeth drive and Martin Road; and • Assessment of the potential increase in toxicity levels of loads transported on arterial and local roads to/from the site and consequently, the preparation of an incident management strategy for crashes involving such loads, if relevant. 	The <i>Sydney Metropolitan Strategy</i> – Intersection performance – Section 13.2.4 Potential impacts – Section 13.4 and Appendix G

Agency	Issue	Reference in EA
NSW DECCW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of the changing land uses with regard to the <i>Sydney Metropolitan Strategy</i>; • Noise and air impacts from both the quarrying and brick making operations; • Greenhouse gas emissions; • Aboriginal Cultural Heritage; • Water and Groundwater management • Appropriate management of stockpiles and wastes; and • Appropriate rehabilitation of the site. 	<p><i>Sydney Metropolitan Strategy</i> – Chapter 5</p> <p>Air quality – Chapter 8 and Appendix E</p> <p>Noise – Chapter 9 and Appendix F</p> <p>Greenhouse gas – Section 8.5</p> <p>Climate Change – Chapter 24</p> <p>Heritage – Chapter 16 and Appendix K</p> <p>Water quality and management – Chapters 10 and 11 and Appendix C</p> <p>Groundwater – Chapter 11</p> <p>Waste – Chapter 19</p> <p>Rehabilitation – Section 4.3 and Appendix D</p>
NSW DII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the size and quality of the resource; • Address the aquatic habitat protection requirements; • Maintenance of a buffer zone between the operation and both Badgerys Creek and South Creek to ensure water connectivity does not occur; • Ensure site remains zero discharge for stormwater; and • Develop a comprehensive RPincluding designs for surface water management systems for use after pits and ensure that stockpiles are rehabilitated. 	<p>The project – Chapter 4</p> <p>Soil and water management – Chapter 10 and Appendix C</p> <p>Water quality and management – Chapter 10 and Appendix C</p> <p>Soil and water management – Chapter 10 and Appendix C; and</p> <p>Rehabilitation – Section 4.3 and Appendix D</p> <p>On-site drainage – Chapter 10 and Appendix C</p>

6.2.2 Community Consultation

The Proponent regularly engages with adjoining landowners and has in the past received few complaints in relation to the existing site operations.

As part of the EA process, a program of targeted land owner consultation involving face to face meetings and discussions with potentially impacted landholders who reside within 250 m of the site boundary has been undertaken. The consultation process endeavoured to inform and discuss with local landowners, planned quarrying activities including the continued extraction of raw materials from Pit 3 and the progression of quarrying activities into proposed Pit 4 and Pit 5 in the eastern and northern areas of the site. Feedback from the consultation process has been taken into consideration and the issues raised by the community were:

- Noise from reversing beepers on the site - this issue is addressed in **Chapter 9** and **Appendix F** of the EA.
- Dust – this issue is addressed in **Chapter 8** and **Appendix E** of the EA.

Most landowners within a 250 m distance of the site boundary raised no issues with regard to the Proponent's quarrying and brick making activities at Badgerys Creek.

A program of landowner consultation would also be undertaken in the future as quarrying activities progress across the site.

6.2.3 Aboriginal Community Consultation

The Aboriginal Heritage Assessment undertaken as part of this EA included Aboriginal consultation conducted in accordance with the NPW Act: *Part 6 Approvals – Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants* (ICCRs). The following Aboriginal stakeholder groups were consulted following their response to an invitation to participate in the consultation process:

- Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council (GLALC);
- Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation (DCAC);
- Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation (DTAC);
- Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments (DACHA);
- Darug Land Observations (DLO); and
- Yarrawalk (YA).

Results of this consultation are summarised in the Heritage Assessment discussed in **Chapter 16** of this EA and included as **Appendix K**.

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7.0 Issues Prioritisation

7.1 Issues Identification

The issues associated with the Project include:

- Air quality;
- Noise;
- Surface water and ground water;
- Transport and traffic;
- Land use;
- Visual impact;
- Ecology;
- Heritage;
- Rehabilitation;
- Hazard and risk; and
- Social and economic.

7.2 Prioritisation of Issues

7.2.1 Approach

The prioritisation of issues for the proposed continued operations is based on the need to recognise that the higher the potential severity of adverse environmental effects and the greater the consequence of those unmanaged effects, the higher the degree of environmental assessment required.

Where a high potential effect was identified, the attribute or issue was allocated a higher priority for assessment.

Table 14 provides the Issues Prioritisation Matrix upon which the ranking of environmental issues has been based. This method assesses priority on the basis of the potential severity of environmental effects and the likely consequences of those potential effects if unmanaged. The potential severity and consequence of the environmental effect are each given a numerical value between 1 and 3. The numbers are added together to provide a result which is then ranked and shaded in the matrix by the level of priority being High, Medium or Low.

Table 14: Issues Prioritisation Matrix

Severity Of Effects	Consequence of Unmanaged Effects		
	3 High	2 Medium	1 Low
1 Low	4 (Medium)	3 (Low)	2 (Low)
2 Medium	5 (High)	4 (Medium)	3 (Low)
3 High	6 (High)	5 (High)	4 (Medium)

7.2.2 Assessment

The prioritisation of environmental issues related to the Project is shown in **Table 15**. This assessment aims to allow the prioritisation of issues for assessment and does not consider the application of mitigation measures to manage environmental effects. In all cases, appropriate and proven mitigation measures, chosen based upon the experience of regulators and other similar projects would be used to minimise potential impacts. These measures would be described in detail in the EA prepared for the proposed extension of operations.

The allocation of risk is based upon the following considerations:

Severity of Risk

- Low: localised implications; imperceptible or short term cumulative impacts.
- Medium: regional implications; modest or medium term accumulation of impacts.
- High: inter-regional implications: serious or long term accumulation of impacts.

Consequences of Unmanaged Effects

- Low: minor environmental change; offsets readily available.
- Medium: moderate adverse environmental change; offsets available.
- High: important adverse environmental change, offsets not readily available.

Table 15: Prioritisation Analysis

Issue	Severity	Consequence	Priority
Aspect: Air Quality			
Quarry related impacts on air quality such as dust generation and vehicle emissions	2	2	4 (Medium)
Dust generation and vehicle emissions during brick making and handling activities	1	2	3 (Low)
Community concern regarding degradation of air quality.	1	2	3 (Low)
Regional and inter-regional impacts upon air quality.	1	2	3 (Low)
Aspect: Water			
Degradation of surface water quality in the local area during quarrying activities.	1	2	3 (Low)
Degradation of surface water quality in the local area during operation of brick making facility	1	2	3 (Low)
Release of waters into the surface drainage, including the potential for saline waters or sediment laden waters	2	2	4 (Medium)

Issue	Severity	Consequence	Priority
Release of surface water runoff into Badgerys Creek or South Creek	1	2	3 (Low)
Dewatering and disruption to groundwater aquifers due to activities	1	2	3 (Low)
Aspect: Noise			
Noise nuisance to local residents during quarrying activities	1	2	3 (Low)
Noise nuisance to local residents during brick making and handling	1	2	3 (Low)
Noise nuisance to local residents as an effect of traffic and transport movements	2	2	4 (Medium)
Aspect: Geology and Soils			
Erosion and sedimentation during quarrying activities	1	2	3 (Low)
Erosion and sedimentation during brick making and handling activities	1	1	2 (Low)
Potential geotechnical impacts as a result of quarrying activities	1	2	3 (Low)
Contamination and sterilisation of land for future uses	1	2	3 (Low)
Aspect: Hazard and Risk			
Exposure of surrounding land uses to risks and hazards during quarrying	1	1	2 (Low)
Exposure of surrounding land uses to risks and hazards during brick making and handling	1	1	2 (Low)
Exposure of employees to risks and hazards	1	2	3 (Low)

Issue	Severity	Consequence	Priority
Aspect: Ecological			
Loss of habitat due to clearing and quarrying	1	1	2 (Low)
Reduction in biodiversity due to loss of habitat for native species	1	1	2 (Low)
Spread of weeds and feral animals	1	1	2 (Low)
Impact upon threatened species	1	1	2 (Low)
Impact upon aquatic ecology of Badgerys Creek and South Creek	1	2	3 (Low)
Aspect: Socio-Economic			
Demand upon community, natural or transport resources	1	1	2 (Low)
Impacts upon amenity of surrounding properties such as noise, visual, etc	1	2	3 (Low)
Job creation during construction	1	1	2 (Low)
Job creation during operation	1	1	2 (Low)
Aspect: Traffic and Transportation			
Impact on traffic on local road network due to continued operations	2	2	4 (Medium)
Impact on regional road network	1	1	2 (Low)
Aspect: Cultural Heritage			
Impacts on Non-Indigenous heritage	1	1	2 (Low)
Impacts on Indigenous heritage.	1	1	2 (Low)
Visual Impacts			
Visual impacts during quarrying activities	1	2	3 (Low)
Visual impacts during brick making and handling activities	1	1	2 (Low)

Issue	Severity	Consequence	Priority
Aspect: Land Use			
Inappropriate use of land	1	1	2 (Low)
Incompatibility of land use with surrounding environment	1	2	3 (Low)
Incompatibility of land use with new land uses proposed for area	2	2	4 (Medium)
Aspect: Rehabilitation			
Impacts on soils and water quality as a result of rehabilitation works	1	2	3 (Low)
Impacts on air quality (dust) as a result of rehabilitation work	2	1	3 (Low)
Compatibility of final land use with future environment	2	2	4 (Medium)

Table 16 identifies that the prioritisation of environmental issues, and therefore the focus of assessment for the proposed project should be as follows:

Table 16: Prioritisation of Issues

Low	Medium	High
Hazard and Risk Ecology Socio-Economic Cultural Heritage Visual Geology and Soils (Soil erosion impacts)	Air quality Water Noise and Vibration Traffic and Transportation Land Use Rehabilitation	None

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