

Vince Di Bono
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Parramatta
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Bulloo Interlink Pipeline - SEARs

Dear Mr Di Bono

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the Bulloo Interlink Pipeline - SEARs.

Agriculture plays a vital role in supporting state, regional and local economies and strengthening rural communities' social bonds and character. The NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Agriculture and Biosecurity (the Department) collaborates and partners with our stakeholders to protect and enhance the productive and sustainable use and resilience of agricultural resources and the environment.

The Department has reviewed the draft SEARs and notes that although the Scoping Report considers that no further assessment is required, the Department supports the draft SEARs where it provides for an assessment of the impact of the pipeline on agricultural resources and agricultural productivity. The EIS should clarify the lands identified for the project and the arrangements for "temporarily leased from landowners" as the project is within the Western Division <https://www.crownland.nsw.gov.au/about-us/our-roles-and-responsibilities/western-lands>.

The EIS should also include:

- a. a Biosecurity Management Plan (BMP) to cover potential agricultural biosecurity impacts:
 - Include an assessment of biosecurity (pests, weeds, and disease) risk to agricultural operations along the pipeline route, outlining the likely plant, animal, and community risks. Specifically, the BMP needs to address the biosecurity risks associated with the movement of plant and soil material between properties during construction.
 - Complement individual landholder biosecurity plans.
 - Include details of how the proposal will deal with identified biosecurity risks as well as contingency plans for any failures. Include monitoring and mitigation measures for weed and pest management.

- b. A Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment (LUCRA) to determine the potential for land use conflict with and between the pipeline (during construction and operation), the temporary worker accommodation and agricultural land uses along the route. The LUCRA should also detail mitigation measures and the revised risk once mitigation measures have been implemented.
- c. A Rehabilitation and Decommissioning Management Plan that describes how the land used for agriculture prior to construction of the pipeline will be able to be used for that land use in the future when the pipeline is operational or has been decommissioned. A soil survey undertaken prior to works commencing would be a benchmark for rehabilitation along with the expected timeline for the rehabilitation program.

Guidelines are listed in Attachment 1.

Should you require clarification on any of the information contained in this response, please do not hesitate to contact at landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Sincerely

L Parker

Lilian Parker
Agricultural Land Use Planning
Signed 24 April 2025

Attachment A: Primary Industry guidelines and resource information

Title	Website link
Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment Guide	https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/lup/development-assessment2/lucra
Infrastructure Proposals on Rural Land	https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/lup/development-assessment2/infrastructure-proposals
The land and soil capability assessment scheme: second approximation 2012 (OEH)	https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/land-and-soil-capability-assessment-scheme
Biosecurity Risk Management in Land Use Planning and Development	https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/1271241/managing-biosecurity-risks-in-land-use-planning-and-development-guide.pdf
Landholder Biosecurity and Utility Service Providers - Primefact	https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/1241732/PUB20-475-PrimeFact_Landholder-Biosecurity-and-Utility-Service-Providers.pdf
Australian Soil and Land Survey Handbook (CSIRO)	https://ebooks.publish.csiro.au/content/australian-soil-and-land-survey-field-handbook
Guidelines for Surveying Soil and Land Resources (CSIRO)	https://ebooks.publish.csiro.au/content/guidelines-surveying-soil-and-land-resources