

APPENDIX D STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY*

Stakeholder	Date	Engagement Activities
Local Councils		
<i>Uralla Shire Council</i>	4 May 2020	Introductory letter sent to Mayor and General Manager introducing the Project, development timeline, and contact details
	9 to 15 September 2020	Phone discussion between Amber and relevant Council staff member. Discussed minibus parking locations for construction workforce. Several follow up exchanges took place over phone and email over the subsequent days including providing draft Route Assessment
	1 October 2020	Letter sent from Aviation Projects to the Director Infrastructure to inform on aviation matters. Email response received 19 October 2020 (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)
	21 October 2020	Email sent to General Manager and Manager of Development and Planning to introduce Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Chairperson and to enquire if Council would like to nominate a CCC member
	27 October 2020	Email sent to General Manager and Manager of Development and Planning to request a meeting
	29 October 2020	Emails exchanged regarding advertising for CCC members
	18 November 2020	Meeting (in person) with General Manager and Manager of Development to discuss Project
	4 April 2021	Phone call between Amber and Director of Infrastructure and Development to discuss traffic and to follow up on information
	1 February 2021	Email to Council noting that preparation of EIS has begun
	2 June 2021	Email from Council regarding compliance with the Uralla Community Strategic Plan
	17 August 2021	Stakeholder briefing presentation about the Project to Council
<i>Walcha Council</i>	11 February 2020	Meeting (in person) with Mayor and General Manager to introduce the Proponent and the Project
	12 February 2020	Follow up email to General Manager providing high-level estimate of transport requirements for Project
	5 May 2020	Introductory letter to Mayor and Councillors introducing the Project, development timeline, anticipated benefits and contact details
	July 2020 to September 2021	Extensive emails and phone calls between Amber and Walcha Council relating to the draft Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA), including but not limited to, traffic volume data, bus route information, turning movement count data, road upgrades, bridge information, and heavy vehicle route in Walcha Local Government Area (LGA). The draft TIA was provided to the Director Infrastructure
	26 August 2020	Meeting (in person) with Mayor and General Manager
	6 September 2020	Email from Mayor with list of questions that Councillors would like to discuss at upcoming meeting, as requested by the Proponent
	7 September 2020	Email to Mayor with response to questions from Councillors and Council staff
	9 September 2020	Meeting (in person) with Mayor and Councillors on the Project to provide current status and timeline. Questions were received about waste, water, transport through Walcha township, and benefit sharing schemes
	10 September 2020	Follow up email providing further information about the Project

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	15 September 2020	Email to Mayor and Councillors which provided additional information on estimated types / volumes of anticipated waste generation
	15 September 2020	Phone call to Director Infrastructure to discuss Crown road, traffic movements, and future road upgrade requirements. Follow up email was sent about information discussed during phone call
	1 October 2020	Email from Aviation Projects to discuss aviation matters. Email response received 2 November 2020 from A/Director Infrastructure and Development advising that Council has reviewed the Aviation Impact Assessment and raises no issues (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)
	21 October 2020	Email to Council to introduce Mayor and General Manager to the CCC Chairperson and request Council nomination for CCC member
	19 November 2020	Enquiry from General Manager in relation to sponsoring Christmas Lights competition
	10 December 2020	Phone call to Director Infrastructure to discuss road infrastructure
	1 February 2021	Email to Council noting that preparation of EIS has begun
	18 February 2021	Emails exchanged with Director Infrastructure in relation to the TIA
	10 March 2021	Email from sent to Director Infrastructure in relation to TIA
	2 June 2021	Email from Information Centre in relation to sponsorship of Motorcycle Rally
	2 June 2021	Email to Director Infrastructure to request meeting. A meeting (in person) was held 7 June 2021 and topics of water and waste were discussed
	8 June 2021	Email to Director Infrastructure with information about use of treated wastewater for dust suppression
	10 October 2021	Discussion with Mayor in relation to Community Benefit Fund
	2 November 2021	Meeting (in person) with Mayor and General Manager in relation to Community Benefit Fund
	16 November 2021	Email from General Manager noting that Council staff were not able to participate in the Social and Environmental Impact survey
	9 December 2021	Meeting (in person) with Mayor and General Manager in relation to Community Benefit Fund
	25 March 2022	Discussion with Mayor in relation to Community Benefit Fund
	11 April 2022	Meeting (in person) with Mayor and General Manager in relation to Council roads and Community Benefit Fund
	June 2022	DNV attempted contact with Walcha Council to inform the EMI Assessment (refer Table 16 of Appendix N)
<i>Tamworth Regional Council</i>	September 2020 to December 2020	Various emails and phone calls between Amber and Manager Development Engineering and Mayor to exchange information to assist preparation of TIA, including haulage route through Tamworth and Tamworth workforce requirements and worker transport
<i>Newcastle City Council</i>	12 February 2021	Call between Amber and Traffic Engineer to discuss include traffic impact on council assets including road upgrades and proposed access route. It was noted that impact to services will need to be addressed as part of the detailed design

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<i>Armidale Regional Council</i>	22 September 2020	Phone discussion between Amber and Engineering Technical Officer. Discussed minibus parking locations for construction workforce
	7 October 2020	Provided draft Route Assessment to Council
	June 2022	DNV attempted contact with Armidale Regional Council to inform the EMI Assessment (refer Table 16 of Appendix N)
<i>Muswellbrook Regional Council</i>	22 September 2020	Phone discussion between Amber and Council staff member to discuss issues with the OSOM deliveries through the town from previous projects
	16 May 2022	Meeting with Council staff in relation to the proposed transport route through Muswellbrook LGA
State Government Agencies		
<i>DPE's Biodiversity and Conservation Division</i>	November to December 2020	Consultation with Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD) undertaken throughout November and December 2020 to provide an opportunity to raise concerns and/or provide input and advice into the EIS about bushfire matters. BCD responded with no additional requirements or advice beyond their previous input into the SEARs for the Project (refer Section 3.4.4 of Appendix L)
	29 March 2021	Email to BCD from Footprint Engineering outlining alternate solution that would satisfy the information requested in items 11 and 14 of SEARs
	8 April 2021	Email to BCD seeking comments on flood impact assessment approach. A response was received 22 April 2021 which included a recommendation of an alternative solution of the flood impact assessment (refer Annex A of Appendix Q)
	26 April 2021	Email to BCD to request meeting to discuss SAIL impacts
	3 May 2021	Meeting (online) to discuss potential SAIL impacts. The meeting presented the background to the Project and its impacts, preliminary survey results and facilitated discussion around acceptable impacts on SAIL candidates to ensure the overall impacts would be approvable
	6 August 2021	Email to BCD seeking confirmation about flood impact assessment approach. Response received 25 August 2021 confirming that addressing the SEARs requirements relating to flooding are no longer required, however the recommendation in the BCD letter dated 22 April 2021 remains valid
	24 November 2021	Email to BCD seeking input into the Rufous Bettong survey effort methodology. Response received on 14 December 2021 from Senior Team Leader Planning (refer Appendix O of BDAR, Appendix G)
	13 April 2022	Meeting (online) between Senior Team Leader Planning, North east Branch of BCD, ERM and NGH to discuss land category assessment and mapping
<i>Department of Premier and Cabinet - Heritage</i>	11 Feb 2020	Meeting (in person) with Business Development Manager, New England - North West to provide Project overview
<i>National Parks and Wildlife Service</i>	1 Oct 2020	Email to Manager New England Area, Northern Inland Branch to provide overview of aviation matters. Response received 17 November 2020 (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)
	November to December 2020	Consultation with Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD) undertaken throughout November and December 2020 to provide an opportunity to raise concerns and/or provide input and advice into the EIS about bushfire matters. NPWS provided input on 23 December 2020 (refer Section 3.4.4 of Appendix L)

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<i>DPE Water Group</i>	28 July 2021	Attempted virtual meeting with New England Area staff
	17 August 2021	Attempted virtual meeting with New England Area staff
	30 March 2021	Email to DPE Water Group for flood assessment query
	20 June 2022	Email to DPE Water Group inviting further feedback on the Project. No response received to date.
<i>NSW Environment Protection Authority</i>	25 May 2020	Letter to NSW EPA introducing the Project, development timeline, and contact details. Response received 4 June 2020
<i>Crown Lands</i>	6 August 2020	Email to Crown Lands seeking appropriate contact details
	30 September 2020	Enquiry to Crown Lands regarding how to approach land tenure / access and permission to conduct works on existing Crown roads
	12 October 2020	Enquiry to Crown Lands regarding how to approach land tenure / access and permission to conduct works on existing Crown roads
	October to November 2020	Email sent on 12 October, 26 November, and 27 November to Natural Resource Management Project Officer in relation to Crown roads tenure
	9 December 2020	Phone call to Natural Resource Management Project Officer
	1 February 2021	Email to Natural Resource Management Project Officer noting commencement of EIS preparation. Response received 5 February 2021 with further information about Crown Land policies and pathways. Reply from NGH to Crown Lands with proposed Project Area and route of the proposed high voltage transmission line. Requested further information regarding the location of Crown Land within / crossing these elements
	12 February 2021	Email to introduce Project Team to Natural Resource Management Project Officer and ask for assistance with Crown Roads issue
	19 March 2021	Meeting (in person) with Natural Resource Management Project Officer at the Crown Lands Armidale office to discuss Crown Roads within the Project Area
	1 June 2021	Email to Natural Resource Management Project Officer to follow up on previous meeting regarding Crown Roads within Project Area
	4 April 2022	Phone discussion with Natural Resource Management Project Officer regarding application for Crown Land consent
<i>Regional NSW – Mining, Exploration & Geoscience</i>	1 February 2021	Email to Manager Land Use introducing Project and noting preparation of EIS has begun
	4 February 2021	Email to MEG providing shape files of current wind farm layout
	4 March 2022	Email to Manager Land Use providing updated Project description. Response received 22 March 2022 noting that MEG do not have any additional considerations in relation to the refined Project design
<i>Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture and Fisheries division</i>	20 June 2022	Email to Forestry Corporation inviting feedback on the Project. Response received 21 June acknowledging email and to advise that the email has been passed to the Aquatic Habitat Protection Unit. No further response to date

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<i>Transport for New South Wales</i>	9 February 2020	Email from Amber to Transport for NSW (TfNSW) requesting traffic growth data. Response was received noting to follow up with Council
	22 May 2020	Letter to Transport Secretary introducing the Project, development timeline, and contact details. Letter acknowledged by TfNSW 11 June 2020
	10 July 2020	Email from Amber provided to Development Assessment Officer and Team Leader, Development Services, Region North providing draft Route Assessment. Comments received October 2020
	7 August 2020	Phone discussion between Amber and Team Leader, Development Services, Region North where further guidance was given by TfNSW on preparing the TIA and Route Assessment
	February to April 2021	Various emails from Amber to Development Assessment Officer and Team Leader, Development Services, Region North about load limits for bridge assessment, truck loads, and road upgrades.
<i>TransGrid</i>	19 August 2020 to 31 May 2022	<p>21 meetings (virtual and in person) with TransGrid to discuss interconnection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2020: 19 August, 7 September, 1 October, 8 December ■ 2021: 3 February, 26 March, 30 April, 17 May, 13 July, 19 July, 22 July, 22 July, 9 August, 20 October, 3 November, 8 November, 10 November, 22 December ■ 2022: 15 February, 18 February, 1 April, 31 May
<i>Department of Finance, Services and Innovation – Telco Authority</i>	May 2022	DNV has engaged with NSW Telco Authority to inform the EMI Assessment. Responses were received 27 May 2022 and 14 June 2022 (refer Table 16 of Appendix N)
<i>Northern Tablelands Local Land Services</i>	8 October 2020	Email sent to NT LSS from Aviation Projects to inform NT LSS about the Project. A follow up email was sent on 29 October 2020, no response was received (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)
	1 February 2021	Email to NT LSS introducing Project and noting preparation of EIS has begun
	2 August 2021	Stakeholder briefing presentation (online) about the Project and discussion of NT LLS interests in the Project
Federal		
<i>Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment</i>	4 June 2020	Email from A/g Assistant Secretary noting requirement for assessment under EPBC Act.
<i>Department of Defence</i>	1 October 2021	Email to Director - Land Planning & Regulation from Aviation Projects introducing the Project. Response received 22 October 2020 from Director - Land Planning & Regulation (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)
<i>Civil Aviation Safety Authority</i>	22 May 2020	Letter sent to CASA introducing the Project, development timeline, pending scoping report and contact details
	5 June 2020	Follow up letter sent 22 May 2020. CASA responded that it will only review assessments referred to it by a planning authority or agency (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)

Stakeholder	Date	Engagement Activities
Emergency Services		
NSW Rural Fire Service	1 October 2020	Email to Supervisor, Operations Aviation, Response and Coordination from Aviation Projects outlining Project relating to aviation hazards. Response received 29 Oct 2020 noting that NSW RFS have no comments (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)
	November to December 2020	Consultation with NSW RFS was undertaken throughout November and December 2020 to provide an opportunity to raise concerns and/or provide input and advice into the EIS about bushfire matters. NSW RFS responded with no additional requirements or advice beyond their previous input into the SEARs for the Project (refer Section 3.4.2 of Appendix L)
	July 2021	Email sent 12 July 2021 and 29 July 2021 to Field Operations Officer at NSW RFS to discuss impacts of proposed turbines on NSW RFS radio links.
	22 July 2021	Phone call to Field Operations Officer at NSW RFS to discuss impacts of proposed turbines on NSW RFS radio links
	June 2022	DNV engaged with NSW RFS to inform the EMI Assessment. Response received 15 June 2022 (refer Table 16 of Appendix N)
Fire & Rescue NSW	25 May 2020	Email sent to Commissioner introducing the Project, development timeline, and contact details
	5 June 2020	Email to Armidale Fire & Rescue Station Officer noting interest in input from Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) from an emergency service response perspective during development and operations
	November to December 2020	Consultation with FRNSW undertaken throughout November and December 2020 to provide an opportunity to raise concerns and/or provide input and advice into the EIS about bushfire matters. FRNSW outlined that their services will generally involve hazardous materials incidents and that they may visit the Project once operational to collect information for their own reference (refer Section 3.4.1 of Appendix L)
NSW Police Force	May 2022	DNV has engaged with NSW Police Force to inform the EMI Assessment. Response received 23 May 2022 (refer Table 16 of Appendix N)
NSW Ambulance	June 2022	DNV has attempted contact with NSW Ambulance to inform the EMI Assessment (refer Table 16 of Appendix N)
St John Ambulance	June 2022	DNV has engaged with St John Ambulance to inform the EMI Assessment. Response received 6 June 2022 (refer Table 16 of Appendix N)
NSW State Emergency Service	June 2022	DNV has attempted contact with NSW State Emergency Service to inform the EMI Assessment (refer Table 16 of Appendix N)
Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter Service	1 October 2020	Email from Aviation Projects to inform Aviation Impact Assessment. Response received 17 November 2020 (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)
Royal Flying Doctor Service	1 October 2021	Email from Aviation Projects to inform Aviation Impact Assessment. Response received 13 October 2020 from General Manager Aviation, RFDS South Eastern Section advising of no known issues (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)

Stakeholder	Date	Engagement Activities
Aboriginal Community		
<i>Registered Aboriginal Parties</i>	April 2020 to February 2021	<p>A number of Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) or representatives of RAPs were involved in fieldwork and assessments to inform the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHAR), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Armidale LALC; ■ Amaroo LALC; ■ Nunawanna Aboriginal Corporation; ■ Larrisa Ahoy; and ■ Iwatta Aboriginal Corporation. <p>Log and copies of correspondence with Aboriginal community stakeholders is presented in Appendix 1 of the ACHAR (refer Appendix O)</p>
Other Industry		
<i>Aerial Operators</i>	October 2020	<p>Various consultation has been conducted by Aviation Projects with the following Aerial Operators to inform the Aviation Impact Assessment (refer Table 4 of Appendix K):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Superair; ■ Corporate Air/Link Airways; ■ Fleet Helicopters; ■ QantasLink; and ■ Rex
<i>Airservices Australia</i>	1 October 2020	Email from Aviation Projects outlining the Project and aviation matters. Email response was received on 30 October 2020 from the Advisor Airport Development (refer Table 4 of Appendix K)
<i>Exploration Licence Holder</i>	16 March 2022	Notified Iolanthe Minerals Pty Ltd that EL9338 is within Project Area. Provided KMZ of Project layout and Project description
<i>Forestry Corporation of NSW</i>	20 June 2022	Email to Forestry Corporation inviting feedback on the Project. Phone discussion with Strategy and Risk Manager on 4 July 2022, and as confirmed in email, that due to lands and forests managed by Forestry Corporation not being in proximity to the Project, no submission will be made at this stage of the Project
<i>Namoi Joint Organisation</i>	30 June 2021	Email and phone call to introduce Project to discuss use of treated wastewater for dust suppression
<i>New England North West NSW Business Chamber</i>	27 July 2021	Stakeholder briefing presentation (virtual) and discussion of interests and general concerns
<i>NSW Farmers - Walcha Branch</i>	28 July 2021	Stakeholder briefing presentation (virtual) and discussion of interests and general community concerns
<i>NSW Farmers - Northern Region</i>	29 July 2021	Stakeholder briefing presentation (virtual) and discussion of interests and general community concerns
<i>Regional Development Australia</i>	29 July 2021	Stakeholder briefing presentation (virtual) and discussion of interests and general concerns
<i>Rotary Club of Walcha</i>	7 September 2021	Stakeholder briefing presentation (virtual) and discussion of interest and general concerns

Stakeholder	Date	Engagement Activities
Service operators	June 2022	<p>A number of service operators have been contacted, or have had attempted contact by DNV to inform the EMI Assessment. In addition to service providers aforementioned, these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Bureau of Meteorology (BoM); ■ Telstra Corporation Limited (Telstra); ■ Goodcom Communications Pty Ltd; ■ Guyra Volunteer Rescue Association; ■ Geoscience Australia; ■ NSW Spatial Services; ■ Optus Mobile Pty Ltd; and ■ Vodafone Australia Pty Limited (Vodafone); ■ NBN Co; ■ Field Solutions Group; ■ Pivotal Mobile; ■ Bai Communications; ■ Coffs Harbour and District Amateur Radio Club; ■ Walcha Radio Group; and ■ Brian Smith Timber Transport Pty Ltd. <p>Outcomes of this engagement is summarised in Table 16 of Appendix O</p>

* Refer **Table 5-3** of the EIS for summary of community consultation