

January 2023

Great Western Highway Blackheath to Little Hartley

Environmental Impact Statement



EIS declaration

Project details	
Project name	Great Western Highway Blackheath to Little Hartley
Application number	SSI-22004371
Address of the land on which the infrastructure is to be carried out: The project would be located in the upper Blue Mountains within the Dharug language group. The project would extend between Blackheath and Little Hartley and be located within the Blue Mountains and Lithgow local government areas.	
Proponent details	
Proponent name	Transport for NSW
ABN	18 804 239 602
Proponent address	Level 8, 231 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW 2000
Details of person by whom this EIS was prepared	
Name	Alice Thurgood Scott Jeffries
Address	Level 21, 420 George Street, Sydney, NSW 2000 Level 21, 420 George Street Sydney, NSW 2000
Professional qualifications	Bachelor of Land and Water Science (Hons) Master of Environmental Law, Bachelor of Science (Zoology), Bachelor of Chemical Engineering (Hons)
Declaration by registered environmental assessment practitioner	
Name	William Miles Technical Director, AECOM Australia Pty Ltd
Registration number	R80018
Organisation registered with	Certified Environmental Practitioner – Impact Assessment Specialism Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand
Declaration	The undersigned declares that this EIS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> has been prepared in accordance with Part 8 Division 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021; contains all available information relevant to the environmental assessment of the development, activity or infrastructure to which the EIS relates; does not contain information that is false or misleading; addresses the Planning Secretary's environmental assessment requirements (SEARs) for the project; identifies and addresses the relevant statutory requirements for the project including any relevant matters for consideration in environmental planning instruments; has been prepared having regard to the Department's State Significant Infrastructure Guidelines – Preparing an Environmental Impact Statement; contains a simple and easy to understand summary of the project as a whole, having regard to the economic, environmental and social impacts of the project and the principles of ecologically sustainable development; contains a consolidated description of the project in a single chapter of the EIS; contains an accurate summary of the findings of any community engagement; and contains an accurate summary of the detailed technical assessment of the impacts of the project as a whole.

Declaration by registered environmental assessment practitioner

Signature



Date

15 December 2022

Responsible person:

Name:

Jonathon Blizzard
Senior Manager Environment and Sustainability
Transport for NSW

Address:

Level 8, 231 Elizabeth Street
Sydney, NSW 2000

Acknowledgement of Country

Transport for NSW acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which the upgrade of the Great Western Highway between Blackheath and Little Hartley is proposed, being the Dharug, Deerubbin, Gundungurra and Wiradjuri country with surrounding language groups including Darkinung to the north and Kuring-gai, Eora, and Tharawal to the east.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal people and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.

Many of the transport routes we use today – from rail lines, to roads, to water crossings – follow the traditional Songlines, trade routes and ceremonial paths in Country that our nation's First Peoples followed for tens of thousands of years.

Transport for NSW is committed to honouring Aboriginal peoples' cultural and spiritual connections to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.

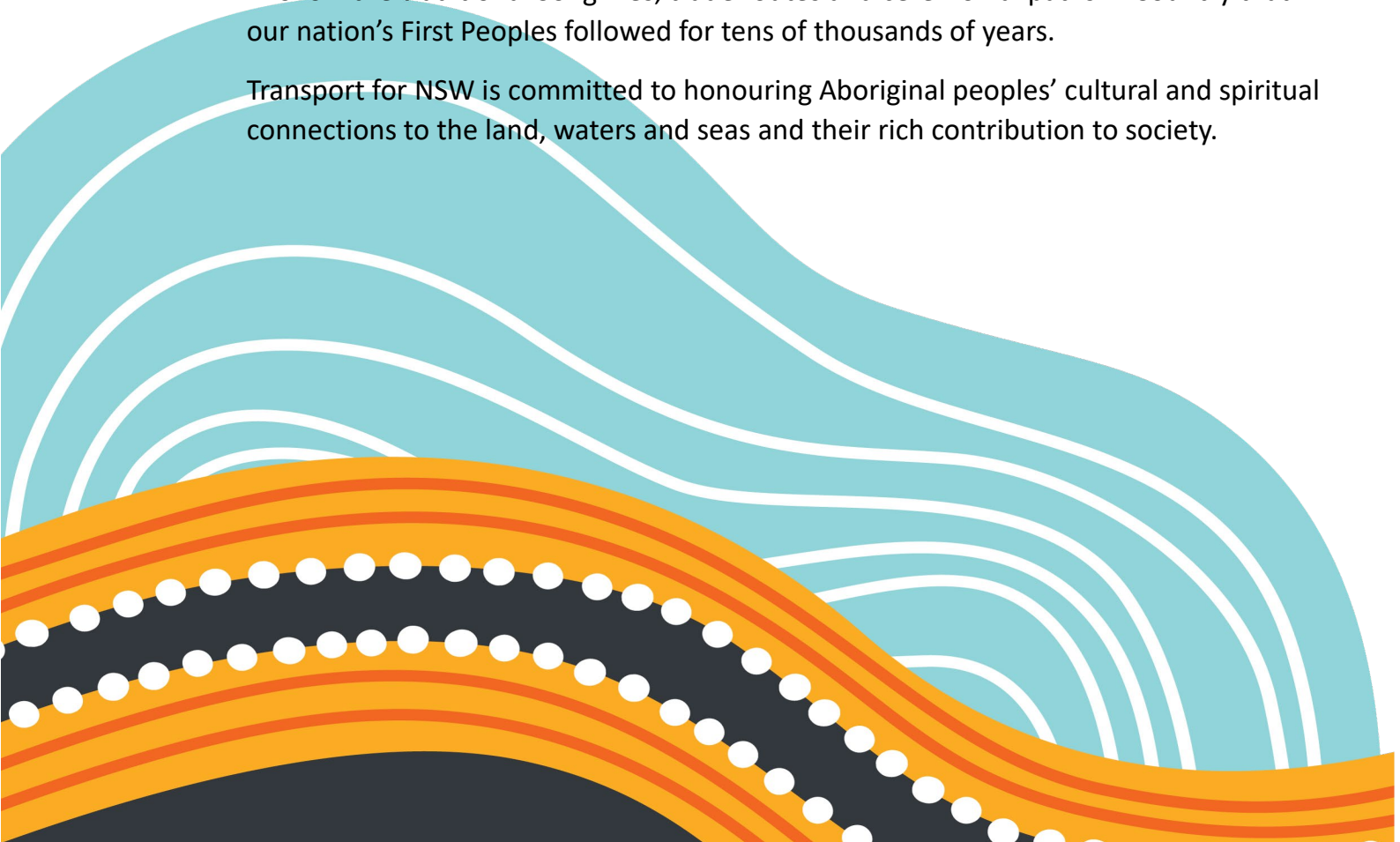


Table of Contents

Declaration

Summary

Chapter 1	Introduction and background
Chapter 2	Strategic context and project need
Chapter 3	Project alternatives and options
Chapter 4	Project description
Chapter 5	Construction
Chapter 6	Statutory context
Chapter 7	Community and stakeholder engagement
Chapter 8	Transport and traffic
Chapter 9	Air quality
Chapter 10	Human health
Chapter 11	Noise and vibration
Chapter 12	Biodiversity
Chapter 13	Groundwater and geology
Chapter 14	Surface water and flooding
Chapter 15	Soils and contamination
Chapter 16	Aboriginal cultural heritage
Chapter 17	Non-Aboriginal heritage
Chapter 18	Landscape and visual
Chapter 19	Social impacts
Chapter 20	Business, land use and property
Chapter 21	Resource use and waste management
Chapter 22	Hazards and risks
Chapter 23	Sustainability, climate change and greenhouse gas
Chapter 24	Cumulative impacts
Chapter 25	Justification and conclusion
Chapter 26	References and terminology

List of appendices

Appendix A	Assessment requirements
Appendix B	Statutory compliance
Appendix C	Community engagement
Appendix D	Technical report – Transport and traffic
Appendix E	Technical report – Air quality
Appendix F	Technical report – Human health
Appendix G	Technical report – Noise and vibration
Appendix H	Technical report – Biodiversity
Appendix I	Technical report – Groundwater
Appendix J	Technical report – Surface water and flooding
Appendix K	Technical report – Contamination
Appendix L	Technical report – Aboriginal heritage
Appendix M	Technical report – Non-Aboriginal heritage
Appendix N	Technical report – Urban design, landscape and visual
Appendix O	Technical report – Social
Appendix P	Technical report – Economics and business
Appendix Q	Technical report – Climate change and sustainability
Appendix R	Compilation of environmental mitigation measures