NSW GOVERNMENT | Planning & Infrastructure

Contact: Nick Hall
Phone: 02 9228 6438
Fax: 02 9228 6355
Email: nicholas.hall@planning.nsw.gov.au

Our ref: 13/07368; SSI 13_5931

Mr Rodd Staples
Project Director
North West Rail Link
Transport for NSW
PO BOX K659
Haymarket NSW 1240

Dear Mr Staples

Rapid Transit Rail Facility (SSI 13_5931) – Director General's Requirements

The Department has reviewed your application for Director General's environmental assessment requirements (DGRs) for the above proposal.

I have attached a copy of the DGRs for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal. These requirements have been prepared in consultation with relevant government authorities. I have also attached a copy of the government authorities' comments for your consideration (Attachment A).

The DGRs have been prepared based on the information you have provided to date. Prior to exhibiting the EIS that you submit for the proposal, the Department will review the document to determine if it addresses the DGRs. The Department may consult with other relevant government authorities in making this decision. If the Department considers that the EIS does not satisfactorily address the DGRs, you may be required to submit an amended EIS. Once the Department is satisfied that the requirements have been addressed, you will be contacted regarding arrangements for public exhibition.

With regards to the key issue of heritage, the research designs and methodologies proposed for any physical archaeological works to be undertaken as part of the initial heritage assessments for the project, should be reviewed by both the Department and the Office of Environment and Heritage for Aboriginal heritage, and the Heritage Council for non-Aboriginal heritage, prior to the commencement of physical disturbance of the site to ensure that the strategies being used are appropriate and in accordance with standard archaeological practice.

If your proposal is likely to have a significant impact on matters of National Environmental Significance, it will require an approval under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). This approval would be in addition to any approvals required under NSW legislation and it is your responsibility to contact the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities to determine if an approval under the EPBC Act is required for your proposal (www.environment.gov.au or 6274 1111).

Your contact officer for this proposal, Nick Hall, can be contacted on the above contact details. Please mark all correspondence regarding the proposal to the attention of the contact officer.

Yours sincerely

Karen Jones 3/6/13
A/Director
Infrastructure Projects
As the Director-General's delegate

Director General's Environmental Assessment Requirements

Section 115Y of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Application number	SSI 13_5931
Infrastructure Project	**Rapid Transit Rail Facility**, including the construction and operation of: • train stabling and maintenance facilities; • a section of track for train testing; • administration, staff and training facilities, including an Operations Control Centre; • access and maintenance roads; and • ancillary infrastructure, services and utilities.
Location	Between Tallawong Road, Schofields Road and First Ponds Creek in Rouse Hill and Schofields
Proponent	Transport for NSW
Date issued	3 June 2013
General Requirements	The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared in accordance with and meet the minimum requirements of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* (the Regulation), and include the following: 1. the information required by clause 6 of Schedule 2 of the Regulation; and 2. the content listed in clause 7 of Schedule 2 of the Regulation, including but not limited to: • a summary of the environmental impact statement; • a statement of the objectives of the project, including a description of the strategic need and justification of the project, and objectives of the relevant Commonwealth, State and Regional strategic planning and transport policies, including *NSW 2021*, *Metropolitan Plan for Sydney 2036,* the *Draft Metropolitan Plan for Sydney* and the *NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan*; • a description of the project's relationship and/or interaction with other development in the vicinity including the North West Rail Link (SSI-5100 & SSI-5414); • an analysis of feasible alternatives to the carrying out of the project and project justification, including an analysis of alternatives/options considered, having regard to the project objectives (including an assessment of the environmental costs and benefits of the project relative to alternatives and the consequences of not carrying out the project), and whether or not the project is in the public interest; • an analysis of the project, including an assessment, with particular focus on the requirements of the listed key issues, in accordance with clause 7(1)(d) of Schedule 2 of the Regulation (where relevant); • an identification of how relevant planning, land use and development matters (including relevant strategic and statutory matters) have been considered in the impact assessment (direct, indirect and cumulative impacts) and/or in developing management/mitigation measures; • a compilation of measures proposed to mitigate and/or manage any adverse affects of the project on the environment; • justification for the preferred project taking into consideration the objects of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*; and • detail how the principles of ecologically sustainable development will be incorporated in the design, construction and ongoing operation phases of the project.

Key Issues	Where relevant, the assessment of key issues below, and any other significant issues identified in the risk assessment, must include: • adequate baseline data; • consideration of potential cumulative impacts due to other development in the vicinity; and • measures to avoid, minimise, manage and if necessary, offset the predicted impacts, including detailed contingency plans for managing any significant risks to the environment. The EIS must address the following key issues: **Noise and Vibration** – including but not limited to: • an assessment of the noise and vibration impacts from construction activities; • the nature and sensitivity of, and impact to, potentially affected receivers and structures; • a strategy for managing construction noise and vibration and out of hours activities, with a particular focus placed on those activities identified as having the greatest potential for adverse noise or vibration impacts, and a broader, more generic approach developed for lower-risk activities; • an assessment of the noise and vibration impacts from operating the facility; • a description of measures to mitigate and manage operational noise and vibration impacts; • taking into account the *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* (DECC, 2009), the *NSW Industrial Noise Policy* (NSW Government, 2000) and *Assessing Vibration: a Technical Guideline* (DEC, 2006). **Access, Traffic and Transport** – including but not limited to: • access to, from and within the site during the construction and operation of the project (for all modes and needs); • interaction and integration with existing and planned transport infrastructure including the North West Rail Link; • a traffic impact assessment in the local and regional road network, including a traffic analysis on existing intersections and consideration of existing road constraints; • taking into account the *Guide to Traffic Generating Developments* (RTA, 2002). **Land Use, Property and Infrastructure** – including but not limited to: • impacts on affected properties and land uses, including impacts related to access, land use, business activities, future development potential and property acquisition; • interaction with existing and proposed services and utilities, including provision of any relocation or protection measures; and • taking into account relevant local, regional and State planning policies including the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Region Growth Centres) 2006* and related precinct and structure planning. **Visual Impact, Landscaping and Urban Design** – including but not limited to: • a description of the layout and design of the project including plans and sections to show the height, bulk and scale of the proposed buildings; • identification and evaluation of the visual impacts of the project on surrounding areas, including privacy and amenity impacts to surrounding receivers; and • a description of the measures proposed to mitigate and manage these impacts.

	Ecology – including but not limited to: • a assessment of the potential impacts of the project on terrestrial, riparian and aquatic areas including critical habitats, threatened species, populations or ecological communities and groundwater dependent ecosystems; • consideration of the relevant biodiversity measures of the Biodiversity Certification conferred on the *Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Region Growth Centres) 2006*; • a description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, mitigate, manage and offset the ecological impacts of the project, noting that any clearing of existing native vegetation proposed within the non-certified areas of the Growth Centre should be offset in accordance with the relevant biodiversity measures of the Biodiversity Certification; and • taking into account the *Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment* (DPI, 2008) and the *NSW State Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Policy* (DLWC, 2002). **Heritage** – including but not limited to: • impacts to Aboriginal heritage (including cultural and archaeological significance), in particular impacts to Aboriginal heritage sites identified within or near the project. Where impacts are identified, the assessment shall: - outline the proposed mitigation and management measures (including measures to avoid significant impacts and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the measures), demonstrate effective consultation with Aboriginal communities in determining and assessing impacts and developing and selecting options and mitigation measures (including the final proposed measures); - demonstration that an appropriate archaeological assessment methodology, including research design, (where relevant) has been undertaken, including results; and - take into account the *Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (Department of Environment and Conservation, 2005) and be undertaken by a suitably qualified heritage consultant. • impacts to historic heritage (including archaeology, heritage items conservation areas and natural areas). Where impacts to State or locally significant historic heritage items are identified, the assessment shall: - outline the proposed mitigation and management measures (including measures to avoid significant impacts and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the mitigation measures); - include a statement of heritage impact for heritage items (including significance assessment); - demonstrate that an appropriate archaeological assessment methodology, including research design, (where relevant) has been undertaken, including results; and - take into account the guidelines in the *NSW Heritage Manual* (1996) and be undertaken by a suitably qualified heritage consultant. **Water** – including but not limited to: • modelling and assessment of the potential impacts of the project on: - the quantity and quality of existing surface and ground water resources; - affected licensed water users and basic landholder rights; - water courses and riparian areas and their associated catchments; - flooding up to and including the probable maximum flood; • a description of the water management system for the project (including all infrastructure and storages); and • a description of measures to minimise water discharges and to mitigate

	and manage surface and ground water impacts. **Soil and Contamination** – including but not limited to: • geological and soil characteristics (physical and chemical), including potential constraints such as the presence of acid sulphate soil and soil salinity; • land contamination and identification of the need for management or remediation of contaminated land, having regard to the ecological and human health risks posed by the contamination in the context of past, existing and future land uses. Where remediation of contaminated land is required, presentation of a remediation strategy taking into account relevant OEH (EPA) guidelines and in accordance with the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997*; • quantification of bulk earthworks and spoil balance and disposal of excess spoil and waste; and • a strategy for managing earthworks with a particular focus on those works that have the greatest potential to disturb soils that are contaminated, have a high erosion and run off hazard. **Air Quality** – including but not limited to: • modelling and assessment of air pollutants, including an assessment of atmospheric pollutants of concern for local air quality including fugitive and point sources; • potential odour from exhaust emissions; • greenhouse gas emissions; • taking into account the *Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air pollutants in NSW* (DEC, 2005) and the *Australian Greenhouse Office Factors and Methods Workbook* (AGO, 2006). **Hazards, Risks and Wastes** – including but not limited to: • consideration of the hazards and risks associated with the use, storage and transportation of dangerous goods consistent with the Department's *Applying SEPP 33* (DUAP, 1994), and if relevant, a Preliminary Hazard Analysis in accordance with the Department's *Hazardous Industry Advisory Paper No. 6, Guidelines for Hazard Analysis*; • an assessment of bushfire hazards, including the identification of access and egress from the site and evacuation routes; and • the identification and management of chemicals and waste material.
Environmental Risk Analysis	Notwithstanding the above key assessment requirements, the EIS must include an environmental risk analysis to identify potential environmental impacts associated with the project (construction and operation), proposed mitigation measures and potentially significant residual environmental impacts after the application of proposed mitigation measures. Where additional key environmental impacts are identified through this environmental risk analysis, an appropriately detailed impact assessment of this additional key environmental impact must be included in the EIS.
Consultation	During the preparation of the EIS, you must consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups and affected landowners. In particular, you must consult with: • local, State or Commonwealth government authorities, including the: – Department of Planning and Infrastructure (Land Release); – Environment Protection Agency; – Department of Primary Industries (including NSW Office of Water, Agriculture NSW and Fisheries NSW); – Office of Environment and Heritage; – NSW Heritage Office; – NSW Rural Fire Service; and

	- Blacktown City Council. • service and infrastructure providers such as: - Roads and Maritime Services. • specialist interest groups, including Local Aboriginal Land Councils; and • the public, including community groups and adjoining and affected landowners. The EIS must describe the consultation process and the issues raised, and identify where the design of the project has been amended in response to these issues. Where amendments have not been made to address an issue, a short explanation should be provided.
Further Consultation after 2 years	If you do not lodge an EIS for the project within 2 years of the issue date of these DGRs, you must consult with the Director General in relation to the preparation of the EIS.

ATTACHMENT A
Government Authority Responses to Request for Key Issues

Nicholas Hall - Rapid Transit Rail Facility (SSI13_5931)

From: Liz Peterson <Liz.Peterson@environment.nsw.gov.au>
To: "swati.sharma@planning.nsw.gov.au" <swati.sharma@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 17/05/2013 9:40 AM
Subject: Rapid Transit Rail Facility (SSI13_5931)
Attachments: DOC13_18261_RapidTransitRailFacility_SSI13_5931_Ssigned16May2013.pdf

Hello Swati,

Please find attached OEH's submission to DoP&Is request for input to the Director Generals Environmental Assessment Requirements for the subject SSI project.

Kind Regards,
Liz Peterson
Senior Regional Operations Officer
Regional Operations Group
Office of Environment and Heritage
NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet
T: 02 9995 6841
F: 02 9995 6900
W: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

NSW GOVERNMENT | Office of Environment & Heritage

Your reference : SSI 13_5931
Our reference : DOC13/18261
Contact : Liz Peterson ph 9995 6841

Swati Sharma
A/Manager – Rail and Ports
Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Swati

Re: Proposal – Rapid Transit Rail Facility (State Significant Infrastructure Application SSI 13_5931)

I refer to your request for advice from the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) in regard to Director General's Environmental Assessment Requirements for the Rapid Transit Rail Facility (State Significant Infrastructure Application SSI 13_5931). OEH provides the following advice.

The Proponent should ensure that the EIS is sufficiently comprehensive and detailed to adequately describe the extent of the impacts of the proposal. The OEH key areas of interest with regard to this proposal are:

1. appropriate consideration of the relevant biodiversity measures of the Growth Centres biodiversity certification;
2. assessment of the Aboriginal cultural heritage values; and
3. assessment of stormwater and flooding.

Biodiversity Certification of the Growth Centres SEPP

OEH recommends the Director-General's Requirements include a requirement for:

The EIS to include an assessment of the consistency of the proposal with the relevant biodiversity measures of the biodiversity certification conferred on the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Region Growth Centres) 2006* pursuant to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995.*

In particular, any clearing of existing native vegetation within the non-certified areas of the Growth Centre should be offset in accordance with the relevant biodiversity measures in the Biodiversity Certification Order.

Aboriginal Heritage

OEH recommends the following be included in the Director-General's Requirements for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement:

PO Box 668 Parramatta NSW 2124
Level 7, 79 George St Parramatta NSW 2150
Tel: (02) 9995 5000 Fax: (02) 9995 6900
ABN 30 841 387 271
www.environment.nsw.gov.au

- The EIS should address Aboriginal Heritage in accordance with the Draft *Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (2005).
- Impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage must be avoided where possible. Where it is not possible, mitigation strategies must be explored in consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders.

Stormwater and Flooding

A hydrology and hydraulic assessment shall be prepared in order to address flooding behaviour in the vicinity of the proposed development for the full range of flood sizes up to and including the probable maximum flood (PMF). The assessment shall provide input and be part of the North West Rail Link Stormwater and Flooding Management Plan which is currently being prepared for SSI-5414.

The assessment shall be undertaken based on the hydrologic and hydraulic models that have previously been prepared for the North West Rail Link and presented in AECOM Environmental Impact Statement 2 - Stations, Rail Infrastructure and Systems, September 2012, and shall include but not be limited to:

- that area of the NWRL that covers from Rouse Hill Station to Cudgegong Road Station (Site 16) to Cudgegong Road Station to Tallawong Stabling Yard (Site 17). This includes replacing the previous Tallawong Stabling Yards development with the proposed Rapid Transit Rail Facility development;
- details of the drainage associated with the proposed facility, including First Ponds Creek, Second Ponds Creek, stormwater drainage infrastructure and overland flow paths. The assessment should examine both construction and operational phases of the facility;
- an assessment of the flood behaviour for both existing and post development conditions for the full range of floods up to the probable maximum flood (PMF);
- an assessment of the impacts on flood behaviour of earthworks and filling of land within the proposed development;
- an assessment of the cumulative impact of the Rapid Transit Rail Facility, the construction works for the North West Rail Link and operation of the railway, including stations and wider precincts on existing flooding behaviour and on adjacent, downstream and upstream areas shall be identified in the vicinity of site 16 and 17. Post-development conditions should not worsen existing flood characteristics. The definition of "Not worsen" should be consistent with the definition set on C33 of the SSI-5414;
- identification of design and mitigation measures that would be implemented to protect the proposed construction and operational activities and not worsen existing flooding characteristics giving consideration to more frequent floods as well as the flood of design; and
- specific information related to flood risk in larger floods from this assessment, shall be incorporated to the emergency response / management plan of the NWRL EIS Stage 1 [SSI-5100-C8(e)].

If you have any queries regarding this matter please contact Liz Peterson on 9995 6841.

Yours sincerely,

Lou Ewins 16/5/13

LOU EWINS
Manager Planning and Aboriginal Heritage
Regional Operations, Metropolitan
Office of Environment and Heritage

Nicholas Hall - Rapid Transit Rail Facility SSI 13_5931

From: Mark Jansons <Mark.Jansons@epa.nsw.gov.au>
To: "swati.sharma@planning.nsw.gov.au" <swati.sharma@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 13/05/2013 3:34 PM
Subject: Rapid Transit Rail Facility SSI 13_5931
Attachments: Swati Sharma Scan.pdf

Hi Swati,

Please see attached a copy of the EPA's response to you request for EARs for the above project. I have placed a hard copy in today's post.

Regards,
Mark

Your reference: SSI 13_5931
Our reference: DOC13/21346

Ms Swati Sharma
A/Manager – Rail and Ports
NSW Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms Sharma,

RE: Rapid Transit Rail Facility SSI 13_5931 - Recommended Environmental Assessment Requirements

Issued in relation to Section 115Y(3) for State Significant infrastructure of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

I refer to your request for the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA's) requirements for the environmental assessment (EA) for the above proposal received by EPA on 29 April 2013.

EPA has considered the details of the project as provided by DP&I and has identified the information it requires to assess the project (see **Attachment 1**). The proponent should ensure that the EA is sufficiently comprehensive to enable EPA to determine the extent of the impact(s) of the proposal.

The key issues requiring assessment for this project are summarised below:

1. Environment protection licence issues including water, air and noise. Of particular concern are the noise impacts from the operational phase of the project.

2. Other broad environment protection or conservation issues of concern in the proposed project including waste and any site contamination.

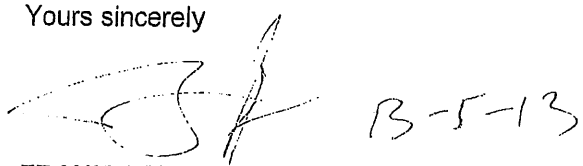
3. Actions that will be taken to avoid or mitigate impacts or compensate for unavoidable impacts identified in 1-2 above.

In carrying out the assessment, the proponent should refer to the relevant guidelines as listed at the end of **Attachment 2** and any relevant industry codes of practice and best practice management guidelines.

EPA requests that only an electronic version (cd or dvd) of the EA is submitted. These documents should be lodged at PO Box 668 Parramatta NSW 2124. Please also send an electronic copy of the cover letter to our referral mailbox – planning.matters@environment.nsw.gov.au.

If you have any queries regarding this matter please contact Mark Jansons on 9995 6829.

Yours sincerely



13-5-13

FRANK GAROFALOW
Manager Infrastructure
Environment Protection Authority

Attachment 1: EPA's Recommended Environmental Assessment Requirements (EARs)

Environmental impacts of the project

1. Impacts related to the following environmental issues need to be assessed, quantified and reported on:
   - Air quality Issues
   - Noise and vibration
   - Waste including hazardous materials and radiation
     - General waste
     - Chemicals subject to Chemical Control Orders
     - Hazardous materials and radiation
   - Water and Soils
     - Contaminated sites
     - Soil issues - general
     - Water quality

   Environmental assessments (EAs) should address the specific requirements outlined under each heading below and assess impacts in accordance with the relevant guidelines mentioned. A full list of guidelines is at Attachment 2.

Licensing requirements

1. On the basis of the information submitted to date, it appears the proposal is a scheduled activity under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and will therefore require an Environment Protection Licence (EPL) if approval is granted. The EA should address the requirements of Section 45 of the POEO Act determining the extent of each impact and providing sufficient information to enable EPA to determine appropriate limits for the EPL.

2. Should project approval be granted, the proponent will need to make a separate application to EPA for an EPL for the proposed facility prior to undertaking any on site works. Additional information is available through EPA's *Guide to Licensing* document (www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licensing/licenceguide.htm).

SPECIFIC ISSUES

Air issues

Air quality

The EA should include a detailed air quality impact assessment (AQIA). The AQIA should:

1. Assess the risk associated with potential discharges of fugitive and point source emissions for all stages of the proposal. Assessment of risk relates to environmental harm, risk to human heath and amenity.

2. Justify the level of assessment undertaken on the basis of risk factors, including but not limited to:
   a. proposal location;
   b. characteristics of the receiving environment; and
   c. type and quantity of pollutants emitted.

3. Describe the receiving environment in detail. The proposal must be contextualised within the receiving environment (local, regional and inter-regional as appropriate). The description must include but need not be limited to:

a. meteorology and climate;
b. topography;
c. surrounding land-use; receptors; and
d. ambient air quality.

4. Include a detailed description of the proposal. All processes that could result in air emissions must be identified and described. Sufficient detail to accurately communicate the characteristics and quantity of all emissions must be provided.

5. Include a consideration of 'worst case' emission scenarios and impacts at proposed emission limits.

6. Account for cumulative impacts associated with existing emission sources as well as any currently approved developments linked to the receiving environment.

7. Include air dispersion modelling where there is a risk of adverse air quality impacts, or where there is sufficient uncertainty to warrant a rigorous numerical impact assessment. Air dispersion modelling must be conducted in accordance with the *Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW* (2005) http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/air/ammodelling05361.pdf.

8. Demonstrate the proposal's ability to comply with the relevant regulatory framework, specifically the *Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) Act (1997)* and the *POEO (Clean Air) Regulation (2010)*.

9. Provide an assessment of the project in terms of the priorities and targets adopted under the NSW State Plan 2010 and its implementation plan Action for Air.

10. Detail emission control techniques/practices that will be employed by the proposal.

Noise and vibration

1. In relation to noise, the following matters should be addressed as part of the Environmental Assessment.

2. Construction noise associated with the proposed development should be assessed using the *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* (DECC, 2009). http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/constructnoise.htm

3. Vibration from all activities (including construction and operation) to be undertaken on the premises should be assessed using the guidelines contained in the *Assessing Vibration: a technical guideline* (DEC, 2006). http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/vibrationguide.htm

4. If blasting is required for any reasons during the construction of the proposed development, blast impacts should be demonstrated to be capable of complying with the guidelines contained in *Australian and New Zealand Environment Council – Technical basis for guidelines to minimise annoyance due to blasting overpressure and ground vibration* (ANZEC, 1990). http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/blasting.htm

5. Operational noise from all activities to be undertaken on the premises should be assessed using the guidelines contained in the *NSW Industrial Noise Policy* (EPA, 2000) and *Industrial Noise Policy Application Notes*. http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/industrial.htm

6. Noise from the incoming railway lines (outside of the stabling yards) should be assessed using the *Interim Guideline for the Assessment of Noise from Rail Infrastructure Projects* (DECC, 2007). http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/railinfranoise.htm

Waste, chemicals and hazardous materials and radiation

General waste

The EA should:

1. Include a detailed plan for in-situ classification of waste material, including the sampling locations and sampling regime that will be employed to classify the waste, particularly with regards to the identification of contamination hotspots.

2. Identify, characterise and classify all waste that will be generated onsite through excavation, demolition or construction activities, including proposed quantities of the waste.
   Note: All waste must be classified in accordance with *EPA's Waste Classification Guidelines.*

3. Identify, characterise and classify all waste that is proposed to be disposed of to an offsite location, including proposed quantities of the waste and the disposal locations for the waste. This includes waste that is intended for re-use or recycling.
   Note: All waste must be classified in accordance with *EPA's Classification Guidelines.*

4. Include a commitment to retaining all sampling and classification results for the life of the project to demonstrate compliance with *EPA's Waste Classification Guidelines.*

5. Provide details of how waste will be handled and managed onsite to minimise pollution, including:

   a) Stockpile location and management
      - Labelling of stockpiles for identification, ensuring that all waste is clearly identified and stockpiled separately from other types of material (especially the separation of any contaminated and non-contaminated waste).
      - Proposed height limits for all waste to reduce the potential for dust and odour.
      - Procedures for minimising the movement of waste around the site and double handling.
      - Measures to minimise leaching from stockpiles into the surrounding environment, such as sediment fencing, geofabric liners etc.

   b) Erosion, sediment and leachate control including measures to be implemented to minimise erosion, leachate and sediment mobilisation at the site during works. The EA should show the location of each measure to be implemented. The Proponent should consider measures such as:
      - Sediment traps
      - Diversion banks
      - Sediment fences
      - Bunds (earth, hay, mulch)
      - Geofabric liners
      - Other control measures as appropriate

   The Proponent should also provide details of:
      - how leachate from stockpiled waste material will be kept separate from stormwater runoff;

- treatment of leachate through a wastewater treatment plant (if applicable); and
- any proposed transport and disposal of leachate off-site.

6. Provide details of how the waste will be handled and managed during transport to a lawful facility. If the waste possesses hazardous characteristics, the Proponent must provide details of how the waste will be treated or immobilised to render it suitable for transport and disposal.

7. Include details of all procedures and protocols to be implemented to ensure that any waste leaving the site is transported and disposed of lawfully and does not pose a risk to human health or the environment.

8. Include a statement demonstrating that the Proponent is aware of EPA's requirements with respect to notification and tracking of waste.

9. Include a statement demonstrating that the Proponent is aware of the relevant legislative requirements for disposal of the waste, including any relevant Resource Recovery Exemptions, as gazetted by EPA from time to time.

10. Outline contingency plans for any event that affects operations at the site that may result in environmental harm, including: excessive stockpiling of waste, volume of leachate generated exceeds the storage capacity available on-site etc.

Chemicals subject to Chemical Control Orders

1. The EA must demonstrate how the Proponent will manage all materials and wastes containing scheduled chemical waste, dioxin and/or polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in accordance with the applicable Chemical Control Order, National Management Plan or in accordance with a licence under the EHC Act.

2. Where a project involves any processing or treatment of scheduled chemicals, the proponent must provide EPA with sufficient and appropriate documentation for a technology assessment to be undertaken by the EPA, in accordance with the following:
   - 'National Protocol - Approval/Licensing of Trials of Technologies for the Treatment/Disposal of Schedule X Wastes - July 1994'; and
   - 'National Protocol for Approval/Licensing of Commercial Scale Facilities for the Treatment/Disposal of Schedule X Wastes - July 1994'.

Water and soils

Acid sulfate soils

1. The potential impacts of the development on acid sulfate soils must be assessed in accordance with the relevant guidelines in the *Acid Sulfate Soils Manual* (Stone *et al.* 1998) and the *Acid Sulfate Soils Laboratory Methods Guidelines* (Ahern *et al.* 2004).

2. Describe mitigation and management options that will be used to prevent, control, abate or minimise potential impacts from the disturbance of acid sulfate soils associated with the project and to reduce risks to human health and prevent the degradation of the environment. This should include an

assessment of the effectiveness and reliability of the measures and any residual impacts after these measures are implemented.

Contaminated sites assessment and remediation

1. The EA should include an assessment of the contaminated site that is conducted in accordance with the guidelines made or approved under section 105 of the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997*, for example: *Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites (EPA, 2000), Guidelines for the NSW Site Auditor Scheme - 2nd edition (DEC, 2006), Sampling Design Guidelines (EPA, 1995), National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure 1999* (or update).

2. The EA should provide the details on how the site contamination will be remediated and/or managed so that the site is, or can be, made suitable for the proposed use.

3. All reports should be prepared in accordance with the *Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites* (EPA, 2000).

4. The EA should specify whether or not a site auditor, accredited under the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997*, has been or will be engaged to issue a site audit statement to certify on the suitability of the current or proposed uses.

Soil issues

The EA should include:

1. An assessment of potential impacts on soil and land resources should be undertaken, being guided by *Soil and Landscape Issues in Environmental Impact Assessment* (DLWC 2000). The nature and extent of any significant impacts should be identified. Particular attention should be given to:
   a. Soil erosion and sediment transport - in accordance with *Managing urban stormwater: soils and construction,* vol. 1 (Landcom 2004) and vol. 2 (A. Installation of services; B Waste landfills; C. Unsealed roads; D. Main Roads; E. Mines and quarries) (DECC 2008).
   b. Urban and regional salinity – guidance given in the Local Government Salinity Initiative booklets which includes *Site Investigations for Urban Salinity* (DLWC, 2002).

2. A description of the mitigation and management options that will be used to prevent, control, abate or minimise identified soil and land resource impacts associated with the project. This should include an assessment of the effectiveness and reliability of the measures and any residual impacts after these measures are implemented.

3. Where required, add any specific assessment requirements relevant to the project.

Water

Describe Proposal

1. Describe the proposal including position of any intakes and discharges, volumes, water quality and frequency of all water discharges.

2. Demonstrate that all practical options to avoid discharge have been implemented and outline measures that have been taken to reduce the contaminant load of the discharge so that environmental impact minimised where discharge is necessary.

3. Where relevant include a water balance for the development including water requirements (quantity, quality and source(s)) and proposed storm and wastewater disposal, including type, volumes, proposed treatment and management methods and re-use options.

Background Conditions

4. Describe existing surface and groundwater quality. An assessment needs to be undertaken for any water resource likely to be affected by the proposal.

5. State the Water Quality Objectives for the receiving waters relevant to the proposal. These refer to the community's agreed environmental values and human uses endorsed by the NSW Government as goals for ambient waters (http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/ieo/index.htm). Where groundwater may be impacted the assessment should identify appropriate groundwater environmental values.

6. State the indicators and associated trigger values or criteria for the identified environmental values. This information should be sourced from the ANZECC (2000) Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (http://www.mincos.gov.au/publications/australian_and_new_zealand_guidelines_for_fresh_and_marine_water_quality).

7. State any locally specific objectives, criteria or targets which have been endorsed by the NSW Government.

Impact Assessment

8. Describe the nature and degree of impact that any proposed discharges will have on the receiving environment.

9. Assess impacts against the relevant ambient water quality outcomes. Demonstrate how the proposal will be designed and operated to:
    - protect the Water Quality Objectives for receiving waters where they are currently being achieved; and
    - contribute towards achievement of the Water Quality Objectives over time where they are not currently being achieved.

10. Where a discharge is proposed that includes a mixing zone, the proposal should demonstrate how wastewater discharged to waterways will ensure the ANZECC (2000) water quality criteria for relevant chemical and non-chemical parameters are met at the edge of the initial mixing zone of the discharge, and that any impacts in the initial mixing zone are demonstrated to be reversible.

11. Assess impacts on groundwater and groundwater dependent ecosystems.

12. Describe how stormwater will be managed both during and after construction.

Monitoring

13. Describe how predicted impacts will be monitored and assessed over time.

Attachment 2 – Guidance Material

Title	Web address
	Relevant Legislation
Contaminated Land Management Act 1997	http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/act+140+1997+cd+0+N
Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Act 1985	http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/act+14+1985+cd+0+N
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/act+203+1979+cd+0+N
Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997	http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/act+156+1997+cd+0+N
Water Management Act 2000	http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/act+92+2000+cd+0+N
	Licensing
Guide to Licensing	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licensing/licenceguide.htm
	Air Issues
Air Quality	
Approved methods for modelling and assessment of air pollutants in NSW (2005)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/air/ammodelling05361.pdf
POEO (Clean Air) Regulation 2010	http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/subordleg+428+2010+cd+0+N
Greenhouse Gas	
The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: Corporate Standard, World Council for Sustainable Business Development & World Resources Institute	http://www.ghgprotocol.org/standards/corporate-standard
National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) Factors, Australian Department of Climate Change (Latest release),	http://www.climatechange.gov.au/publications/greenhouse-acctg/national-greenhouse-factors.aspx
National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System, Technical Guidelines (latest release)	http://www.climatechange.gov.au/en/government/initiatives/national-greenhouse-energy-reporting/tools-resources.aspx

Title	Web address
National Carbon Accounting Toolbox	http://www.climatechange.gov.au/government/initiatives/ncat.aspx
Australian Greenhouse Emissions Information System (AGEIS)	http://ageis.climatechange.gov.au/

Noise and Vibration

Interim Construction Noise Guideline (DECC, 2009)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/constructnoise.htm
Assessing Vibration: a technical guideline (DEC, 2006)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/vibrationguide.htm
Australian and New Zealand Environment Council – Technical basis for guidelines to minimise annoyance due to blasting overpressure and ground vibration (ANZEC, 1990)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/blasting.htm
Industrial Noise Policy Application Notes	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/traffic.htm
Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise (EPA, 1999)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/traffic.htm
Interim Guideline for the Assessment of Noise from Rail Infrastructure Projects (DECC, 2007)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/railinfranoise.htm
Environmental assessment requirements for rail traffic-generating developments	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/noise/railnoise.htm

Waste, Chemicals and Hazardous Materials and Radiation

Waste

Environmental Guidelines: Solid Waste Landfills (EPA, 1996)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/waste/envguidlns/solidlandfill.pdf
Draft Environmental Guidelines - Industrial Waste Landfilling (April 1998)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/waste/envguidlns/industrialfill.pdf
Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC, 2008)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/waste/envguidlns/index.htm
Resource recovery exemption	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/waste/RRecoveryExemptions.htm

Chemicals subject to Chemical Control Orders

Chemical Control Orders (regulated through the EHC Act)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pesticides/CCOs.htm
National Protocol - Approval/Licensing of Trials of Technologies for the Treatment/Disposal of Schedule X	Available in libraries

Title	Web address
Wastes - July 1994	
National Protocol for Approval/Licensing of Commercial Scale Facilities for the Treatment/Disposal of Schedule X Wastes - July 1994	Available in libraries

Water and Soils

Acid sulphate soils

Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Maps	http://canri.nsw.gov.au/download/
	Manual available for purchase from: http://www.landcom.com.au/whats-new/the-blue-book.aspx
	Chapters 1 and 2 are on DP&I's Guidelines Register at:
	Chapter 1 Acid Sulfate Soils Planning Guidelines:
	http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/rdaguidelines/documents/NSW%20Acid%20Sulfate%20Soils%20Planning%20Guidelines.pdf
	Chapter 2 Acid Sulfate Soils Assessment Guidelines:
Acid Sulfate Soils Manual (Stone et al. 1998)	http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/rdaguidelines/documents/NSW%20Acid%20Sulfate%20Soils%20Assessment%20Guidelines.pdf
Acid Sulfate Soils Laboratory Methods Guidelines (Ahern et al. 2004)	http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/land/ass/pdfs/lmg.pdf This replaces Chapter 4 of the Acid Sulfate Soils Manual above.

Contaminated Sites Assessment and Remediation

Managing land contamination: Planning Guidelines – SEPP 55 Remediation of Land	http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/DevelopmentAssessments/RegisterofDevelopmentAssessmentGuidelines/tabid/207/language/en-US/Default.aspx
Guidelines for Consultants Reporting on Contaminated Sites (EPA, 2000)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/clm/97104consultantsglines.pdf
Guidelines for the NSW Site Auditor Scheme - 2nd edition (DEC, 2006)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/clm/auditorglines06121.pdf
Sampling Design Guidelines (EPA, 1995)	Available by request from EPA's Environment Line
National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure 1999 (or update)	http://www.ephc.gov.au/taxonomy/term/44

Soils – general

Soil and Landscape Issues in Environmental Impact Assessment (DLWC 2000)	http://www.dnr.nsw.gov.au/care/soil/soil_pubs/pdfs/tech_rep_34_new.pdf
Managing urban stormwater: soils and construction, vol. 1 (Landcom 2004) and vol. 2 (A. Installation of services; B Waste landfills; C. Unsealed roads; D. Main Roads; E. Mines and quarries) (DECC 2008)	Vol 1 - Available for purchase at http://www.landcom.com.au/whats-new/publications-reports/the-blue-book.aspx Vol 2 - http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/stormwater/publications.htm

Title	Web address
Landslide risk management guidelines	http://www.australiangeomechanics.org/resources/downloads/
Site Investigations for Urban Salinity (DLWC, 2002)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/salinity/booklet3siteinvestigationsforurbansalinity.pdf
Local Government Salinity Initiative Booklets	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/salinity/solutions/urban.htm
Water	
Water Quality Objectives	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/ieo/index.htm
ANZECC (2000) Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality	http://www.mincos.gov.au/publications/australian_and_new_zealand_guidelines_for_fresh_and_marine_water_quality
Applying Goals for Ambient Water Quality Guidance for Operations Officers – Mixing Zones	http://deccnet/water/resources/AWQGuidance7.pdf
Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Water Pollutant in NSW (2004)	http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/legislation/approvedmethods-water.pdf

Nicholas Hall - Rapid Transit Facility

From: <greg.paine@industry.nsw.gov.au>
To: <swati.sharma@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 13/05/2013 1:30 PM
Subject: Rapid Transit Facility
CC: <kristy.chan@industry.nsw.gov.au>

Swati,

Advices of Department of Primary Industries below.

Will follow under formal DPI letterhead shortly.

Greg Paine
Business Services

Tel; 9338 6778

Comment by the NSW Office of Water
The NSW Office of Water provides the following key issues and expanded list of assessment requirements detailed in Attachment A:

(i) Assessment of water requirements of the project, and compliance with the rules in any relevant Water Sharing Plan and legislation.
(ii) An assessment of the impact of the proposal on watercourses and riparian areas, groundwater sources and groundwater dependent ecosystems.
(iii) Adequate mitigating and monitoring requirements to address impacts to surface water and groundwater sources and dependent ecosystems.

For further information please contact Janne Grose, Water Regulation Officer, (Penrith Office) on 4729 8262 or at: Janne.Grose@water.nsw.gov.au.

Comment by Agriculture NSW
Agriculture NSW advise the environmental assessment should include:
(i) justification for and implications of the removal of existing agriculture uses,
(ii) processes for acquisition compensation for existing farms, particularly regarding communication and timing to allow planning for farm exist, and
(iii) the ways in which it is intended to manage issues of weeds, particularly noxious weeds.

Agriculture NSW have prepared a guideline relating to infrastructure development on rural land. This is available at:
http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/resources/lup/development-assessment/infrastructure-proposals.

For further information please contact Andrew Docking, Acting Manager Resource Planning and Development (Richmond office) on 4588 2128, or at:
Andrew.Docking@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Comment by Fisheries NSW
Fisheries NSW advise the environmental assessment should include:
(i) an assessment of impacts on the biodiversity values of the site and adjoining areas, including terrestrial, riparian and aquatic areas, particularly on areas identified as Key Fish Habitat by Fisheries NSW,
(ii) an assessment of impacts on critical habitats, threatened species, populations or ecological communities and their habitats as listed in the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* and associated Regulations, consistent with the Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment (NSW Department of Primary Industries, 2008) (available at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/species-protection/info-sheet), and
(iii) impact assessment relating to waterway crossings. Here it should be noted that crossings must be consistent with the latest policies and guidelines administered by Fisheries NSW (available at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/habitat/protecting-habitats/toolkit).

For further information please contact Marcel Green, Senior Environmental Assessments Officer (Wollstonecraft office) on 8437 4986, or at: marcel.green@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Attachment A

Rapid Transit Rail Facility (SS1 13_5931)
Request for Input into Director General Requirements
Comment by NSW Office of Water

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1. Relevant Legislation

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should take into account the objects and regulatory requirements of the *Water Act 1912* and *Water Management Act 2000* (WMA 2000), as applicable. Proposals and management plans should be consistent with the Objects (s.3) and Water Management Principles (s.5) of the *WMA 2000*.

2. Water Sharing Plans

The proposal is within the area covered by the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2011* and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2011*. Water Sharing Plans are prepared under the WMA 2000 and establish the rules for access to, and the sharing of water between the environmental needs of the surface or groundwater source and water users. The EIS needs to:

- Demonstrate how the proposal is consistent with the relevant rules of the WSP including rules for access licences, distance restrictions for water supply works and rules for the management of local impacts in respect of surface water and groundwater sources, ecosystem protection, water quality and surface-groundwater connectivity.
- Provide a description of any site water use (amount of water from each water source) and management including all sediment dams, clear water diversion structures with detail on the location, design specifications and storage capacities for all the existing and proposed water management structures.
- Provide an analysis of the proposed water supply arrangements against the rules for access licences and other applicable requirements of any relevant WSP.

Refer to: http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/Water-Management/Water-sharing/default.aspx .

3. Relevant Policies

The EIS is to take into account the following policies (as applicable):

- NSW Aquifer Interference Policy (2012)
- Office of Water Guidelines for Controlled Activities (2012)
- NSW State Rivers and Estuary Policy (1993)
- The NSW Wetlands Management Policy (1996)
- NSW State Groundwater Policy Framework Document (1997)
- NSW State Groundwater Quality Protection Policy (1998)
- NSW State Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Policy (2002).

http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/Water-management/Law-and-policy/Key-policies/default.aspx

4. Licensing Considerations

The EIS is to provide:

- Details of the water supply source(s) for the proposal including any proposed surface water and groundwater extraction and all water supply works to take water.
- Information on the purpose, location, construction and expected annual extraction volumes including details on all existing and proposed water supply works which take surface water, (pumps, dams, diversions, etc).
- Details on all bores and excavations for the purpose of investigation, extraction, dewatering, testing and monitoring and an approval obtained from the Office of Water prior to their installation. All predicted groundwater take must be accounted for through adequate licensing.

Water allocation account management rules, total daily extraction limits and rules governing environmental protection and access licence dealings also need to be considered.

5. Watercourses and Riparian land

The proponent's Supplementary Report notes the North West Rail Link (NWRL) project included a planned train stabling facility on land west of Tallawong Road at Rouse Hill (page 1). It is recommended the EIS for the subject Rapid Transit Rail Facility demonstrates that the riparian outcomes at the site are consistent with the NWRL project, and provide details in respect to any inconsistencies.

Table 5 in the Supplementary Report indicates there is a very high risk rating for potential impacts of the project on riparian vegetation and aquatic ecology of First Ponds Creek and its tributaries (page 30). The report also notes potential impacts and issues for the project include impacts on salinity levels of the riparian corridors (see Section 7.1.6).

The EIS needs to address the potential impacts of the project on all watercourses affected by the project, existing riparian vegetation and the rehabilitation of riparian land.

It is recommended the EIS provide details on all watercourses located on the subject site and potentially affected off-site, including:

- scaled plans showing the location of:
  - the watercourses and top of bank
  - riparian setbacks (measured from top of bank) to be protected and enhanced.
  - remnant riparian vegetation surrounding the watercourses (identify any areas to be protected and any native riparian vegetation proposed to be removed)
  - the site boundary, the footprint of the proposal in relation to the watercourses and riparian areas.
- photographs of the watercourses.
- detailed description of all potential environmental impacts in terms of channel stability, riparian areas, sediment movement, hydraulic regime etc.
- description of the design features and measures to be incorporated into the proposal to mitigate long term actual and potential environmental disturbances, particularly in respect of maintaining the natural hydrological regime, sediment movement patterns and riparian buffers.

It is recommended the proposed rail facility avoids disturbing watercourses and riparian corridors but if the project must disturb riparian land, the area of disturbance is minimised. The EIS needs to provide adequate details to assess potential impacts and it is recommended mitigation measures include offsets to rehabilitate an equivalent area of riparian vegetation affected by the project either at the site, or elsewhere along the

affected creeks.

6. Groundwater Assessment

Based on the information provided in the Supplementary Report it is unclear if the project is likely to use, intercept or impact groundwater. To ensure the sustainable and integrated management of groundwater sources, the EIS needs to include adequate details to assess the impact of the project on all groundwater sources including:

- the predicted highest groundwater table at the site.
- any works likely to intercept, connect with or infiltrate the groundwater sources.
- any proposed groundwater extraction, including purpose, location and construction details of all proposed bores and expected annual extraction volumes.
- a description of the flow directions and rates and physical and chemical characteristics of the groundwater source.
- the predicted impacts of any final landform on the groundwater regime.
- the existing groundwater users within the area (including the environment), any potential impacts on these users and safeguard measures to mitigate impacts.
- an assessment of the quality of the groundwater for the local groundwater catchment.
- an assessment of groundwater contamination (considering both the impacts of the proposal on groundwater contamination and the impacts of contamination on the proposal).
- how the proposed development will not potentially diminish the current quality of groundwater, both in the short and long term.
- measures for preventing groundwater pollution so that remediation is not required.
- protective measures for any groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs).
- proposed methods of the disposal of waste water and approval from the relevant authority.
- the results of any models or predictive tools used.

Where potential impact/s are identified the assessment will need to identify limits to the level of impact and contingency measures that would remediate, reduce or manage potential impacts to the existing groundwater resource and any dependent groundwater environment or water users, including information on:

- any proposed monitoring programs, including water levels and quality data.
- reporting procedures for any monitoring program including mechanism for transfer of information.
- an assessment of any groundwater source/aquifer that may be sterilised from future use as a water supply as a consequence of the proposal.
- identification of any nominal thresholds as to the level of impact beyond which remedial measures or contingency plans would be initiated (this may entail water level triggers or a beneficial use category).
- description of the remedial measures or contingency plans proposed.
- any funding assurances covering the anticipated post development maintenance cost, for example on-going groundwater monitoring for the nominated period.

<u>Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems</u>

The EIS should provide details on the presence and distribution of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs) in the vicinity of the site and:

- demonstrate that the proposed development would maintain natural patterns of groundwater flow and not disrupt groundwater levels that are critical to GDEs;
- identify any potential impacts on GDEs as a result of the proposal including:
  - the effect of the proposal on the recharge to groundwater systems,
  - the potential to adversely affect the water quality of the underlying groundwater system and adjoining groundwater systems in hydraulic connections, and
  - the effect on the function of GDEs (habitat, groundwater levels, connectivity).
- provide safeguard measures for any GDEs.

GDEs are ecosystems which have their species composition and natural ecological processes wholly or partially determined by groundwater. GDEs represent a vital component of the natural environment and can vary in how they depend on groundwater, from having occasional or no apparent dependence through to being entirely dependent. GDEs occur across both the surface and subsurface landscapes ranging in area from a few metres to many kilometres. Surface and groundwaters are often interlinked and aquatic ecosystems may have a dependence on both.

Nicholas Hall - North West Rail link Rapid Transit Facility - Coal Advice (R&E) Letter

From: <sam.walsh@industry.nsw.gov.au>
To: <swati.sharma@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 13/05/2013 11:51 AM
Subject: North West Rail link Rapid Transit Facility - Coal Advice (R&E) Letter
CC: <kevin.ruming@industry.nsw.gov.au>
Attachments: Coal Advice - North West Rail Link Rapid Transit Facility - Letter DoP - April 2013.pdf

Hi Swati,

Please see the attached letter from Kevin Ruming (Coal Advice) RE/ North West Rail Link Rapid Transport Facility.
The original is in the mail.

Kind Regards,

Samantha Walsh | Geologist | Coal Advice | Mineral Resources | Division of Resources & Energy
Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services NSW
Level 2 | 516 High Street | Maitland | NSW 2320
T: 02 4931 6425 | M: 0407 383 984 | E: sam.walsh@industry.nsw.gov.au | W: www.industry.nsw.gov.au

NSW GOVERNMENT | Resources & Energy

Our Ref: OUT13/11394

Swati Sharma
A/Team Leader – Rail and Ports
Infrastructure Projects
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

SUBJECT: North West Rail Link Rapid Transport Facility

Dear Swati,

The Coal Advice unit in Mineral Resources has reviewed the application for the proposed North West Rail Link Rapid Transport Facility and assessed the coal resource potential for the area.

The Illawarra Coal Measures underlie the area and the major economic seam of the Coal Measures is at depths greater than 870 m. Coal seams at this depth are not currently mined in Australia but are in some places in other countries. A potential coal resource exists beneath this area however, Mineral Resources has no requests for any DGR's with respect to the coal resources.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Ruming
A/Manager
Coal Advice

10 May 2013

Coal Advice - Mineral Resources
PO Box 344, Hunter Region Mail Centre NSW 2310
516 High St MAITLAND NSW 2320
Tel: 1300 736 122 Fax: 02 4931 6788
www.industry.nsw.gov.au
ABN 72189919072

Nicholas Hall - NWRL - Rapid Transit Rail Facility (SSI 13_5931)

From: "Mella, Carl" <Carl.Mella@transport.nsw.gov.au>
To: "swati.sharma@planning.nsw.gov.au" <swati.sharma@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 14/05/2013 10:35 AM
Subject: NWRL - Rapid Transit Rail Facility (SSI 13_5931)
CC: "Chalice, Brenton" <Brenton.Chalice@transport.nsw.gov.au>, "Chalice,Brenton" <brenton.chalice@rms.nsw.gov.au>
Attachments: North West Rail Link (SSI 13_5931)_FINAL.doc

Dear Swati,

Rapid Transit Rail Facility (State Significant Infrastructure Application SSI 13_5931)

Attached is RMS's response to the 'Rapid Transit Rail Facility – State Significant Infrastructure Application: Supplementary Report'.
Please note that a hard copy, signed by Peter Duncan, will be sent directly to you.

Regards,

Carl Mella
North West Rail Link
Transport for NSW

T 8265 6302 | **M** 0429 505 970
Level 7, 8-12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Our Reference:	NWRL Rapid Transit Rail Facility
Your Reference:	SSI 13_5931
Contact:	Brenton Chalice
Telephone	8265 6293

A/ Manager – Rail & Ports (Infrastructure Projects)
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Swati Sharma

Rapid Transit Rail Facility (State Significant Infrastructure Application SSI 13_5931)

Dear Ms Sharma,

I refer to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's letter dated the 26 April 2013 (Ref: SSI 13_5931), regarding the above mentioned State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) application referral to the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) for comment in accordance with *Clause 115Y(3)* of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.*

In October 2012 RMS entered into an Interface Management Plan with TfNSW to deliver integrated transport outcomes for the community. We will manage certain permanent traffic and transport measures/infrastructure, that become RMS assets as a result of the NWRL project, through our business-as-usual Works Authorisation Deed (WAD) process. The temporary and construction phase traffic management requirements are proposed to be managed through the proposed Transport and Traffic Liaison Group (TTLG).

RMS requires participation in a TTLG, similar to that provided at the 25 September 2012 Application SSI-5100 Condition C28, enhanced to broaden the temporary/construction phase and permanent traffic and transport measures to accommodate the functionality at all NWRL stations and service facilities precincts and related intersections at the day of opening NWRL.

RMS supports TfNSW's collaborative approach to the further development of the SSI reference design to meet whole of government transport objectives and operational requirements.

RMS has reviewed the Rapid Transit Rail Facility Proposal and notes that a number of conditions stipulated within the Infrastructure Approval (SSI-5100) would be equally applicable to the current Proposal (SSI 13_5931). These are as follows:

- Schedule C – Environmental Performance: Condition numbers C23 through to C32.
- Schedule E – Construction Environmental Management: Condition Numbers E25, E31,E35, E36, E39, E40, E45, E46c and E47

Note: Condition E45e should be modified to include the following additional environmental performance issue – (xii) Cumulative Impacts.
As part of the CEMP the proponent would consult with the RMS to identify all other significant developments occurring in the vicinity of the construction sites and identify environmental impacts to be monitored during construction which have the potential for cumulative effects to occur. Any

new impacts identified during construction would be addressed appropriately to reduce the cumulative effects and reported.

Section 138 concurrence / Roads Act Approvals

1. Any proposed road infrastructure works, road restoration works, vehicular accesses or signalised intersections located along the state classified road system, and any new signalised intersections and/or other modifications to existing signals located on the local road system shall be designed to meet RMS requirements. The design requirements shall be in accordance with Austroads, RMS supplements and technical directions and other Australian Codes of Practice. The certified copies of the civil, structural and traffic signal design plans shall be submitted to RMS for consideration and acceptance prior to commencement of EIS 2 or Rapid Transit Rail Facility works - (which ever occurs first).

Any specific inquiries in relation to these matters can be directed to Brenton Chalice – RMS's Roads Integration Manager, North West Rail Link on mobile number 0418 434 412 or via email at: Brenton.Chalice@rms.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Peter Duncan
Chief Executive
Roads and Maritime Services
13 May 2013

PCU044466

NSW GOVERNMENT

Heritage Council of New South Wales

3 Marist Place
Parramatta NSW 2150

Locked Bag 5020
Parramatta NSW 2124
DX 8225 PARRAMATTA

Telephone: 61 2 9873 8500
Facsimile: 61 2 9873 8599

heritage@heritage.nsw.gov.au
www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

Contact: Katrina Stankowski
Telephone: (02) 9873 8569
Katrina.Stankowski@heritage.nsw.gov.au
File: 10/18236
Job ID No: A1438430
Your Ref: SSI 13_5931

Swati Sharma
A/Manager – Rail and Ports
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Sharma

RE: Request for Heritage Council Director General's Requirements for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Rapid Transit Rail Facility (SSI 13_5931).

Reference is made to your letter dated 26th of April (received by this Branch on the 29th of April), requesting information regarding the NSW Heritage Council's requirements for the preparation of the above mentioned Environmental Impact Statement.

It is advised that the EIS should address the following issues:

- The heritage significance of the site and any impacts the development may have upon this significance should be assessed. This assessment should include natural areas and places of Aboriginal, historic or archaeological significance. It should also include a consideration of wider heritage impacts in the area surrounding the site including the State Heritage Listed Rouse Hill House and Farm.

- The Heritage Council maintains the State Heritage Inventory which lists some items protected under the Heritage Act, 1977 and other statutory instruments. This register can be accessed through the Heritage Branch home page on the internet (http:/www.heritage.nsw.gov.au).

- In addition, you should consult lists maintained by the National Trust, any heritage listed under the Australian Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 and the local council in order to identify any identified items of heritage significance in the area affected by the proposal. Please be aware, however, that these lists are constantly evolving and that items with potential heritage significance may not yet be listed.

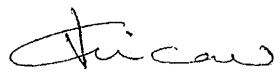
- Non-Aboriginal heritage items within the area affected by the proposal should be identified by field survey. This should include any buildings, works, relics (including relics underwater), gardens, landscapes, views, trees or places of non-Aboriginal heritage significance. A statement of significance and an assessment of the impact

of the proposal on the heritage significance of these items should be undertaken. Any policies/measures to conserve their heritage significance should be identified. This assessment should be undertaken in accordance with the guidelines in the NSW Heritage Manual. The field survey and assessment should be undertaken by a qualified practitioner/consultant with historic sites experience. The Heritage Branch can provide a list of suitable consultants.

- The proposal should have regard to any impacts on places, items or relics of significance to Aboriginal people. Where it is likely that the project will impact on Aboriginal heritage, adequate community consultation should take place regarding the assessment of significance, likely impacts and management/mitigation measures.

The Heritage Branch would be happy to review any further documentation that may address any likely heritage impacts. If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Katrina Stankowski on (02) 9873 8569.

Yours Sincerely



14/05/2013

Vincent Sicari
Manager
Conservation Team
Heritage Branch
Regional Operations
Office of Environment & Heritage

As Delegate of the NSW Heritage Council

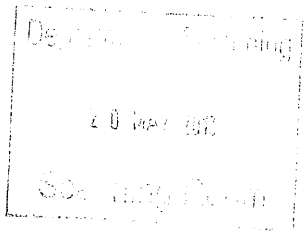
PCU044553

Blacktown City Council
Growing with Pride

File no: 145-596-1

15 May 2013

Swati Sharma
Acting Manager Rail and Ports
Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney 2001



Dear Sir/Madam,

Rapid Transit Rail Facility (State Significant Infrastructure Application SSI 13_5931)

I refer to your letter dated 26 April 2013 seeking Council's input on the Director General's requirements for the State Significant Infrastructure Application for the Rapid Transport Rail Facility in the vicinity of Tallawong Road, Rouse Hill that has been submitted to the Department by Transport for NSW.

Council Officers have briefly reviewed the Supplementary Report provided with your letter. Following are Council's key issues and assessment requirements for the project:

i. Impact of construction traffic on local roads and nearby existing and planned residential areas.
ii. Location and impact of any temporary construction sites surrounding the facility.
iii. Any required road upgrades.
iv. Impact of any car parking associated with the operation of the facility on the local road network.
v. Impact of the proposed 24/7 operation of the facility on surrounding residential areas (both existing and planned), particularly in relation to noise and light spill.
vi. Impact on flooding and water cycle management, particularly in the vicinity of First Ponds Creek.
vii. Visual impact of the facility on the amenity of the surrounding locality.
viii. Impact on air quality.
ix. Relationship of the facility to the Riverstone East Precinct, which is imminent for release for urban development.

Thank you for the opportunity to input Council's comments at this early stage. Council would again appreciate the opportunity to provide comments at the environmental assessment stage. Should you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Council's Strategic Planner, Zara Tai on 9839 6237.

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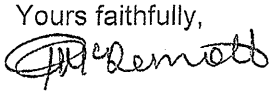
Yours faithfully,



Fiona McDermott
Acting Manager Strategic & Precinct Planning