

COFFS HARBOUR BYPASS (CSSI-7666)
ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY REPORT
June 2023

Reporting Period: 1 to 30 June 2023

This Environmental Representative Monthly Report has been prepared in accordance with the Minister's Condition of Approval (MCoA) A25(j) for the Coffs Harbour Bypass (CSSI-7666) and is consistent with the Environmental Representative Protocol (October 2018).

PROJECT SUMMARY: The construction and operation of a new multi lane road from north of Sawtell Road Interchange to Sapphire Beach, and including:

- A new four-lane divided highway with three grade-separated interchanges at Englands Road (southern), Coramba Road (central) and Korora Hill (northern);
- Three tunnels through ridges, at Roberts Hill (approximately 190m long), Shephards Lane (approximately 360m long) and Gatelys Road (approximately 450m long);
- Structures to pass over local roads and creeks, and a bridge over the North Coast Railway;
- Tie-in and modifications to the existing road network, to enable local road connections;
- Pedestrian and cycling facilities, a shared path tying into the existing shared path on Solitary Islands Way, and a new pedestrian bridge to replace the existing Luke Bowen footbridge;
- A new Korora Public School bus interchange and a formalised bus stop at Coramba Road; and
- Noise attenuation measures, fauna connectivity structures, and ancillary work.

Works underway:

- Main construction works:
 - Establishment of site compounds and ancillary facilities
 - Installation of site controls, including fencing, flagging, signs, sediment basins, vehicle washdown bays
 - Installation of concrete barriers and signage along the existing Pacific Highway
 - Vegetation clearing, grubbing and mulching
 - Construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions
 - Bulk earthworks
 - Construction of site access tracks
- Low impact works (i.e. non-construction works) are ongoing, including:
 - Utility relocations (i.e. water, electrical, telecoms) by Quickway, Coastal Works and Gosling Electrical
 - Residential property noise treatment works
- Other ongoing works include:
 - Design refinement and detailed design
 - Threatened flora species management, including propagation and translocation
 - Planning for controlled blasting



June 2023 Works Summary

Main Construction

- Establishment of site compounds and ancillary facilities
- Installation of flagging / temporary fencing and associated signage for clearing limits and construction areas
- Installation of concrete barriers and signage along the existing Pacific Highway
- Installation of erosion and sediment controls, including sediment basins
- Installation of construction access / egress points, including vehicle washbays for Panama disease control
- Vegetation clearing, grubbing and mulching
- Construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions
- Bulk earthworks
- Demolition of buildings and structures

Utility Relocations

Work on the utility relocations continued in the following locations (generally listed from south to north):

- Lindsay Transport
- United Pacific area
- Stadium Drive
- Englands Road
- Bray Street
- Bruxner Park Road
- Old Coast Road
- James Small Drive
- Opal Boulevard
- Coachmans Close

Geotechnical Investigations

FGJV are undertaking geotechnical investigations to provide information for the detailed design. These investigations include about 140 test pits (approx. 2 m long x 0.5 m wide x 5 m deep), 210 bore holes (drilled holes up to 25 m deep) and 22 Cone Penetration Test (CPT) locations.

Residential Property Noise Treatment Works

- 619 receivers were identified in the EIS Amendment Report as being potentially eligible for noise treatment works. Ground truthing has found that 14 properties are located in an ineligible subdivision, 154 are unbuilt residential properties (located in an eligible subdivision), and 51 buildings do not require treatment (e.g. non-habitable). Furthermore, 32 additional properties have been identified for treatment and 41 properties have declined/postponed the treatment offer. Therefore, there are **391** properties to be treated.
- The scope of noise treatment works is yet to be finalised at 70 properties due to challenges associated with electrical supply upgrades, bushfire compliance and asbestos.



- Implementation of noise treatment works for tender Packages 3 to 10 was ongoing, noting that additional properties have been added to some tender packages. Tender Packages 1 and 2 noise treatment works are complete.
- Tender Package 11 (30 properties) will be released in July.
- The total number of properties in work Packages 1 to 10 is 313, and **223** properties have been treated to date.

Threatened Species Management

- New plant species (Fontainea, Pittosporum) management was ongoing, including propagation of plants in nurseries for future planting in translocation sites.
- A new threatened species (Native Guava) was identified within the project site, in the North Boambee floodplain. This species is being managed in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan's Unexpected Threatened Species Protocol.

July 2023 Upcoming Works

Main Construction

- Establishment of site compounds and ancillary facilities, including concrete batch plant at Englands Rd (Ancillary Site 1C)
- Installation of flagging / temporary fencing and associated signage for clearing limits and construction areas
- Installation of concrete barriers and signage along the existing Pacific Highway
- Installation of erosion and sediment controls, including sediment basins
- Installation of construction access / egress points, including vehicle washbays for Panama disease control
- Vegetation clearing, grubbing and mulching
- Construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions
- Bulk earthworks
- Demolition of buildings and structures
- Trial blast and commencement of controlled blasting

Utility Relocations

Work on the utility relocations will continue in the following locations:

- Bray Street
- Bruxner Park Road
- Old Coast Road
- Paradise Palms Resort
- James Small Drive
- Opal Boulevard
- Coachmans Close



Residential Property Noise Treatment Works

- Finalisation of the scope of noise treatment works will continue at the remaining properties.
- Implementation of noise treatment works for tender Packages 3 to 10 will continue.
- Works Package 11 (30 properties) will commence.

Threatened Species Management

- New plant species (Fontainea, Pittosporum) management will continue, including propagation of plants in nurseries for future planting in translocation sites
- Ongoing management of Native Guava plants in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan's Unexpected Threatened Species Protocol
- The Threatened Species Management Plan is in the process of being updated to incorporate details of the fauna connectivity structures and the Native Guava

ER Activity

Reviews / Approvals / Advice

- OOHW Application (Quickway #34) – Korora western corridor utility installation - extended evening (1hr) and weekend work hours: Review and approve as low risk
- OOHW Application (Quickway #35) – Charlesworth Bay Rd – water main valve installation: Review and approve as low risk
- OOHW Application (Coastal Works) – James Small Dr / Pacific Highway northern intersection – install of concrete barriers: Review and approve as low risk
- OOHW Application (FGJV #013) – Englands Rd, west of Pacific Highway roundabout - install of stormwater drainage pipes via excavation: Review and provide comment
- Ancillary Site Establishment Management Plan – Site 1C: Review and endorse
- Minor Construction Ancillary Facility – Bruxner Park Rd, south of Pacific Highway intersection - office, crib sheds, toilet block, parking, shipping containers for storage: Review and approve
- Monthly Acoustic Advisor (AA) Report (May): Review
- Weekly community complaints register: Review

Site Inspections

Site inspections occurred on:

- 14th June 2023 with the AA and representatives from DPE, EPA and TfNSW
- 28th June 2023 with TfNSW, EPA and Independent Certifier (IC) representatives

Meetings / Workshops

- A Monthly Project Update Meeting was held on the 14th June 2023, with the AA and representatives from DPE, TfNSW, EPA and FGJV. Some participants attended the meeting in person, while others connected via video call.
- Weekly meetings with the AA, DPE and environment and community representatives from TfNSW and FGJV are ongoing.



Reports

- MCoA A25(j): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (May 2023) – Prepared, reviewed and submitted to DPE (Infrastructure Management and Compliance) via Major Projects Portal on 7th June 2023.

Environmental Performance

Stop Work Notices

There were no Stop Work Notices.

Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

There were no incidents.

Non-compliances

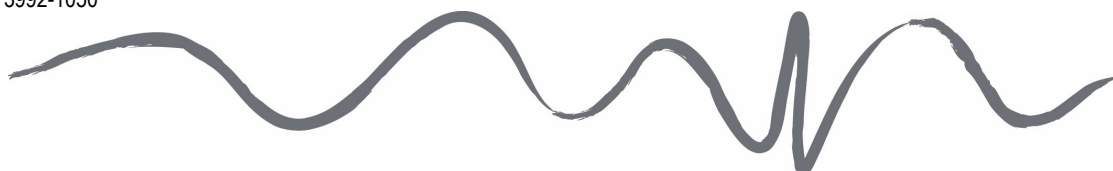
- A non-compliance associated with out-of-hours work (OOHW) occurred on Sunday 4th June 2023. The newly installed high voltage underground electrical network needed to be connected to the existing network in the industrial area around Englands Rd and Isles Dr. The work involved a power outage and needed to be undertaken on a Sunday to minimise disruption to industrial businesses. The noise assessment for the OOHW determined that the predicted noise levels would be less than the noise management level (NML) at the nearest sensitive receiver. The OOHW Protocol for these low impact utility relocation works requires an OOHW application to be reviewed by the Acoustic Advisor (AA), where the predicted noise level is less than the relevant NML. However, the OOHW application was not provided to the AA until after the works had been completed, due to a communication breakdown between the relevant project manager and the TfNSW environment team. No complaints or community concerns were raised in relation to the event. A meeting was held with all TfNSW project team members to reiterate the OOHW approval process and ensure all team members understand the OOHW Protocol.
- A non-compliance occurred during construction of a temporary access road adjacent to Korora Public School on 27th June 2023. The works involved the use of a 15t padfoot roller within 50 m of 54 James Small Drive. The Noise and Vibration Management Plan requires that a building condition survey is undertaken for buildings located within 50 m of a vibratory roller >7 tonne (mitigation measure NMR24). However, a building condition survey had not been completed for 54 James Small Dr. The roller did not encroach inside the applicable Safe Working Distance (i.e. was greater than 20m from the property) and vibration monitoring confirmed that the levels were below the relevant cosmetic damage criteria. Once the issue was identified, the use of the 15t roller was stopped and a prioritised building condition survey was arranged. A project-wide toolbox on vibratory works and building condition survey requirements will be delivered and a quality assurance check is being undertaken on the building condition survey program.

Environmental Events (i.e. not classified as Incidents)

The two non-compliances described above were also reported as environmental events.

Positive Observations / Lessons Learnt / Opportunities for Improvement

Positive Observation – MCoA E17 requires the Proponent to consult with relevant groups and agencies regarding opportunities to reuse tree root balls and other material off site. Based on site visit observations and information provided at meetings, FGJV has been proactive in providing root balls and pins to Local Land



Services for use in rehabilitation projects. Substantial planning and coordination has been required to overcome logistical challenges and make this happen.

Changes to the Project

Documentation

No changes this month.

Community Consultation and Complaints

Consultation Summary

There were more than 600 interactions with community and stakeholders in June. At-house noise treatment, vegetation removal, employment, and accommodation remain key areas of interest among the community, with dust, construction noise and access also trending. Property condition surveys are now at 60 percent complete. The booking of surveys for the remaining properties and distributing the reports remains a key focus for the team.

Key activities undertaken during the month include:

- Distributed the June Project Update to 22,500 residents in the Coffs Harbour LGA. The project update was also distributed electronically to a further 1,319 people, placed at static display locations and promoted on the Transport for NSW Facebook page. The update included stories on controlled blasting, vegetation removal and habitat restoration and upcoming construction activities including out of hours work.
- Completed 17 door knocks/phone calls with a hygienist to advise people about upcoming work to remove and relocate asbestos-containing materials (ACM) in the vicinity of the Korora interchange. No issues were raised about the work and no enquiries or complaints have been received since.
- Delivered the communications package for upcoming work in the vicinity of the Kororo Public School. The notification was delivered to about 480 people via letterbox drops and email, with meetings and phone calls arranged as required. A suite of Facebook posts reminding people of the new 'Kiss and Ride' location will go live in July. A community information session was held on Thursday 29 June offering community members the opportunity to speak with the project team about the upcoming changes. Thirty community members attended between 2pm and 8pm and sentiment was largely positive with some concerns raised about traffic control, noise and vegetation removal.
- Started informing the community about controlled blasting which is expected to start in mid-July. The team released a fact sheet, website story and Facebook post providing an overview on blasting, as well as a localised notification for upcoming work at Cut 16. Community door knocks were completed on Monday 3 July. There was positive commentary on the Facebook post, which generated 62 comments, 72 shares and 269 reactions.
- Supported two onsite media events and site tours in June. NSW Minister for Regional Roads and Transport Jenny Aitchison visited on 7 June and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese visited on 27 June. Both visits resulted in positive media coverage for the project.
- Distributed a letter to impacted residents advising of ongoing haulage on West Korora Road.
- Attended a meeting with Coffs Harbour Banana Grower's Association on Thursday 29 June. The team provided an update on vegetation removal, Panama disease wash down bays and permanent access road for West Korora Road. BGA raised concerns about traffic and compliance with the Panama disease management plan.



- Distributed five Facebook posts reaching a total of 249,104 people.
- Distributed the notification for utility relocation work on James Small Drive to 160 residents within 200m.
- Liaison with residents on James Small Drive regarding the recommencement of telecommunication relocations and remaining scope of work.
- Completed door knocks on Norman Hill Drive and Ballantine Drive advising residents of upcoming watermain connection work and temporary supply arrangements.
- Held discussions with residents at 9 and 11 Tranquility Drive regarding dust concerns and having their houses washed.
- Consultation with Prit Dhariwal, 599 Pacific Highway (Berry Farm) - regarding OOH 34, access issues and OOH 38.
- Consultation with residents at 15 Bruxner Park Road regarding trenching work across the driveway and jointing activity associated with OOH 38.
- Consultation with residents at 3 Seaview Close regarding trenching work across the driveway.

In the next three months, community engagement activities will include:

- Distribute electronic weekly traffic updates
- Distribute electronic weekly blast updates
- Develop external monthly report card
- Notification for Coramba Intersection traffic improvements
- AA meeting with Ferntree Place residents
- Detailed design consultation report collateral package
- Notification for OOH drainage work on Englands Road
- Notification for OOH vegetation removal at Korora Hill interchange
- Notification for OOH cadastral surveyors near Charlesworth Bay Road
- Notification for concrete batch plant Englands Road
- Luke Bowen Footbridge collateral package

Complaints

There were 12 complaints received in June. The team also supported in the investigation of four complaints unrelated to the project.

- Korora: Vibration and construction noise – Open JV
- Korora: Dust and noise – Closed QWY
- Korora: Dust – Closed QWY
- North Boambee: Dust – Closed JV
- Korora: Access path – Closed QWY & TfNSW
- Korora: Overgrown vegetation – Closed JV
- Korora: Out of hours construction noise – Closed JV & QWY
- Coramba area: Out of hours construction noise – Closed JV
- Coramba area: Accessing private property – Closed JV
- Korora: Operational noise and air quality – Closed TfNSW
- Boambee: Inadequate consultation – Closed TfNSW



- North Boambee: Accessing private property – Closed JV

Four Ministerial enquiries were received. Two were about noise impacts and AHNT, one about contamination of Korora Lagoon and one on vegetation removal impacts at Korora.

Closing Remarks

The FGJV team has made good progress with vegetation clearing and initial earthworks during a period of ongoing fine weather. Active works have now commenced across a large portion of the project site, with a substantial change to the visual appearance of the future road corridor. Effective and proactive community and stakeholder engagement remains critical with the commencement of various work activities, including upcoming controlled blasting. The utility relocation works in the northern portion of the project are ongoing, with the majority of ongoing work being in the vicinity of Bruxner Park Rd. Overall, environmental management of the project continues to be satisfactory, with most of the issues identified during site inspections being considered low risk.



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Attachment: Photos from Site Inspections – June 2023



Photos from Site Inspections – June 2023



Image 1: Southern end of project (Ch9700 - 10100) – Vegetation clearing completed, mulch stockpiles



Image 2: South of Englands Rd (Ch10100 - 10800) – Vegetation clearing completed, mulch stockpiles



Image 3: Englands Rd Interchange (Ch10800) – Loading of mulch into trucks



Image 4: North Boambee Rd, adjacent to compound (Ch12600 - 12800) – Earthworks



Image 5: Coramba Rd south (Ch14500) – Recently constructed sediment basin and vehicle washbay



Image 6: Gatelys Rd tunnel portal north (Ch19300 - 19750) – Initial earthworks and clean water diversion drains



Image 7: Korora Hill Interchange (Ch20600 - 20900) – Vegetation clearing and ongoing utilities installation



Image 8: Korora Hill Interchange (Ch20700 - 21300) – Mulching of cleared vegetation