

27 September 2022



Dear Sir/Madam

On behalf of The Scots School Albury, please find herewith our submission to comment on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the 'Inland Rail works Albury to Illabo'.

The Scots School Albury maintains a direct frontage of approximately 400 metres to the Albury to Illabo line and will be directly and adversely affected by both the proposed construction works and the increase in rail traffic into the future.

The EIS has identified some key impacts to the School, specifically with respect to Vibration and Noise. We acknowledge these impacts, however we do not believe the EIS has adequately considered a number of factors which require additional attention in relation to this property.

The Re-Beautification of the Rail Corridor Boundary with the School

Previously the boundary between the rail corridor and the School was planted out with shrubs. This both reduced train noise and also somewhat beautified the boundary of the School and rail corridor.

We request that the EIS address this detrimental impact and provide provision to re-instate these plantings once construction works are complete.

The Scots Boarding School

The Boarding School at The Scots School house over 100 staff and students and has a direct line of sight to the rail line. There is no mention of this in Chapter 15 of the EIS.

Due to the number of residents sleeping in these buildings, we believe they should be considered in the EIS.

Proximity of School Buildings to the Rail Corridor

In Chapter 15.6.3, the EIS identifies that numerous School buildings are within 40 metres of the proposed works. However, these buildings are much closer, as close as 23 metres to the centre of the rail line, and potentially 10-15 metres from Construction Activity. This extreme relative closeness to working buildings should garner special consideration when assessing noise and vibration.

Unique Use of Buildings Adjacent to the Rail Corridor

The School does not believe the EIS has properly assessed the unique uses of the School buildings adjacent to the rail corridor and proposed construction works.

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The Scots School Albury complies with the Australian Privacy

Principles as set out in the Commonwealth Privacy Act (2014)

ABN 40958 401 920 CRICOS 02274B

The 'School Chapel Hall' is located within 23 metres of the Rail line and is used as:

- A Place of Worship
- For School Exams
- For Music and Theatre Rehearsals and Performances
- Assemblies and Award Presentations

The Scots School believe the consideration given to this building was general and did not suitably consider the detrimental impacts of noise and vibration on the unique uses of this building.

The Need to Consider the School Calendar when Assessing Appropriate Rail Occupations

The EIS does not suitably address the need for the Inland Rail project to consider the School Calendar, when scheduling Rail Possessions for the purposes of construction works.

There are dates and timeframes throughout the School year that will be significantly increase the likely impacts on the School. Most notably, these include but are not limited to examinations, HSC Trial Examinations and Final Examinations, Final Assemblies, Musical and Theatre Events.

There are also opportunities to minimise likely impacts which need to be explored, most notably, School Holidays, Weekends, Public Holidays.

The Proposed Senior Study Centre

The Scots School is currently constructing a Senior Study Centre which will be located North of the Chapel Hall and approximately 45 metres from the centre of the rail line. This building will be complete prior to the rail upgrade occurring and due to the nature and use of the building, will be significantly impacted by both the construction works and the increase in rail traffic.

Yours sincerely

Michael Butko
TSSA Board Member and BEI Chair