

Director-General's Requirements

Section 75F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Application number	08_0138
Project	Hume Highway Upgrade – construction of a 9km dual carriageway bypass of Holbrook
Location	Holbrook on the Hume Highway, within the Greater Hume Local Government Area
Proponent	NSW Roads and Traffic Authority
Date issued	2 December 2008
Expiry date	2 December 2010
General requirements	<p>The Environmental Assessment (EA) must include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an executive summary; 2. a detailed description of the project including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ route alignment and corridor width; ▪ design elements (e.g. construction of temporary crossings, bridges, culverts, creek diversions, geotechnical investigations, excavating or reclaiming the bed or banks of any waterways, requirements for level of service (LOS), pedestrian and cyclists facilities etc); ▪ potential staging; ▪ ancillary facilities (e.g. compound site, batching plants etc); and ▪ resourcing (e.g. construction material needs, spoil disposal, natural resource consumption including water). 3. an assessment of the key issues, with the following aspects addressed for each key issue (where relevant): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ describe the existing environment; ▪ assess the potential impacts of the proposal (direct, indirect and cumulative) at both construction and operation stages, in accordance with relevant policies and guidelines; ▪ identify how relevant planning, land use and development matters (including relevant strategic and statutory matters), have been considered in the impact assessment and/ or in developing management/ mitigation measures; and ▪ describe measures to be implemented to avoid, minimise, manage, mitigate, offset and/or monitor the impacts of the project and the residual impacts. 4. a draft Statement of Commitments (SoC). The SoC must incorporate or otherwise capture all measures to avoid, minimise, manage, mitigate, offset and/or monitor impacts identified in the impact assessment sections of the EA and ensure that the wording of the SoC clearly articulates the desired environmental outcome of the commitment. The SoC must be achievable, measurable (with respect to compliance), and time specific where relevant. 5. certification by the author of the EA that the information contained in the Assessment is neither false nor misleading.
Key issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategic Justification – describe the strategic need, justification and objectives for the project (including performance indicators), and consistency with the aims and objectives of relevant National and State planning policies and provisions, such as the National <i>Land Transport Plan (Auslink)</i> and <i>State Infrastructure Strategy – New South Wales 2006-07 to 2015-2016</i>. ▪ Project Justification – describe the need for and objectives of the project; alternatives considered and justification for the preferred project taking into consideration the objects of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> and the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the environmental, social and economic impacts of the project; ○ the suitability of the site; and ○ whether or not the project is in the public interest. ▪ Traffic and Transport - including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ demonstrate how the preferred route and road design meets the traffic

	<p>and transport objectives for the project, particularly with respect to increasing infrastructure handling capacity and efficiency, and improving transport productivity on nationally strategic and export-oriented freight corridors;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ construction traffic impacts, including spoil haulage, and potential disruption to existing school bus services and travelling stock routes; ○ operational traffic and transport impacts to the local and regional road network, including direct impacts from replacement of the existing highway that currently passes through the town centre; ○ traffic capacity of the proposal and its ability to cater for predicted growth. Consideration should be given to what effect potential major land use changes in the locality may have on the traffic assessment outcomes; and ○ opportunity for the provision of cycle way connections along the highway and to adjoining communities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noise and Vibration - including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ construction noise and vibration, including construction traffic noise and blasting impacts; ○ operational road traffic noise impacts including consideration of local meteorological conditions (as relevant) and any additional reflective noise impacts from proposed noise mitigation barriers; and ○ the assessment must take into account the following guidelines as relevant: <i>Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise</i> (EPA, 1999), <i>Environmental Noise Management Manual</i> (RTA, 2001), <i>Draft Noise Control Guidelines</i>, <i>Construction Site Noise (formerly published as chapter 171 of the EPA's Environmental Noise Control Manual)</i>, <i>Assessing Vibration: A Technical Guideline</i> (DEC, 2006); and <i>Technical Basis for Guidelines to Minimise Annoyance Due to Blasting Overpressure and Ground Vibration</i> (ANZECC, 1990). ▪ Flora and Fauna - including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ assessment of threatened terrestrial and aquatic species, populations, ecological communities and/or critical habitat, consistent with the <i>Threatened Species Assessment Guidelines</i> (DECC, 2007), including details on the existing site conditions and quantity and likelihood of disturbance; ○ targeted surveys of threatened flora and fauna species, including White Box, Yellow Box, Blakely's Red Gum Woodland, Barking Owl, Diamond Firetail and Grey-crowned Babbler; and ○ native vegetation loss; weed infestation; habitat fragmentation; impacts to wildlife corridors including riparian corridors; and impacts to groundwater dependent communities, riparian and aquatic habitat. ▪ Aboriginal Heritage - including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ detailed archaeological heritage assessment, including archaeological survey to determine the extent of Aboriginal occupation and land use; and ○ cultural heritage assessment to identify the cultural value of the area to Aboriginal people in the present and historically. ▪ Social and Economic - including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the agricultural sector taking into account the fragmentation and potential loss of agricultural and farm viability, stock diseases and the impact of a revised road network on quarantined properties and travelling stock reserves/route; ○ local community socio-economic impacts associated with landuse, property and amenity related changes; and ○ business (including agribusinesses) impacts including the overall viability, profitability, productivity and sustainability of businesses; ▪ Environmental Risk Analysis (ERA) – notwithstanding the above key assessment requirements, the EA 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
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	be included in the EA.
Consultation	<p>You should undertake an appropriate and justified level of consultation with relevant parties during the preparation of the EA, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ local, State or Commonwealth government authorities and service providers including the Department of Environment and Climate Change, the Department of Primary Industries, the Department of Water and Energy, the Heritage Office, Greater Hume Shire Council and the Australian Rail Track Corporation ; ▪ specialist interest groups, including Local Aboriginal Councils; and ▪ the public, including affected landowners. <p>The EA must describe the consultation process, document all community consultation undertaken to date and identify the issues raised (including where these have been addressed in the EA).</p>

Relevant Guidelines - For Reference

Flora and Fauna

Threatened Species Assessment Guidelines (DECC, 2007)

Heritage

Draft Guideline for Assessment of Impacts on Aboriginal Heritage under Part 3A (Department of Planning, 2005)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage: Standards and Guidelines (DECC, 2005)

The Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places and Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter). Guidelines to the Burra Charter (Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites, 1987).

Air Quality

Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW (DECC, 2005)