

Voluntary Management Proposal – Tarago Rail Corridor December 2022

What is a Voluntary Management Proposal?

A Voluntary Management Proposal (VMP) is a legal agreement between the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and Transport for NSW (Transport) to plan for and complete remediation. It outlines the key stages in the remediation process and the proposed timing for each stage. If the VMP is not delivered as planned the EPA may issue management orders or take some form of action.

Why has Transport amended the Voluntary Management Proposal?

Transport has requested an extension of time from the EPA for the Voluntary Management Proposal (VMP) to remediate the Tarago Rail Corridor.

How is the VMP Amended?

VMP's are amended through an application to the EPA. This is often referred to as a Section 44 (or S.44). We have submitted this request to the EPA through an amendment to the VMP under Section 44 of the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997. This Act enables the EPA to respond to contamination that it has reason to believe is significant enough to warrant regulation. S.44 is part of the Act.

The delays will have impact on the milestones in the previously approved VMP and the new timeframe will result in some delays to complete remediation.

We welcome feedback and the community and stakeholders can provide comments on the updated VMP by contacting the EPA via email info@epa.nsw.gov.au

Why has Transport requested more time?

Transport has experienced delays in completing Task 4 of the VMP (the preliminaries required to implement remediation, including planning permits and approvals, and procurement).

The cause of delays in reaching this milestone are:

- Delays in the procurement of a contractor to complete the required activities in Task 4
- Delays experienced by the appointed contractor in procuring technical specialists to assist with the completion of the activities in Task 4.

The project schedule has been updated to reflect the delays.

What are the revised timeframes?

The revised timeframes are documented in the table below.

We have completed a detailed review of the activities required to complete the project and determine the impact to the project schedule and amended the timeframes. The tables compare the original deadline, the current deadline and the proposed deadlines.

Works Schedule	Original VMP Date	Current VMP Date	Proposed VMP Date
T1. Investigation of Contaminant at or originating from the Site	Completed	Completed	Completed
T2. Development of an Action Plan to mitigate risks from the Contaminant originating from the Site to offsite receptors	Completed	Completed	Completed
T3. Remediation action planning	Completed	Completed	Completed
T4. Preliminaries required to implement remediation including planning permits and approvals and procurement	31 March 2022	31 December 2022	2 February 2024
T5. Implement Remediation	Within 6 months of completing T4 (30 September 2022)	Within 18 months of completing T4 (30 June 2024)	31 December 2024
T6. Complete validation reporting and Auditor review of remediation	Within 6 months of completing T5 (31 March 2023)	Within 4 months of completing T5 (31 October 2024)	30 June 2025

Report Schedule	Original VMP Date	Current VMP Date	Proposed VMP Date
R1. Detailed Site Investigation	Completed	Completed	Completed
R2. Action Plan for offsite impacts from Tarago Rail Corridor	Completed	Completed	Completed
R3. Remediation Action Plan	Completed	Completed	Completed
R4. Section B Site Audit Statement	Completed	Completed	Completed
R5. Validation Reports	Within 3 months of completing T5 (31 December 2022)	Within 3 months of completing T6 (31 January 2025)	30 June 2025
R6. Section B4 Site Audit Statement and Site Audit Report	Within 6 months of completing T5 (31 September 2023)	Within 3 months of completing T6 (31 January 2025)	31 August 2025

Will the EPA approve the amended Voluntary Management Proposal?

The EPA will consider our proposed changes and feedback from the community and stakeholders before deciding to approve the amended VMP.

If approved, the amended VMP will be placed on the EPA website.

How can I comment on the revised timeframes?

The community and stakeholders can provide comments on the updated VMP by contacting the EPA via email info@epa.nsw.gov.au. Comments are required by 23 January 2023.

Further information

Transport will keep you informed as planning continues.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our project team on:

Phone: 1800 491 566

Email: landassessment@transport.nsw.gov.au

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