

Appendix A: Consideration of section 171(2) factors and matters of National Environmental Significance and Commonwealth land

Section 171(2) checklist

In addition to the the factors in the Guidelines for Division 5.1 Assessments (DPE 2022d) and the *Roads and Related Facilities EIS Guideline* (DUAP, 1996) as detailed in the Addendum REF, the following factors, listed in section 171(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, have also been considered to assess the likely impacts of the proposed modification on the natural and built environment.

Factor	Impact
<p>Any environmental impact on a community?</p> <p>The proposed modification would result in amenity impacts during construction, including noise and vibration. Construction mitigation measures are proposed to reduce amenity impacts.</p> <p>The proposed modification would improve the safety of Appin Road.</p>	<p>Short-term negative</p> <p>Long-term positive</p>
<p>Any transformation of a locality?</p> <p>Construction of the proposed modification would result in impacts associated with traffic, noise and vibration, visual amenity, and air quality. These impacts would temporarily transform the locality surrounding the proposed modification site; however, these impacts are not expected to be long-term. Management measures contained in the CEMP would be implemented to minimise these effects.</p> <p>The proposed modification would also result in minor, long-term impacts to landscape character and visual amenity for nearby residents associated with road widening and koala exclusion fencing/road safety barriers.</p> <p>Overall, the proposed modification would be located in a similar corridor to the existing and therefore is not expected to substantially transform the locality.</p>	<p>Short-term negative</p> <p>Long-term negative</p> <p>Nil</p>
<p>Any environmental impact on the ecosystems of the locality?</p> <p>The proposed modification would result in impacts to biodiversity, with vegetation clearing across an area whose values are protected under State and Commonwealth legislation. Mitigation measures, including conservation measures are proposed.</p> <p>The provision of koala exclusion fencing will reduce the likelihood of koala injury.</p>	<p>Long-term negative</p> <p>Long-term positive</p>
<p>Any reduction of the aesthetic, recreational, scientific or other environmental quality or value of a locality?</p> <p>Construction of the proposed modification would result in impacts associated with traffic, noise and vibration, visual amenity, and air quality. These impacts would temporarily transform the locality surrounding the proposal site; however, these impacts are not expected to be long-term. Management measures contained in the CEMP would be implemented to minimise these effects.</p> <p>Vegetation would be removed as part of the proposed modification.</p>	<p>Long-term negative</p> <p>Long-term negative</p>

Factor	Impact
The proposed modification would result in minor, long-term impacts to landscape character and visual amenity for nearby residents associated with road widening and the installation of koala exclusion fencing and road safety barriers.	Long-term negative
Any effect on a locality, place or building having aesthetic, anthropological, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific or social significance or other special value for present or future generations? The proposed modification would not impact these types of places.	Nil
Any impact on the habitat of protected fauna (within the meaning of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>)? The proposed modification would result in the removal of 1.30 ha of native vegetation, including habitat for threatened species. Safeguards and mitigation measures have been proposed, including conservation measures . The provision of koala exclusion fencing and other safety measures would improve reduce road kill to native fauna.	Long-term negative Long-term positive
Any endangering of any species of animal, plant or other form of life, whether living on land, in water or in the air? No species would be endangered as a result of the proposed modification and mitigation measures are proposed The proposed modification would reduce road and vehicle strike for for the koala and other native fauna.	Nil Long-term positive
Any long-term effects on the environment? Vegetation would be removed as part of the proposed modification. Increased safety of Appin Road. Reduced road and vehcile strike for the koala and other native fauna.	Long-term negative Long-term positive Long-term positive
Any degradation of the quality of the environment? Short term impacts are likely due to the construction activity. Mitigation measures would reduce these impacts.	Short-term negative
Any risk to the safety of the environment? There is potential for road safety to be decreased during construction due to altered traffic conditions and detours. Traffic management safeguards including the reparation of a traffic management plan, would address safety risks. The proposed modification would improve safety for road users improving the intersection and providing safety barriers.	Short-term negative Long-term positive
Any reduction in the range of beneficial uses of the environment? The proposed modification would not result in the reduction in the range of beneficial uses of any property. During construction, minor traffic impacts due to an increase in heavy vehicle movements and interruptions to traffic flow would temporarily reduce the beneficial use of the local road network.	Short-term negative
Any pollution of the environment? The proposed modification could potentially result in minor short-term impacts to water quality from sediments, soil nutrients, waste, and spilt fuels and chemicals.	Short-term negative

Factor	Impact
The proposed modification would result in minor short-term noise and air pollution from plant and machinery and the generation of dust during construction. Management of these impacts would be undertaken in accordance with the mitigation measures outlined in chapter 7.	
Any environmental problems associated with the disposal of waste? Waste streams generated during construction are common and would pose no difficulty in their disposal. Waste would be recycled wherever possible.	Nil
Any increased demands on resources (natural or otherwise) that are, or are likely to become, in short supply? All resources required for the proposed modification are readily available and are not in short supply.	Nil
Any cumulative environmental effect with other existing or likely future activities? Temporary potential cumulative impacts may occur as a result of construction activities occurring simultaneously with the construction of the proposed modification. The long-term effect of upgrading Appin Road would have a positive cumulative impact of road safety.	Short-term negative Long-term positive
Any impact on coastal processes and coastal hazards, including those under projected climate change conditions? Not relevant to the proposed modification.	Nil
Applicable local strategic planning statements, regional strategic plans or district strategic plans made under the Act, Division 3.1. Review of applicable local strategic planning statements, regional strategic plans or district strategic plans is provided in chapter 2. The proposal is considered to be consistent with these documents.	Long-term positive
Other relevant environmental factors.	In considering the potential impacts of this proposed modification all relevant environmental factors have been considered, refer to chapter 6 of this assessment.

Matters of National Environmental Significance and Commonwealth land

Under the environmental assessment provisions of the EPBC Act, the following matters of national environmental significance and impacts on Commonwealth land are required to be considered to assist in determining whether the proposed modification should be referred to the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

Under the EPBC Act strategic assessment approval a referral is not required for proposed road actions that may affect nationally listed threatened species, populations, endangered ecological communities and migratory species. Impacts on these matters are assessed in detail as part of this Addendum REF in accordance with Australian Government significant impact criteria and taking into account relevant guidelines and policies.

Factor	Impact
Any impact on a World Heritage property? The proposed modification would not impact on a World Heritage property	Nil
Any impact on a National Heritage place? The proposed modification would not impact on a National Heritage place.	Nil
Any impact on a wetland of international importance? The proposed modification would not impact on a wetland of international importance.	Nil
Any impact on a listed threatened species or communities? The proposed modification would impact around 1.16 ha of EPBC Act listed Cumberland Plain Shale Woodlands and Shale-Gravel Transition Forest and Shale Sandstone Transition Forest of the Sydney Basin Bioregion. A significance assessment concluded that a significant impact is considered unlikely for any MNES and a referral of the proposed modification would not be required.	Long-term negative
Any impacts on listed migratory species? The proposed modification would not substantially modify, destroy, or isolate an area of important habitat for the migratory species, and it would not seriously disrupt the lifecycle of an ecologically significant proportion of a population of migratory birds. While some migratory species of bird are likely to use the proposed modification site and locality, the proposed modification site would not be classed as an 'important habitat'.	Nil
Any impact on a Commonwealth marine area? The proposed modification would not impact on a Commonwealth marine area.	Nil
Does the proposed modification involve a nuclear action (including uranium mining)? The proposed modification would not include a nuclear action (including uranium mining).	Nil
Additionally, any impact (direct or indirect) on Commonwealth land? The proposed modification would not impact on the environment of Commonwealth land.	Nil