

NEWCASTLE INNER CITY BYPASS: RANKIN PARK TO JESMOND (SSI-6888)
ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY REPORT
June 2024

Reporting Period: 1 to 30 June 2024.

This Environmental Representative (ER) Monthly Report is prepared in accordance with the Minister's Condition of Approval A26(k) for the Newcastle Inner City Bypass: Rankin Park to Jesmond (SSI-6888) and is consistent with the Environmental Representative Protocol (October 2018).



Photo: Aerial photo looking south

PROJECT SUMMARY

Delivery of a 3.4km section of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass (NICB) which will be built between Rankin Park to Jesmond (RP2J) and to the west of the John Hunter Hospital.

The Rankin Park to Jesmond project is the fifth section of the NICB, which forms part of the Transport for NSW long term strategy to connect the Pacific Highway between Bennetts Green and Sandgate.

The project has been broken into four stages:

Stage 1: Detailed design investigations (geotechnical and utility investigations) and low impact works (house demolition, heritage investigations, at-house noise treatment works, access, installation of environmental controls).

Stage 2: Shared Path Bridge.

Stage 3: Southern Interchange Utilities relocation works.

Stage 4: Main RP2J road construction.



PROJECT WORKS SUMMARY

- Stage 1: Low Impact Works including, House Demolition which was completed June 2021.
- Stage 2: Shared Path Bridge was completed March 2021.
- Stage 3: Southern Interchange Utility Relocation works were completed in August 2022.
- Stage 4: Main construction works underway, commenced March 2023.
At House Noise Treatment (AHNT) consultation and implementation commenced March 2022.

June 2024 Completed Works

The following is a summary of the works broken down into sub projects.

At House Noise Treatment Works

- Round 1 properties: completed
- Round 2 properties:
 - 71 properties complete
 - 12 additional properties completed in June

Main Construction

- Installation and maintenance of ERSED controls including in waterways for culvert installation.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment and diversions.
- Earthworks including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works, including drainage.
- Dark Creek culvert temporary crossing and construction.
- Bridge structures including piling, excavation, concrete pours and superstructure.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including shotcreting, batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.
- Completion of blasting
- Completing the installation of bridge girders

OOHW works:

- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier installation, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging).
 - Concrete works.
 - Utilities and drainage
 - Delivery and installation of precast structures including bridge girders.
- Southern interchange:
 - Hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.
 - Utilities.
 - Bridge 1 concrete works.



July 2024 Upcoming Works

The following is a summary of the works broken down into sub projects:

At House Noise Treatment Work

- Round 1 properties: completed
- Round 2 properties:
 - 10 additional properties expected to be completed

Main Construction

- Installation and maintenance of ERSED controls including in waterways for culvert installation.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment and diversions.
- Earthworks including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works, including drainage.
- Dark Creek culvert temporary crossing and construction.
- Bridge structures including piling, excavation, concrete pours and superstructure.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including shotcreting, batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.

Scheduled OOHW Works:

- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier installation, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging/switches).
 - Concrete works.
 - Utilities and drainage
 - Delivery and installation of precast structures.
- Southern interchange:
 - Hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.
 - Utilities.
 - Bridge 1 concrete works.

ER Activity:

Reviews/ Approvals/ Advice/ Meetings

- Victory Parade Non-Compliance – Truck Parking: Review
- Traffic and Transport Management Plan (Rev 9): Review
- Cut 5 (East) Progressive ESCPs : Review
- All Sites Progressive ESCPs: Review
- Post Approval Tracking Register – May 2024: Review.
- Monthly Newsletter and Three Month Look Ahead: Review.
- Community Notices / Out of Hours Updates: Review.
- ERG Monthly Inspection and Meeting No.20 – Tuesday 4 June: Agenda and Minutes.
- Fortnightly Environment and Sustainability Team Meeting with FHC, TfNSW and ER.
- Monthly DPHI meeting with TfNSW, FHC and ER.
- Monthly ER Meeting with DPHI (Post Approval and Compliance).



Inspections

- Site inspections were held on:
 - ERG site inspection on Tuesday 4 June.
 - ER and TfNSW inspection on Tuesday 18 June.
- Environmental Inspection Reports were prepared and issued through the TfNSW Ngara system to FHC, TfNSW and forwarded to DPHI.

Environmental Review Group (ERG) Meeting

- The June ERG (No.20) meeting was held on Tuesday 4.
- The next ERG meeting No.21 is scheduled for Tuesday 2 July.

Audits

- No. 1 Independent Environmental Audit was undertaken in May 2023. All matters have been closed out.
- No. 2 Independent Environmental Audit will be undertaken in May 2024 with the site inspection undertaken on Tuesday 21. The audit report is currently being finalised and matters closed out.

Stop Work Notices

- There were no Stop Work Notices in June.

Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

There were no incidents in June

Non-compliances

There were no non-compliances in June.

Environmental Issues (i.e.: not classified as Incidents as per MCoA)

- There was one Environmental Issue in June.

On the 27 June, during earth works activities, wet material was being placed in Fill 3. The material slumped and pushed the sewer pit lid off which caused wet and rocky material to fall into the manhole, blocking up the sewer pipe. No sewer entered the creek, bunds were installed to contain all spillages and the spill and spill impacts were remediated appropriately.

CEMP, CEMPP & Minister's Conditions of Approval

Reports

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (May 2024): submitted to DPHI (via Portal): 6 June 2024.



Monitoring

- Monthly noise monitoring as per NVMP did not exceed NML's.
- Water quality monitoring was undertaken pursuant to the SGWCMP during the month. The laboratory results were not available at the time of reporting. Field monitoring did not present any anomalies.
- Dust gauges were changed on 3 June, the rolling averages are all below the criteria of 4.

Community Consultation and Complaints

Community consultation

There were 82 events recorded in Consultation Manager – interactions with stakeholders.

- 69 x 1800 calls, emails, meetings, and door knocks, including; Feedback forms (check in for five nights – requirement in EPL), project information, project updates, Super T girder detour, asphaltting detour, temporary closure of Robert Street

Regular interactions

- JHHIP, AAP, Multiplex – notification of 1 x upcoming production blast, notification of end of low impact controlled blasts, , detour for Super T Girder lift, detour for asphaltting City of Newcastle and Lake Macquarie Council – production blast and end of low impact controlled blasting, detours for asphalt works and Super T Girder lift
- Keilos Downer – detours for asphalt works and Super T Girder, update re bus stop
- John Hunter Hospital and NSW Health Services – monthly meeting with FH and TfNSW
- Weekly FH and TfNSW meetings.

Collateral

- OOHW notification and three month look ahead July to September – printing and currently being distributed
- 1 x low impact controlled blasting and end of low impact controlled blasting slip notes distributed
- 1 x temporary closure of Robert Street slip lane – slip notes distributed

Complaints (x 9)

- 5 x night noise
- 1 x Property damage
- 1 x injury from tripping
- 1 x uneven SUP

Trends

- Temporary detours of Newcastle Road north and east bound for Super T Girder Lift and asphaltting of Newcastle Road/northern slip lane
- Project design – Lookout Road and McCaffrey Drive future lane layout

Summary of Issues and Events

- 1 x low impact controlled blast, low impact controlled blasting completed
- Temporary closure/detours for Super T Girder lift and asphaltting on Newcastle Road
- Temporary closure/detour for Ausgrid power works under Robert Street slip lane onto ICB

Upcoming Engagements

- Hunter School of Performing Arts to attend for site tour – August 2024



Closing Remarks

Although the site has continued to experience periodic rainfall, the weather has somewhat eased, and the project has been able to gain some consistency in construction works. The areas that have been the focus for the month of June include earthworks, traffic diversions and road works, pilling and pouring bridge footings, installation of bridge girders, permanent landscaping, shotcreting batters, the last few blasts, progressive ErSed control design and installation, and residential property noise treatment works.

The dry weather has provided opportunities for the site team to undertake repairs and maintenance of site erosion and sediment controls, and this has been the focus for the June. New PESCPs have been developed and implemented onsite, including the removal of the southern sediment basin at Fill2 / Creek 3 on the eastern side of the main line works. This will allow more areas to commence final landscaping which is a positive for the site and environmental team. Other ongoing matters include traffic controls and diversions and managing and communicating OOHWs with stakeholders. The installation of the Newcastle Road bridge girders was also completed without incident.

The final two blasts occurred this month which brings the blasting program to a close. As blasting concludes, the blasting works have been highly successful given the delicate nature of the work in proximity to the John Hunter Hospital and other sensitive stakeholders and the community consultation team should be congratulated on their hard work.

The project has been through a challenging few months with record rainfall however this has only resulted in a few minor environmental incidents. The team should be congratulated on their proactive initiative; however it is also suggested to use this dry period to focus on repairs and maintenance of site controls.

RP2J Environmental Representative (as per MCoA A22)



Simon Williams
Principal Environmental Planner
Director
GeoLINK

Attachment: Site Images – June 2024



Site Images – June 2024



Image 1: Northern Interchange, looking northeast from the Jesmond compound across to the Newcastle roundabout and the new bridge girders.



Image 2: Northern Interchange, looking east from the Jesmond compound across to the southern end of the Newcastle Road Bridge abutment.



Image 3: Taken from the Jesmond compound looking east at the exit of the compound into the mainline.



Image 4: Northwest corner (McDonalds) of Newcastle Road / Bypass Intersection, completed works around Dark Creek.



Image 5: From the mainline (Fill 2 / Creek 3) looking west at the sediment basin which is to be removed.



Image 6: View from mainline looking northwest across the sediment basins and clean water drain at Fill 2.



Image 7: Mainline works looking south from the JHH interface.



Image 8: Image 8: Mainline works looking north from the JHH interface.