



NEWCASTLE INNER CITY BYPASS: RANKIN PARK TO JESMOND (SSI-6888)
ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY REPORT
December 2023

Reporting Period: 1 to 21 December 2023.

This reporting period is for the December construction works. The site was closed on 21 December 2023 for the holiday period and will reopen on 8 January 2024. The January 2024 ER report will account for the shutdown period.

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.

December 2023 Completed Works

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

At House Noise Treatment Works

- Round 1 properties: all properties have completed physical works as at 5 September 2023.
- Round 2 properties:
27/100 properties completed (13 completed in December period).
10 properties are in progress.
63 properties not started.

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.
- Dark Creek culvert diversion and construction.
- Bridge structures including piling, excavation, concrete pours.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including shotcreting, batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.
- Preparation of site for shutdown.

OOHW works:

- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier install, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging).
 - Concrete works.
 - Deliveries.

- Southern interchange:
 - Hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.
 - Concrete works.
 - Utilities investigation
 - Retaining wall removal
 - Deliveries.



January 2024 Upcoming Works

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

At House Noise Treatment Work

- Round 1 properties: all properties have completed physical works as at 5 September 2023.
- Round 2 properties:
 - 38/100 properties completed (11 to be completed in January period).
 - 7 properties will be in progress.
 - 55 properties not started.

Main Construction

- Site reopening works and checks.
- 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.
- Dark Creek culvert diversion and construction.
- Bridge structures including piling, excavation, concrete pours.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including shotcreting, batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.
- Minor clearing around the southern interchange.

Scheduled OOHW Works:

- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier install, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging).
 - Concrete works.
 - Utilities
 - Delivery and installation of precast structures.
 - Slip lane extension
- Southern interchange:
 - Hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.
 - Concrete works.

ER Activity:

Reviews/ Approvals/ Advice/ Meetings

- Blast Management Strategy: Review changes.
- Post Approval Tracking Register – November: Review.
- Monthly Newsletter and Three Month Look Ahead: Review.
- Community Notices/ Out of Hours Updates: Review.
- ERG Monthly Inspection and Meeting No.15 - Tuesday 12 December: Agenda and Minutes.
- Fortnightly Environmental Team Meeting with FHC, TfNSW and ER.
- Monthly DPE meeting with TfNSW, FHC and ER.



Inspections

- A site inspection was held on:
 - Tuesday 12 December as part of the Environmental Review Group meeting.
- An Environmental Inspection Report was prepared and issued to FHC, TfNSW and DPE. Several matters were included with accompanying images.

Environmental Review Group (ERG) Meeting

- ERG Meeting No. 15 was held on Tuesday 12 December 2023 attended by TfNSW, FHC, ER, EPA and DPE.
- The next ERG Meeting No. 16 is scheduled for Tuesday 6 February 2024.

Audits

- There were no ER audits held in December.
- No. 1 Independent Environmental Audit was undertaken in May 2023.
- No. 2 Independent Environmental Audit will be undertaken in May 2024.

Stop Work Notices

- There were no Stop Work Notices in December.

Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

There were no incidents in December.

Non-compliances

- There were no non-compliances in December.

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

There were no environmental issues in December.

CEMP, CEMPP & Minister's Conditions of Approval

Reports

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (November 2023): submitted to DPE (via Portal): 7 December 2023.

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.
- Dust gauges were changed on 29 November, the rolling averages are all below the criteria of 4, noting that there is not sufficient data for the rolling average to be reported accurately.



Community Consultation and Complaints

Community consultation

There were 47 events recorded in Consultation Manager – interactions with stakeholders

- 34 x 1800 calls, emails, meetings, and door knocks, including; door knocking for EPL requirements of identified properties High and moderately impacted for service locating in the south night works, blasting, project information, dust, cycle lane, night noise, traffic site vehicles parking/speed.

Regular interactions

- JHHIP, AAP, Multiplex, Emergency Services – Blasting initial meetings/emails
- City of Newcastle – footpath works - rose garden, closure of Lookout Road right hand turn into Lookout Recreation Area, blasting
- JHH/NSW Health Services – monthly meeting with FH and TfNSW
- Weekly FH and TfNSW meetings

Property works

- 1 x fence completed

Collateral

- Project Update - December
- Three month look ahead – December - distributed

Complaints x 3

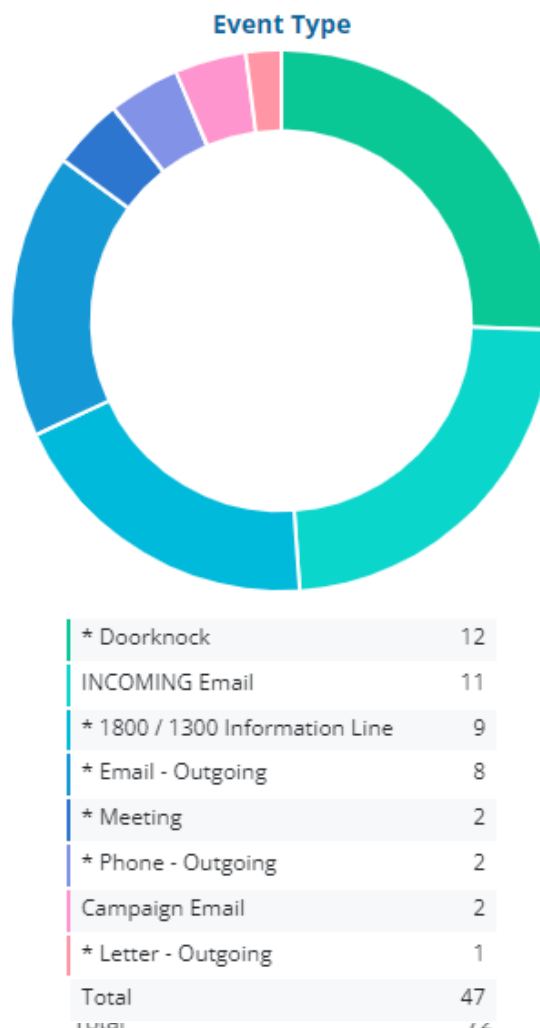
- 1 x no cycle lane north bound on Lookout Road
- 1 x dust on McCaffrey Drive
- 1 x site staff vehicles parking on local street – Victory Parade

Positive x 5

- Providing detailed project information
- Information about noise attenuation
- Hard copy of project update posted to stakeholder
- Night noise – ear plugs provided – stakeholder said what a great job the community team were doing
- Interaction with Hunter Water

Trends

- Blasting questions and meetings
- Condition surveys - blasting





Summary of Issues and Events

- RP2J end of year raffle – raising money for ‘Orange Sky Australia creating safer communities’ and ‘Hearts and Hands Community Development’
- RP2J Movember – Best Mo and Tried my Best Mo
- Yallarwah Circle of Reflection – path refurbished

Upcoming Engagements

- Yallarwah Circle of Reflection working bee – TBC 16 January 2024
- Yallarwah Circle of Reflection 25 years re-opening – TBC 22 February 2024
- Future School engagements – Callaghan Junior School, Minmi Primary School

Closing Remarks

The construction works for December consisted primarily of earthworks, creek diversions, Dark Creek culvert works, traffic diversions, pilling and pouring bridge footings, installation of permanent drainage and landscaping, shotcreting batters and progressive ErSed control design and installation and residential property noise treatment works are also ongoing.

Currently, the key environmental risks include dust, surface water management, working in waterways (Dark Creek), traffic control and diversions, and managing and communicating OOHWs with stakeholders. The monthly inspection was carried out during dry weather conditions with a number of minor issues being reported back to the site team. Dust onsite appears to be well managed with a full complement of water carts being utilised on the project, including redundancy where required.

The environment project team are managing the risk of dust appropriately with ongoing monitoring and action where required. Environmental issues for the month included minor ErSed control repairs. With the storm season well underway, emphasis will be to ensure controls are in place for the shutdown period and continually managed throughout January.

RP2J Environmental Representative (as per MCoA A22)

Simon Williams
Principal Environmental Planner
Director
GeoLINK

Attachment: Site Images – December 2023



Site Images – December 2023



Image 1: Northern Interchange, view looking south from site compound. Structures are bridge footings.



Image 2: Northern Interchange, view looking north over the Newcastle Road roundabout. Structures are bridge footings.



Image 3: Northern Interchange, Dark Creek culvert realignment works. Southern side of Newcastle Road.



Image 4: Northern Interchange, clean water ErSed controls. The fences are the rear boundary of the houses on Victory Parade.



Image 5: Midway through main line, view looking west. ErSed controls in this area have been reinstated following the November 100mm+ rain event.



Image 6: Main line looking south towards McCaffery Drive. The dark material is extracted sedimentary deposit.



Image 7: Southern Interchange works.



Image 8: Southern Interchange, Lookout Road traffic realignment, looking north.