



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

Reporting Period: 1 to 30 November 2023

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).

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.



November 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:
 - 14/100 properties completed (7 completed in November period).
 - 13 properties are underway.
 - 73 properties not started.

Main Construction

- Installation and maintenance of ERSED controls including in waterways for culvert installation and repairs following the significant rain event.
- 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.
- Mine grouting.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including shotcreting, batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.
- Minor clearing around the southern interchange.

OOHW works:

- Utilities installation – TCS, electrical and sewer.
- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier install, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging).
 - Concrete works.
- Southern interchange:
 - Hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.

December 2023 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:
 - 27/100 properties completed (13 to be completed in December period).
 - 73 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.
- Mine grouting.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including shotcreting, batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.
- Minor clearing around the southern interchange.
- Preparation of site for shutdown.

Scheduled OOHW Works:

- Utilities installation – TCS, electrical and sewer.
- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier install, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging).
 - Concrete works.
 - Delivery and installation of precast structures.
 - Fencing.
- Southern interchange:
 - Hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.
 - Concrete works.
 - Fencing.

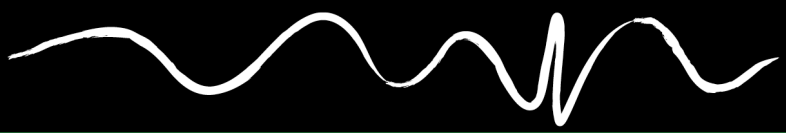
ER Activity:

Reviews/ Approvals/ Advice/ Meetings

- Environmental Incident Reports: Review
- Surface and Groundwater Quality Construction Monitoring Program - minor update: Review and approve.
- Blast Management Strategy: Review.
- 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.14 - Tuesday 7 November: Agenda and Minutes.
- Fortnightly ER Construction Inspection and Report (ER, TfNSW and FHC) Wednesday 22 November 2023.
- Monthly Environmental Representative and Department of Planning Environment, Project Team Meeting.
- Fortnightly Environmental Team Meeting with FHC, TfNSW and ER.
- Monthly DPE meeting with TfNSW, FHC and ER.

Inspections

- Site inspections were held on:
 - Tuesday 7 November as part of the Environmental Review Group meeting; and
 - Wednesday 22 November for the Fortnightly ER and TfNSW inspection.
- Environmental Inspection Reports were prepared and issued to FHC, TfNSW and DPE. Several matters were included with accompanying images.



Environmental Review Group (ERG) Meeting

- ERG Meeting No. 14 was held on Tuesday 7 November 2023 attended by TfNSW, FHC, ER, EPA and DPE.
- The next ERG Meeting No. 15 is scheduled for Tuesday 12 December 2023.

Audits

- There were no ER audits held in November.
- 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 November.

Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

There was one incident in November.

- **Sunday 5 November - Rainfall Event: ~100mm**
The rainfall event was an intense rainstorm on Sunday 5 November between 09:30 and 15:30. The rain recorded was: 99.0mm at the Northern Interchange (Jesmond), 126.2mm at the mainline (John Hunter Hospital) and 92.4mm at the Southern Interchange (Rankin Park). This rain event was in excess of the 1 in 20-year rain event. As a result of the rain which exceeded the design capacity of the sites erosion and sediment controls, sediment laden water and material was lost offsite. The volume and concentration of material lost is unknown.

Fulton Hogan attended site on Sunday 5 November to inspect the site and undertake immediate mitigation measures where possible. Works were undertaken to improve drainage where structures had been overwhelmed and damaged, and traffic control was implemented for localised road flooding. The following morning, 6 November, the Fulton Hogan team inspected the site and an inspection with the EPA and TfNSW was also undertaken. Where access was available, works commenced to immediately rectify the issues, this included basin repairs and management, repair and maintenance of ErSed controls. Over the following days rectification works were prioritised over production to reinstate erosion and sediment controls.

Non-compliances

- There were no non-compliances in November.

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

There were four environmental issues in November.

- **Monday 13 November – Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM)**
During culvert excavation works within Zone 2 of the northern interchange some bonded fragments were found. Work ceased in the area and Hazmat were called to test the fragments which have now been confirmed as ACM. The works were stopped in the area and covered with geofabric to be managed pursuant to ACM protocols.
- **Monday 22 November – Hydraulic Spill (Fill 1)**
During nightworks, a compactor being used in Fill 1 to compact material experienced a hydraulic leak before breaking down. A small amount of hydraulic liquid was spilled onto the adjacent ground as a result. The spill was immediately identified by the operator who contained



the spill using nearby spill kit materials. The area foreman was notified soon after the event took place.

- *Monday 22 November – Hydraulic Spill (Fill 2)*
During rolling works in Fill 2, a hydraulic hose on a roller broke causing a small amount of hydraulic oil to spill onto ground beneath the piece of plant. The spill was noticed immediately by the operator, who contained the spill using nearby spill kit materials, and notified the area foreman.
- *Monday 23 November – Diesel Spill*
During night works, a 50T excavator experienced a small diesel leak which was quickly identified by the operator. The leak was contained on site and reported to the area foreman.
- *November - Noise*
A plant item was found to have a tonal reverse beeper, an NCR has been raised and the item was swapped out and the night shift subcontractors reminded of the site requirements.

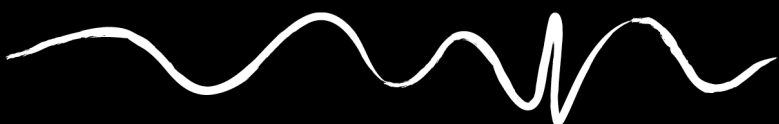
CEMP, CEMPP & Minister’s Conditions of Approval

Reports

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (October 2023): submitted to DPE (via Portal): 6 November 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 indicated elevated ntu levels in one location during the routine monitoring however this was not attributable to the project. The laboratory results indicated elevated ntu levels in two locations during the post-rainfall monitoring following the significant rain event >100mm) on the 5 November.
- 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 72 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 from night works, blasting, traffic, project information, shared user path, night noise, traffic site vehicles speed.

Regular interactions

- City of Newcastle, Lake Macquarie City Council, JHHIP, AAP, Multiplex, Emergency Services – Blasting initial meetings/ emails.
- City of Newcastle – footpath works, closure of Lookout Road right hand turn into Lookout Recreation Area.
- John Hunter Hospital and NSW Health Services – monthly meeting with FH and TfNSW.

Property works

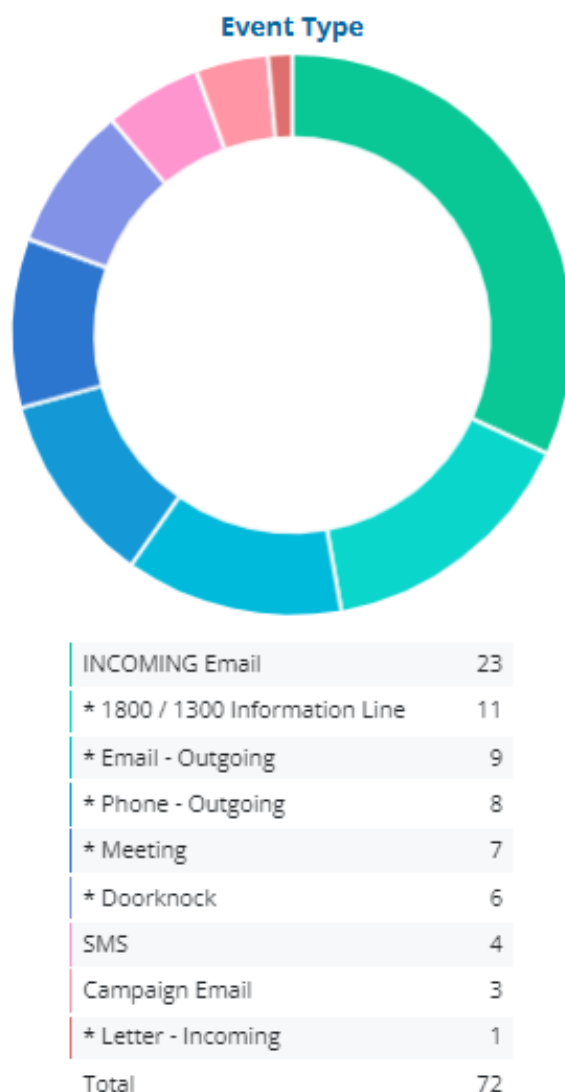
- 1 x fence installed – new design now approved fencing to recommence 11/12/2023.

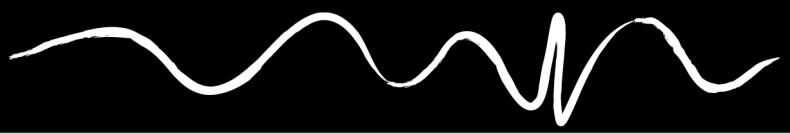
Collateral

- Northern Interchange OOHW notification– distributed.
- Three month look ahead – November – distributed.
- Fact Sheet – Blasting.

Complaints x 14

- 8 x night noise – reversing beepers.
 - Enviro team completed noise monitoring – new machinery noted to have beepers.
 - Five vehicles changed during the day shift from beepers to squawkers.
 - New check list implemented to check all vehicles at the start of the night shift – one further work truck identified through check list.
 - No further complaints of beepers following implementation of check list.
- 1 x chainsaw – two power poles cut down at Jesmond Compound – end of those works.
- 2 x noise complaint Southern interchange – same stakeholder – first night rock was being compacted – foreman spoken to stopped compacting the rock. Second night, retaining wall removal only new activity offered ear plugs, not interested, offered to discuss further mitigating techniques – not heard from again will follow up.
- 2 x speed of vehicles on Victory Parade – night foreman called and mentioned at night pre-starts.





- 1 x increased traffic on Illoura Street – advised that all site vehicles should be using the slip lane off Newcastle Road, staff reminded during pre-start.

Positive x 8

- Following up with stakeholders impacted by noise last month, provided noise cancelling ear buds.
- Donated fence panels to an impacted stakeholder.
- Attended awards night for Clontarf Irrawang High School.
- One on one meeting walking stakeholder through the design using google earth and the 3D model.

Trends

- Blasting questions and meetings.
- Questions around no access to bypass from McCaffrey Drive.

Summary of Issues and Events

- Clontarf Irrawang High School Awards night – presented awards to Year 12 students who had completed Year 12 and had also completed a site visit to RP2J.
- RP2J Movember – team participated in Movember and raised over \$2300.
- RP2J staff bring their high school student children to site, for a week of work experience – two students attended in November – bringing the total to six students for the year.
- Donated fence panels to one of our highly impacted stakeholders.
- RP2J donated toys to the Newcastle Toy Run – one of the PV (Aecom staff members) on RP2J attended the ride.

Upcoming Engagements

- RP2J end of year raffle – raising money for ‘Orange Sky Australia creating safer communities’ and ‘Hearts and Hands Community Development’.
- Yallarwah Circle of Reflection working bee.
- Future School engagements – Callaghan Junior School, Minmi Primary School.



Closing Remarks

The construction works for November consist primarily of earthworks, creek diversions, Dark Creek culvert works, traffic diversions, piling and pouring bridge footings, installation of permanent drainage and landscaping, 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), mud tracking on surrounding roads, traffic control and diversions, and managing and communicating OOHWs.

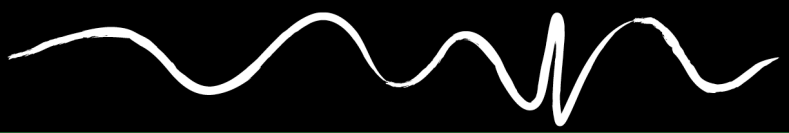
The monthly inspections were carried out during dry weather conditions with a number of minor issues being reported back to the site team including cleaning up some of the damage from the rainfall event. Dust onsite appears to be well managed with a full complement of water carts being utilised on the project, including redundancy where required.

The project team are managing the risk of dust appropriately with ongoing monitoring and action where required. Environmental issues for the month included significant rainfall event whereby over 100mm of rain fell on the site on Sunday 5 November. This overwhelmed many of the site controls. The response to repairing the ErSed controls was positive, and rehabilitation of specific areas has been undertaken.

RP2J Environmental Representative (as per MCoA A22)

Simon Williams
Principal Environmental Planner
Director
GeoLINK

Attachment: Site Images – November 2023



Site Images – November 2023



Image 1: Southern Interchange, view looking east from site compound, (McCaffery Drive to the left).



Image 2: Southern Interchange, view of the batter stabilisation and rehabilitation following the rain event. Repair work to be undertaken.



Image 3: Main line at Creek 2 clean-up of sediment from the rainfall event.



Image 4: Main line at Creek 2 fence has been repaired and ErSed controls reinstated as per Soil Conservationist advice.

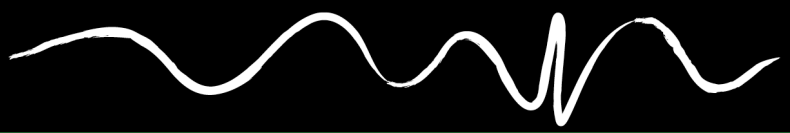


Image 5: Midway through main line, view looking west showing the shotcrete formwork.



Image 6: Main line at Creek 3 (east) where repair works and headwall are being constructed.



Image 7: Northern interchange, Dark Creek culvert extension works north of Newcastle Road. This part of Dark Creek has been taken offline and is acting as a sediment basin; it is not part of the Dark Creek culvert.



Image 8: Northern interchange, Dark Creek culvert extension works north of Newcastle Road. This part of Dark Creek has been taken offline and is acting as a sediment basin; it is not part of the Dark Creek culvert.