



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

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*Reporting Period: 1 to 31 October 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.



### **October 2023 Completed Works**

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

#### ***At House Noise Treatment Works***

- Note: Round 1 properties: all properties have completed physical works as at 5 September 2023.
- Round 2 properties: treatments completed for seven properties.

#### ***Main Construction***

- Installation and maintenance of ERSED controls.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment.
- Earthworks including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works.
- Culvert construction.
- Piling.
- Bridge construction.
- Mine Grouting.
- Progressive Revegetation/ Landscaping

#### ***OOHW works:***

- Utilities installation – TCS, electrical and sewer.
- Northern Interchange barrier install, line-marking and asphaltting (traffic staging works).
- Southern Interchange – hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.

### **November 2023 Upcoming Works**

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

#### ***At House Noise Treatment Work***

- Note: Round 1 properties: all properties have completed physical works as at 5 September 2023.
- Round 2 properties: seven properties will begin physical works.

#### ***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

#### ***Scheduled 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.
  - Concrete works

### **ER Activity:**

#### **Reviews/ Approvals/ Advice/ Meetings**

- Ancillary Facility Establishment Management Plan - Minor amendments: Review and approve
- Minor Ancillary Facility – Southern Interchange (overflow): Review and approve
- Minor Ancillary Facility – Southern Interchange (structures caravan): Review and approve
- Surface and Groundwater Quality Construction Monitoring Program minor update: Review
- Environmental Incident Report (A37 and A38): Review
- Post Approval Tracking Register – October: Review
- Monthly Newsletter and Three Month Look Ahead: Review
- Community Notices / Out of Hours Updates: Review
- ERG Monthly Inspection and Meeting No.13 - Tuesday 10 October: Minutes and Agenda
- Fortnightly ER Construction Inspection and Report (ER, TfNSW and FHC) Wednesday 20 September 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 10 October as part of the Environmental Review Group meeting; and
  - Wednesday 25 October 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. 13 was held on Tuesday 10 October 2023 attended by TfNSW, FHC, ER, and DPE.
- The next ERG Meeting No. 14 is scheduled for Tuesday 7 November 2023.

#### **Audits**

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



### ***Incidents (as per MCoA definition)***

There was one incident in October.

- Fire at Fill 3.

An incident occurred around 2:30 am on Sunday 15 October where a fire was underway at Fill 3. Fire and Rescue stated that when they arrived onsite via Dangerfield Drive fire trail a pile of salvaged logs was alight. Fire and Rescue used foam and water to put the log fire out, however the fire had already spread to an adjacent mulch stockpile which started smouldering. Fire and Rescue managed the fire under control and maintained fire watch throughout the night.

Once notified, Fulton Hogan staff reported the incident to Transport for NSW and installed environmental controls at the site boundaries. At the request of Fire and Rescue an excavator and operator was provided to turn the mulch. The mulch smoulder was determined to be out with no hot spots at 2:30 pm on Sunday 15 October.

Regarding the potential environmental incident, mulch stockpile management procedures are to be reviewed, i.e., location suitability and temperature checks, keeping in mind this fire was not caused by the project. This incident has been reported under A37 and A38 due to the potential for the incident to cause material harm. At this point in time, Transport for NSW do not consider that the incident has caused material harm.

### ***Non-compliances***

- There were no non-compliances in October.

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

There was one environmental issue in October.

- In Zone 1 on Thursday 5 during topsoil stripping and excavation, the contractor identified a small amount of broken pipe similar to what had been found in the area outside the 5m exclusion zone of TP1, TP2 and TP11 from test pits completed in April 2023. Works ceased and a 5m area was flagged off. Hazmat was contacted and they attended site to take a sample and install air monitors to allow work to continue.

### **CEMP, CEMPP & Minister's Conditions of Approval**

#### ***Reports***

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (September 2023): submitted to DPE (via Portal): 6 October 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 levels in two locations during the post-rainfall monitoring however these results were obtained during a heavy shower within an event that had already exceeded the projects design rainfall event. Follow up measurements after the event indicated levels reducing significantly as would be expected following the peak flows.
- Dust gauges were changed on 31 October, 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 154 events recorded in Consultation Manager – interactions with stakeholders

- 57 x 1800 calls and emails (Community agreement frequency check in response, traffic, McCaffrey Drive works, complaints).

### **Regular interactions**

- City of Newcastle – Community Pop-up Jesmond Shopping Centre, shared user path near Robert Street, Jesmond
- John Hunter Hospital and NSW Health Services – monthly meeting with FH and TfNSW

### **Property works**

- 1 x fence redesign – on going installation

### **Collateral**

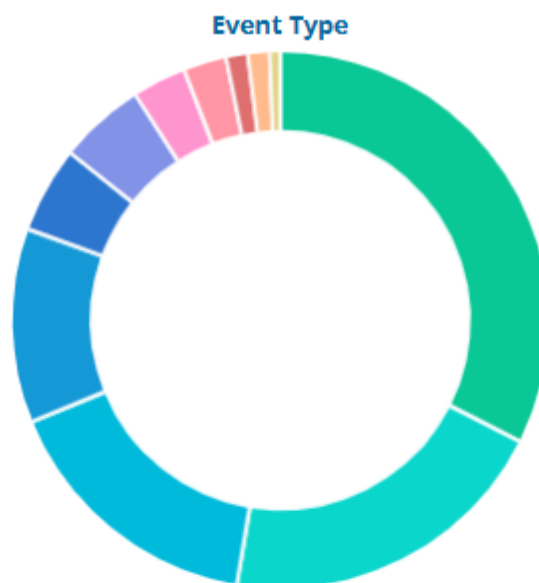
- Northern Interchange OOHW notification– distributed
- Southern interchange OOHW notification - distributed
- Monthly – three month look ahead – November 2023 to February 2024 – in draft
- Monthly – three month look ahead – October to December – distributed
- Illoura Street Ausgrid works notification – distributed
- CCP, Fact Sheet, Notification - Blasting – in approvals
- Fact Sheet – Dust management – in approvals

### **Complaints x 12**

- 5 x both day and night – night noise Southern Interchange, day noise truck movements, trucks parking in front of house
- 3 x dust – Northern Interchange, Southern interchange
- 1 x vibration – Southern interchange
- 1 x property damage – bush rats northern interchange
- 1 x dirt on the road – Northern interchange
- 1 x cycle lane – Northern interchange

### **Positive x 6**

- Site visits – Irrawang High School Clontarf, Career Links site tour
- Detailed information provided following stakeholder enquiry
- Request for moving VMS board
- Speed of response to enquiries



SMS	50
INCOMING Email	31
* Doorknock	25
* 1800 / 1300 Information Line	18
* Letter - Incoming	8
* Phone - Outgoing	8
* Email - Outgoing	5
Campaign Email	4
* Community Information Session	2
* Meeting	2
* Email - Incoming	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>154</b>



### ***Trends***

- Requests to receive email updates
- Responses from the Community Agreement check-in frequency letter
- Questions around no access to bypass from McCaffrey Drive
- Dust mitigation strategies – Fact sheet created in approvals to provide information in the future
- Flora/fauna impacts – landscaping
- Noise walls on the bypass

### ***Summary of Issues and Events***

- Clontarf Irrawang HS site tour
- Career Links site tour
- Information Session – Jesmond Shopping Centre – approximately 25 attendees

### ***Upcoming Engagements***

- Mental Health First Aid training being undertaken by Fulton Hogan staff in November 2023
- Irrawang Clontarf Academy end of year awards – 20 November 2023
- Information boards at the Northern and Southern ends of the project
- Future School engagements – Callaghan Junior School, Minmi Primary School



### **Closing Remarks**

Current construction works consist of earthworks, creek diversions, utility relocations, Dark Creek culvert works, traffic diversions, piling and pouring bridge footings, installation of permanent drainage and landscaping, and progressive ErSed control design and installation.

The key environmental risks for this stage of the project include dust, surface water management, working in waterways (Dark Creek), mud tracking on surrounding roads, traffic control and diversions, and managing and communicated 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 out a rumble grid, repairs to ErSed controls and waterway management. 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. Residential property noise treatment works are also ongoing. Environmental issues for the month included a fire on the site where Fire and Rescue were involved, and an incident report was prepared. The fire was not caused or created from site works.

The site environmental team appear to be working well together and addressing the challenges the site creates.

**RP2J Environmental Representative** (as per MCoA A22)

Simon Williams  
**Principal Environmental Planner**  
**Director**  
**GeoLINK**

*Attachment: Site Images – October 2023*



Site Images – October 2023



Image 1: Southern Interchange, view looking north from Lookout Road



Image 2: Southern Interchange, close up view of the structure team working on bridge footings, adjacent to Lookout Road



Image 3: Main line at Fill 2 showing waterway treatment for final design.



Image 4: Main line at the JHH / RP2J interface. JHH sediment basin under construction and RP2J clean water drain.





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



**Image 6: Northern interchange, Dark Creek south of Newcastle Road.**



**Image 7: Northern interchange, Dark Creek extension culvert works north of Newcastle Road.**



**Image 8: Northern interchange, Dark Creek culvert extension works north of Newcastle Road.**