

Appendix A - Consideration of section 171 factors and matters of national environmental significance and Commonwealth land

Section 171 Factors

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

Factor	Impact
a Any environmental impact on a community?	
The proposal would result in the following environmental impacts on the community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved road safety and network reliability during operation Traffic delays and increased travel time during the construction of the proposal. Potential noise and vibration impacts to surrounding sensitive receivers during construction of the proposal.	Long-term moderate positive impact Short-term moderate negative impacts
The proposal would require partial acquisition of land within the proposal area. Property acquisition would be carried out in accordance with the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i> .	Short-term negative
The proposal would also result in the removal of 4.1 ha of native vegetation. With the implementation of mitigation measures, the proposal would not generate significant impacts.	Short-term negative
The proposal is not expected to impact Aboriginal heritage items.	Nil
Operation of the proposal would improve traffic flow, travel times and safety through Hillsborough by reduced traffic volumes and improve the movement of pedestrians and cyclists.	Long-term positive
b Any transformation of a locality?	
During the construction of the proposal there would be amenity impacts including noise and air quality impacts which would temporarily transform the locality.	Short-term negative
The proposal would result in a permanent change in land use from the existing land uses to a road corridor. This would remove the ability of the land to be developed for other potential purposes in the future. The proposal would also result in low to moderate visual impacts for residents along and surrounding Hillsborough Road and to road users, due to the raised embankments and bridges included in the design. Landscaping and urban design elements have been incorporated into the design to minimise these impacts.	Long-term minor negative
Operation of the proposal would improve traffic flow, travel times and safety through Hillsborough by reduced traffic volumes and improve the movement of pedestrians and cyclists.	Long-term positive
c Any environmental impact on the ecosystems of the locality?	
The proposal would require clearing of native vegetation, which provides habitat for listed flora and fauna species. With the implementation of mitigation measures, the proposal would not generate significant impacts.	Long-term minor negative
d Any reduction of the aesthetic, recreational, scientific or other environmental quality or value of a locality?	
The proposal would have some temporary impacts during construction associated with visual amenity, access arrangements for some residents and noise and vibration, these impacts would be short-term and minimised through the implementation of the safeguards provided in the REF. The proposal would also result in low to moderate visual impacts for residents during construction and operation along and surrounding Hillsborough Road and to road users, due to the raised embankments and bridges included in the design. Landscaping and urban design elements have been incorporated into the design to minimise these impacts.	Short-term and long term minor negative
The proposal would result in the removal of 4.1 ha of vegetation	Long-term minor negative
e 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 proposal would not impact Aboriginal heritage sites, including the loss of value and removal of some sites. The proposal would be undertaken with the implementation of mitigation measures to further reduce the impact on Aboriginal heritage.	Nil

Factor	Impact
f Any impact on the habitat of protected fauna (within the meaning of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>)?	
The proposal would result in clearing 4.1 ha of native vegetation that provides habitat for listed species. In addition, clearing of the canopy would increase fragmentation of habitat in the study area. The proposal would be undertaken with the implementation of mitigation measures which would reduce the long-term impact generated by the proposal.	Long-term minor negative
g Any endangering of any species of animal, plant or other form of life, whether living on land, in water or in the air?	
The proposal would result in clearing 4.1 ha of native vegetation that provides habitat for listed species. In addition, clearing of the canopy would increase fragmentation of habitat in the study area. The proposal would be undertaken with the implementation of mitigation measures which would reduce the long-term impact generated by the proposal. The BAR concluded that with the implementation of these measures, the proposal would not have a significant impact.	Long-term minor negative
h Any long-term effects on the environment?	
The proposal would generate minor long-term biodiversity impacts. These impacts were determined to not be significant. No other long-term environmental impacts would be generated by the proposal.	Long-term minor negative
Operation of the proposal would improve traffic flow, travel times and safety through Hillsborough by reduced traffic volumes and improve the movement of pedestrians and cyclists.	Long-term positive
i Any degradation of the quality of the environment?	
The proposal would result in clearing of 4.1 ha of native vegetation. In addition, the proposal may lead to the spread of pathogens, disease, or weeds to and from the proposal area. The proposal would also reduce habitat connectivity. Mitigation measures would be implemented throughout construction and operation to minimise impacts generated by the proposal.	Short-term minor negative Long-term minor negative
The proposal would have some temporary impacts during construction associated with visual amenity, noise and vibration. These impacts would be short-term and minimised through the implementation of the safeguards provided in the REF.	Short-term negative
Operation of the proposal is unlikely to result in the ongoing degradation of the environment.	Long-term neutral
j Any risk to the safety of the environment?	
During construction, an increase in heavy vehicle movements associated with the transportation of equipment and materials may decrease road safety. This is considered minor given the current levels of heavy vehicles using the road network in and around Warners Bay, Cardiff South, and Hillsborough. Nevertheless, traffic management safeguards are provided in the REF to reduce traffic impacts.	Short-term minor negative
Operation of the proposal would improve safety for road users, especially through Hillsborough by reducing traffic volumes and improving traffic flow and travel times. The proposal would also see an increase in safety for pedestrians and access through Hillsborough.	Long-term positive
k Any reduction in the range of beneficial uses of the environment?	
The proposal would result in the acquisition and a permanent change in land use from the existing land uses to a road corridor. This would remove the ability of the land to be developed for residential purposes in the future.	Long-term negative
l Any pollution of the environment?	
The proposal would have some temporary impacts during construction associated with visual amenity, noise and vibration. The proposal could also result in minor impacts to water quality from erosion and sedimentation impacts and from potential oil or fuel spills from construction machinery. These impacts would be short-term and minimised through the implementation of the safeguards in the REF.	Short-term minor negative
Operational pollution is likely to be consistent with the existing Hillsborough Road.	Long-term neutral
m Any environmental problems associated with the disposal of waste?	
Construction of the proposal would result in a number of waste streams to be generated. Mitigation measures for the disposal of waste streams likely to be produced during construction are detailed in the REF. Waste streams would be managed through the implementations of safeguards in the REF.	Short-term minor negative

Factor	Impact
n Any increased demands on resources (natural or otherwise) that are, or are likely to become, in short supply?	
The proposal is unlikely to affect any resources that are or are likely to become in short supply.	Nil
o Any cumulative environmental effect with other existing or likely future activities?	
There is potential for cumulative impacts to occur as a result of the construction of the proposal occurring simultaneously with other projects, including traffic, noise and visual impacts. The impacts would be temporary during the construction period and would be minimised with the mitigation measures provided in the REF.	Short-term minor negative
The operation of the proposal would have a positive cumulative impact on travel times, road safety and efficiency. The proposal would result in improved safety for Hillsborough by reducing congestion.	Long-term positive
p Any impact on coastal processes and coastal hazards, including those under projected climate change conditions?	
The proposal is located about 7 kilometres from the coast. The proposal would not impact coastal processes or hazards including those predicted under climate change conditions.	Nil
q Applicable local strategic planning statements, regional strategic plans or district strategic plans made under the Act, Division 3.1,	
	Nil
r Other relevant environmental factors.	
The REF has fully considered all environmental impacts and aspects and recommended management measure to ensure impacts are managed to acceptable levels.	Nil

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 proposal should be referred to the Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

A referral is not required for proposed actions that may affect nationally-listed threatened species, endangered ecological communities and migratory species. Impacts on these matters are still assessed as part of the REF in accordance with Australian Government significant impact criteria and taking into account relevant guidelines and policies.

Factor	Impact
a Any impact on a World Heritage property? None	Nil
b Any impact on a National Heritage place? None	Nil
c Any impact on a wetland of international importance? None	Nil
d Any impact on a listed threatened species or communities? The proposal would not impact on any EPBC listed vegetation communities. One nationally listed flora species (Black-eyed Susan <i>Tetratheca juncea</i>) was identified to have habitat in the proposal area that would be impacted. No specimens were identified as being impacted. Habitat for EPBC listed species was identified in the proposal area for Regen Honeyeater, Glossy-Black-Cockatoo, Large-eared Pied Bat and the Swift Parrot was identified. No impacts to and EPBC listed biodiversity would be significant.	Minor
e Any impacts on listed migratory species? None	Nil
f Any impact on a Commonwealth marine area? None	Nil
g Does the proposal involve a nuclear action (including uranium mining)? None	Nil
h Additionally, any impact (direct or indirect) on the environment of Commonwealth land? None	Nil