

NEWCASTLE INNER CITY BYPASS: RANKIN PARK TO JESMOND (SSI-6888)
ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY REPORT
June 2025

Reporting Period: 1 to 30 June 2025.

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).



Image: January 2025, Aerial view of project alignment. View looking south. Source: TfNSW

PROJECT SUMMARY

Delivery of a 3.4 km 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 in June 2021. At House Noise Treatment (AHNT) was completed in October 2024.
- Stage 2: Shared Path Bridge was completed in March 2021.
- Stage 3: Southern Interchange Utility Relocation works were completed in August 2022.
- Stage 4: Main construction works underway, commenced March 2023.

June 2025 Completed Works

The following is a summary of the works broken down into project components.

Main Construction

- Road pavement construction, including curb and barriers.
- Installation and maintenance of ERSED controls throughout the site as needed.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment and diversions.
- Earthworks, including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works, including drainage and street lighting.
- Dark Creek culvert construction.
- Bridge structures, including concrete pours and superstructure.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.
- Newcastle Road Bridge embankment works

OOHW works:

- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier installation, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging/ switches).
 - Concrete works and bridge deck pours.
 - Utilities and drainage
 - Delivery and installation of precast structures.
 - Newcastle Road lane realignment at Inner City Bypass.
- Southern interchange:
 - Utilities and drainage.
 - Barrier installation, concrete and pavement works.
 - Utilities installation including street lighting, electrical, communications and traffic signals.
 - Bridge 1 works, including barriers, deck and RE walls.
 - Drainage installation.
 - Pavement works including profiling of existing pavement, sealing and placement of AC, line marking.
 - Bulk earthworks including removal of pavement, excavation and placement of general fill, SMZ.
 - Landscaping.
 - Curb, verge and shared user path installation.



July 2025 Upcoming Works

The following is a summary of the works broken down into project components:

Main Construction

- Road pavement construction, including curb and barriers.
- Installation and maintenance of ERSED controls throughout the site as needed.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment and diversions.
- Earthworks, including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works, including drainage and street lighting.
- Dark Creek culvert construction.
- Bridge structures, including concrete pours and superstructure.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.
- Newcastle Road Bridge embankment works.
- Downsizing the Jesmond Compound site and establishment of a minor ancillary facility at the JHH entry road.
- Southern interchange traffic switch works.

Scheduled OOHW Works:

- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier installation, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging/switches).
 - Concrete works and bridge deck pours.
 - Utilities and drainage.
 - Delivery and installation of precast structures.
 - Newcastle Road lane realignment at Inner City Bypass.
 - Installation of Urban Design elements on bridge structures.
- Southern interchange (progressively during the month, along with one weekend, plus one contingency weekend):
 - Utilities installation including street lighting, electrical, communications and traffic signals.
 - Bridge 1 works, including barriers, deck and RE walls.
 - Drainage installation.
 - Pavement works including profiling of existing pavement, sealing and placement of AC, line marking.
 - Bulk earthworks including removal of pavement, excavation and placement of general fill, SMZ.
 - Landscaping.
 - Curb, verge and shared user path installation.



ER Activity:

Reviews/ Approvals/ Advice/ Meetings

- Stakeholder/ Community Complaint Notice: Review.
- OOHW Three Month Look Ahead (June 2025): Review.
- May 2025: Site Environmental Events: Review.
- Post Approval Tracking Register – April 2025: Review.
- Monthly Newsletter and Three Month Look Ahead: Review.
- Community Notices / Out of Hours Updates: Review.
- ERG/ER Monthly Inspection and Meeting – Agenda and Minutes: April 2025.
- Fortnightly Environment and Sustainability Team Meeting with FHC, TfNSW and ER.
- Monthly ER Meeting with DPHI (Post Approval and Compliance).

Inspections

- Site inspections were held on:
 - ER and Agency Site Inspection was held on Tuesday, June 3 2025.
 - ER inspection was held on Wednesday, 18 June 2025.
- Environmental Inspection Reports were prepared and issued through the TfNSW Ngara system to FHC and TfNSW, and copies were provided to DPHI.

Environmental Review Group (ERG) Meeting

- No ERG meeting was held in June.
- The next ERG meeting No.30 is scheduled for Tuesday, 1 July 2025
- ERG meetings are Bi-Monthly, i.e.: July, September, November.

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. All matters have been closed out.
- No. 3 Independent Environmental Audit was undertaken on the 28 May 2025. All matters are currently being 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 were no Environmental Issues in June.

Project Positives

- None in June.

CEMP, CEMPP & Minister's Conditions of Approval

Reports

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (May 2025): submitted to DPHI (via Portal): 6 June 2025.

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 30 June; the rolling averages are all below the criteria of 4.

Sediment Basin Discharges

June saw a total of 53.6 mm of rainfall at the Jesmond weather station, continuing on from 482 mm of rain in May. No exceedances of the Project's 5-day design rainfall event occurred during the month.

Date	Rainfall Total (mm)	Basin Overtopped
NA	NA	NA

Nine inspections were conducted by the Environmental team during the month. Issues identified included routine maintenance and/ or repair of controls, basin desilting and repairs to the drain and installation of pit controls, with most actions attributed to damage sustained in the heavy rainfall experienced during May.

Community Consultation and Complaints

Community consultation

There were 66 incoming communications recorded in Consultation Manager

- Enquiries included: detail about project timelines, construction impacts, and driving routes through the permanent design.
- Complaints included: dust on road, pothole damage to vehicles, FH vehicles or contractors parking on residential streets, objection to permanent design, vibration and blast damage.

Regular interactions

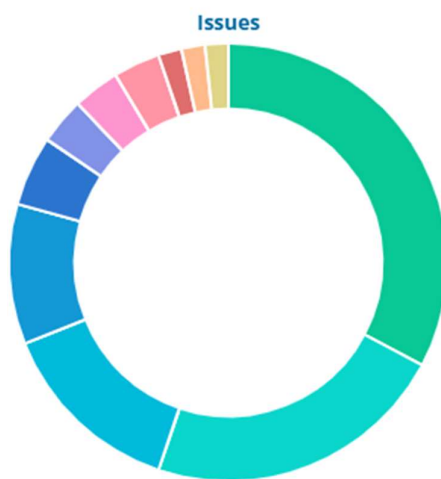
- Keilos Downer & CDC bus companies.
- City of Newcastle Council, Lake Macquarie Council.
- John Hunter Hospital and NSW Health Services – monthly meeting with FH and TfNSW.
- Weekly FH and TfNSW Comms meetings.

Notification

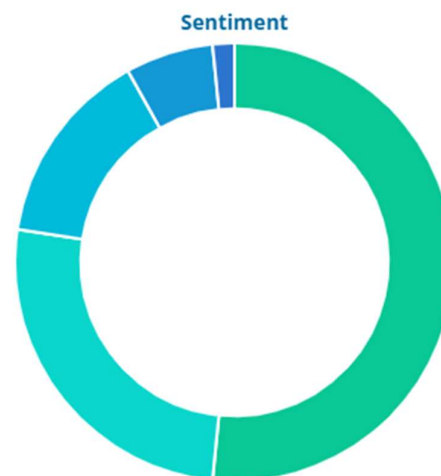
- OOHW and Three Month Lookahead May-July distributed 10/5/25.
- OOHW and Three Month Lookahead June-Aug distributed 10/6/25.
- Notification of work at Southern Interchange distributed 6/6/25 and 23/6/25.

Trends

- Increasing enquiries about the expected project completion date.
- Continuing engagement about the Southern Interchange work, keeping information up to date with impacted stakeholders and residents.
- Meetings with residents about upcoming driveway and foot path work on Lookout Road.



Project timeline	19
Construction Impacts(4)	13
Parking(2)	8
Request to be added to stakeholder contact database	6
McCaffrey Drive	3
Safety(5)	2
Dust(6)	2
Water and soil	2
Utilities(1)	1
Speed Limit	1
Noise(7)	1
Total	58



Neutral	32
Negative	16
Negative – unavoidable	9
Positive	4
Negative – avoidable	1
Total	62



Closing Remarks

Construction for the month included finalising earthworks, structures, continuing installation of the Dark Creek culvert adjacent to Newcastle Road, shotcreting batters and bridge works. Environmental works have included installation of progressive ErSed controls, permanent landscaping, and commencing the process for sediment basin removal.

At the northern interchange, construction of the Dark Creek culvert and other bridge and pedestrian structures continues, including filling of southern embankment of the Newcastle Road bridge. The Jesmond Compound is being reduced in size, and a new minor ancillary facility has been set up at the JHH interchange; however, delays have stowed this move.

On the mainline, larger areas of the alignment in the south have been asphalted, particularly on the southern portion. The JHH interchange earthworks are progressing with the bridge being completed and the access/ egress roads well underway. A small area of clearing has also occurred adjacent to the JHH to make way for overburden storage from the removal of McCaffrey Drive (refer to Images 3 and 4).

The McCaffrey Drive out of hours weekend works were undertaken in April with minimal disruption to the local traffic. One more weekend out of hours works is planned; however, due to wet weather, this has now been pushed to late June or early July.

The focus for the environment team has been repairs to damaged ErSed controls and, as we move towards the end of the project, ensuring that controls are maintained and operational until they are taken offline. Notwithstanding, the environmental team continue to display a commitment to managing the site and ensuring environmental management of the site is maintained. This is evident with low or no incidents and environmental matters.

RP2J Environmental Representative (as per MCoA A22)



Simon Williams
Director / Principal Environmental Planner
GeoLINK

Attachment: Site Images – June 2025

Site Images – June 2025



Image 1 View of the bridge over Newcastle Road and the Dark Creek culvert from the Jesmond Site Compound.



Image 2 Temporary shared path, view to the west.



Image 3 Mainline at the JHH car parking looking south. This area will be used to store material from the removal of McCaffery Drive.



Image 4 Mainline at the JHH car parking looking south. This area will be used to store material from the removal of McCaffery Drive.



Image 5 Taken from the Southern Interchange on Lookout Road, viewing North.



Image 6 Taken from the Southern Interchange on Lookout Road, viewing of Fill 1.



Image 7 Taken from the new McCaffrey Drive bridge looking northeast along McCaffrey.



Image 8 Taken from the new McCaffrey Drive bridge looking southwest along McCaffrey Drive.