

# 8. Environmental management

## 8.1 RTA environmental management framework

Environmental management is an important aspect of the RTA's decision-making and activities. Environmental direction is provided in the RTA's directions 2006-07 (NSW Roads and Traffic Authority 2006f). The directions include the business outcome, 'Positive environmental and urban design outcomes', and provide direction to ensure that the environmental impacts of RTA activities are well managed.

The RTA's approach to environmental management is underpinned by an Environmental Management System and Environmental Policy. The organisation also reports publicly on its environmental performance in its Annual Report.

### 8.1.1 RTA Environmental Management System

The RTA's Environmental Management System (EMS) is a system of processes, documents, guidelines and actions that provides a foundation for effective management of the environmental impacts of RTA projects. The EMS operates across distinct areas of the RTA, which together, form a single system to ensure staff have the skills and knowledge to effectively plan and manage environmental issues.

Key drivers of the RTA's EMS include:

- The RTA Environmental Policy.
- The RTA Corporate Plan – The Journey Ahead (2003-2008).
- Requirements of the International Standard ISO 14001.
- Relevant legislation.

The RTA has an ongoing commitment to improving its EMS.

## 8.2 Contractor EMS and plans

The RTA would require the selected contractor(s) to have an EMS in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Management Systems Guidelines* (NSW Government 1998) and the RTA *Quality Assurance Specification G36 Environment Protection (Management System)*.

A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) would be prepared by the successful contractor(s) to address management measures that need be implemented to ensure compliance with the Minister for Planning's conditions of approval, including the commitments made in this Environmental Assessment. The CEMP would cover the environmental protection practices, resources and the sequence of activities required.

The contractor(s) would be required to document the following information in the CEMP:

- Roles and responsibilities for planning, approval, implementation, assessment and monitoring of environmental controls.
- Required licences, approvals and permits.
- Potential environmental impacts resulting from construction of the proposed upgrade and the control and mitigation measures to be implemented.
- Objectives and targets for environmental performance.
- Environmental monitoring programs and a mechanism for evaluating environmental performance.

- Communication procedures.
- Document control procedures.
- Emergency response procedures to mitigate potential environmental damage.
- Training, competence and awareness assessment procedures and programs.
- An environmental auditing program and a mechanism for control and management of non-conformances.

### 8.2.1 Sub-plans

This Environmental Assessment has identified the need for specific environmental management measures to mitigate environmental impacts for identified environmental issues. To ensure that these measures are implemented during construction, concise environmental management sub-plans would be developed. These would link to and form part of the CEMP. The sub-plans would include the following:

- Traffic Management Sub-plan.
- Construction Noise and Vibration Sub-plan.
- Acid Sulfate Soils Management Sub-plan.
- Soil and Water Management Sub-plan.
- Hazardous Materials Management Sub-plan.
- Waste Management Sub-plan.
- Flora and Fauna Management Sub-plan.
- Indigenous Heritage Management Sub-plan.
- Non-Indigenous Heritage Management Sub-plan.
- Air Quality Management Sub-plan.
- Flooding and Drainage Sub-plan.
- Spoil Management Sub-plan.
- Urban and Landscape Design Sub-plan.

The draft Statement of Commitments provided in Appendix D outlines the RTA's commitment to preparing and implementing these plans and associated mitigation measures. Environmental management measures are also outlined at the end of each chapter in Part D of the Environmental Assessment.

## 8.3 Operational Environmental Management Plan

An Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) would be prepared to coordinate ongoing monitoring and maintenance after the proposed upgrade is opened to traffic. It would include details of statutory and other obligations that would be required to be fulfilled, and requirements for maintenance, monitoring, auditing and reporting. The OEMP would be consistent with the commitments made in this Environmental Assessment and the Minister for Planning's conditions of approval.

Individual design and management responses to potential environmental impacts are discussed in the following chapters (Part D, Chapters 9 to 21).

The draft Statement of Commitments (Appendix D) provides a summary of proposed management measures, demonstrating the RTA's commitment to preparing and implementing an EMS, management plans and associated mitigation measures.