

# Coffs Harbour Bypass

## Acoustic Advisor Monthly Report

February 2024  
Doc no. 21001-NV-RP-37-0

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### Distribution List

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| ██████████ | NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Industry |
| ██████████ | Environment Manager, FGJV                        |
| ██████████ | Independent Certifier                            |
| ██████████ | Transport for NSW                                |

### Glossary of terms and abbreviation

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| AA            | Independent Acoustic Advisor approved by DPIE             |
| CBAG          | Coffs Bypass Action Group                                 |
| CCC           | Community Consultation Committee                          |
| CEMP          | Construction Environmental Management Plan                |
| CNVMP         | Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan          |
| CoA           | Conditions of Approval                                    |
| CSSI          | Critical State Significant Infrastructure                 |
| DPHI          | Department of Planning Housing and Industry               |
| Early works   | Works not defined as construction under the CoA           |
| EIS           | Environmental Impact Statement                            |
| ER            | Independent Environmental Representative approved by DPIE |
| EMS           | Environmental Management System                           |
| EPA           | NSW Environment Protection Authority                      |
| EPL           | NSW Environment Protection Licence                        |
| FGJV          | Ferrovial Gamuda Joint Venture (the Contractor)           |
| Incidents     | As defined in the Conditions of Approval                  |
| OEH           | Office of Environment and Heritage                        |
| (the) Project | Coffs Harbour Bypass                                      |
| Proponent     | Transport for NSW   |
| Secretary     | Secretary of DPIE   |
| SPIR          | Submissions and preferred infrastructure report           |
| SSI           | State Significant Infrastructure                          |

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Transport for NSW is the Proponent for the Coffs Harbour Bypass (the Project).

The Project is Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) and was approved by the NSW Minister for Planning in 2020 (SSI 7666) following preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in 2017 and of a Submissions and Preferred Infrastructure Report (SPIR) by Transport for NSW in response to submissions from government, agencies, organisations and the public.

Construction commenced by the Ferrovial Gamuda Joint Venture (FGJV) on 31 March 2023 under a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) and sub-plans including the Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) approved by Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) on 17 March 2023.

Transport for NSW continues to deliver early works for the project, defined in the Conditions of Approval (CoA) as low impact work, which commenced prior to approval of the CEMP. These works are in their final stages.

This Acoustic Advisor monthly report relates to all works undertaken by FGJV and Transport for NSW in February 2024.

### 1.2 Acoustic Advisor

In accordance with CoA A28 of Approval SSI 7666, an independent, suitably qualified and experienced Acoustic Advisor (AA) was engaged for the duration of the Project. John Hutchison was approved in the AA role by the delegate to the Secretary on 1 February 2021 in accordance with CoA A28. Scott Hughes is acting as the alternate AA where the AA is unavailable.

### 1.3 Environmental Representative

An independent Environmental Representative (ER) was engaged for the Project in accordance with CoA A21. Duncan Thomson is the ER, with Simon Williams the alternate, and approved by the delegate to the Secretary in July 2021.

As required in CoA A30(g), the ER works closely with the AA on noise and vibration related matters on the Project. Interactions with the AA are summarized in Section 3.10 of this report.

### 1.4 Scope of monthly report

As required by CoA A30(g)(iv), the AA must prepare and submit a monthly report, providing information on any actions or decisions for which the AA was responsible in the preceding month. Actions and decisions include but are not limited to:

- Communications with the Secretary
- Consideration and recommendations to Transport for NSW on improvements that may be made to avoid or minimise adverse noise and vibration impacts.
- Reviews and, where appropriate, endorsement of all noise and vibration documents required to be prepared under the Conditions of Approval.
- Any actions or decisions relating to regular monitoring of the implementation of noise and vibration documents;
- Any notifications to the Secretary of noise and vibration incidents;
- Any audits or inspections of the project and associated recommendations;
- Any action taken to help resolve conflicts between Transport for NSW and the community;
- Consideration of minor amendments to the CEMP, relevant sub-plans and monitoring programs

## 2. Summary of construction activities

Construction activity by the JV currently underway:

- Bulk earthwork is widespread and will continue for some time
- Drilling and blasting are underway within multiple cuts.
- Piling and bridgeworks in multiple locations including at the Englands Road Interchange, Coramba Road Interchange, North Boambee Road, Korora Interchange and several creek crossings including Pine Brush Creek.
- Tunnelling has commenced with canopy tube drilling and the first trial blast completed at the Gatelys Road tunnel.
- Median removal continues in the northern section of the Pacific Highway and will continue for a couple more months, mostly at night.

Low impact works continue, although the scope is nearly complete. Electrical works in Bray St and Mackays Rd are expected to be complete with tie-ins done by March.

## 3. AA activity

### 3.1 Secretary communications

- AA issued a summary of comments on the operational noise review at DPHI request on 16 Feb.
- AA issued an update on OOHW to DPHI on 20 Feb.
- AA issued comments on ONR update on 29 Feb.

Meetings involving DPE are discussed below.

### 3.2 Recommendations for improvement

Recommendations on assessment methods and documentation were provided during review, as summarised below. Recommendations provided during site inspection (see Section 3.8).

### 3.3 Documentation review

#### 3.3.1 Endorsements of project documentation

No endorsements in February.

#### 3.3.2 Document reviews

1 Feb - Comments on submission for concrete overrun approval – contingency in case of unforeseen delays during concrete pours requiring late finish. This was ultimately delegated to the EPA for approval.

### 3.4 Approved under the EPL (for AA information only)

Works reviewed by the AA but approved by FGJV under EPL condition L6.2, L6.5 or L6.9 included:

- Concrete pour overrun approved by EPA 10 Feb due to pump not working correctly so taking longer to remove polymer in pile pour.

### 3.5 OOHW permit reviews/approvals - EPL Condition L6.4

Works reviewed and approved in consultation with the ER included the following.

- NIL

### **3.6 OOHW permit reviews/approvals – low risk**

OOH works reviewed and approved under the OOHW protocol included the following. Permits approved under the Protocol are attached as Appendix A for reference.

- OOHW DP18 power line removal Pac Hwy (8/2)

### **3.7 OOHW permit reviews/approvals – community agreement**

- Community agreement is currently being sought for works on Saturday afternoons near Shephards tunnel portal. This work is in line with the EPL Special Condition E1 and not under the CoA.

### **3.8 Emergency works**

No emergency works notified to the AA in February.

### **3.9 Document amendments**

No amendments to approved documents necessary in February.

### **3.10 Monitoring of document implementation**

#### **3.10.1 CNVMP and associated documents**

Monitoring of the CNVMP and associated documents has been undertaken through review of assessments, mitigation measures (including EWMS) and approval of OOHW. Site inspections are undertaken to gain context for approvals and to ensure measures proposed in applications are implemented appropriately.

#### **3.10.2 Monitoring results**

Monitoring results are issued monthly to the AA for review and information. At the time of this report, February results had not been issued.

#### **3.10.3 At-receiver noise treatments**

No update for February. Status update will be sought for the next report.

### **3.11 Incidents**

No noise-related incidents reported to the AA in February.

### **3.12 Auditing and inspection**

Site inspection was undertaken on 14 February. The inspection was project-wide including earthworks locations, bridge pad and piling works, crushing and drill sites. We spent additional time looking at Gatelys Tunnel portal to discuss 24/7 tunnelling mitigation and approval. The proposed asphalt plant at 1G was also inspected to gain an understanding of layout.

The team is managing noise with reasonable and feasible measures in place.

### **3.13 Community complaints and enquiries**

In total, 3 complaints related to noise and/or vibration were received by the JV. These included:

- 1/2 – noisy dozer – offer of noise blankets, declined
- 19/2 – Drilling, offer of a noise monitor for future events
- 28/2 – Noisy dozer, measurements demonstrated compliant with goals, offered noise mats and further monitoring.



The community team has addressed each concern/complaint in a timely manner through explanation of the work and works coming up, reasons for works outside standard hours and passing on monitoring outcomes if appropriate.

### **3.14 Meetings**

The AA attends weekly meetings with Transport for NSW, FGJV, DPE and the ER. Within these meetings, upcoming works are discussed as well as any complaints related to noise and vibration and the status of document preparation and approval.

The AA also attends a monthly meeting with DPE and the project team for an update (14 February).

Meeting with the extended project team held to discuss CoA related to 24/7 tunnelling on 20/2.

Meeting held with project team to discuss the procedure for potential concrete overruns.

Resident meetings were held in February to discuss the project and at-house noise treatment. Meetings included:

- 6 Jensen Close – concerned not all facades qualified for treatment. Determined they have been granted ducted A/C as part of the EIS assessment and they would receive less noise with updated ONR. Noticed the second storey was not included in model results. This was followed up with the team and was in fact considered for the ground truthing report for AHNT.

### **3.15 Interactions with the ER**

The ER and the AA have worked together in reviewing noise and vibration documents and providing comments to Transport for NSW in a coordinated manner. We consult together on any issues that are raised and require further discussion.

### **3.16 Other AA Activities**

The AA continues to review Project-related correspondence as and when received, responding accordingly.

## **4. Closing comments**

Construction is underway in line with the CNVMP including assessment procedures, implementation of mitigation and consultation.

Complaint frequency remains low, with at-house noise treatment the main causes for resident concern. Blasting has resulted in little community concern.

OOHW continues to be requested largely when working near the Pacific Highway but these requests are not overly frequent.

Most OOHW activity is approved under the EPL. The AA and ER have visibility of the EPL activities and this allows better coordination of respite and consistency of assessment/application of mitigation.


Interaction with the community continues regularly, with individual appointments as well as group meetings to answer questions and hear opinions. Outcomes from all meetings are provided to the community team to record in the CRM system.

Interactions with FGJV, Transport for NSW and the ER have been positive, and the AA has maintained a good relationship between all parties to achieve best practice proactive noise and vibration management and ongoing compliance with the Conditions of Approval.



## Appendix A. Approved OOHW permits for February

## CHB Project OOHW application form

| Out of hours work approval request form                                       |  |                |  |
|---|--|----------------|--|
| No:   | Notification date:   | Approval date: | Project:   |
|   |  |                | DP18 – Electrical Cut Over / power line removal across Pac Hwy |
| A. Contact details  | Name   | Mobile number  | Email  |
| TfNSW Environmental Site Representative                                       |  |                |  |
| TfNSW Project Manager   |  |                |  |
| Contractor Project Manager  |  |                |  |
| Contractor Project Engineer   | N/A  |                |  |
| B. Details of work:   |  |                |  |
| Include a map showing location of work extent and nearest sensitive receivers |  |                |  |
| <b>Location / chainages:</b>  | <p><b>Date and Time</b><br/>Wednesday 28/2/24 between 4am and 6am</p> <p><b>Location</b><br/>Pacific Hwy adjacent to Banana Coast Caravan Park</p> |                |  |
|   |    |                |  |
|   | NCA 21 closest receiver @ 24m  |                |  |

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   |   |  |
|   |   |  |
| <b>NCA/s:</b>   | NCA 21 & 22   |  |
| <b>Description of works – also include a brief description of the sequence of activities:</b>                                       | <p>Gosling Electrical to remove a redundant powerline that crosses the current Pacific Highway, will affect traffic in both directions immediately north of the Banana Coast Caravan Park at Korora.</p> <p>Work will be carried out in the early morning and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up traffic control</li> <li>• Dropping and removing the powerline/conductors</li> <li>• Removing traffic control.</li> </ul> <p>Pac Hwy will be blocked for up to 10 Mins.</p>   |  |
| <b>Machinery/ plant to be used</b>  | <p>Equipment to be used for this work includes:</p> <p>Elevated work platforms - 98dB SWL at 30% usage rate<br/> A crew truck – pull up / park / turn off vehicle.<br/> A traffic control. - 87dB SWL at 100% usage rate</p>  |  |
| <b>Traffic control measures required:</b>   | Yes – set up from 4am pack up by 6am.   |  |
| <b>Lighting required:</b>   | No  |  |
| <b>Proposed dates:</b>  | 28/2/24   |  |
| <b>Proposed times:</b>  | 4am to 6am.   |  |
| <b>Justification - why does work need to occur outside of standard construction hours? (attach support information as required)</b> | <p>For the section of the Pacific Highway, the time of operation stated on the road occupancy licence (ROL) excludes any lane closures to enable occupation and/or stoppages between the following times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 06:00 to 19:00 Monday to Thursday (extended to 20:00 in school holiday periods)</li> <li>• From 06:00 to 21:00 Friday</li> <li>• From 06:00 to 14:00 Saturday</li> </ul> <p>Due to these ROL restrictions, these works are required to undertaken outside of standard construction hours.</p> |  |
| <b>Select OOHW Category as defined by MCoA E36</b>  | Select<br><input type="checkbox"/>  | (a) for the delivery of materials required by the NSW Police Force or other authority for safety reasons; or   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | (b) where it is required in an emergency to avoid injury or the loss of life, to avoid damage or loss of property or to prevent environmental harm; or |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | (c) where different construction hours are permitted or required under an EPL in force in respect of the CSSI; or                                      |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | (d) work <u>not</u> subject to an EPL that are approved under an <b>Out-of-Hours Work Protocol</b> as required by <b>Condition E40</b> ; or            |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   | <input type="checkbox"/>                             | (e) construction that causes $L_{Aeq(15 \text{ minute})}$ noise levels:  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/>                             | (i) no more than 5 dB(A) above the rating background level at any residence in accordance with the <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i> (DECC, 2009), or  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/>                             | (ii) no more than the 'Noise affected' noise management levels specified in Table 3 of the <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i> (DECC, 2009) at other sensitive land uses, or   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/>                             | (f) continuous or impulsive vibration values, measured at the most affected residence are no more than the preferred values for human exposure to vibration, specified in Table 2.2 of <i>Assessing Vibration: a technical guideline</i> (DEC, 2006), or |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/>                             | (g) intermittent vibration values measured at the most affected residence are no more than the preferred values for human exposure to vibration, specified in Table 2.4 of <i>Assessing Vibration: a technical guideline</i> (DEC, 2006); or             |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/>                             | (h) negotiated agreements with directly affected residents and sensitive land uses.  |
| <b>C. Risk assessment</b>   |  |  |
| <b>NML (refer Table 3-2 of OOHV protocol)</b>   | NCA 21 – 43dB OOSH Night<br>NCA 22 - 43dB OOSH Night |  |
| <b>Are any receivers highly noise affected by proposed OOHV ? (above 75dB(A) <math>L_{Aeq(15 \text{ minute})}</math>)</b> | No   |  |



## Out of hours work approval request form

**Risk factor category**  
(refer section 4.3 of  
OOHW protocol):

Low Risk

### D. Details of noise or vibration assessment completed:

*Comments:* The Construction Noise Estimator was used to model predicted noise outputs for the work activities of:

**Predicted Noise levels utilising the TfNSW noise estimator tool** (See Attachment A for calculations)-

#### **EWP's**

Banana Coast Caravan Park NCA 21 – Cumulative Predicted Noise Level for EWP's Electrical works is 56dB at the closest receiver (24m away from works), which is 13dB over the OOHW night NML.

#### **Traffic Control**

Banana Coast Caravan Park NCA 21 - Predicted Noise Level for Traffic Control 43dB at the closest receiver (50m away from works), which is equal the OOHW night NML. The receivers at this southern end of the Caravan Park (Attachment B) will be notified given equal to NML and to cover off risk if traffic control is closer than 50m.

### E. Proposed mitigation measures, including respite

*Comments:*

Predicted noise levels from the works are over the applicable night-time NML's, the following mitigation measures would be applied to the works.

- Equipment selection/ maintaining and monitoring plant
- Switching off plant and machinery when not in use
- Site inductions
- Use of non-tonal reversing alarms
- Machinery will not be left running unnecessarily
- Written notification will be provided to residents as shown in Attachment B.

### F. Community consultation

*Outline consultation undertaken for the proposed OOHW:*

Written notification of the works will be provided to residents as per Attachment B in Banana Coast Caravan Park, and the 1 receiver just north of the Caravan Park.

The notification will outline reason for the works, diagram of the work area, proposed date of the works and working times, expected noise impacts and mitigation measures in accordance with the Community Consultation Strategy.

*Have respite periods for OOHW been identified with the affected community on a monthly basis and a three-month schedule of likely OOHW provided (refer CoA E39)?*

Not required based on duration of the works.

*Has the outcome of community consultation, the identified respite periods and scheduling of likely OOHW been provided to the ER, AA and Planning Secretary as required?*

N/A

**G. Respite framework**

*Outline any previous respite within the last month and the status of community agreements (where relevant)?*

Not required for this work.

*Have cumulative impacts from OOHW permitted by an EPL or third party works been considered during the development of appropriate respite?*

*There will be No cumulative impacts from other OOHW for the CHB Project.*

**H. Details of non-residential sensitive receivers (if any) and corresponding NMLs**

*Comments:*

N/A

**Out of hours work approval request form**

**I. Are there any properties at risk of exceeding the screening criteria (CNVG minimum distances for vibration intensive plant) safe working distance for plant) for cosmetic damage?**

Comments:

**I. Review / Endorsements**

|  |   |                                      |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Transport for NSW<br/>Community Liaison<br/>Representative</b>    | Community notified  | Date: 7/2/24                         |
|  | Additional consultation requirements:   |                                      |
|  | Have the works been reviewed and endorsed?  |                                      |
|  | Name: [Redacted]  | Signature: [Redacted] Date: 7/2/24   |
|  | Comments: No community notification required  |                                      |
| <b>Transport for NSW<br/>Environmental<br/>Manager (or delegate)</b> | Agreed mitigation measures:<br>As per E.  |                                      |
|  | Have the works been reviewed and endorsed?  |                                      |
|  | Have the works been approved where neither low nor high risk (predicted to be <NML and below cosmetic damage vibration screening criteria)? |                                      |
|  | Name: [Redacted]  | Signature: [Redacted] Date: 7/2/24   |
|  | Comments: Works endorsed to proceed based on no anticipated community or traffic impacts.   |                                      |
| <b>Project Acoustic<br/>Advisor</b>                                  | Agreed mitigation measures:   |                                      |
|  | Have the works been reviewed and endorsed?  | Yes / <del>No</del>                  |
|  | Have the works been approved where neither low nor high risk (predicted to be <NML and below cosmetic damage vibration screening criteria)? | <del>Yes</del> / No                  |
|  | Name: [Redacted]  | Signature: [Redacted] Date: 8/2/2024 |
|  | Comments: [Redacted]  |                                      |
| <b>Transport for NSW<br/>Project Manager</b>                         | Have the works been reviewed and endorsed?  | Yes / No                             |
|  | Have the works been approved where neither low nor high risk (predicted to be <NML and below cosmetic damage vibration screening criteria)? | Yes / No                             |
|  | Name:   | Signature: Date:                     |
|  | Comments:   |                                      |



|  |                         |            |          |
|--|-------------------------|------------|----------|
| ER approval (low risk activities)                  | Are the works approved? |            | Yes / No |
|  | Name:                   | Signature: | Date:    |
|  | Comments:               |            |          |
| Planning Secretary approval (high risk activities) | Are the works approved? |            | Yes / No |
|  | Name:                   | Signature: | Date:    |
|  | Comments:               |            |          |

# Attachment A

Banana Coast Caravan Park NCA 21 – Cumulative Predicted Noise Level for EWP’s Electrical works is 56dB at the closest receiver (24m away from works), which is 13dB over the OOHW night NML.











# Attachment B

Notification footprint – 120m from EWP locations



Traffic control as per below highlighted footprint.



Coffs Harbour Bypass  
OOHW Protocol





Resident  
Coffs Harbour  
NSW 2450

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## Re: Coffs Harbour bypass - night work on the Pacific Highway

February 2024

Dear The Resident,

The Australian and NSW Governments are funding the \$2.2 billion, 14-kilometre Coffs Harbour bypass project. The bypass will boost the regional economy and improve connectivity, road transport efficiency and safety for all motorists.

Gosling Electrical has been engaged to continue low impact work on the Coffs Harbour bypass project. As part of the utility relocations, activities to remove a redundant powerline that crosses the current Pacific Highway will affect traffic in both directions immediately north of the Banana Coast Caravan Park at Korora.

This work will be undertaken outside standard construction hours due to the restrictions on when work can happen on the Pacific Highway, particularly during peak travel times.

### What work are we doing?

Work will be carried out in the early morning and will include:

- Setting up traffic control
- Dropping and removing the powerline/conductors
- Removing traffic control.

### When and where we'll be working

To minimise disruption and ensure the safety of motorists, community and our workers, this work will be carried out on **28 February 2024** between **4am and 6am**. If weather interrupts, work will be rescheduled.

### What will this mean for you?

During the work, the Pacific Highway northbound and southbound will have traffic control between Bay Drive and James Small Drive. Setup will start at 4am and expect to be off the road by 6am. The highway will be closed for less than 10 minutes for the powerline to be dropped and removed.

Equipment to be used for this work includes:

- Elevated work platforms
- A crew truck
- A traffic vehicle.



The predicted noise level for this night work is expected to be quiet to moderate. A comparison of noise levels is included in this notification.

### Managing our impacts

To minimise noise impacts, we will switch off vehicles and equipment when not in use and undertake work closer to residential properties or noisier work earlier in the night where possible.

### Location



### Comparison in noise levels



### Looking ahead



Upcoming construction work in this area includes:

- Out of hours truck deliveries to working areas on James Small Drive, Bruxner Park Road, and West Korora Road
- Periodic out of hours street sweeping to remove debris from the Pacific Highway’s shoulder lane between 7pm and 6am
- Out of hours refuelling and plant and machinery maintenance
- Out of hours internal haulage route and environmental controls maintenance
- Out of hours work along the Pacific Highway between Charlesworth Bay Road and Solitary Island Way including building pavement, removing vegetation and median, relocating barriers, installing signs and line marking, geotechnical investigations for traffic changes and construction
- Out of hours concrete deliveries and pouring
- Changing pedestrian and cycle access near Old Coast Road
- Building the Luke Bowen Footbridge and other bridges in this area
- Demolishing buildings
- Carrying out bulk earthworks and installing culverts and drains
- Controlled blasting
- Installing and relocating fencing
- Revegetating areas in the project boundary
- Building and maintaining environmental controls.

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## Contact us



Project information and 24-hour construction response line **1800 550 621**



View our **community information van** timetable



**community@CHBteam.com.au**



**For the latest traffic updates:**  
Call 132 701, visit [livetraffic.com](http://livetraffic.com) or download the app Live Traffic NSW



**[pacifichighway.nsw.gov.au/](http://pacifichighway.nsw.gov.au/)  
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