

COFFS HARBOUR BYPASS (CSSI-7666)
ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY REPORT
October 2023

Reporting Period: 1 to 31 October 2023

This Environmental Representative Monthly Report has been prepared in accordance with the Minister's Condition of Approval (MCoA) A25(j) for the Coffs Harbour Bypass (CSSI-7666) and is consistent with the Environmental Representative Protocol (October 2018).

PROJECT SUMMARY: The construction and operation of a new multi lane road from north of Sawtell Road Interchange to Sapphire Beach, and including:

- a new four-lane divided highway with three grade-separated interchanges at England's Road (southern), Coramba Road (central) and Korora hill (northern);
- three tunnels through ridges, at Roberts hill (approximately 190m long), Shephards lane (approximately 360m long) and Gatelys road (approximately 450m long);
- structures to pass over local roads and creeks, and a bridge over the north coast railway;
- tie-in and modifications to the existing road network, to enable local road connections;
- pedestrian and cycling facilities, a shared path tying into the existing shared path on solitary islands way, and a new pedestrian bridge to replace the existing Luke Bowen footbridge;
- a new Korora public school bus interchange and a formalised bus stop at Coramba Road; and
- noise attenuation measures, fauna connectivity structures, and ancillary work.

Works underway:

- Main construction works:
 - establishment of site compounds and ancillary facilities;
 - installation of site controls, including fencing, signs, sediment basins, vehicle washdown bays;
 - construction of site access tracks;
 - construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions;
 - bulk earthworks, including rock hammering, crushing, screening, blasting;
 - installation of permanent drainage; and
 - bridge construction.
- Low impact works (i.e., non-construction works) are ongoing, including:
 - utility relocations (i.e., water, electrical, telecoms) by Coastal Works and Gosling Electrical; and
 - residential property noise treatment works.
- Other ongoing works include:
 - design refinement and detailed design;
 - threatened flora species management, including propagation and translocation; and
 - operational noise review.



October 2023 Works Summary

Main Construction

- Establishment of site compounds and ancillary facilities.
- Installation of erosion and sediment controls, including sediment basins.
- Installation of construction access / egress points, including vehicle washbays for Panama disease control.
- Construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions.
- Bulk earthworks, including rock hammering, crushing, screening and controlled blasting.
- Tunnel portal establishment.
- Installation of permanent drainage (e.g., cross-drainage pipes and culverts).
- Demolition of buildings and structures.
- Bridge construction, including establishment of piling pads and bored piling.
- Concrete batch plant operation.

Utility Relocations

Work on the utility relocations continued in the following locations:

- Bray Street.
- Mackays Road.
- Bruxner Park Road.
- Coachmans Close.
- Cnr James Small Drive and Pacific Highway.

Most of the utility relocation works are complete and most of the previously active work areas are in the process of being rehabilitated, revegetated (where appropriate) and stabilised.

Residential Property Noise Treatment Works

- 619 receivers were identified in the EIS Amendment Report as being potentially eligible for noise treatment works. Ground truthing has found that 14 properties are in an ineligible subdivision, 153 are unbuilt residential properties (located in an eligible subdivision), and 53 buildings do not require treatment (e.g., non-habitable). Furthermore, 32 additional properties have been identified for treatment and 51 properties have declined/postponed the treatment offer. Therefore, there are 380 properties to be treated.
- Builders contracts have been awarded for 343 properties and **321** properties have been treated. It is anticipated that 343 properties will be treated by the end of 2023.
- There are 34 residential properties that require further investigation and refinement of the scope of works due to electrical supply issues or asbestos impacts.
- The scope of works is also yet to be finalised for two schools and one place of worship.

Threatened Species Management

- New plant species (*Fontainea*, *Pittosporum*) management was ongoing, including propagation of plants in nurseries for future planting in translocation sites.



- An updated version of the Threatened Species Management Plan is in the process of being finalised, prior to submission to DPE for information.

November 2023 Upcoming Works

Main Construction

- Establishment of site compounds and ancillary facilities.
- Installation of erosion and sediment controls, including sediment basins.
- Installation of construction access / egress points, including vehicle washbays for Panama disease control.
- Construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions.
- Bulk earthworks, including rock hammering, crushing, screening and controlled blasting.
- Tunnel portal establishment.
- Installation of drainage structures (e.g., cross-drainage pipes and culverts).
- Demolition of buildings and structures.
- Bridge construction, including establishment of piling pads and bored piling.
- Concrete batch plant operation.

Utility Relocations

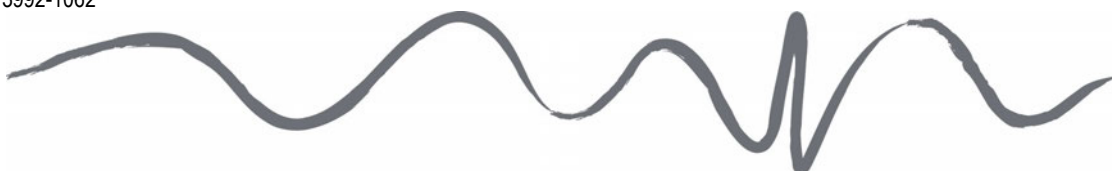
Installation of new electrical infrastructure will continue along Bray Street / Mackays Road, as well as DP18 electrical works (adjacent to Pacific Bay Resort and Banana Coast Caravan Park) involving tying conduits into the existing power conduits, running and connecting cables and installing new pillars for a private feed to Pacific Bay Resort. Most of the utility relocation works are complete and most of the previously active work areas are in the process of being rehabilitated, revegetated (where appropriate) and stabilised.

Residential Property Noise Treatment Works

- Finalisation of the scope of noise treatment works will continue at the remaining properties.
- Implementation of noise treatment works will continue.
- A draft report has been prepared on the non-implementation of operational noise mitigation measures, as required by MCoA E50. It is expected that this report will be finalised and submitted to DPE in November.

Threatened Species Management

- New plant species (Fontainea, Pittosporum) management will continue, including propagation of plants in nurseries for future planting in translocation sites.
- An updated version of the Threatened Species Management Plan is in the process of being finalised, prior to submission to DPE for information.



ER Activity

Reviews / Approvals / Advice

- OOHW Application (FGJV #30) – Pacific Highway, south of Englands Rd – Sign alterations and weed spraying: Review and approve.
- OOHW Application (FGJV #32) – North Boambee Rd (north side) – Early morning start for concrete pour: Review and provide comments.
- OOHW Application (FGJV #35) – Pacific Highway southern tie-in – Potholing to locate existing underground services: Review and provide comments.
- OOHW Application (FGJV #36) – Pacific Highway, Korora – trimming of trees alongside existing Pacific Highway to improve safety for vehicles exiting West Korora Rd: Review and approve.
- Ancillary Site Establishment Management Plan – Site 1J, Englands Rd: Review and provide comments.
- Air Quality Monitoring Program – Minor update: Review and approve Revision E.
- MCoA E50 Report on non-implementation of operational noise mitigation measures: Review and provide comments.
- Monthly Acoustic Advisor (AA) Report (September): Review.
- Weekly community complaints register: Review.

Site Inspections

Site inspections occurred on:

- 11th October 2023 with the AA and DPE, TfNSW and EPA representatives; and
- 27th October 2023 with TfNSW and DPE representatives

Meetings / Workshops

- A Monthly Project Update Meeting was held on the 11th October 2023, with the AA and DPE, TfNSW, EPA and FGJV representatives. Some participants attended the meeting in person, while others connected via video call.
- Weekly meetings with the AA, DPE and environment and community representatives from TfNSW and FGJV are ongoing.

Reports

- MCoA A25(j): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (September 2023) – Prepared and submitted to DPE (Infrastructure Management & Compliance) via Major Projects Portal on 5th October 2023.

Environmental Performance

Stop Work Notices

There were no Stop Work Notices.



Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

There were no incidents.

Non-compliances

- A non-compliance associated with out-of-hours work (OOHW) occurred on Sunday 15th October when a City of Coffs Harbour Council works crew installed a water meter and connection point in the park on the corner of Bray St and Mackays Rd. An OOHW permit had not been obtained for these works to occur on a Sunday morning. The works were part of the finalisation of the install of the new water supply feed to the tunnels and involved a 5 tonne excavator with an operator and a labourer. The contractor undertaking the water supply installation (KBS Mackay) requested and paid for the meter installation with the Council works team, but there was no subsequent communication regarding the proposed timing of the works. As such, KBS Mackay was unaware that Council intended to undertake the works on a Sunday, and the Council works crew was unaware that the CHB project has approved construction work hours that do not include Sunday. No complaints were received regarding the works. A retrospective noise assessment indicated that the noise levels would have slightly exceeded the NML at the closest receiver.

Environmental Events (i.e., not classified as Incidents)

- A minor frac-out occurred on 12th October 2023 during underground horizontal direction drilling (aka under-boring) to install electrical services along Bray St. The location was the corner of Bray St and Katherine Cl. A minor frac-out occurred during the drilling of the pilot shot, which resulted in a small quantity of drilling fluid (<50 L) coming to the surface, partly on the road verge and partly in the yard of an adjacent private property. A vacuum truck was used to remove the material from the ground. The resident was contacted and confirmed they were satisfied with the cleanup works. The work methodology was subsequently altered to excavate additional relief holes to minimise the risk of additional frac-outs.
- The non-compliance described in the previous section was also reported as an environmental event.

Positive Observations / Lessons Learnt / Opportunities for Improvement

None this month.

Changes to the Project

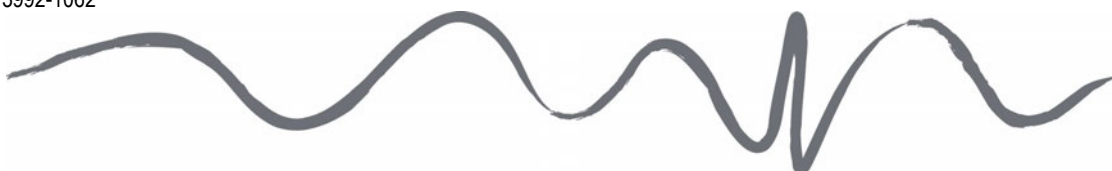
Documentation

- The following document incorporates minor updates that have been approved by the ER:
 - Air Quality Monitoring Program (Revision E, 19/09/2023)

Community Consultation and Complaints

FGJV Consultation Summary

- Produced external satisfaction survey for release early November
- Produced external report card to provide updates on construction progress. The report card will be released quarterly from November.



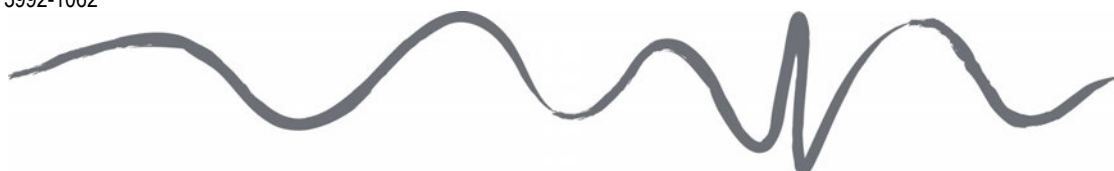
- The team attended 9 community sessions and spoke with about 230 people in October. This included two weekend pop-ups at the Harbourside Markets and Park Beach Plaza, which were the most popular locations respectively.
- Weekly updates were distributed every Friday in October advising the community about upcoming traffic changes, controlled blasting and community information van locations
- The team attended 13 meetings with stakeholders in October. Notable meetings included:
 - Meeting with Kororo Public School to discuss upcoming construction for Luke Bowen Footbridge
 - Meetings with residents on Mackays Road regarding dust management
 - Meetings with residents on Gatelys Road, Mackays Road and West Korora Road regarding upcoming tunnel work for Gatelys Road tunnel
 - Meeting with hygienist regarding silica concerns

FGJV Notifications

- South: Bored piling and controlled blasting between Roberts Hill and north of Coramba Road
- South: Bored piling between Roberts Hill and Shephards Lane
- South: Bored piling for Luke Bowen footbridge
- South: Services investigations on Pacific Highway, North Boambee
- South: Installing signage on the Pacific Highway and Stadium Drive, North Boambee
- North: Timed right turn restrictions on West Korora Road (letter)
- North: Safety improvements on the Pacific Highway, between Diggers Beach Road and West Korora Road, Korora (letter)
- North: Controlled blasting near Mackays Road
- North: Construction on the Pacific Highway at Korora
- North: Agreement for work outside of approved construction hours for the Coffs Harbour bypass - tunnel preparation work
- North: Agreement for work outside of approved construction hours on the Coffs Harbour bypass - hauling
- North: Construction work on the Pacific Highway, Korora

TfNSW Consultation Summary

- Residents at Paradise Palms notified of watermain connection works near their property.
- Residents at 26 and 40 Old Coast Road advised that their pumphouses will be removed and, where possible, relocated, as they are within the project boundary.
- Meeting and vibration monitoring with resident at 8 Coachmans Close relating to alleged damage to her property's wall.
- Tidy up of front yard at 133f Mackays Road requested following the completion of Coastal Works utility relocations.
- Meeting onsite at 15 Bruxner Park Road to discuss the state of the driveway - resident requesting that Transport repair the driveway.
- Correspondence with all stakeholders with properties containing asbestos impacting their AHNT
- Discussion with resident at 58 Bruxner Park Road in relation to a request for solar panels to assist with air conditioning costs. Airconditioning unit will be installed as part of AHNT.
- Request from resident to purchase Transport owned land on Mackays Road



- Request from stakeholder to purchase a unit at Paradise Palms
- Ongoing discussions with resident on Mackays Road regarding alleged driveway impacts.
- Ongoing discussion with residents coordinating their AHNT

TfNSW Notifications

- Nil

Complaints and Enquiries

There were more than 350 interactions with stakeholders during October, with 13 complaints and 23 enquiries managed by the team. Trending themes include dust, noise, at resident noise treatments and local road access.

Closing Remarks

The FGJV team has continued to make good progress with earthworks, drainage installation and bored piling during another month of predominantly dry weather. The dry weather continues to pose challenges associated with dust generation. There is a heavy reliance on the use of water carts for dust suppression in areas with active earthworks. The project team has been utilising recycled water and potable water from the Council supply for dust suppression, given the lack of water in dams and sediment basins.

There was a significant rainfall event in late October, with more than 120mm of rainfall on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th. This was the first significant runoff-generating rainfall event since major construction started in late March 2023. A site inspection was undertaken during the rainfall event. Urgent remedial actions had been undertaken earlier that morning and site crews were continuing to rectify some issues at the time of the inspection. In general, the erosion and sediment controls were observed to be working as intended, with the majority of dirty site runoff directed to sediment basins. Numerous erosion and sediment controls will require maintenance or reinstatement after this significant rain event. Given that this was the first major test of the erosion and sediment controls, it is likely that there will be some improvements and refinements to ErSed plans based on observations.

The team is in a routine of typically undertaking 3 to 5 controlled blasts per week spread across several locations, and these blasts are considered to be well planned and managed. The utility relocation works are almost finished, with the remaining work being the installation of new electrical infrastructure along Bray St and Mackays Rd. Other utility relocation work areas are in the process of being rehabilitated and stabilised. Overall, environmental management of the project continues to be satisfactory, with most of the issues identified during site inspections being considered low risk.

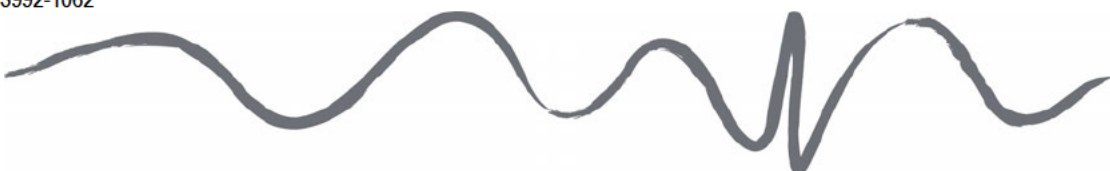


Simon Williams
CHB Environmental Representative
GeoLINK



Duncan Thomson
CHB Environmental Representative
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Attachment: Photos from Site Inspections – October 2023



Photos from Site Inspections – October 2023



Image 1: Englands Rd Interchange (Ch10800) – Earthworks either side of Englands Rd



Image 2: Englands Rd Interchange (Ch10800) – Runoff into sediment basin during 27/10 rain event



Image 3: Bridge 23, south of Nth Boambee Rd (Ch12000) – Piling pad in preparation for bored piling

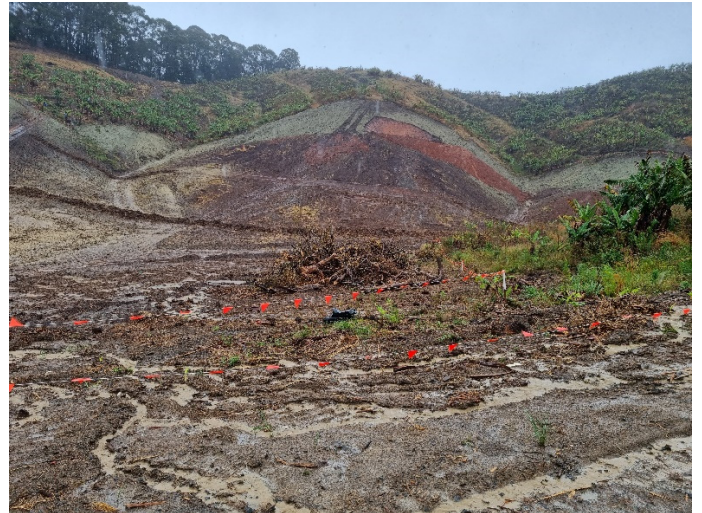


Image 4: North Boambee Rd, looking north to Fill 3D (Ch12000 - 12600) – Earthworks and piling pad construction





**Image 5: Fill 6A, south of Coramba Rd (Ch14400 - 14700) –
Runoff into sediment basin during 27/10 rain event**



**Image 6: Shepards Lane tunnel north portal (Ch17300 - 17500)
– Recently hydromulched & seeded area during rain**



**Image 7: Fill 14, Gatelys Rd tunnel south portal (Ch20000 -
20400) – Site during 27/10 rain event**



**Image 8: Fill 16, Korora Hill (Ch20700 - 21100) – Site during
27/10 rain event**

