

COFFS HARBOUR BYPASS (CSSI-7666)
ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY REPORT
January 2024

Reporting Period: 1 to 31 January 2024

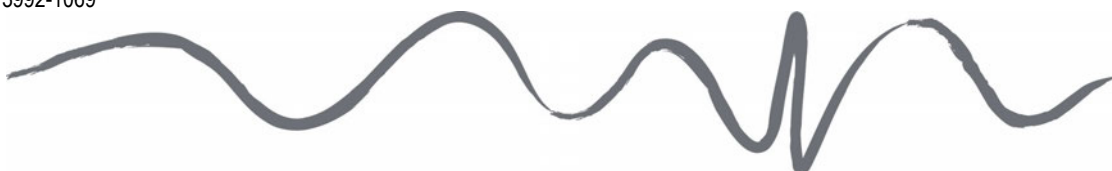
This Environmental Representative Monthly Report has been prepared in accordance with the Minister's Condition of Approval (MCoA) A25(j) for the Coffs Harbour Bypass (CSSI-7666) and is consistent with the Environmental Representative Protocol (October 2018).

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:
 - electrical utility relocations by 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.



January 2024 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.
- Tunnel portal preparation works at the Gatelys Road tunnel north portal.

Utility Relocations

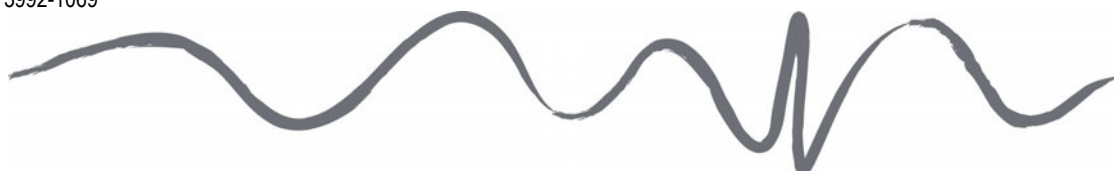
Work on the utility relocations continued in the following locations:

- Bray Street.
- Mackays Road.
- Cnr Charlesworth Bay Road 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 these properties have been treated.
- There are 30 properties where treatment cannot be provided without impacting asbestos. To ensure the safety of the residents and contractors during the removal of asbestos, TfNSW has engaged specialist contractors to review the condition of the properties, the scope of work for noise treatments and the proposed work methods. The initial inspections have been completed.
- There are 4 properties with electrical supply issues that require further investigation. Electrical supply for two of these properties has been resolved. TfNSW is working in consultation with the homeowner and Essential Energy to resolve the remaining two properties.
- There are 2 schools and 1 place of worship that require additional investigation and noise modelling to be finalised based on the Operational Noise Review (ONR).



Operational Noise Review

- An Operational Noise Review (ONR) report is in the process of being prepared, as required by MCoA E50.
- A draft of the ONR was provided to the ER & AA in December 2023. Initial ER & AA comments on the draft ONR were provided to FGJV in mid January 2024.
- FGJV and the noise consultant are in the process of reviewing comments and updating the ONR.

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.

February 2024 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.
- Commencement of tunnel construction at the Gatelys Road tunnel north portal.

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.
- A report on delays to the implementation of residential noise treatment works, as required by MCoA E50, was submitted to DPE in December 2023.



Operational Noise Review

- An Operational Noise Review (ONR) report is in the process of being prepared, as required by MCoA E50.
- FGJV and the noise consultant are in the process of reviewing comments provided on a draft version and updating the ONR.

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 #73) – Various bridge and drainage structure locations – Contingency for concrete pours to continue into the evening due to unforeseen circumstances: Review and provide comment. A related EPL variation was subsequently issued in early February 2024 which allows OOHW for concrete pours in some circumstances. Therefore, the need for this separate OOHW application is being reviewed.
- OOHW Application (FGJV #81) – Pine Brush Creek Bridge 21 – Contingency for concrete pours to continue into the evening due to unforeseen circumstances: Review and provide comment. As per previous item, a related EPL variation was subsequently issued in early February 2024, so this separate OOHW application is no longer required.
- Air Quality Monitoring Program – Minor update: Review and provide comment on Revision G.
- Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program – Minor update: Review and provide comment on Revision 9.
- MCoA E47 Operational Noise Review (ONR) report: Review and provide comment.
- Monthly Acoustic Advisor (AA) Report (December): Review.
- Weekly community complaints register: Review.

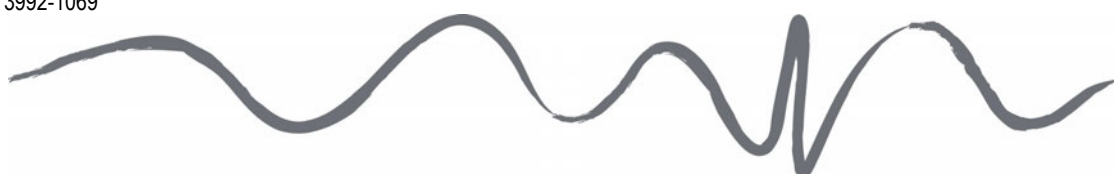
Site Inspections

Site inspections occurred on:

- 10th January 2024 with the AA and TfNSW, IC and EPA representatives
- 24th January 2024 with TfNSW and EPA representatives

Meetings / Workshops

- A Monthly Project Update Meeting was held on the 10th January 2024, 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 (December 2023) – Prepared and submitted to DPE (Infrastructure Management & Compliance) via Major Projects Portal on 10th January 2024.

Environmental Performance

Stop Work Notices

There were no Stop Work Notices.

Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

There were no incidents.

Non-compliances

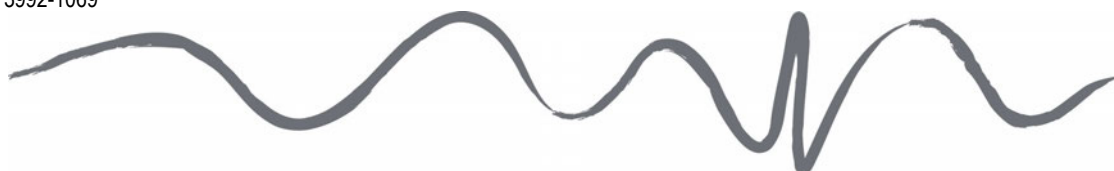
- A non-compliance associated with the use of an unapproved local road by heavy vehicles was discussed in the December 2023 monthly report. A non-compliance with MCoA E87 had occurred because concrete agitator trucks had used Russ Hammond Dr (an unapproved route) to access the project site on 17 occasions on the 29th and 30th November 2023. In response to the non-compliance, the concrete supply company recommunicated to relevant workers that access is not permitted via Russ Hamond Dr. The Vehicle Management Plan for the site on Korora School Road was updated (Revision 3), clearly noting that no heavy vehicles are permitted on Russ Hammond Dr, and this update was communicated to FGJV and relevant subcontractors. Signs were installed on the eastern (James Small Drive) and western (Kororo School Road) extents of Russ Hammond Dr indicating “No Construction Vehicles”.
- The environmental event described in the following section also constitutes a non-compliance with project documentation, including the Environmental Work Method Statement (EWMS) for dewatering.

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

- On 12th January 2024, an unapproved dewatering event occurred, which resulted in dirty runoff leaving the site. During a site inspection by the Environmental team at approximately 12:55pm, site water was observed flowing through a narrow channel in Fill 8 (Chainage 15525) and making its way through the rock filter dams at the eastern end of the fill and leaving site. Upon inspection, it was found that an unattended pump had been set up at the western end of the fill to dewater an excavation. The pump was immediately switched off. Water testing determined that the sump had a pH of 6.57 and an NTU of 25.6, while the water leaving site had a pH of 6.75 and an NTU of over 1,000. Water tested 260 m downstream from the discharge location was read at 150 NTU. Further downstream (1.29km) there was no visible evidence of the turbid water within the waterway, prior to the confluence with Coffs Creek. The pump was running for approximately 40 minutes before it was switched off, so the volume discharged from site was estimated to be 15,000 L. After the pump was switched off, the remaining water in the rock filter dams was pumped back onto site and used for dust suppression. Gypsum (flocculant) was applied to water at the project boundary. A project wide toolbox of the Dewatering EWMS was delivered and a formal warning was issued to the relevant Site Supervisor.

Positive Observations / Lessons Learnt / Opportunities for Improvement

None for this month.



Changes to the Project

Documentation

No changes this month.

Community Consultation and Complaints

FGJV Consultation Summary

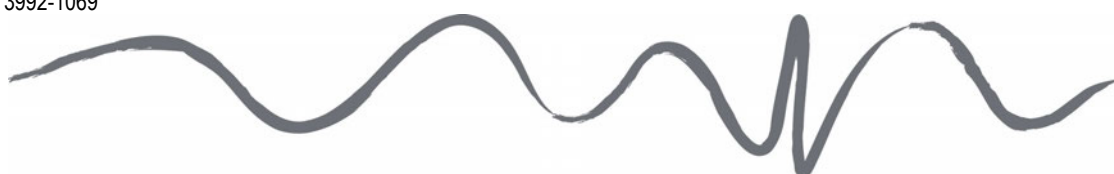
- The team worked collaboratively to prepare and distribute communications collateral ahead of the start of tunnelling. The package included a fact sheet, Facebook video, and website update in addition to community agreements and notifications. As this is a significant milestone, the team is supporting TfNSW to deliver a media event when controlled blasting in tunnels start in mid-February.
- Following the release of the community engagement satisfaction survey in November 2023, the team prepared a public-facing snapshot to close the research loop with the community. This snapshot, which is currently in approvals, is expected to be distributed in February. A web story and Facebook post have also been prepared as part of this package.
- An action the team has delivered quickly to respond to the community's desire to receive more imagery of project progress was to create the first photo book which will continue to be produced quarterly. This photo book features professional photography from the December 2023 and January 2024 period. The photo book is currently in approvals with a web story and Facebook post also prepared as part of the package.
- The team held four community information van sessions. The van sessions were attended by about 130 people. The most popular location was the Harbourside Market which was visited by about 85 people.
- Weekly updates were distributed on Fridays, advising the community about upcoming traffic changes, controlled blasting and community information van locations.
- The team attended eight meetings, mainly relating to property access changes and property adjustment plans.

FGJV Notifications and Fact Sheets

- North: Notification for the start of tunnelling work at Gatelys Road
- North: Notification for construction work on the Pacific Highway at Korora
- North: Notification for bored piling on new Pine Brush Creek bridges at Korora
- North: Letter for intermittent out of hours street sweeping on the Pacific Highway at Korora
- South: Letter for temporary diversion of Shephards Lane
- South: Out of hours concrete pours for Coramba Road Interchange
- Fact sheet: Tunnelling.

Complaints and Enquiries

There were more than 271 interactions with stakeholders during January, with 7 complaints and 23 enquiries managed by the team.



Closing Remarks

Construction progress was significantly impacted by rainfall during the month. A large rainfall event occurred over the New Year period, with over 200 mm of rain in some areas of the project site. This was followed by other significant rainfall events throughout the month, particularly on the 15th/16th January. As a result, substantial time and resources have been focussed on repairs and maintenance of ErSed controls, including the treatment and discharge of runoff captured in sediment basins. In between the rain events, there were some periods of dry and windy weather, with water carts being used for dust suppression in areas with active earthworks.

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. A current focus is preparation for the commencement of tunnelling works at the Gatelys Road tunnel northern portal. This will be a significant project milestone and various communication collateral has been issued to inform the community of these upcoming works.

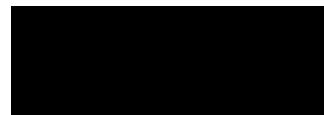
As a result of substantial rainfall during the Christmas / New Year period shutdown, FGJV work crews mobilised to site to inspect ErSed controls and undertake urgent repairs and maintenance.

Overall, environmental management of the project continues to be satisfactory, with most of the issues identified during site inspections being considered low risk.



CHB Environmental Representative

GeoLINK



CHB Environmental Representative

GeoLINK

Attachment: Photos from Site Inspections – January 2024



Photos from Site Inspections – January 2024



Image 1: Southern tie-in, Fill 0.5 (Ch9800) – Looking north along fill platform



Image 2: Englands Rd, Fill 2B (Ch11500) – Looking south with sediment basin on left, adjacent to industrial area



Image 3: North Boambee Rd, south side, Bridge 3 (Ch11700) – Piling complete, preparation for headstocks underway



Image 4: North Boambee Rd, south side, Bridge 23 (Ch12000) – Bored piling

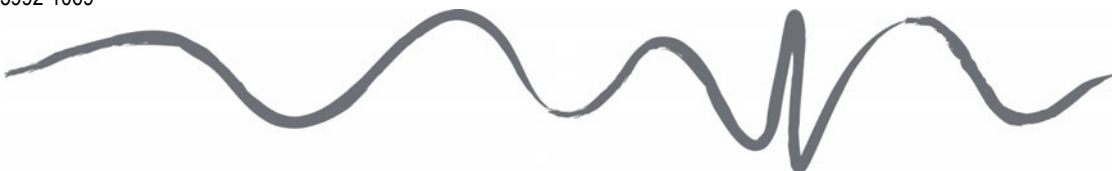




Image 5: Coramba Rd, north side, Fill 7 (Ch15200) – High efficiency sediment basin following rainfall



Image 6: Shephards Ln tunnel south portal (Ch16900) – Filling of gully



Image 7: Gatelys Rd tunnel north portal (Ch19300) – Preparation of portal for commencement of tunnelling works



Image 8: Korora Hill, Fill 18 (Ch21700) – Fill batter that has been recently hydromulched with permanent seed mix

