

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

Reporting Period: 1 to 31 March 2024

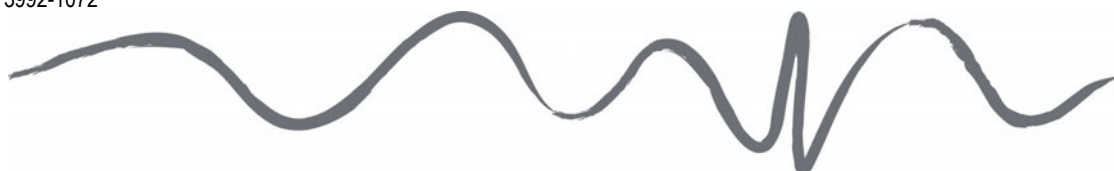
This Environmental Representative Monthly Report has been prepared in accordance with the Minister's Condition of Approval (MCoA) A25(j) for the Coffs Harbour Bypass (CSSI-7666) and is consistent with the Environmental Representative Protocol (October 2018).

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:
 - ongoing installation and maintenance of site controls, including fencing, signs, access gates, erosion and sediment controls (incl. sediment basins) and vehicle washdown bays;
 - construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions;
 - installation of permanent drainage;
 - earthworks, including cut-to-fill excavation & haulage, rock hammering, blasting, crushing, screening;
 - bridge construction; and
 - tunnel construction, including rock hammering and drill & blast.
- 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.



March 2024 Works Summary

Main Construction

- Installation and maintenance of erosion and sediment controls, including sediment basins.
- Installation and maintenance of access gates, including vehicle washbays for Panama disease control.
- Construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions.
- Bulk earthworks, including cut-to-fill excavation & haulage, rock hammering, blasting, crushing, screening.
- Installation of permanent drainage (e.g. cross-drainage pipes and culverts).
- Bridge construction, including establishment of piling pads, bored piling, and pier & headstock construction.
- Concrete batch plant operation.
- Tunnel construction at the Gatelays Road tunnel north portal, including rock hammering and drill & blast.
- Tunnel portal preparation works at the other tunnel portals.

Utility Relocations

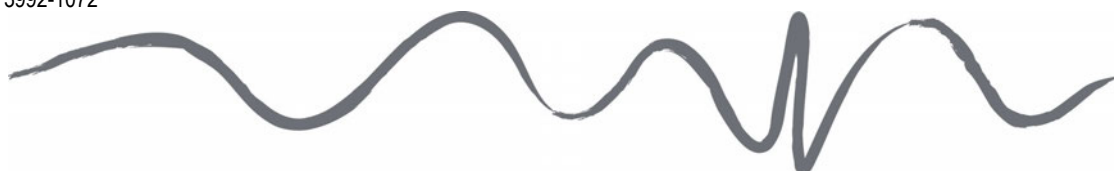
Work on the utility relocations continued in the following locations:

- 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 346 properties and 344 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 and the specialist contractors are preparing their reports for TfNSW to review.
- 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). Site investigations are planned for mid April 2024 to undertake attended noise monitoring to measure the existing transmission loss performance of the building facades.



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. TfNSW has also provided comments on the draft ONR.
- 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.

April 2024 Upcoming Works

Main Construction

- Installation and maintenance of erosion and sediment controls, including sediment basins.
- Installation and maintenance of access gates, including vehicle washbays for Panama disease control.
- Construction of temporary drainage channels and waterway diversions.
- Bulk earthworks, including cut-to-fill excavation & haulage, rock hammering, blasting, crushing, screening.
- Installation of permanent drainage (e.g. cross-drainage pipes and culverts).
- Bridge construction, including establishment of piling pads, bored piling, and pier & headstock construction.
- Concrete batch plant operation.
- Tunnel construction at the Gatelys Road tunnel north portal, including rock hammering and drill & blast.
- Tunnel portal preparation works at the other tunnel portals.

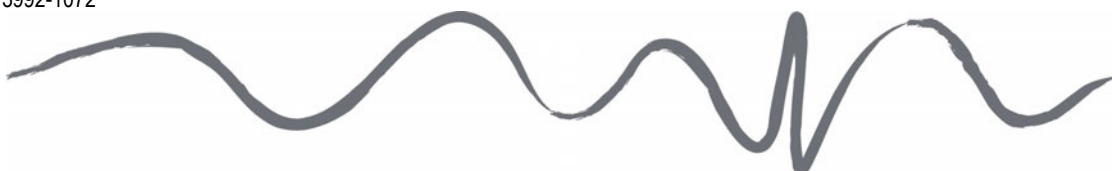
Utility Relocations

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

- Reports on the properties with asbestos constraints will continue to be prepared by the specialist contractors.



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.

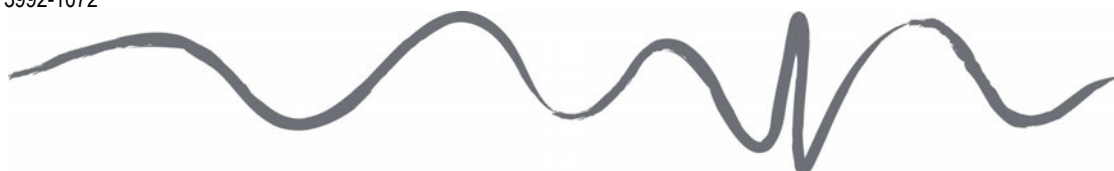
Threatened Species Management

- 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 #79) – Luke Bowen footbridge and adjacent retaining wall, Korora – Early morning start for concrete pours to meet quality requirements during warm weather: Review and approve.
- OOHW Application (FGJV #93) – Bridge 21 at Pine Brush Ck, Korora – Early morning start for concrete pours to meet quality requirements during warm weather: Review and approve.
- Minor Construction Ancillary Facility – Opal Blvd (site of previous Coastal Works MAF) – office, crib sheds, toilet block, parking: Review and approve.
- Resident agreement template – Cut 5B, south of Coramba Rd – proposal for increased blasting limits: Review.
- Resident agreement template – Korora Hill Interchange – proposal to work extended hours on Saturdays to construct retaining walls at Bridges 18 and 19: Review.
- Resident agreement template – Gatelys Rd tunnel south portal – proposal to continue working extended hours on Saturdays to undertake tunnel portal establishment works: Review.
- Resident agreement template – Gatelys Rd tunnel north portal – proposal to work extended hours on weekday evenings to undertake spraying of shotcrete as part of tunnel construction works: Review.
- Resident agreement template – Shephards Ln tunnel portals – proposal to work extended hours on weekdays and Saturdays to undertake tunnel portal establishment works: Review.
- Resident agreement template – Roberts Hill tunnel south portal – proposal to work extended hours on weekdays and Saturdays to undertake tunnel portal establishment works: Review.
- Duration respite – Northern tie-in median removal OOHW – discussions with FGJV and TfNSW regarding resident consultation to determine level of support for duration respite.
- 24 hour tunnelling – The ER has been involved in ongoing discussions and meetings with FGJV, TfNSW, DPHI and EPA regarding the intent and applicability of MCoAs E33 to E35. It is noted that current tunnelling works are being undertaken during standard construction hours, or in accordance with other MCoAs as appropriate.
- Construction Air Quality Management Plan – Minor update: Review and approve Revision L.
- Monthly Acoustic Advisor (AA) Report (February): Review.
- Weekly community complaints register: Review.



Site Inspections

Site inspections occurred on:

- 13th March 2024 with the AA and TfNSW, DPHI and EPA representatives
- 27th March 2024 with TfNSW and EPA representatives

Meetings / Workshops

- A Monthly Project Update Meeting was held on the 13th March 2024, with the AA and DPHI, TfNSW, EPA and FGJV representatives. Some participants attended the meeting in person, while others connected via video call.
- Weekly meetings with the AA, DPHI and environment and community representatives from TfNSW and FGJV are ongoing.
- Sustainability performance management review meeting on the 21st March 2024, with FGJV and TfNSW.

Reports

- MCoA A25(j): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (February 2024) – Prepared and submitted to DPHI (Infrastructure Management & Compliance) via Major Projects Portal on 7th March 2024.

Environmental Performance

Stop Work Notices

There were no Stop Work Notices.

Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

There were no incidents.

Non-compliances

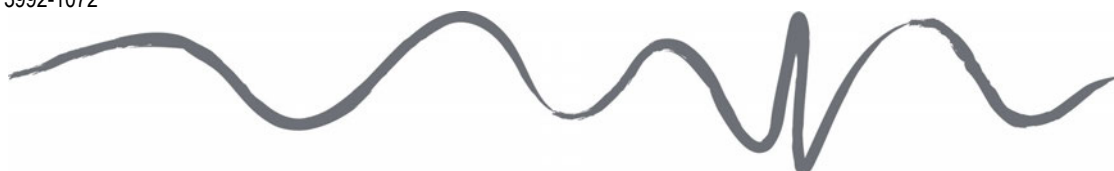
- On 27th March 2024, a blast at the Gatelys Rd tunnel north portal resulted in an exceedance of the air blast overpressure limits listed in MCoA E55. Further details regarding this non-compliance will be provided in the April monthly report.

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

There were no environmental events.

Positive Observations / Lessons Learnt / Opportunities for Improvement

None for this month.



Changes to the Project

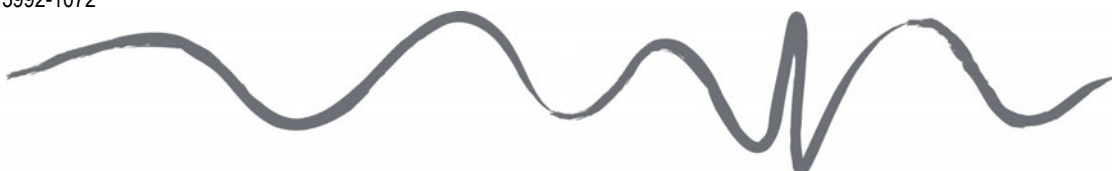
Documentation

- The following document incorporates minor updates that have been approved by the ER:
 - Construction Air Quality Management Plan (Revision L, March 2024)

Community Consultation and Complaints

FGJV Consultation Summary

- A total of seven public community engagement sessions were held, including one quarterly information session, with project subject matter experts, at Pacific Bay Resort on 12 March and four community drop-in van sessions.
- One of the four van sessions was further afield, at Bellingen, in response to requests from the community. The van sessions were attended by about 178 people. The most popular location was Park Beach Plaza on Saturday 9 March, visited by 148 people.
- Weekly updates were distributed on Fridays in March advising the community about upcoming traffic changes, controlled blasting and community information van locations.
- An in-depth presentation on vegetation and the success of cultivating endangered flora was delivered to the Coffs Harbour Garden Club on 16 March.
- As construction of bridge structures, tunnelling and works at the northern tie-in have ramped up, the team has liaised with adjacent landholders to keep them abreast of program works and has sought agreements for extended construction hours or increased controlled blasting limits for:
 - Tunnel portal preparation work - Shephards Lane north and south
 - Tunnel portal preparation work - Gatelys Road Tunnel south
 - Bridge work at 18 and 19 (Korora Hill Interchange), which is on the program's critical path
 - Increased controlled blasting limits for Cut 5B.
- Additionally, consultation was carried out on respite duration for night work to remove the median on the Pacific Highway at Sapphire Beach.
- The Coffs Harbour bypass team has confirmed a three-year partnership with the Coffs Coast Science and Engineering Challenge, a local component of a nation-wide event presented annually by the University of Newcastle with the support of local Rotary clubs, university campuses, community groups and businesses. The Science and Engineering Challenge sees year nine and ten students work together to solve real challenges relating to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).
- As part of the partnership, engineers from the project are providing mentoring to students before and after the challenge. In March, CHB engineers visited Dorrigo High School and Bishop Druitt College (see below picture of FGJV Senior Project Engineer Clancy Walsh presenting to students at Bishop Druitt College). At least another three schools will be visited in April, including Grafton High, Toormina High and Orara High with interest also from Woolgoolga and Bellingen high schools.
- The partnership forms a key part of the bypass team's outreach program which aims to leave a positive legacy for the Coffs Harbour community by supporting local skills development and inspiring students to consider future education in STEM subjects, and ultimately a career in major infrastructure projects.





FGJV Notifications and Fact Sheets

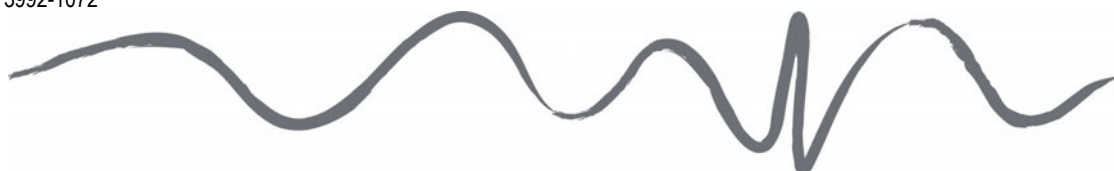
- North: Notification for out of hours work for vegetation maintenance on the Pacific Highway at Korora and Sapphire Beach
- North: Out of hours concrete pours in Korora
- North and south: Piling and controlled blasting between Shephards Lane and Mackays Road
- South: Vegetation removal on the Pacific Highway, Boambee
- March Project Update

TfNSW Notifications

- Nil

Complaints and Enquiries

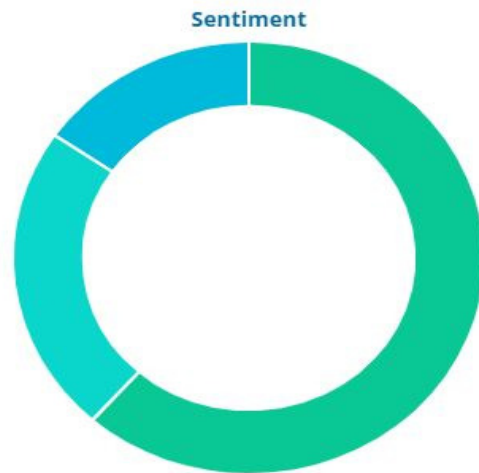
There were more than 270 interactions with stakeholders during March with five complaints and eight enquiries managed by the team. Complaint breakdown is highlighted generally in the graphs below.





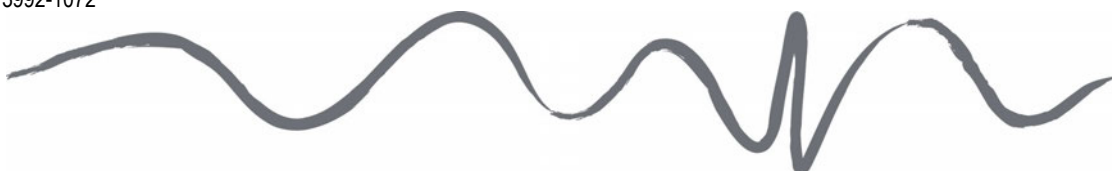
Public safety and risk	3
Weed control	2
Damage (to property/environment)	2
Proximity to the alignment	1
Complaint	1
Direct residential impact	1
General enquiry	1
Dust(2)	1
Noise - construction	1
Vibration - construction	1
Pollution	1
Other	1
Total	16

[Download Chart](#)



Inquiry	8
Complaint - Closed	3
Complaint - Open	2
Total	13

[Download Chart](#)



Closing Remarks

Construction progress was once again significantly impacted by rainfall during the month. There were numerous days with rainfall in the 5 mm to 20 mm range, and typically only a few dry days between rainfall events. As with the previous month, 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.

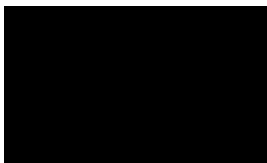
Bridge construction and drainage culvert installation are continuing at numerous locations throughout the alignment. Some out-of-hours works have been approved to enable concrete pours associated with these structures to start in the early morning to meet quality requirements during warm weather.

Tunnel construction has commenced at the Gatelys Road tunnel northern portal, with a combination of rock hammering and drill & blast. Tunnel portal establishment works are underway at the other tunnel portals. The project team has obtained resident agreements to allow extended work hours for some work activities at some of the tunnel portals.

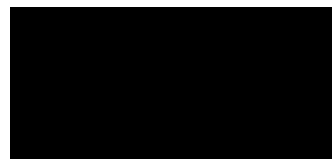
The team is in a routine of typically undertaking 2 to 5 controlled blasts per week spread across several locations, including the Gatelys Road tunnel northern portal. Blasts are considered to be well planned and managed.

In the February monthly report, incomplete close-out of actions identified during environmental inspections was flagged as an issue. Improved close-out of environmental actions has been observed over the past month.

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 – March 2024



Photos from Site Inspections – March 2024



Image 1: Englands Rd, Fill 2B (Ch10900) – Looking east across future interchange roundabout to Isles Drive



Image 2: Coramba Rd (nth side), Cut 8 (Ch15400) – Western batter that has been recently hydromulched



Image 3: Shephards Ln tunnel south portal (Ch17000) – Looking across railway line towards earthworks at portal



Image 4: Shephards Ln tunnel north portal (Ch17300) – Earthworks and shotcreting at tunnel portal





Image 5: Gatelys Rd tunnel north portal (Ch19300) – Initial tunnelling works, including rock hammering and drill & blast



Image 6: West Korora Rd, Bridge 16 (Ch19600) – Pouring concrete headwalls on drainage culverts



Image 7: Korora Hill Interchange, Fill 16 (Ch20800) – Looking south-east towards Bridge 18



Image 8: Korora Hill Interchange, Bridge 19 (Ch20900) – Construction of bridge piers

