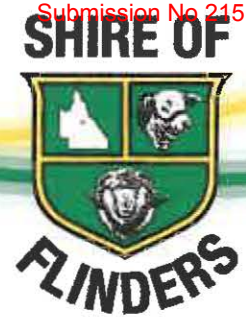


GK: JC
Trim:



21 March 2018

Committee Secretary
State Development, Natural Resources
and Agricultural Industry Development Committee
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Submission to Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

15 Mile Irrigated High Value Agriculture on Lot 168 on Plan SP262319, Flinders Shire Council

Please find attached a copy of the project synopsis for the above project. In order to show leadership in developing a new industry and encourage investment in the area, Council acquired the former Reserve known as the '15 Mile', being Lot 168 SP262319 of 918 hectares. Council's intention is to reconfigure the freehold allotment into viable agriculture development blocks, obtain suitable water licences and promote such blocks to private investors.

Process for Approvals for the 15 Mile Agricultural Development

Attached is a summary of the approval process Council has been following under existing legislation in order to obtain the necessary approvals.

Please see attached letter from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM), dated 3 March 2017, identifying the process to be followed under Section 22A of the *Vegetation Management Act 1999* (VMA) and also acknowledging that Council submitted an application to the Department to determine if vegetation clearing on Lot 168 on Plan SP262319 is for a relevant purpose under section 22A (2) (i) of the VMA. It shows that Council's application was received by the Department on 11 January 2016.

Actions taken by Council to progress this development.

- Purchase of Lot 168 SP262319 from DNRM for such development.
- Partnered with Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and CSIRO to explore ground water potential of the 15 Mile site, using various technologies.
- Following such results, Council has carried out extensive ground water testing to determine extent of alluvial water available for such development.

- Purchased 5,000ML of unallocated water from the Flinders River for irrigated high value agriculture development. (Copy of licence attached)
- Called Expressions of Interest from relevant consultants to undertake Land Suitability Studies.
- Identified suitable consultants to undertake Economic Viability Study.
- Completed initial mapping and photography for PMAV and forwarded to DNRM for comment. Currently awaiting confirmation from herbarium for identification of sub-species in order to complete final map for PMAV.

Once these processes are completed, Council will undertake a formal development application under the *Planning Act 2016* and the necessary reconfiguration application.

State Government support for this development is evidenced by:

- Establishment of a 'whole of Government' working group headed by Department of State Development to assist Council progress this development.
- Close working relationship with DNRM assisting with information, guidelines etc. to meet with application processes.
- Recent letter of support from the Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning supporting a proposed collaboration between Flinders Shire Council and Economic Development Queensland (EDQ). (Copy of Letter attached)

Discussions with potential developer

Council has held discussions over a number of years with a partnership between two table grape growers who have extensive experience with growing, marketing and selling table grapes in Queensland in particular and also in other parts of Australia. The amount of land required for growing would be approximately 160 hectares for table grapes, annual horticulture crops, tree crops and grains.

Council is looking forward to continuing such discussions once relevant approvals are in place. It has been estimated that up to 110 jobs, both full time and part time, could be created through this one project. Given Flinders Shire has a total population of around 1,600 permanent residents this would be a very significant addition to jobs and residents in Flinders Shire.

Approval process as a result of new Bill

With the removal of High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture from Section 22A of VMA, Council's development would need to be a project, declared to be a coordinated project under the State Development and *Public Works Organisation Act 1971*, section 26.

For the Coordinator General to make a decision to 'declare' this project, the following matters need to be considered (Application requirements attached):

- The Initial Advice Statement;
- Relevant Planning Schemes or policy frameworks of a Local Government, the State or the Commonwealth
- Relevant State policies and government priorities
- A pre-feasibility assessment, including how its satisfies and identified need or demand

- The capacity of the proponent to undertake and complete the environmental impact statement or impact assessment report for the project;
- Any other matter the Coordinator-General considers relevant.

Under the Application requirement for a coordinated project declaration, Council would need to engage an external consultant to make the detailed application required. Not to mention also the extensive fee structure associated with a coordinated project. (Copy attached)

Council considers being put into this position, having already expended in excess of \$1.2 million, progressing all existing regulatory requirements and the project having already received the highest levels of support from the State Government, is unreasonable and could place the whole project in jeopardy.

Outcome sought.

The Bill provides that those development applications properly made under the *Planning Act 2016* before the 8 March, 2018 will not be affected by the proposed changes.

Council respectfully requests that given:

- the State Government support already received for such development;
- the financial resources spent by Council;
- the work Council has already done to meet existing approvals; and
- that the initial application under Section 22a of the VMA was received by DNRM on 11 January, 2016

Council's development also be considered exempt from the proposed changes in the same way as current applications under the *Planning Act 2016*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G King', with a stylized, flowing script.

Graham King
Chief Executive Officer



**The Hon Cameron Dick MP
Minister for State Development,
Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning**



Our ref: MC17/4919

Your ref: R17/6182, R17/4986

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-7 FEB 2018

Councillor Jane McNamara
Mayor
Flinders Shire Council
PO Box 274
HUGHENDEN QLD 4821

Dear Councillor McNamara

Thank you for your letter of 15 December 2017 regarding the proposed collaboration between the Flinders Shire Council (council) and Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) to implement the council's proposed 15 Mile Irrigated Agricultural Development project. I also note your letter of 20 October 2017 to the Deputy Premier, the Honourable Jackie Trad MP, as the then Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, about the same matter. As the newly appointed Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning, I am now responding.

The Palaszczuk Government recognises the important role that Hughenden and the broader Flinders Shire plays in Queensland's economy. It is committed to the generation of economic development, development for community purposes and employment opportunities to continue to grow the regions.

I note with interest the projects currently being championed by council, such as the Hughenden beef processing facility and feedlot, the Hughenden Solar Farm and the delivery of the Hughenden Recreational Lake, which I agree will drive economic and social development in the region.

As you know from your discussions with Mr Andrew Sly, EDQ's Executive Director of Development Strategy, EDQ is a specialist land use planning and property development unit within the Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning. EDQ develops sites on behalf of the government to achieve strategic objectives, such as urban and regional renewal, housing diversity, industrial land, sustainability initiatives and community benefits including public open space and facilities.

The delivery of a project such as the 15 Mile Irrigated Agricultural Development which proposes to encourage private sector investment, as well as deliver long-term sustainable employment opportunities, aligns well with EDQ's objectives. On this basis, I have asked Mr Sly to meet with you and relevant council officers to progress discussions about the project, and particularly how the project might drive economic and employment growth for the region.

Thank you again for your letter and for identifying this important project. I look forward to hearing about your discussions with EDQ.

In the meantime, if you require any further information, I encourage you to contact Mr Sly on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED], who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely



CAMERON DICK MP
Minister for State Development, Manufacturing,
Infrastructure and Planning

cc: Mr Graham King
Chief Executive Officer
Flinders Shire Council
PO Box 274
HUGHENDEN QLD 4821

WATER LICENCE
Water Act 2000

Reference	618019	Expiry Date	30/06/2111
Licenses	FLINDERS SHIRE COUNCIL		
Authorised Activity	The taking of watercourse water from Flinders River with the point of take on or adjacent to Lot 168 on SP262319. This water licence also authorises the taking of overland flow water on land described as Lot 168 on SP262319.		
Authorised Purpose	Rural		
Description of Land	Attached to the land described as Lot 168 on SP262319.		
Nominal Entitlement	5000 Megalitres		
Maximum Rate	6945 Litres per second		

This water licence is subject to the conditions endorsed hereon or attached hereto.

Given at Ayr this TWENTIETH day of NOVEMBER 2017.

Delegate of the Chief Executive
Department of Natural Resources and Mines

Application requirements for a 'coordinated project' declaration

August 2015

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Any references to legislation are not an interpretation of the law. They are to be used as a guide only. The information in this publication is general and does not take into account individual circumstances or situations. Where appropriate, independent legal advice should be sought.

Copies of this publication are available on our website at www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au and further copies are available upon request to:

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1. Introduction

This guideline explains how proponents of major projects can apply to the Queensland Coordinator-General for a 'coordinated project' declaration under Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*.

A 'coordinated project' declaration triggers the requirement for a project proponent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) or an impact assessment report (IAR) for the project.

The Coordinator-General manages the assessment process, which includes working with advisory agencies, local government and other organisations to seek input on the environmental impact statement (EIS) and on post-EIS statutory approvals; coordinating public submissions on the EIS and other documentation; and preparing a final evaluation report approving (with conditions) or rejecting the project.

A 'coordinated project' declaration does not imply government approval of, support for or commitment to a project.

The following diagram provides an overview of the EIS process.

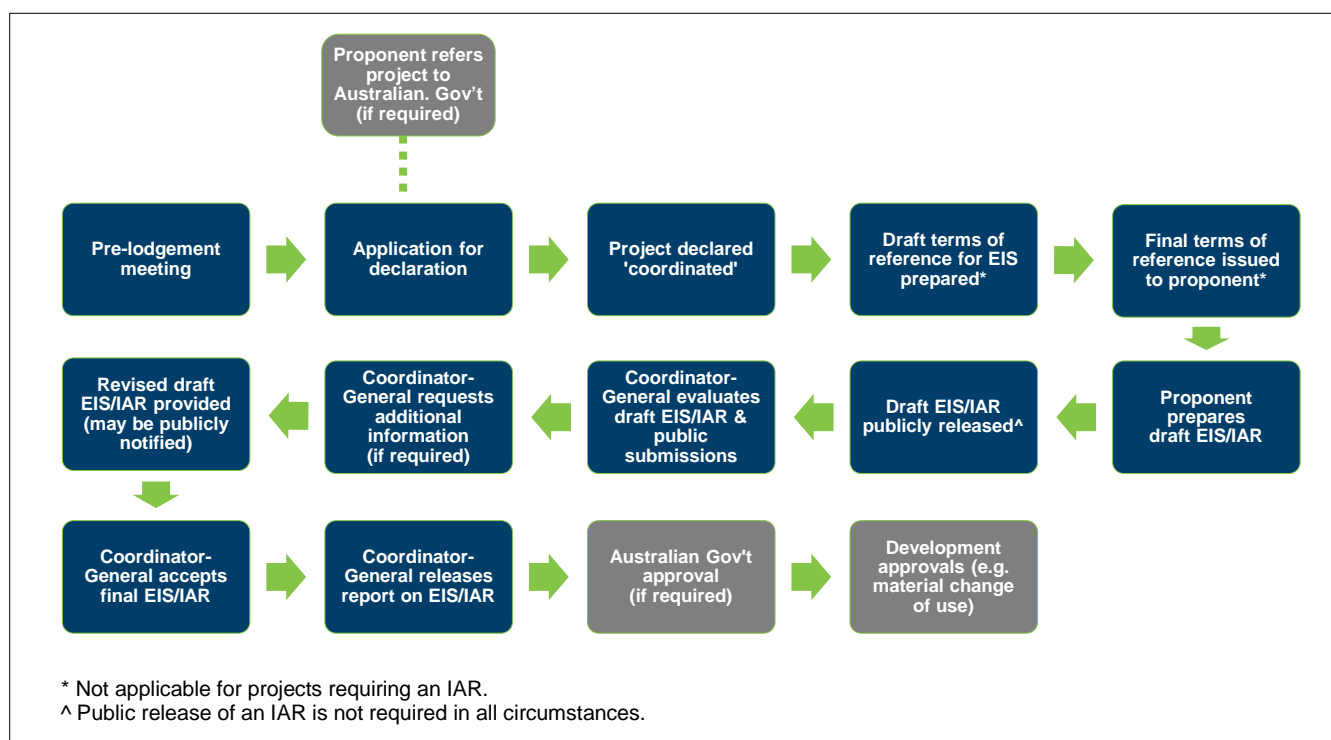


Figure 1: Overview of the EIS process under the SDPWO Act

2. Eligibility criteria and matters considered

The Coordinator-General will only consider an application for declaration if the proponent has met the application requirements (see page 4 of this guideline) and if the project has at least one of the following:

- complex local, State or Commonwealth government approval requirements
- strategic significance to the locality, region or the State, including for the infrastructure, economic and social benefits, capital investment or employment opportunities it may provide
- significant environmental effects, or
- significant infrastructure requirements.

In deciding whether to declare a project, the Coordinator-General will consider the following:

- the IAS
- relevant planning schemes or policy frameworks of a local government, the State or the Commonwealth
- relevant State policies and government priorities
- a pre-feasibility assessment, including how it satisfies and identified need or demand (see page 5 of this guideline)
- the capacity of the proponent to undertake and complete the EIS for the project (see page 5 of this guideline)
- any other matter the Coordinator-General considers relevant.

The Coordinator-General will give the weight he considers appropriate to the above matters, and is not bound to declare a project 'coordinated' merely because the project meets one or several of the eligibility criteria.

3. Types of declarations

There are two types of coordinated project declarations under Part 4 of the Act:

- (a) Projects that require an **environmental impact statement** (EIS), declared under section 26(a), are typically high-risk and/or are large-scale projects that may not be well defined. Such projects will often have multiple components and complex approval requirements.
- (b) Projects that require an **impact assessment report** (IAR), declared under section 26(b), are well-defined and low-to-medium risk projects. The Coordinator-General would only declare a project under section 26(b) if:
 - (i) the expected magnitude and scale of the project and impacts are less than those of a coordinated project requiring an EIS
 - (ii) the risk of environmental harm arising from potential impacts of the project is considered to be significantly less than a coordinated project requiring an EIS, given the nature or extent of those impacts
 - (iii) the impacts and measures to avoid or mitigate any potential adverse impacts of the project are generally well understood, widely practised, easily applicable and/or adequately managed by application of standard conditions or codes.

The Coordinator-General decides whether the project is declared under section 26(a) or 26(b).

4. Pre-lodgement meetings

If you intend to apply for a coordinated project declaration, you should attend a pre-lodgement meeting before you submit the formal application. The meeting is an opportunity to provide a draft initial advice statement (IAS) for comment, clarify application requirements, and discuss subsequent statutory approvals, assessment processes and timeframes.

Pre-lodgement meetings are free and you are not obliged to subsequently lodge an application.

More information about pre-lodgement is available from www.dsdip.qld.gov.au/cg

5. Application requirements

The application requirements for coordinated project declarations are set out in section 27AB of the SDPWO Act. Proponents must provide the following:

- An IAS that includes enough information about the project to allow the Coordinator-General to assess the application in line with the criteria set out in section 27(1)(b)–(f) of the SDPWO Act. If the project is declared, the IAS will be made publicly available on the Coordinator-General's website.
- A separate statement detailing the proponent's financial and technical capability to complete an EIS for the project and to provide any additional information the Coordinator-General may request. This statement will be kept confidential and is not made publicly available.
- A separate statement assessing the technical and commercial feasibility of the project. This statement will be kept confidential and is not made publicly available.
- The relevant fee (in accordance with Schedule 1B of the State Development and Public Works Organisation Regulation 2010).

Initial advice statement

The IAS is one of the documents the Coordinator-General considers against the criteria in section 27 of the SDPWO Act. The information provided is used to:

- assist the Coordinator-General in deciding whether to declare a project a coordinated project
- enable stakeholders to determine the nature and relevance of the proposal to them
- assist the Coordinator-General to determine whether an EIS or IAR process is appropriate
- for projects declared under section 26(a) of the SDPWO Act, subsequently assist the Coordinator-General to prepare draft terms of reference (TOR) for the EIS.

An IAS should demonstrate that the proponent has a sound knowledge of the nature, scope and potential consequences of the proposed project. It should describe the project proponent, the proposed development (including the location of key project elements), and the potential effects of the project on the existing environment.

The length of the IAS will vary according to the nature of the proposal and the receiving environment. As a guide, a large and complex proposal can be effectively presented in 30–40 pages. Refer to Appendix 1 of this guideline for details of what to include in an IAS.

While the IAS should also provide an early indication of the measures the proponent proposes to avoid, minimise, manage and/or offset the project's potential adverse impacts, detailed discussion of such measures should be reserved for the EIS or IAR.

Should pre-lodgement discussions with the proponent consider that an IAR process may be applicable, the IAS should also contain sufficient information to enable a determination of:

- the level of certainty of the impacts predicted by the proponent, and
- the extent to which the proposed impact mitigation measures:
 - conform to established industry best practice, or
 - may be adequately managed by application of published standard conditions. While the statutory application requirements for both an EIS (section 26(a)) and an IAR (section 26(b)) declaration are identical, the proponent may indicate in the IAS if it considers an EIS or IAR declaration more appropriate.

Pre-feasibility assessment

An application must also include a separate statement about the technical and commercial feasibility of the project (a 'pre-feasibility assessment') that must:

(1) Demonstrate the technical feasibility of the project:

- (a) describe the relevant technical particulars of the proposed project, including information about any new or novel technologies
- (b) summarise the risks assessed and the major assumptions used in the technical studies (such as construction risks, geotechnical considerations, etc).

(2) Demonstrate the commercial feasibility of the project:

- (a) describe how the project satisfies an identified need or demand (and include any key assumptions)
- (b) identify the key commercial risks associated with the project and how they would be managed
- (c) describe key construction and/or operational project variables
- (d) confirm the project does not require any financial contribution by the State.

(3) Include a statement confirming that the information provided is true, complete and accurate, including an execution clause signed by an authorised officer such as a Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer.

Capability to complete an EIS or IAR

An application must include a separate statement about the proponent's financial and technical capability to complete an EIS or IAR, and capability to provide supplementary information requested by the Coordinator-General. The statement should:

(1) Demonstrate the proponent's technical capacity to complete the EIS or IAR assessment process:

- (a) Outline the proponent's relevant experience in undertaking the technical requirements to complete the EIS (and the experience of any specialists or consultants undertaking EIS or IAR work on behalf of the proponent).
- (b) List the suppliers/consultants already commissioned, or proposed to be commissioned, to undertake work on the project proposal.
- (c) Outline an assessment of the technical risks of the project.

- (2) Demonstrate the proponent's financial capacity to complete the EIS process:**
- (a) Provide an estimate of the total costs involved with undertaking the EIS or IAR process for this project, and include a cost estimate for the following items:
 - (i) consultant and contractor fees for each key component of the EIS or IAR
 - (ii) each component of field work
 - (b) Confirm the funding source for the estimated total costs for completing the EIS or IAR.
- (3) Provide the following information (required for standard due diligence searches):**
- (a) name and ABN/ARBN of proponent (proponent name should be exactly the same as that listed on the Australian Securities and Investments Commission website at www.asic.gov.au)
 - (b) where the proponent is a joint venture, but not a company, specify the interest as a percentage for each relevant entity (the total holding must equal 100%).
- (4) Provide the following information on authorised proponent representatives and company directors:**
- (a) full name
 - (b) current address
 - (c) date and location of birth.
- (5) Provide the following information on lobbyists involved with the proposed project:**
- (a) lobbyist company name with ACN/ARBN
 - (b) full name of individual lobbyists.
- (6) Provide a statement confirming that the information provided is true, complete and accurate, including an execution clause signed by an authorised officer such as a Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer.**

Application fees

When you lodge an application, you must pay the application fee.

In addition to the general application fee, there is also a fee payable if a project is a resource project with significant off-mining-tenure components ('a significant off-tenure project'); and if the project is a 'controlled action' under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and is eligible to be assessed under the bilateral agreement between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland (see page 7 of this guideline). The 2014–15 fees are shown below.

General application fee (up to 1 July 2016)		Bilateral project application fee (up to 1 July 2016)		Significant off-tenure project application fee (up to 1 July 2016)
\$17 178	+	Nil	+	\$3570

For details of how to pay and the amount of other fees payable during the environmental impact assessment process, refer to *Overview of fees for coordinated projects*, available from www.dsdip.qld.gov.au/cg

6. Referral to Australian Government

Some projects require Australian Government approval due to their potential impact upon matters of national environmental significance (MNES) under the EPBC Act. The EPBC Act is administered by the Australian Government Department of the Environment (DE).

The proponent is responsible for deciding when to refer a project to DE. Following the referral, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment considers whether the project is a 'controlled action' under the EPBC Act.

The relative timing of both the referral and an application for coordinated project declaration may affect the decision on the method of impact assessment. Ideally, referral by the proponent under the EPBC Act would approximately coincide with the application for declaration to the Coordinator-General so that consultation between the Australian and Queensland Government jurisdictions can be undertaken more efficiently.

If the Coordinator-General declares a project 'coordinated' under section 26(a), a notice seeking public comment on the draft TOR would be issued shortly after. If the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment has not decided whether the project is a controlled action (or if the project has not been referred), the public notice would not include EPBC Act requirements and the draft TOR would only cover matters to be addressed under Queensland legislation.

Should the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment decide the project is a controlled action *after* the draft TOR has been publicly notified, the project may be ineligible for assessment under the bilateral agreement between the Australian Government and the State of Queensland, and DE may undertake a separate assessment process.

If the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment decides the project is a 'controlled action' *before* the project is declared, the project may be eligible for assessment under the bilateral agreement. Such assessments allow DE to rely on the Queensland Government's environmental impact assessment processes to satisfy the assessment requirements of the EPBC Act, thereby minimising the potential for duplicated assessment processes.

Regardless of the method of assessment, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment makes the final decision on whether or not a 'controlled action' can be taken.

Appendix 1. Suggested structure of an IAS

No.	Section	Additional explanation, where appropriate, relevant and important to the project
–	Executive summary	Summarise key points including: purpose and scope of the IAS; identity of the proponent; nature, scope and location of the proposal; key environmental issues; key approvals; and key reasons for seeking coordinated project declaration (with respect to section 27 of the SDPWO Act).
1	Introduction	
1.1	Background	Summarise the need for the project and the key reasons for seeking coordinated project declaration. Indicate if the proponent considers an EIS or IAR declaration more appropriate.
1.2	Purpose and scope of the IAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support an application to the Coordinator-General to declare a ‘coordinated project for which an EIS or IAR is required’. • Provide information that may assist the Coordinator-General to determine whether an EIS or IAR process is appropriate. • Inform preparation of the terms of reference for an EIS, where the project is declared under section 26(a). • Inform stakeholders and the general public.
2	The proponent	Describe: relevant history, partnerships, corporate/joint-venture arrangements, relevant project experience, principal consultants, contact details, environmental record of the proponent and capability to complete an EIS or IAR.
3	Nature of the proposal	
3.1	Scope of the project	Describe the nature, scope and scale of the proposal (e.g. transport infrastructure, port expansion, mine, water supply pipeline, manufacturing facility).
3.2	Land use	Summarise existing and intended land use of the project area.
3.3	Project need, justification and alternatives considered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the project objectives. • Project pre-feasibility assessment. • Consideration of the objectives and priorities of government policies and strategies. • Consideration of preferred option, alternatives to the project, including alternative sites, alternative activities, and the ‘do nothing’ option. • Summary of key strategic benefits, e.g. employment, regional/state investment, industry development, export potential etc.
3.4	Components, developments, activities and infrastructure that constitute the project to be declared coordinated	Key project components/infrastructure that are sought to be declared, developments, infrastructure, activities on/off site.

3.5	External infrastructure requirements	Key project components/infrastructure that are ancillary to the declared project, developments, infrastructure, activities on/off site, e.g. power, gas, fuel and water supply; rail, road and port services (air and sea) etc.
3.6	Timeframes for the project	Staging of the commencement and completion of each project phase, including the design, procurement, early works, construction, commissioning, operation and (if relevant) rehabilitation.
3.7	Construction and operational processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key construction and operational requirements (e.g. access to water supply and disposal, gas, rail, port (air/sea), road network, materials (quarry), waste management, stormwater etc.). • Describe any rehabilitation intentions.
3.8	Workforce requirements during construction and operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe direct construction and operational employment numbers and worker accommodation and transport proposals. • Summarise any clearly identifiable indirect employment opportunities that may arise from the project.
3.9	Economic indicators	Capital cost, revenue, exports, contribution to local/state/national economies, indirect employment generation, synergies with other businesses and/or industries.
3.10	Financing requirements and implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate the value (Australian dollars) that would be invested in the development and operation of the project, including details of key project stages or components where these will be funded separately. • Indicate in broad terms the capacity of the proponent to fund the project or other project funding proposals. The proponent's history of financing similar scale developments is relevant.
4	Location of key project elements	
4.1	Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address, lot/plan, project area(s), major and secondary urban centres, access, topography and any key natural features in the vicinity of the project. • The GIS data requirement in ESRI shapefile format (Datum: GDA94) for the project (to allow the location and area of the project to be shown on a map of Coordinator-General's projects).
4.2	Tenure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarise key existing and intended tenures for key land parcels directly impacted by the project area. • Describe the local government planning scheme and regional plan designations.
5	Description of the existing environment	
5.1	Natural environment	Briefly describe the existing local/regional natural environment of relevance to project.
5.1.1	Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topography and land use, current and any critical information on soil, geology and visual amenity. • List any nature conservation reserves (e.g. national parks) or areas protected by international treaties (e.g. Ramsar wetlands) potentially impacted by the project.

5.1.2	Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List key water features (surface, ground and marine) potentially impacted by the project. Describe the flood risk during project construction and operation including how the identified risk may impact on adjoining properties and potential effects on the environment.
5.1.3	Air	List each air shed impacted by the project. Cover emissions and any likely air quality impacts.
5.1.4	Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe any terrestrial, aquatic, wetland, and marine ecosystems or coastal processes that may be impacted. List any protected areas, protected communities, listed ecological communities or environmentally sensitive areas.
5.1.5	Flora and fauna	List all migratory and protected species, pest plants and animals known or suspected to occur in on lands directly impacted by the project.
5.2	Social and economic environment	Describe the residential, commercial and industrial social and economic character of the locality and region impacted by the project (including health, recreation, education and emergency services) and any measures proposed to mitigate any expected negative impacts. Refer to the <i>Social impact assessment guideline</i> at www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au
5.2.1	Accommodation and housing	Describe the capacity of existing accommodation to house the project's construction and operational workforces
5.2.3	Cultural heritage (Indigenous and non-Indigenous)	Describe any features of characteristics that may be impacted by the project and any measures initially proposed to mitigate those impacts.
5.3	Built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe local/regional existing infrastructure. Identify potential conflicts and/or capacity constraints existing or potentially created by the project. Identify other declared coordinated projects in the region. Identify other relevant major proposed infrastructure or development projects. Illustrate these with figures where appropriate.
5.4	Traffic and transport	Describe the key transport networks of relevance to the project, considering both resource inputs and product outputs, any impacts of the project on those networks and proposals to mitigate any adverse outcomes.
5.5	Land use and tenures	Describe the land ownership and tenancy of project area parcels.
5.5.1	Key local and regional land uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight key elements, e.g.: coastal management districts, mining/petroleum leases, protected areas, World Heritage Areas (including adjacent proximity), local government areas, state development areas, Commonwealth/defence land etc. Describe existing and any relevant historical land uses.
5.5.2	Key local and regional land tenures	Including key freehold, leasehold, easements, reserves, mining/petroleum tenures—provide lot/plan, local government planning scheme and regional plan designations of relevance to the project.
5.5.3	Native title	List registered native title claimants over lands impacted by the project and provide the current status of any claims that have not been finalised.

5.6	Planning instruments, government policies	Relevant planning schemes or policy frameworks, including those of a relevant local government or of the State or the Commonwealth.
6	Potential project impacts	Outline key potential environmental impacts during: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • construction/commissioning • operation • closure/decommissioning/final rehabilitation (where applicable).
6.1	Natural environment	Correlated to 5.1 above.
6.2	Amenity, including noise, air quality, vibration, lighting, urban design and visual aesthetics	Identify potential sensitive receptors and indicate any matters where goals described in relevant State environmental protection policies might be exceeded during the construction and/or operation of the project.
6.3	Social environment—potential beneficial and adverse impacts	See 5.2 above.
6.4	Economic effects	See 5.2 above, beneficial and adverse potential economic impacts at the local, state and national levels.
6.5	Built environment	See 5.3 above, including infrastructure, traffic and transport, community amenities.
6.6	MNES under the EPBC Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarise and attach the results of the DE Protected Matters Search (optional). • Identify any anticipated EPBC Act ‘controlling provisions’ (found via Protected Matters Search).
7	Environmental management and mitigation measures	Summarise current proposals for key management and mitigation measures.
7.1	Natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline key environmental management and mitigation measures during: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – construction/commissioning – operation – closure/decommissioning/final rehabilitation (where applicable). • Vegetation and biodiversity offsets; specify measures for MNES.
7.2	Built environment	Including infrastructure, traffic and transport, community amenities.
7.3	Cultural heritage management plan (Indigenous)	Outline key proposals.

7.4	Non-Indigenous cultural heritage management	Outline key proposals.
7.5	Greenhouse gas management plan	Outline key proposals.
7.6	Waste management	Including Department of Environment and Heritage Protection waste hierarchy overburden, geological spoil and tailings management (if applicable).
7.7	Hazard and risk, and health and safety	Outline key proposals.
7.8	Environmental management	Summarise health, safety and environmental management systems, e.g. ISO 14001, EP Act and other construction and operational environmental management plans etc.
8	Approvals required for the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Itemise for each key project component all State, Commonwealth and local government agency approvals. • Tabulate the principal required statutory approvals by classifying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – legislation – administering authority – approval trigger – approval – relevance to the project. • Specify <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i> (SPA) and Integrated Development Assessment System (IDAS) and non-SPA/IDAS approvals. • Specify which approvals are intended to be coordinated during the EIS process and which will be dealt with outside of the Part 4 process of the SDPWO Act.
	<i>Supporting information if applying for declaration as a coordinated project for which an IAR is required under section 26(1)(b) of the SDPWO Act:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are likely to be only limited concerns about the effects of the proposed project on the environment. • The results of initial consultation and the degree of public interest. • The proposal is consistent with established environmental policy, guidelines and standards. • The proposed measures to avoid or mitigate potential negative impacts of the project are well understood and widely practised. • The impacts of the proposal can be readily managed within an established condition-setting framework. • The key environmental concerns that would require focused assessment.
9	Costs and benefits summary	
9.1	Local, state and national economies	Include both positive and negative impacts of the project on any stated government four priority areas or industries.

9.2 Natural and social
environments

10	Community and stakeholder consultation	Describe consultations undertaken to date and intentions for advisory agency and community consultation and engagement.
11	References and data sources	
12	Glossary, acronyms and abbreviations	

Appendix 2. Application checklist

Before submitting an application for project declaration, check you have:

- ☐ Provided a signed and dated covering letter, including proposed timing of a referral to the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment.
- ☐ Provided a final IAS.
- ☐ Provided a separate statement of proponent's capacity to complete an EIS or IAR for the project.
- ☐ Provided a separate pre-feasibility assessment.
- ☐ Paid the correct fee by direct bank deposit (cheques are not accepted). Refer to page 6 of this guideline or the *Overview of coordinated project fees* to confirm the amount payable.

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Overview of fees for coordinated projects

July 2017

Introduction

The following information explains the fees associated with the environmental coordination process for 'coordinated projects' under Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (Qld) (the Act).

Schedule 1B of the State Development and Public Works Organisation Regulation 2010 (the Regulation) sets out the amount of the fees and when they are payable. If any information provided in this document is inconsistent with the Regulation, the Regulation prevails.

New fees apply to all coordinated projects from 1 July 2017. These fees are payable at particular stages of the environmental impact statement (EIS) or impact assessment report (IAR) processes.

Interpretation of the fee tables

Fees are dependent on the project scope. For example, an application for declaration of a resource project for which significant off-tenure approval would be required (e.g. infrastructure supporting a resource project such as a railway) would attract a fee of $\$17,784 + \$3,696 = \$21,480$ (refer to Table 1).

If the project described above is also a 'controlled action' under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and will be assessed under the assessment bilateral agreement between the State of Queensland and the Commonwealth (or another process determined by the Commonwealth Environment Minister), an additional fee applies. The fee payable at the finalisation of a terms of reference for an EIS would be $\$53,351 + \$25,868 + \$11,086 = \$90,305$ (refer to row 1 of Table 2).

Column 2 of tables 1–5 shows when each fee is payable. The fee payable is the amount applicable at the time each payment event occurs, not the amount that applied when the project was declared a 'coordinated project'.

Annual adjustment of fees

Adjustments to the fee schedule will occur on 1 July each year to reflect movements in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the previous 12 months ending in the March quarter of each year. The CPI is based on the all-groups index for Brisbane published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Goods and Services Tax does not apply to these fees.

Fees for applications to the Coordinator-General

A proponent's application to the Coordinator-General to either declare a project 'coordinated' or evaluate a proposed change to a project must be accompanied by the relevant fee.

The Coordinator-General must not accept an application for project declaration or change unless the fee has been paid or waived.

Coordinator-General's obligations suspended

The Coordinator-General's obligations during the EIS process are suspended until the relevant fee has been paid.

For example, an invoice for a fee will be issued to the proponent when the Coordinator-General has determined that the draft EIS has been satisfactorily prepared. The Coordinator-General's obligations to consider submissions are suspended until the proponent pays the relevant fee.

Recovery of the cost of advice or services

When deciding an application or taking action, the Coordinator-General may consider it necessary to

obtain the advice or services of another entity. The Coordinator-General may recover from the proponent the reasonable cost of obtaining the advice or services. For example, the Coordinator-General may seek to recover from the proponent the costs associated with commissioning an independent expert report into a particular technical aspect of the project that the Coordinator-General considers is necessary to evaluate the project's EIS.

How to pay

Application (for declaration of coordinated project or request for evaluation of changes to coordinated project)

Payment is to be made to the Department of State Development by direct bank deposit. Bank details are as follows:

Account name: Department of State Development

BSB: 064-013

Account No: 10007096

Reference: Name of the project, as declared by the Coordinator-General, and the stage of the process that the payment relates to (e.g. 'XYZ Coal Mine: Application for declaration of coordinated project')

ABN: 29 230 178 530

Upon receipt of the application, the department will issue a tax invoice.

For matters other than applications for a coordinated project declaration or project change, the department will issue a tax invoice for the fee payable when the event described in column 2 of Tables 1–5 occurs.

More information

For further information, visit www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/cg or telephone **13 QGOV** (13 74 68) or **+61 7 3452 7100**.

Schedule 1B of the Regulation—fees for Part 4 of the Act

Table 1: Coordinated project declaration

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of general fee (up to 1 July 2018)	Amount of fee if under EPBC Act assessment* (up to 1 July 2018)	Amount of fee if a resource project with a significant off-tenure project component (up to 1 July 2018)
Considering an application for declaration of coordinated project	Making the application	\$17,784	Nil	\$3,696

* For controlling provisions assessed under either an assessment bilateral agreement or another process accredited by the Commonwealth Environment Minister.

Table 2: Coordinated project EIS process

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of general fee (up to 1 July 2018)	Amount of fee if under EPBC Act assessment* (up to 1 July 2018)	Amount of fee if a resource project with a significant off-tenure project component (up to 1 July 2018)
Notice of requirement for EIS, finalising the terms of reference for the EIS and considering advice from other entities	Giving the proponent a copy of the finalised terms of reference	\$53,351	\$25,868	\$11,086
Considering the draft EIS and submissions on the draft EIS (other than a revised draft EIS) up until the 18-month declaration lapse date, and preparing a report evaluating the EIS	The Coordinator-General decides that the proponent has prepared a draft EIS to his/her satisfaction	\$90,535	\$32,922	\$18,813
If decision is that the draft EIS is not a final EIS—instructing the proponent on additional information required, considering a revised draft EIS and any submissions and advice on a revised draft EIS	Giving the proponent notice of the decision not to accept the draft EIS	\$47,242	—	—

* For controlling provisions assessed under either an assessment bilateral agreement or another process accredited by the Commonwealth Environment Minister.

Table 3: IAR process

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of general fee (up to 1 July 2018)	Amount of fee if under EPBC Act assessment* (up to 1 July 2018)	Amount of fee if a resource project with a significant off-tenure project component (up to 1 July 2018)
For a draft IAR requiring public notification —considering the draft IAR (other than a revised draft IAR) and submissions and advice on the draft IAR, and preparing a report evaluating the IAR	The Coordinator-General decides that the proponent has prepared a draft IAR to his/her satisfaction	\$88,184	\$17,590	\$7,539
For a draft IAR that does not require public notification —considering the draft IAR (other than a revised draft IAR) and any advice on the draft IAR, and preparing a report evaluating the IAR	The Coordinator-General receives the draft IAR	\$73,487	\$14,056	\$6,024
Considering a revised draft IAR and any submissions or advice on the revised draft IAR	Giving the proponent notice of a decision not to accept the draft IAR as the final IAR	\$35,484	—	—

* For controlling provisions assessed under either an assessment bilateral agreement or another process accredited by the Commonwealth Environment Minister.

Table 4: Evaluation of changes to coordinated project

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of fee (up to 1 July 2018)
Application for evaluation of environmental effects of proposed change to a project or because of a Coordinator-General's decision that the project has changed	Making of the application	\$10,708
If the Coordinator-General decides that public notification is not required , and the decision notice does not accompany the Coordinator-General's change report—considering advice from any entity or additional information from the proponent requested by the Coordinator-General, and preparing the change request evaluation report (change report)	Giving the decision notice that no public notification is required	\$22,991
If the Coordinator-General decides that public notification is required —the matters described above, as well as considering any submissions on the change application	Giving the decision notice that public notification is required	\$49,551

Table 5: Request for extension of lapse date

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of fee (up to 1 July 2018)
Considering a request to state a later time for the declaration to lapse	Making of the request	\$4,410
Continuing administration of the EIS assessment process after the superseded lapse date	Giving notice stating a later time for the declaration to lapse	\$14,488
Continuing administration of the IAR assessment process after the superseded lapse date	Giving notice stating a later time for the declaration to lapse	\$9,562
Evaluating a request to fix a later time for the Coordinator-General's report to lapse	Making of the request	\$7,349

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