

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

QR Limited (QR) are proposing to upgrade the existing facilities at the Jilalan Rail Yard. The project, known as the Jilalan Rail Yard Upgrade Project (JRYUP), is located 3 km south east of Sarina and 35 km south of Mackay.

The Jilalan Rail Yards were commissioned in 1971 for smaller head end power trains and have progressively been expanded to meet the increasing demands of coal exports. It is utilised by QR for maintaining and servicing coal trains operating on the Goonyella Rail System, which facilitates the transportation of coal to export terminal facilities at the Port of Hay Point.

Current and future industry growth within the coal market will require significant infrastructure developments. The upgrade at Jilalan is proposed to ensure the Goonyella Rail System has the ability to cater for the increased number of trains expected to be operating in this system.

The upgrade at Jilalan will involve a larger rail holding yard, additional provisioning facilities and an additional maintenance workshop together with bypass lines to allow through traffic to pass without entering the servicing facility as occurs at present.

1.2 EIS Consultation Process

The JRYUP Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was published and submitted to the Coordinator-General on the 14 September 2007. The EIS consultation period occurred from the 15 September to 26 October 2007. During this period the following agency submissions were received:

- Queensland Department of Emergency Services (DES)
- Queensland Department of Main Roads (DMR)
- Queensland Department of Communities (DOC)
- Queensland Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP)
- Queensland Department of Housing (DH)
- Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPIF)
- Queensland Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water (NRW)
- Queensland Health (QH)
- Queensland Police Service (QPS)
- Queensland Transport (QT)
- Sarina Shire Council (SSC)

No public submissions were received by the Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP) during the EIS public display period.

1.3 Format of Supplementary EIS

This document (referred to as the Supplementary EIS) has been prepared to address the issues raised during the EIS consultation period. Appendix A presents a summary of the comments received, and cross-references to the relevant sections within this document containing additional information relating to each issue.

The format of the Supplementary EIS corresponds to each of the environmental sections as presented in the EIS, with the responses to the submission issues provided under the relevant headings.