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2 Project description

2.1 Chapter content

The Project description for the purpose of defining the Project activities and Project direct impact and potential indirect impact areas was provided in Chapter 2 of the Project EIS.

This chapter provides additional information to address the submissions received during the statutory public display period of the Project EIS. The key issues raised from the Project EIS submission process, relevant to the Project description, are summarised Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Summary of submission issues received in relation to the Project description chapter of the EIS

Submitter ID number (refer Appendix A)	Summary of submission issue raised	Project EIS section (public notification version)	AEIS section containing information to address submission comments	Complete replacement section for Project EIS	Supplements the Project EIS information
2.04	Expected waste water generated by the dredger activities and the expectations that it will be transported to the Council sewage treatment plan for treatment	Section 2.6.5.2 Section 14.6.4	Section 2.2		✓
12.09	Describe any environmental windows during which dredging and bund construction are proposed to be suspended	Section 2.5 Section 2.6 Section 2.10	Section 9.14		✓
12.10	Describe the applicability of the chosen ARI design level. Demonstrate how the design has taken into account current modelled climate change driven increases in the frequency and intensity of storms and cyclones and sea level rise.	Section 2.5.3	Section 7.2 Section 11.3.2		✓
12.11	Describe in detail why a final bund height of +7m LAT and the design of the bund wall, having an allowance of +1.88m above existing HAT at Fisherman's Landing, was determined as adequate in relation to the potential impacts of climate change.	Section 2.5.3	Section 7.2 Section 11.3.2		✓

Submitter ID number (refer Appendix A)	Summary of submission issue raised	Project EIS section (public notification version)	AEIS section containing information to address submission comments	Complete replacement section for Project EIS	Supplements the Project EIS information
12.12	Describe why the freeboard of 0.5m is sufficient to accommodate the significant rainfall and runoff events that occur in this region	Section 2.5.10	Section 2.3	✓	
12.106	It is recommended that the following waste conditions be imposed on the Project: ■ All waste generated in carrying out the activity must be lawfully reused, recycled or removed to a facility that can lawfully accept the waste ■ Incompatible wastes must not be mixed in the same container or waste storage area.	Chapter 14	Section 2.4		✓
		Appendix Q4	Appendices F and G Appendix I	✓	

2.2 Dredger waste water

This section supplements the information contained in the Project EIS Section 2.6.5.2 (waste management, regulated waste).

As stated in the Project EIS Section 2.6.5.2, the waste water generated by the dredger activities will be stored on the dredger and transferred to the Auckland Point wharf area (or another available GPC wharf centre) for collection and transport to the Gladstone Regional Council (GRC) sewage treatment plant. Where dredgers have on-board tertiary waste water treatment facilities, the generated waste water will be treated within these facilities.

The estimated volume of waste water to be generated by the dredging activity is approximately 70m³ to 75m³ per week, which will be transferred to the Auckland Point wharf area (or another available GPC wharf centre) every week or fortnight depending on the vessel's waste water storage capacity. A sucker truck will be used to unload the vessel's waste water, and then transported to the relevant GRC sewage treatment plant.

The Project waste water details (e.g. volume, timing, GRC sewage treatment plant, etc.) will be confirmed in consultation with GRC once the Dredging Contractor has been appointed. This commitment has been included in AEIS Appendix I.

2.3 Proposed Western Basin Expansion reclamation area bund wall and internal freeboard design

This section supplements the Project EIS Section 2.5.10 (proposed dredged material placement method), however the information below in relation to the proposed WBE reclamation area bund wall and internal freeboard design replaces the concept design level included in the Project EIS.

GPC has undertaken further concept design considerations for the proposed WBE reclamation area internal dewatering cells as part of the AEIS preparation process, including the requirement that the internal cells and variable height weir boxes will be designed and maintained so that a freeboard of not less than 1.0m is maintained at all times during the dredging operation. This freeboard allowance is considered sufficient to accommodate extreme climatic events within Gladstone (e.g. cyclone, flooding), including any changes in rainfall volume caused by climate change.

A 1.0m freeboard within the WBE reclamation area is equivalent to an approximate 1 in 500 year rainfall event within Gladstone. It is important to note that the rainfall catchment for the proposed WBE reclamation area only includes the footprint of the reclamation area (i.e. no upstream catchment will flow into the new reclamation area). Also any significant rainfall event within Gladstone that approaches or exceeds a 1 in 500 year event is likely to halt Project dredging activities due to wider Port safety issues.

2.4 Waste management

This section supplements the Project EIS Section 2.6.5 (waste generation and management).

The additional waste management mitigation measures will be implemented as part of the Project:

- All waste generated in carrying out the activity must be lawfully reused, recycled or removed to a facility that can lawfully accept the waste
- Incompatible wastes must not be mixed in the same container or waste storage area.

These above mitigation measures have been included in the Dredging EMP (refer AEIS Appendix F), Project EMP (refer AEIS Appendix G) and EIS commitments (refer AEIS Appendix I).