C KEY COMMITMENTS

This appendix lists the key commitments discussed in relevant sections of the EIS.

Sections 1 and 2 commitments

Section	Commitment
1	The NPI Stage 2 project is part of the south-east Queensland (SEQ) drought emergency strategy and is intended as an interim supply measure until other bulk water sources can be developed. The NPI Stage 2 will provide an important linkage within the SEQ water grid between Noosa water treatment plant (WTP) and the termination point of NPI Stage 1 at Eudlo.
1	The NPI Stage 2 will have a positive impact on regional water users through sharing water resources and providing an equitable distribution network.
1	Provision will be made along the NPI Stage 2 for connections to supply future customers in the Sunshine Coast region, such as the localities of Nambour, Yandina and Eumundi.
1	Both stages of the NPI will be designed with a reverse-flow capacity to transport water from Brisbane to the Sunshine Coast under different demand scenarios in the future.
1	All directly affected landowners have been consulted to identify potential issues, and consultation will continue for the life of the project to identify and manage potential issues. Consultation will be achieved in collaboration with the Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP).
1	The NPI Stage 2 will remain consistent with the context of regional and infrastructure planning for SEQ.
1	The Northern Network Alliance (NNA) will address issues raised from public submissions via a supplement to the EIS.
1	The NPI Stage 2 will be compliant with relevant statutory process.
1	Gaining of approval under the Queensland *Vegetation Management Act 1999* (VMA) will require compliance with the current Policy for Vegetation Management Offsets. Where vegetation offsets are required, the DIP will enter into an agreement to provide offset areas through the strategic acquisition of land for conservation purposes.
1	The NPI Stage 2 water supply strategy will be consistent with the objectives of the *Water Resource (Mary Basin) Plan 2006*.
2	The NPI Stage 2 will consist of approximately 48 km of underground pipe, and the corridor will utilise existing public utility easements wherever possible.
2	The NPI Stage 2 will be designed for a 75 to 100 year life and will be reconditioned for ongoing use at the end of its life, as required.
2	All planned discharges of water to the environment will be managed in accordance with the *Operational guidelines for water discharge* adopted by LinkWater for projects of this nature.

Sections 1 and 2 commitments (continued)

Section	Commitment
2	Construction works with the potential to impact on community infrastructure, such as the Woombye tunnel bore and the Yandina Sports Complex, will be timed to minimise the impact on the community.
2	Construction of some facilities associated with NPI Stage 2 may take up to eight months to complete. The construction program for these facilities will be developed to minimise potential impacts on local communities and landholders, including consideration of haulage routes and traffic volumes.
2	The pipeline will be buried below ground in accordance with local council, Main Roads and Queensland Rail requirements.
2	Where the construction, commissioning, operation and maintenance of the overall NPI have the potential to result in emergency situations, they will be governed by an incident response plan (IRP).
2	Design of the NPI Stage 2 will be compliant with applicable Australian standards.

Sections 3 and 4 commitments

Section	Commitment
3.2	Generally the construction corridor will be 30–40 m wide.
3.2	The community, local authorities and government agencies will be consulted throughout the construction phase.
3.2	Impacts on good quality agricultural land (GQAL) will be minimised by increasing the depth of cover to the pipe where possible.
3.2	In the event that acid sulfate soil (ASS) is detected, an ASS management plan in accordance with the *State Planning Policy 2/02—Planning and managing development involving acid sulfate soils* will be produced prior to construction.
3.2	The NPI Stage 2 corridor will coincide with existing and cleared public utility easements wherever possible to minimise the encumbrance on the community, including directly affected landholders.
3.2	The pipeline will be buried for the majority of its length to minimise disruption to existing land use.
3.2	The pipeline corridor will avoid residential areas where possible.
3.2	The potential for impact on developable land will be minimised by aligning the corridor with future road and infrastructure corridors where possible.
3.2	Contaminated material will only be removed from the work area in consultation and with approval of the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
3.2	Mitigation strategies will include timing construction to avoid works in steep sections of the route between December and February and implementing site-specific intensive sediment and erosion control measures in risk areas.
3.2	Erosion and sediment control plans will be in compliance with the *Maroochy manual for erosion and sediment control* (2007).

Sections 3 and 4 commitments (continued)

Section	Commitment
3.2	Materials safety data sheets (MSDS) for all chemicals stored on site will be made available to site personnel, with workers informed of their location as part of site inductions.
3.2	The location of pipeline facilities and structures will accord with the nature and intent of local government planning schemes, and where possible, will be located in areas remote from residential use and preferably in areas designated for industrial, rural or open space use.
3.3	Trench management techniques to minimise the potential for harm to native fauna and domestic stock will be used during construction.
3.3	Construction will avoid and/or limit impacts on endangered remnant ecosystems.
3.3	Hollow-bearing habitat trees will be avoided where possible and/or salvaged and relocated to suitable areas.
3.3	Any required approvals will be obtained for the clearing of remnant and native vegetation.
3.3	Site rehabilitation and reinstatement will occur as a final stage of construction.
3.3	Reinstatement of local landform features will be undertaken in accordance with a project-specific rehabilitation plan.
3.3	All landforms will be restored as close as possible to their pre-construction contours, including waterway bank slopes.
3.3	Topsoil will not be stockpiled in areas where such material might be expected to cause environmental harm.
3.3	Where required, relocation of endangered, vulnerable or rare (EVR) species will be undertaken in accordance with the *Guidelines for translocation of threatened plants in Australia* (Vallee et al. 2004).
3.3 & 4	Monitoring of the recovery of impacted ecosystems and/or species will be undertaken as required.
3.3 & 4	All sites cleared of vegetation and/or ground cover will be rehabilitated and revegetated with appropriate species including plant species endemic to particular regions.
3.3 & 4	Construction in or adjacent to endangered vegetation communities, sensitive riparian communities, or threatened species habitats will be managed through the implementation of sensitive area plans (SAPs). The corridor width will be minimised where possible through these areas.
3.4	A flood warning system will be developed for construction works in any flood-prone areas.
3.4	Any water required for construction and testing purposes will be sourced and released according to agreed principles with relevant state agencies.
3.4	During construction, weather forecasts will be checked regularly and construction activities will be timed to avoid extreme weather events wherever possible.
3.4	Construction will not result in significant long-term erosion and sedimentation impacts.
3.4	Temporary and permanent sediment and erosion control measures will be used to mitigate potential environmental impacts.

Sections 3 and 4 commitments (continued)

Section	Commitment
3.4	Waterway crossing methodologies are selected to reflect the size and ecological significance of individual waterways.
3.4	Clearing of riparian vegetation will only be undertaken immediately prior to construction, especially at streams with moderate or high ecological values, with reinstatement occurring as soon as possible after completion.
3.4	Construction will use mechanical slashers for clearing work areas in riparian areas where practical rather than bulldozers.
3.4	Reinstatement of riparian vegetation cover will use fast-growing grasses and sedges to stabilise banks with advanced stage planting of riparian tree species to help re-establish canopy cover (with low growing species to prevent hindering power line operations when in a power easement).
3.4	Construction will not result in significant long-term impacts on groundwater levels or quality.
3.4	The NNA will establish water quality baseline characteristics prior to construction to allow changes in water quality to be measured during works; the key parameter will be turbidity with other parameters recorded as appropriate.
3.4 & 4	Construction will not result in significant long-term impacts on water quality.
3.5	Construction will not result in significant long-term impacts on air quality.
3.5	Dust management will include the use of water trucks and reduced speed limits on the right of way (ROW).
3.5 & 3.6	Blasting management strategies will be implemented where required in accordance with statutory requirements.
3.6	Pump houses will incorporate acoustic design features to ensure that these emissions are minimised.
3.7	Greenhouse emission abatement principles and practices for the construction phase will be adopted where possible.
3.7	Storage, safe handling and transport of any waste generated by the project will be in accordance with Australian standards.
3.7	Any required pipeline decommissioning will be in accordance with the legislative requirements at the time.
3.8	A maintenance and operations management plan will be produced for the pipeline.
3.8	Operation of the NPI Stage 2 will require regular maintenance checks.
3.8	A road condition assessment will be undertaken prior to construction commencing as well as after construction is completed.
3.8	Major road and rail crossings will be completed using trenchless methods.
3.8	Approvals will be sought from the relevant agencies for crossings of transport infrastructure.
3.8	Comprehensive traffic management plans will be developed for all transport infrastructure affected by construction in consultation with the relevant agencies.

Sections 3 and 4 commitments (continued)

Section	Commitment
3.8	Movements of any oversize loads will be in compliance with the responsible agency.
3.8	Construction traffic will use the ROW wherever feasible to minimise temporary disturbance to road users, local residents and physical impact to roads.
3.8 & 4	A series of work method statements will be prepared for all relevant construction activities. These will direct the implementation of environmental mitigation measures.
3.9	A cultural heritage management plan will be implemented for the project.
3.10	No registered indigenous or non-indigenous cultural heritage sites will be significantly impacted by the project.
3.10 & 4	Any new heritage sites identified within the project area will be brought to the attention of relevant government agencies and/or traditional owners.
3.10	Local historical societies will be consulted as part of the EIS consultation process to identify further potential heritage sites within the project area.
3.11	Any compensation for the establishment of easements will be negotiated with landholders by the DIP.
3.11	A community and stakeholder engagement management plan will be implemented for the project.
3.11	No residents will be permanently displaced as a result of the NPI Stage 2 project.
3.11	Non-English speaking residents will have access to interpreters wherever possible to assist with communicating information on the project.
3.11	Construction workers will be employed locally where possible.
3.11	Appropriate training opportunities will be provided to personnel employed on the project, including unskilled personnel.
3.11	Cross-cultural awareness will be maintained within the project team and in dealings with the public.
3.11	Construction will be scheduled to minimise disruption to community facilities.
3.12	Risk analysis will be undertaken for the project construction phase.
3.12 & 3.13	Construction sites will be managed to minimise the risk of bushfire to personnel, community and the environment.
3.12 & 3.13	Any condition requirements for the co-use of existing easements will be investigated.
3.13	The proponent will enter into a deed of agreement to provide vegetation offsets where the requirements of the *Regional vegetation management code—southeast Queensland bioregion* cannot be met.
3.13	Energy efficient technologies will be developed and implemented in the design of pump stations.

Sections 3 and 4 commitments (continued)

Section	Commitment
4	Any material and equipment brought into the project area from areas infected with weed/disease will be declared and disinfected appropriately.
4	All personnel and subcontractors will observe appropriate procedures with respect to the management of equine influenza.
4	Relevant approvals will be obtained for any construction works required outside normal construction hours.
4	The planning environmental management plan (PEMP) will provide the structural framework for development of the construction EMP.
4	Construction of the project will be in accordance with a detailed construction environmental management plan (CEMP), prepared in consultation with the Queensland EPA.
4	Specific management plans will be incorporated into this overall document to address such factors as soil and water management (including waterway crossings), flora and fauna, weed and pest management, cultural heritage, dust, noise and vibration and waste management.

References

Maroochy Shire Council [Sunshine Coast Regional Council] 2007, *Maroochy manual for erosion and sediment control*, accessed 5 December 2008, <http://www.maroochy.qld.gov.au/environment/sitePage.cfm?code=manual_sediment_erosion>

Vallee, L, Hogbin, T, Monks, L, Makinson, B, Matthes, M & Rossetto, M 2004, *Guidelines for the translocation of threatened plants in Australia,* 2nd edn, Australian Network for Plant Conservation, Canberra.