

Coordinated projects impact assessment process

Under Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (SDPWO Act), Queensland's Coordinator-General may declare a project a 'coordinated project' based on one or more of the following:

- complex local, state or Commonwealth approval requirements
- strategic significance to the locality, region or State
- significant positive or negative impacts on infrastructure, the economy or the social or physical environments.

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

Declaration of a 'coordinated project'

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

- coordinated projects requiring an environmental impact statement (EIS)
- coordinated projects requiring an impact assessment report (IAR).

The IAR is a streamlined, 'fit for purpose' assessment process for well-defined and low-medium risk coordinated projects.

The Coordinator-General may declare a project to be a coordinated project for which an IAR is required only if satisfied that the environmental effects of the project, having regard to their scale and extent, do not require assessment through the EIS process.

An EIS for a coordinated project must address the terms of reference approved by the Coordinator-General. In preparing the terms of reference, the Coordinator-General may seek public comment on a draft.

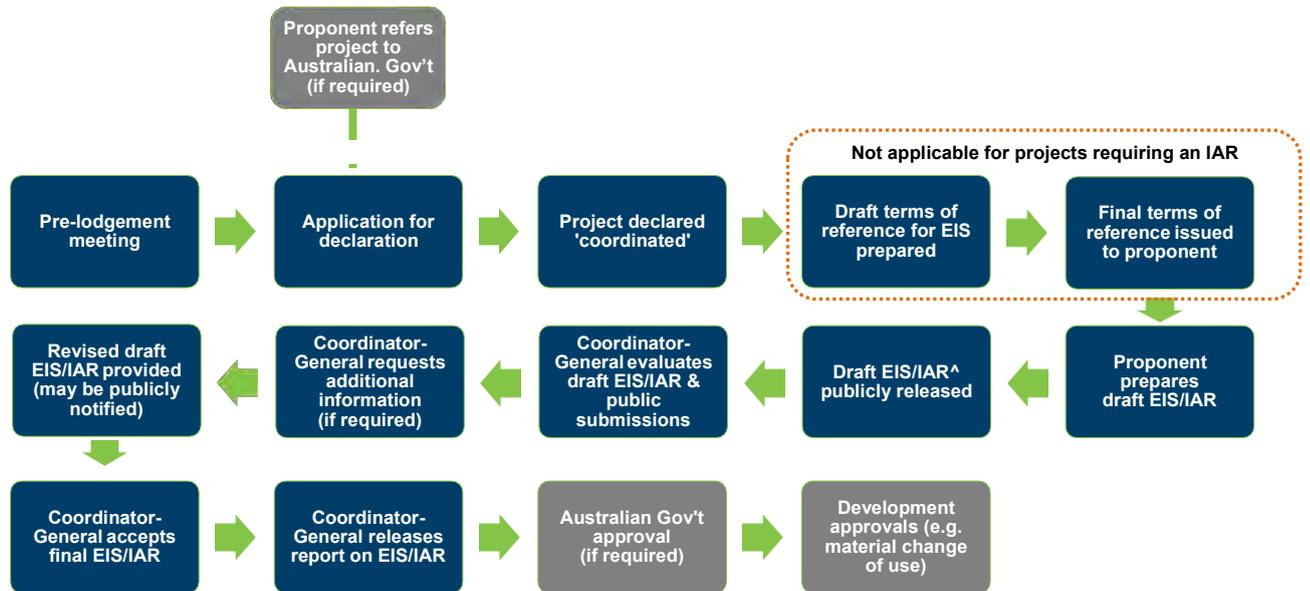
An IAR is not required to address a terms of reference. An IAR must include details of the project and the necessary information about the likely environmental effects of the project.

A draft EIS must be publicly notified. A draft IAR requires public notification if subsequent statutory approvals would be required for the coordinated project, or if the Coordinator-General decides that notification is necessary.

To ensure sufficient information is required for the assessment, the Coordinator-General may request information from the proponent in addition to the draft EIS/IAR prepared by the proponent, and/or seek specialist advice.

At the end of impact assessment process for an EIS or an IAR, the Coordinator-General releases an evaluation report either approving (with or without conditions) or refusing the project.

The environmental impact assessment process



^ Public release of an IAR is not required in all circumstances

Fees

Project proponents are required to pay fees to the Coordinator-General to cover the management and assessment costs of the impact assessment process. For information about the timing and amount of these fees, refer to the *Overview of Fees* fact sheet available from www.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/cg

The role of the Coordinator-General

The role of the Coordinator-General was established in 1938 to coordinate the provision of public infrastructure and encourage development and job creation in post-Depression times.

Over the past 80 years, the role has evolved from being concentrated solely on public works to being principally focused on facilitating and regulating major projects, such as mining, petroleum, rail, port, tourism and large urban infrastructure developments.

In addition to managing the impact assessment process, the Coordinator-General may:

- identify state development areas and oversee their development to achieve economic growth
- acquire land for critical infrastructure projects and facilities
- engage individuals, government departments or government-created organisations to carry out development functions and duties
- purchase, sell or lease land as needed.

More information

- **Online:** www.dsdmip.qld.gov.au
- **Telephone:** 13 QGOV (13 74 68)
- **Email:** info@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

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