

Coordinator-General's Change Report on the Supplementary Report to the Environmental Impact Statement dated March 2008

for the proposed

Northern Pipeline Inter-connector Stage 1 Landers Shute to Morayfield

*Under Part (4) of the Queensland State Development and Public Works
Organisation Act 1971*

Released: 11 April 2008



Coordinator-General’s Change Report Northern Pipeline Inter-connector Stage 1

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Coordinators-General's Change Report - Synopsis

The Northern Pipeline Inter-connector (NPI) is a drought contingency measure, set down in the *Water Regulation 2002* (Qld), that will supply up to 65 mega litres per day of potable water from the Sunshine Coast to Brisbane. Given the complexity of the NPI, it will be constructed in two stages.

The NPI - Stage 1 is 47 km in length and extends from the Landers Shute Water Treatment Plant main supply line near Eudlo to the Morayfield water reservoirs ("the Project"), where it will link with the Caboolture and Brisbane water supply network. The balance of the NPI works (Stage 2) are generally between Landers Shute and the existing Noosa Water Treatment Plant.

The proponent for the NPI is the Southern Regional Water Pipeline Company Pty Ltd trading as LinkWater, a wholly government-owned company.

On 4 April 2007, the Project was declared a 'significant project for which an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required', under s.26(1)(a) of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (Qld) (SDPWO Act).

The EIS was released for public review and comment on 30 June 2007. LinkWater prepared a Supplementary Report to the EIS dated August 2007 to address submissions on the EIS. My report evaluating the EIS and Supplementary Report to the EIS dated August 2007, which was released on 10 October 2007, determined that the Project could proceed.

Subsequently on 3 January 2008, LinkWater notified me of a proposed change to the Project in accordance with s.35D of the SDPWO Act. The proposed change involved the realignment of the pipeline from an existing power line easement to an uncleared section of Old Gympie Road near Nobles Road, about 1.5 km south of Eudlo on the Sunshine Coast ("the Nobles Road Site"). The proposed change also involved the development of a chemical dosing facility at the uncleared section of the Nobles Road Site.

LinkWater provided a Supplementary Report to the EIS dated January 2008 (SEIS January 2008) with detailed information on the proposed change and potential environmental effects. The SEIS January 2008 was released for public review and comment.

In total, 75 public and advisory agency submissions were received on the SEIS January 2008. The Environment Protection Agency and the then Caloundra City Council raised serious concerns about environmental impacts of the proposed change at the Nobles Road Site and stated that they did not support the proposal.

On 11 March 2008, as a result of the concerns raised on the SEIS January 2008, LinkWater requested my evaluation under s.35D of the SDPWO Act of a further proposed change. The proposed change involves the development of the chemical dosing facility on private property adjoining Caloundra Street near Steve Irwin Way at Landsborough (“the Landsborough Site”). LinkWater also decided to continue with the construction of the pipeline within the power line easement near the junction with NPI Stage 2. This location was evaluated in my report dated 10 October 2007.

Under s.35G of the SDPWO Act, I may require LinkWater to publicly notify the proposed change and its effect on a project in a manner of my choosing. I formed a view, based on initial advice from key advisory agencies that as the proposed change would be likely to have only limited environmental impacts, that the three stage consultation approach proposed in the Communication Plan (Attachment A to the Supplementary Report to the EIS dated March 2008 (SEIS March 2008)) was sufficient and a public notice inviting formal submissions was not required. In addition, the chemical dosing facility is consistent with an approved industrial development that forms part of the Landsborough Site, with the balance of the Landsborough Site identified for inclusion in the industrial development.

This report evaluates the proposed change to the Project, development of a chemical dosing facility at the Landsborough Site. In evaluating the environmental effects of the proposed change, I have considered the: SEIS March 2008; public and advisory agency comments provided in the Communication Plan; advice provided by key advisory agencies; and other relevant information.

I have determined that there is a significant net benefit to the community from the proposed change and that it can proceed, subject to a number of specific recommendations (detailed in Appendix 1) to manage potential impacts associated with: flooding; water quality; dust; noise; and traffic.

In the SEIS March 2008 it is acknowledged that additional infrastructure, associated with the proposed change, may be placed at the Landsborough Site. This additional infrastructure would be required for Traveston Crossing Dam or alternative water supply sources, should they be approved. I have considered these cumulative impacts and consider that the likely environmental impacts would be minimal, however separate approval will be required for this additional infrastructure.

Colin Jensen
Coordinator-General
Date: 11 April 2008

1.0 Introduction

This report evaluates the environmental impacts of a proposed change to the Northern Pipeline Inter-connector (NPI) Stage 1 (“the Project”) in accordance with s.35I of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (Qld) (SDPWO Act). The proposed change involves development of a chemical dosing facility on part of Lot 1 on RP222398 and Lot 103 on SP175836 adjoining Caloundra Street at Landsborough (“the Landsborough Site”). A locality map is provided as Figure 1.

The report does not evaluate the construction of the pipeline within the power line easement near the junction with the Eudlo to Caloundra water pipeline on the northern end of NPI Stage 1, as this was evaluated in my report dated 10 October 2007. A locality map is provided as Figure 2.

1.1 Background

The NPI is a drought contingency measure, set down in the *Water Regulation 2002* (Qld), (Water Regulation) that will supply up to 65 mega litres per day of potable water from the Sunshine Coast to Brisbane. Given the complexity of the NPI, it will be constructed in two stages.

The Project is 47 km in length and extends from the Landers Shute Water Treatment Plant main supply line near Eudlo to the Morayfield water reservoirs, where it will link with the existing Caboolture and Brisbane water supply network. The balance of the NPI works (Stage 2) are generally between Landers Shute and the existing Noosa Water Treatment Plant.

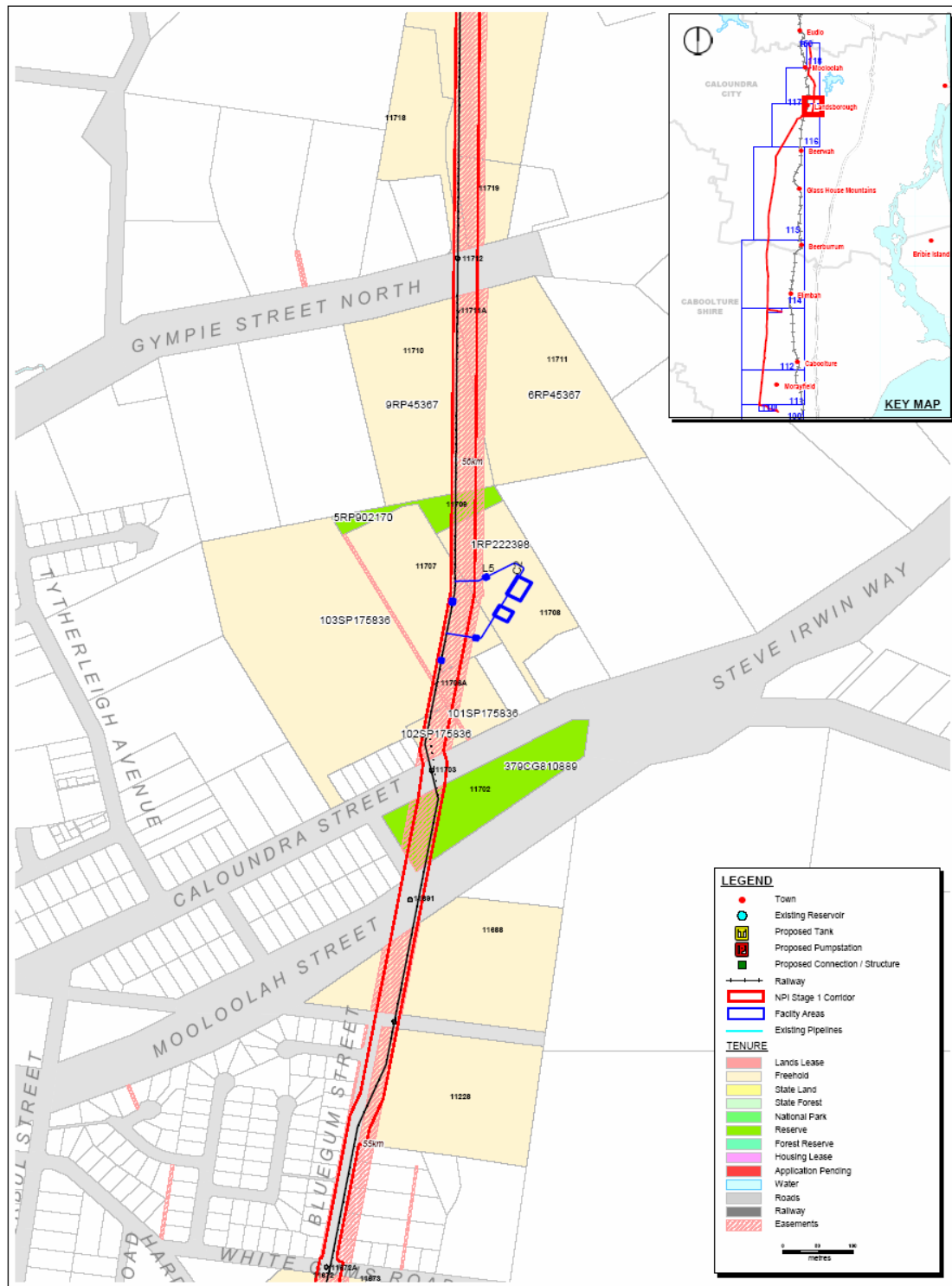
The proponent for the NPI is the Southern Regional Water Pipeline Company Pty Ltd trading as LinkWater, a wholly government-owned company.

On 4 April 2007, the Project was declared a ‘significant project for which an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required’, under s.26(1)(a) of the SDPWO Act.

The EIS was released for public review and comment on 30 June 2007. LinkWater prepared a Supplementary Report to the EIS dated August 2007 (SEIS August 2007) to address submissions on the EIS. My report evaluating the EIS and SEIS August 2007 was released on 10 October 2007.

On 19 April 2007, the then Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Water Resources determined that the Project is not a ‘controlled action’ under the *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (C’t). This decision was confirmed on 28 June 2007, following a process to reconsider the original decision, as a consequence of submissions from community conservation organisations. As such, the Project does not require assessment and approval under Australian Government legislation.

Figure 1 Proposed change involving a chemical dosing facility at the Landsborough Site



Source: Base data supplied by Department of Natural Resources and Water

Projection: GDA94 (MGA56)

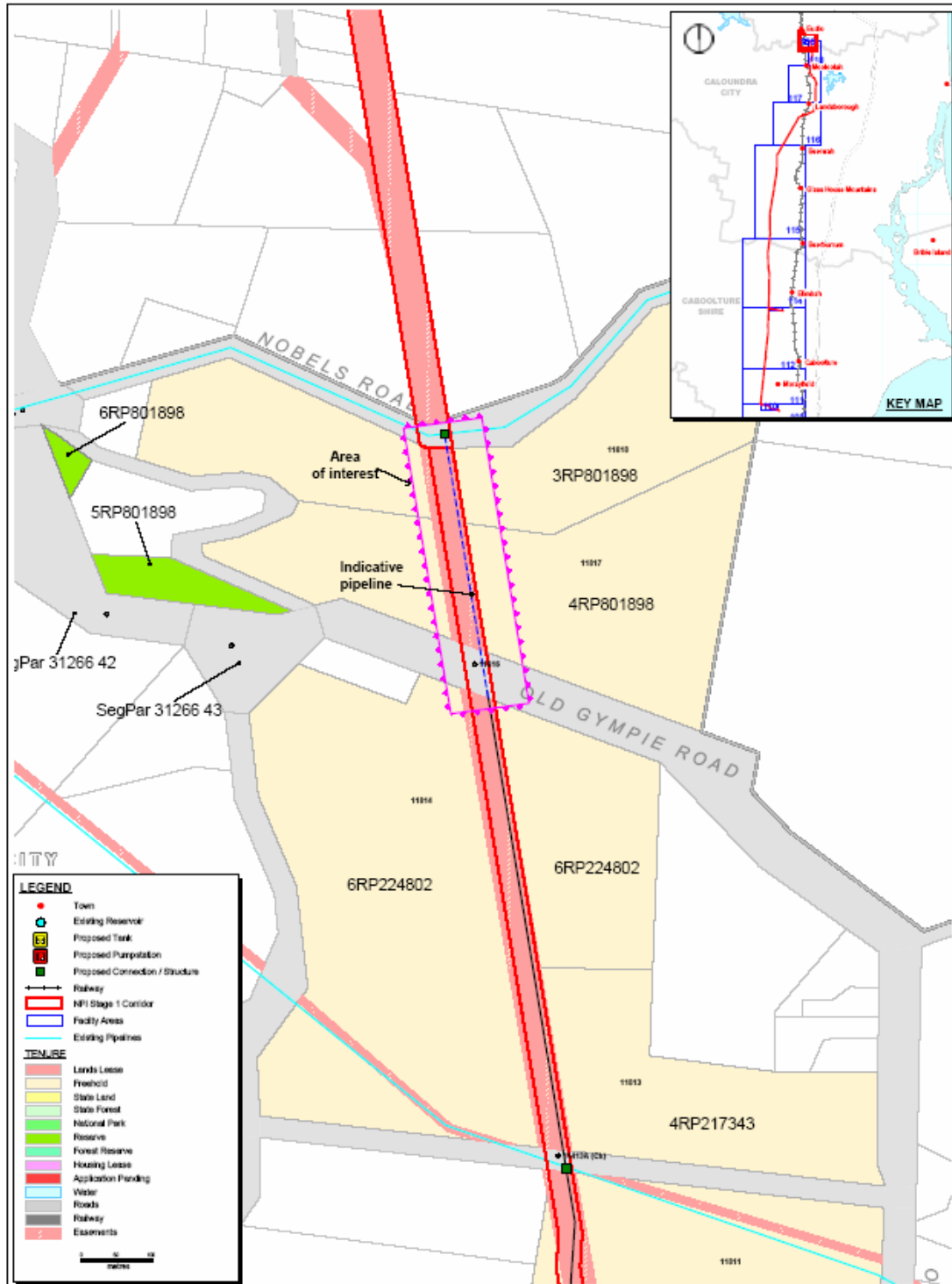
File Path: O:\BRS\Projects\BEG\BEG601-SRW\PT08 GIS Data\TOCS Northern Interconnector\MapInfo\Workspaces\ES\Supplementary\Caloundra St.Wor

Date: 06 March 2008 Prior to Rev J



NORTHERN PIPELINE
INTERCONNECTOR
CALOUNDRA STREET
FACILITY

Figure 2 Proposed pipeline in the existing power line easement near the junction with NPI Stage 2



Source: Base data supplied by Department of Natural Resources and Water
 Projection: GDA94 (MGA56)
 File Path: C:\SRP\Project\REG\REG001-SRWPT08 GIS Data\TOCS Northern Interconnector\MapInfo\Workspaces\ES\Supplementary\Figure 4.1 Old Gympie Rd\Nobels Rd.Wor
 Date: 12 March 2008 (Prior to Rev J)



NORTHERN PIPELINE
 INTERCONNECTOR
 OLD GYMPIE ROAD /
 NOBELS ROAD

4.1

2.0 Description of the Proposed Change

2.1 Proposed Change

The proposed change involves the development of a chemical dosing facility on private land on the Landsborough Site (“the Proposed Change”). The size of the chemical dosing facility is approximately 75 m by 25 m. The size of the facility would not increase to accommodate future bulk water flows, but could be modified with additional internal modules and storage units.

2.2 Request for Project Change

Part 4, Division 3A of the SDPWO Act provides that the Coordinator-General can evaluate changes made to a project by a proponent following completion of the Coordinator-General’s report evaluating the EIS. S.35C of the SDPWO Act enables the Coordinator-General to evaluate the environmental effects of the proposed change, its effects on the project and any other related matters.

LinkWater notified me on 3 January 2008 of a proposed change to the Project, in accordance with s.35D of the SDPWO Act. The proposed change involved the realignment of the pipeline from an existing power line easement to an uncleared section of Old Gympie Road near Nobles Road, about 1.5 km south of Eudlo on the Sunshine Coast (“the Nobles Road Site”). The proposed change also involved the development of a chemical dosing facility.

LinkWater provided a Supplementary Report to the EIS dated January 2008 (SEIS January 2008) with detailed information on the proposed change and potential environmental effects. The SEIS January 2008 was released for public review and comment on 14 January 2008, with submissions accepted until 12 February 2008.

In total, 75 public and advisory agency submissions were received on the SEIS January 2008, identifying potential critical issues with the proposed change. In particular the Environment Protection Agency and the then Caloundra City Council raised serious concerns about environmental impacts.

As a result of the concerns raised on the SEIS January 2008, LinkWater notified me on 11 March 2008 of the Proposed Change to the Project and requested my evaluation of this change, in accordance with s.35D of the SDPWO Act.

On 17 March 2008, I advised LinkWater that in order for me to evaluate the Proposed Change, under s.35F(1)(b) of the SDPWO Act, I required a supplementary report to the EIS. In addition, I determined that LinkWater did not need to publicly notify the Proposed Change under s.35G of the SDPWO Act.

On the 19 March 2008 LinkWater provided a SEIS dated March 2008 (SEIS March 2008) that considers:

- The environmental impacts of the Proposed Change.
- Possible cumulative impacts at the Landsborough Site associated with the development of infrastructure required for NPI Stage 2 and Traveston Crossing Dam or alternative water supply sources.
- The pipeline being constructed within the power line easement near the junction with the Eudlo to Caloundra water pipeline on the northern end of NPI Stage 1.

2.3 Alternatives

Section 2.3 of the SEIS January 2008 classified sites according to a range of selection criteria, including:

- Elevation to be compatible with potential future use.
- Land tenure.
- Proximity to existing and future infrastructure.
- Low pressure delivery.
- Access.
- Potential for future expansion.

Together, these criteria enabled selection of a site that provided for the integration of the Project and NPI Stage 2 as well as accommodating facilities for a future bulk water source.

With a change in the parameters and criteria defining the suitability of sites, locations previously discussed in the SEIS January 2008 and EIS were able to be considered further. These locations were defined in the SEIS January 2008 and include:

- The Nobels Road Site (reconfiguring proposed works to address comments received on the SEIS January 2008).
- A property adjacent to the Nobels Road site, on Eudlo Road.
- A property at the confluence of the NPI Stage 1 corridor and the Caloundra water supply main.
- The Landsborough Site.

A comparison of relative advantages and disadvantages of each site/configuration was provided in the SEIS March 2008.

Other sites were considered for the location of associated future facilities for the NPI Stage 2 and bulk water source. These sites will be included in a separate assessment and approvals process.

2.4 Cumulative Impacts

A number of other large infrastructure projects are currently planned in the vicinity of the Landsborough Site. These include:

- Landsborough to Nambour Rail Corridor Study - the study area is adjacent the Landsborough Site, but does not intersect the area of interest.
- Traveston Crossing Dam Stages 1 and 2 - it is proposed that facilities necessary for maintenance of the hydraulic capacity of the Traveston project could be co-located at the Landsborough Site. These facilities would include possible augmentation of the chemical dosing facility.
- NPI Stage 2 – no additional facilities will be required at the Landsborough Site.

As a result of the Proposed Change it is likely that additional infrastructure may be placed at the Landsborough Site. This additional infrastructure would be required for Traveston Crossing Dam or other alternative bulk water supply sources. The size of the chemical dosing facility is approximately 75 m by 25 m and would not increase in size to accommodate additional infrastructure necessary for Traveston Crossing Dam or other alternative water supply sources, but could be modified with additional internal modules and storage units.

3.0 Impact Assessment Process

3.1 Introduction

The SDPWO Act defines 'environment' to include:

- (a) ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities; and
- (b) all natural and physical resources; and
- (c) the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas, however large or small, that contribute to their biological diversity and integrity, intrinsic or attributed scientific value or interest, amenity, harmony and sense of community; and
- (d) the social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions that affect, or are affected by, things mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c).

'Environmental effects' means "the effects of development on the environment, whether beneficial or detrimental". These effects can be direct or indirect, of short, medium or long-term duration and cause local or regional impacts.

The NPI is a water supply emergency measure set down in the Water Regulation, as amended under *Water Amendment Regulation (No.6) 2006* (Qld). The Water Regulation requires the NPI to be completed by 31 December 2008. Further, a regulation under ss.100 and 109 of the SDPWO Act was made in July 2007 authorising LinkWater to undertake works for the NPI.

Schedule 9 of the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* (Qld) (IPA) sets out the criteria for development that is exempt from assessment against a planning scheme. In particular, Table 5 in Schedule 9 refers to "all aspects of development a person is directed to carry out under a notice, order or direction made under a State law". As the NPI is a measure directed under the Water Regulation and the NPI works were made "authorised works" under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Regulation Amendment Regulation (No5) 2007* (Qld), the Project is exempt from assessment against planning scheme assessment. That is, there is no requirement for an application for a development approval for a material change of use of premises.

The Project was declared a 'significant project', for which an EIS is required, under s.26(1)(a) of the SDPWO Act on 4 April 2007. On 10 October 2007 my report evaluating the EIS was released.

On 11 March 2008 LinkWater requested my evaluation under s.35D of the SDPWO Act of a proposed change for the chemical dosing facility to the Landsborough Site.

In evaluating the SEIS, under s.35I I may:

- a) state conditions of a type mentioned in ss.39, 45, 7C, 49 or 49B that are relevant to the proposed change, its effects on the project or any other related matter; and
- b) make recommendations of a type mentioned in ss.43 or 52 that are relevant to the proposed change, its effects on the project or any other related matter; and
- c) amend any conditions or recommendations for the project stated or made under s.35(4); and
- d) if division 8 applies to the project—impose, under that division, conditions for the undertaking of the project.

My ability to state conditions under s.39 of the SDPWO Act does not apply as the Project is exempt from development approval for a material change of use, and/or is not subject to other development approvals that require impact assessment. Similarly, ss.45, 47C, 49 and 49B of the SDPWO Act are not relevant as the Project does not involve a proposed mining lease under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*, or a proposed petroleum activity under the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*. Further, Division 8 of Part 4 of the SDPWO Act does not apply as the Project would require a material change of use, if it were not exempt development as a consequence of the directions made under the *Water Regulation and State Development and Public Works Organisation Regulation Amendment Regulation (No5) 2007* (Qld). Finally, ss.43 and 52 are not relevant as the Project is not intended for designation as community infrastructure under IPA, nor does it require approval under an act other than the IPA or Chapter 4A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* that requires the preparation of an EIS or similar statement to address environmental effects.

In evaluating the environmental effects of the proposed change to the Landsborough Site, I have made findings on the major environmental effects identified during the EIS process. In order to be satisfied that unavoidable adverse environmental effects can be adequately managed, I have made specific recommendations for other Agencies to consider in granting the necessary approvals, licences and permits for the proposed change to enable the Landsborough Site development to proceed.

In making these recommendations, I have considered the following:

- The EIS, the SEIS August 2007, the SEIS March 2008 and detailed Environmental Management Plans prepared by LinkWater.
- Comments from advisory agencies on the SEIS March 2008.
- Specific advice sought from the key advisory agencies.

3.2 Review of SEIS dated March 2008

Under s.35G of the SDPWO Act, I may require LinkWater to publicly notify the Proposed Change and its effect on the Project in a manner of my choosing. I formed a view, based on initial advice from key advisory agencies that the Proposed Change would be likely to have only limited environmental impacts and hence a public notice inviting formal comments was not required. In addition, the chemical dosing facility is consistent with an approved industrial development that forms part of the Landsborough Site, with the balance of the Landsborough Site identified for inclusion in the industrial development. Further, I accepted the consultation strategy proposed by LinkWater in the Communication Plan attached to the SEIS March 2008 as an acceptable means of engaging the community and seeking their feedback.

LinkWater is implementing a three stage communication approach outlined in the Communication Plan. The first stage was from 4 to 17 March 2008 and involved consultation with the owner of the Landsborough Site, immediate residents, the State Member for Glasshouse, advisory agencies and affected landholders at the Nobles Road Site. It also involved media announcements. Stage two involved consultation between 10 and 17 March 2008 with respondents to the SEIS January 2008 and the general Landsborough community. Stage three will involve announcing this report evaluating the SEIS March 2008.

The SEIS March 2008 was made publicly available on the Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP) and the Southern Regional Water Pipeline Alliance's website, with a link from LinkWater's website.

The Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Main Roads (DMR), Queensland Transport, the Department of Natural Resources and Water (DNRW), the Department of Emergency Services and the Sunshine Coast Regional Council (Council) were invited by the DIP to participate as key advisory agencies on the proposed change to the Landsborough Site. Agencies' responses to the SEIS March 2008 were forwarded to LinkWater for further clarification as required and the comments made have been considered in preparing this report.

A copy of this report will be sent to the owner of the Landsborough Site, immediate residents, the State Member for Glasshouse, key advisory agencies, Nobles Road Site affected landholders and respondents to the SEIS January 2008.

4.0 Evaluation of Environmental Effects

4.1 Flooding

EIS Findings and/or Key Points

Due to the location of the Landsborough Site to nearby water courses and Ewen Maddock Dam, along with the relative low lying nature of the area, the chemical dosing facility may be impacted by flooding.

In the SEIS March 2008, LinkWater advised that the chemical dosing facility:

- Is located above the Q100 flood elevation and modelling is therefore not necessary.
- Will be constructed in accordance with *State Planning Policy 1/03 Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Flood, Bushfire and Landslide*.

In providing comment on the SEIS March 2008, Council advised that in accordance with the *State Planning Policy 1/03 Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Flood, Bushfire and Landslide* the chemical dosing facility would need to be above the Q200 flood level. LinkWater subsequently advised that the level of the chemical dosing facility is 35.8 m Australian Height Datum (AHD) and that the Q100 flood level derived from existing flood modelling is 28.01 m AHD. Further, LinkWater suggests that the Q200 flood level is likely to be around 28.15 m AHD and hence well below the level of the chemical dosing facility. LinkWater has given an undertaking to undertake more detailed modelling of the Q 200 flood level, however this is not expected until after the release of this report.

Conclusions

I find that the chemical dosing facility at the Landsborough Site would constitute a critical infrastructure facility as part of the SEQ water supply infrastructure. Consequently, the Landsborough Site should be assessed against a Q200 flood level to ensure its function is maintained in an extreme event, as set down in the *State Planning Policy 1/03 Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Flood, Bushfire and Landslide*. I therefore make the following recommendation:

Recommendation 1

LinkWater should undertake flood modelling and demonstrate that the chemical dosing facility will be located above the Q200 flood level, in accordance with *State Planning Policy 1/03 Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Flood, Bushfire and Landslide*. The results from the modelling should be provided to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council before commencing development of the chemical dosing facility.

4.2 Water Quality

EIS Findings and/or Key Points

Construction of the chemical dosing facility could result in soil erosion and sediment release to Ewen Maddock Dam. Sediment release to Ewen Maddock Dam and watercourses could result in adverse impacts to aquatic flora and fauna as well as impacts on downstream water users due to a decrease in water quality.

LinkWater committed to implement soil erosion and sediment control measures in the EIS and SEIS March 2008, including minimising the area of disturbance and initiating revegetation of cleared areas as soon as possible after completion of construction.

The Council has noted the importance of protecting the water quality of Ewen Maddock Dam, which although being a modified environment, provides an important ecological function for many wildlife species. In addition, the Ewen Maddock Dam provides a range of recreational activities for the community. It is also proposed to be a future water supply source for the Sunshine Coast, as part of the South East Queensland Water Supply Strategy.

In the SEIS March 2008, LinkWater advised that the chemical dosing facility has been reconfigured to provide an additional buffer distance to Addlington Creek, which feeds into Ewen Maddock Dam.

The SEIS March 2008 also refers to:

- Council's development approval for the Addlington Industrial Park that requires a sediment retention basin in the direct overland flow path between the chemical dosing facility and Addlington Creek.
- The requirement to provide appropriate containment and spill response measures suitable for both static and dynamic situations, under a development approval for prescribed environmentally relevant activity 7 (chemical storage).

Conclusions

I find that construction of the chemical dosing facility at the Landsborough Site has the potential to cause water quality impacts to Ewen Maddock Dam and other water courses. I make the following recommendations to ensure that any water quality impacts are minimised:

Recommendation 2

LinkWater should ensure that all construction activities comply with the requirements set out in the “Soil Erosion and Sediment Control – Engineering Guidelines for Queensland Construction Sites (The Institution of Engineers, Australia (Qld), 1996)”, or later version.

Recommendation 3

LinkWater should ensure that all surface water flows during construction and operation of the chemical dosing facility are directed to the existing sediment control pond within the proposed Addlington Industrial Park or a similar structure.

Recommendation 4

If necessary, LinkWater should obtain a legal point of discharge to the existing sediment control pond or a similar structure from the relevant land owner and ensure that this is maintained for the life of the chemical dosing facility.

4.3 Flora and Fauna

EIS Findings and/or Key Points

The Landsborough Site contains no mapped remnant vegetation that would require clearing as part of the proposed development of the chemical dosing facility. Database searches and field surveys identified no significant fauna or flora species on or adjacent to the site.

A field survey of the Landsborough Site was conducted by Queensland Fauna Consultants in February 2008 to determine biological features on the site. They concluded that very little ground refugia remains on the site and this presents little usable habitat value.

The SEIS March 2008 concluded that a number of features exist near Addlington Creek that are conducive to fauna habitat and movement corridors including dams, ground refugia and arboreal microhabitat. However, the development of the Landsborough Site should pose little risk to fauna within the area.

The dam to the north of the site is of minimal value to fauna. Turtle species may be present and should be removed during or prior to dewatering. The dam in the south west corner contains a more usable riparian margin for transient fauna. Turtle species may also be present here and any such specimens should be identified by detailed studies and relocated if the dam is to be filled.

Key advisory agencies comments confirm that constructing the chemical dosing facility will have minimal impact on flora and fauna species.

Conclusions

I find that development of the chemical dosing facility at the Landsborough Site is likely to have minimal impact on sensitive flora and fauna. However, I recommend the following, to ensure that possible impacts to turtles in the area are avoided:

Recommendation 5

LinkWater should re-locate, to other appropriate sites, any native species of turtles present from dams that are to be dewatered at the Landsborough Site for activities directly associated with construction of the facility.

4.4 Air Quality

EIS Findings and/or Key Points

The main impact on air quality from the chemical dosing facility could be as a result of dust generation during construction. Construction activities identified as a specific potential source of dust generation include:

- Earthmoving activities and excavation.
- Movement of vehicles and construction machinery on unsealed surfaces.
- Transport of construction materials, fill, rubble and waste.
- Stockpiling of materials.
- Build-up of material around erosion and sedimentation controls.

The generation and impact of construction dust emissions will be minimised by the use of appropriate management techniques, especially the minimisation of cleared areas and the use of watering to bind the surface layer.

Conclusions

I find that the construction of the chemical dosing facility could have short-term air quality impacts. The Air Quality Management Plan will minimise impacts and provide an appropriate monitoring regime. However, I recommend the following, to ensure that possible air quality impacts are minimised:

Recommendation 6

LinkWater should implement the current Air Quality Management Plan as set down in the EIS for the construction of the chemical dosing facility to ensure that there is no significant impact to air quality.

4.5 Noise

EIS Findings and/or Key Points

The most significant sources of noise during the construction of the chemical dosing facility are likely to be generated from activities such as excavation and truck movements. LinkWater has committed to limiting construction, including haulage activities, to daytime hours generally from 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday and 8 am to 1 pm on Saturdays, as much as practicable to avoid or minimise any impacts on sensitive receptors.

The SIES March 2008 concluded that the noise impacts due to the operation of the facility will be minimal.

LinkWater has developed a Noise Management Plan designed to minimise noise impacts during construction. LinkWater has also established a 24 hour freecall hotline to receive any complaints about the construction activities, such as noise. All complaints will be registered and investigated by the Environmental Manager or Environmental Officer and corrective and preventative actions undertaken where practical.

Conclusions

I find that the construction of the chemical dosing facility has the potential to generate excessive noise, however once completed the operation of the chemical dosing facility will not generate any excessive noise. However, I recommend the following, to ensure that possible noise impacts are minimised:

Recommendation 7

Unless approved, LinkWater should not undertake construction activities, including haulage, outside 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday and 8 am to 1 pm on Saturdays.

4.6 Traffic

EIS Findings and/or Key Points

LinkWater stated in the SEIS March 2008 that traffic modelling for construction and operation of the chemical dosing facility would be conducted to assess the likely impacts of the works. The route and proposed traffic management arrangements arising from the modelling would be discussed and agreement in-principle sought from Council and the DMR. Traffic Control Plans will be submitted for approval of the relevant road authority prior to commencement of works. Procedures have been established to assess any accelerated deterioration of the road pavements as a result of the haulage of construction materials.

In providing comment on the SEIS March 2008, Council requested that a different legal point of access to that proposed by LinkWater is required to the Landsborough Site. Council also requested that the findings of traffic modelling and the traffic control plans proposed by LinkWater are provided to Council for comment.

In providing a submission on the SEIS March 2008, the DMR did not raise concerns about decreases in carrying capacity and impacts of haulage trucks on road pavements as a result of the construction of the chemical dosing facility.

Conclusions

I am satisfied that temporary traffic delays resulting from the construction of the chemical dosing facility would be restricted and relatively minor in nature. I also find that LinkWater's commitment to implementing a Traffic Management Plan in consultation with the relevant agencies will ensure that such impacts are minimised.

I am also satisfied that the traffic modelling proposed by LinkWater in the SEIS March 2008 will identify any traffic safety issues associated with the construction and operation of the chemical dosing facility and that the design of the legal access will address Council's concerns.

I recommend the following to ensure that all potential impacts associated with the transport task for the construction and operation of the chemical dosing facility are properly managed:

Recommendation 8

LinkWater should conduct traffic modelling and produce traffic control plans to the satisfaction of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council, in accordance with undertakings given in the SEIS March 2008.

Recommendation 9

LinkWater should ensure that the legal point of access for the chemical dosing facility at the Landsborough Site meets the Sunshine Coast Regional Council's requirements.

4.7 Cultural heritage

EIS Findings and/or Key Points

The construction of the chemical dosing facility has the potential to affect objects or places of Aboriginal and non-indigenous cultural heritage through physical disturbance of such sites during construction activities.

LinkWater has determined that there is no registered Aboriginal cultural heritage body at the Landsborough Site and that the Gubbi Gubbi #2 people are the relevant 'native title party' for all areas within the external boundaries of that claim as there are no current registered native title claims. As such the Gubbi Gubbi #2 is the 'Aboriginal party', as defined under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* (Qld) (ACH Act). No registered Aboriginal cultural heritage sites were identified at the Landsborough Site.

Apart for the general 'duty of care' provisions under the ACH Act to ensure that activities do not harm Aboriginal cultural heritage, LinkWater is required to develop a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP), through consultation and in partnership with the relevant Aboriginal party, for approval by the Chief Executive administering the ACH Act. A CHMP was agreed to between LinkWater and the Gubbi Gubbi #2 people and subsequently approved by the DNRW on 8 May 2007.

Apart from the registered CHMP, LinkWater has developed a Heritage Management Plan to avoid or minimise any adverse impacts to non-indigenous cultural heritage that might be identified during construction activities.

Conclusions

I am satisfied that the CHMP and Heritage Management Plan will minimise and effectively manage any impacts that the construction of the chemical dosing facility on Aboriginal and non-indigenous cultural heritage. I note that the CHMP has been approved by the DNRW, in accordance with the requirements under s.87 of the ACH Act.

5.0 Conclusion

The Project is part of a key water supply strategy to meet both the short-term and long-term needs of the region due population growth and the impacts of climate change. As such, the Project will contribute directly to the general economic and social well-being of the region, which would otherwise be seriously constrained without the security of essential water supply.

Having regard to the documentation and information provided during the EIS process and the change process for the Landsborough Site, I am satisfied that the requirements of the Queensland Government for impact assessment in accordance with the provisions of Part 4 and Division 3A of the SDPWO Act have been met. The EIS process has provided sufficient information to the key advisory agencies to allow for an evaluation of the potential impacts that could be attributed to the Proposed Change.

In reaching a conclusion on the acceptability or otherwise of the management of potential impacts for the proposed change, I have considered the Project Commitments provided in the EIS and the Environment Management Plan's (EMP's). Where necessary, I have extended particular commitments or components of an EMP and made specific recommendations that LinkWater should implement in accordance with best practice environmental management.

Thus, on the basis of the information provided, including advice from the key advisory agencies, I am satisfied that the adverse environmental impacts associated with the proposed change are able to be addressed through:

- Implementation of the commitments in the EIS;
- Implementation of the construction EMPs; and
- Implementation of specific recommendations set down in Appendix 1 of this report.

LinkWater and its agents, lessees, successors and assigns, as the case may be, should implement the recommendations in this report and all commitments presented in the EIS and EMP's.

A copy of this Report will be issued to LinkWater, pursuant to s.35(J)(a) of the SDPWO Act.

A copy of this Report will be provided to the key advisory agencies and will also be made available on the DIP web site, at:

<http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/projects/water/northern-pipeline-inter-connector-stage-1.html>

APPENDIX 1

List of Recommendations

Recommendation 1

LinkWater should undertake flood modelling and demonstrate that the chemical dosing facility will be located above the Q200 flood level, in accordance with *State Planning Policy 1/03 Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Flood, Bushfire and Landslide*. The results from the modelling should be provided to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council before commencing development of the chemical dosing facility.

Recommendation 2

LinkWater should ensure that all construction activities comply with the requirements set out in the “Soil Erosion and Sediment Control – Engineering Guidelines for Queensland Construction Sites (The Institution of Engineers, Australia (Qld), 1996)”, or later version.

Recommendation 3

LinkWater should ensure that all surface water flows during construction and operation of the chemical dosing facility are directed to the existing sediment control pond within the proposed Addlington Industrial Park or a similar structure.

Recommendation 4

If necessary, LinkWater should obtain a legal point of discharge to the existing sediment control pond or a similar structure from the relevant land owner and ensure that this is maintained for the life of the chemical dosing facility.

Recommendation 5

LinkWater should re-locate, to other appropriate sites, any native species of turtles present from dams that are to be dewatered at the Landsborough Site for activities directly associated with construction of the facility.

Recommendation 6

LinkWater should implement the current Air Quality Management Plan as set down in the EIS for the construction of the chemical dosing facility to ensure that there is no significant impact to air quality.

Recommendation 7

Unless approved, LinkWater should not undertake construction activities, including haulage, outside 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday and 8 am to 1 pm on Saturdays.

Recommendation 8

LinkWater should conduct traffic modelling and produce traffic control plans to the satisfaction of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council, in accordance with undertakings given in the SEIS March 2008.

Recommendation 9

LinkWater should ensure that the legal point of access for the chemical dosing facility at the Landsborough Site meets the Sunshine Coast Regional Council's requirements.

Appendix 2

Abbreviations

ACH Act	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)</i>
AHD	Australian Height Datum
CHMP	Cultural Heritage Management Plan
Council	Sunshine Coast Regional Council
DIP	Department of Infrastructure and Planning
DMR	Department of Main Roads
DNRW	Department of Natural Resources and Water
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
IPA	<i>Integrated Planning Act 1997 (Qld)</i>
Landsborough Site	Part of Lot 1 on RP222398 and Lot 103 on SP175836 adjoining Caloundra Street at Landsborough
Nobles Road Site	An uncleared section of Old Gympie Road near Nobles Road, about 1.5 km south of Eudlo on the Sunshine Coast
NPI	Northern Pipeline Inter-connector
Project	Northern Pipeline Inter-connector Stage 1
LinkWater	Southern Regional Water Pipeline Company Pty Ltd, trading as LinkWater
Proposed Change	The development of a chemical dosing facility at the Landsborough Site
SEIS August 2007	Supplementary Report to the EIS dated August 2007
SEIS January 2008	Supplementary Report to the EIS dated January 2007
SEIS March 2008	Supplementary Report to the EIS dated March 2007
SDPWO Act	<i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971 (Qld)</i>
Water Regulation	<i>Water Regulation 2002 (Qld)</i>