



Ass # 756

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State # 358

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

**STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)**

GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY NORTHAM BY-PASS (756)

MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Route 9 only of this proposal may be implemented subject to the following conditions:

1 Proponent Commitments

The proponent has made a number of environmental management commitments in order to protect the environment.

- 1-1 In implementing the proposal, the proponent shall fulfil the commitments made in the Consultative Environmental Review and in response to issues raised following public submissions, provided that the commitments are not inconsistent with the conditions or procedures contained in this statement. These commitments were consolidated in Environmental Protection Authority Bulletin 715 as Appendix 1, and subsequently modified on 18 April 1994. (A copy of the modified commitments of 18 April 1994 is attached.)

2 Implementation

Changes to the proposal which are not substantial may be carried out with the approval of the Minister for the Environment.

- 2-1 Subject to these conditions, the manner of detailed implementation of the proposal shall conform in substance with that set out in any designs, specifications, plans or other technical material submitted by the proponent to the Environmental Protection Authority with the proposal. Where, in the course of that detailed implementation, the proponent seeks to change those designs, specifications, plans or other technical material in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines on the advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

3 Proponent

These conditions legally apply to the nominated proponent.

- 3-1 No transfer of ownership, control or management of the project which would give rise to a need for the replacement of the proponent shall take place until the Minister for the Environment has advised the proponent that approval has been given for the nomination of a replacement proponent. Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the project in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.

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4 Bridge Structures

- 4-1 The proponent shall ensure that adverse impacts from realignment of the highway upon the hydrology and water quality of the Avon and Mortlock Rivers are minimised.
- 4-2 Prior to any site works and in consultation with the Water Authority of Western Australia and the Avon River Management Authority, the proponent shall prepare final alignment and construction plans to meet the objective of condition 4-1.

These plans shall address, but not be limited to the following:

- 1 management of the Avon and Mortlock River floodplains affected by the proposal;
 - 2 management and rehabilitation of riverine vegetation affected by the proposal; and
 - 3 mitigation of the potential backwater effects of constructing bridges over the Avon and Mortlock Rivers.
- 4-3 The proponent shall implement any management and monitoring requirements arising from the plans required by condition 4-2.

5 Time Limit on Approval

The environmental approval for the proposal is limited.

- 5-1 If the proponent has not substantially commenced the project within five years of the date of this statement, then the approval to implement the proposal as granted in this statement shall lapse and be void. The Minister for the Environment shall determine any question as to whether the project has been substantially commenced. Any application to extend the period of five years referred to in this condition shall be made before the expiration of that period, to the Minister for the Environment by way of a request for a change in the condition under Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act. (On expiration of the five year period, further consideration of the proposal can only occur following a new referral to the Environmental Protection Authority.)

6 Rehabilitation

- 6-1 Within three months of completion of construction, the proponent shall remove plant and installations used in the construction.
- 6-2 Within twelve months of completion of construction, the proponent shall commence rehabilitation of the site and its environs.

7 Compliance Auditing

In order to ensure that environmental conditions and commitments are met, an audit system is required.

- 7-1 To help verify environmental performance, the proponent shall prepare periodic Progress and Compliance Reports in consultation with the Environmental Protection Authority.

Procedure

- 1 The Environmental Protection Authority is responsible for verifying compliance with the conditions contained in this statement, with the exception of conditions stating that the

proponent shall meet the requirements of either the Minister for the Environment or any other government agency.

- 2 If the Environmental Protection Authority, other government agency or proponent is in dispute concerning compliance with the conditions contained in this statement, that dispute will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.

Paul Omodei MLA
A/MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

23 JUN 1994

PROPONENT'S COMMITMENTS

as modified on 18 April 1994

GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY NORTHAM BY-PASS (756)

MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ROUTE 9 - UPDATED 18/4/94

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

Objective

The objective for the preparation of environmental commitments for the proposed Route 9 alignment of the Northam Bypass is to provide necessary guidance on the management of potential environmental impacts. The environment commitments ascertain what management strategy is required, who will implement the strategy and the timing of implementation. Where appropriate, commitments which are required to be undertaken to the satisfaction of a regulatory authority, will have the abbreviation of the approval body shown in brackets after the commitment, e.g. (EPA), Environmental Protection Authority. A list of regulatory authorities and their abbreviations is provided at the end of this section.

The environmental commitments have been categorised into :-

- Preconstruction commitments
- During construction commitments
- Post construction commitments

Preconstruction Commitments

- (1) Main Roads to negotiate with affected landowners, where land resumption is required, in order to arrange an equitable agreement and compensation for loss of property.
- (2) Main Roads to liaise with WAWA regarding the outcome of the Avon River Floodway Study and the implications of study findings with respect to the Route 9 alignment and compliance with WAWA's maximum backwater surcharge constraints (WAWA, EPA).
- (3) Main Roads to undertake public education and consultation should Route 9 be approved by all relevant authorities and pursued by Main Roads prior to the implementation of this alignment.
- (4) Main Roads to commission a UXO survey at the bypass route between its commencement north of the Northam Army Camp and the Northam/Toodyay Road.

During Construction Commitments

- (5) Main Roads to make all contractors, associated with the construction of the Route 9 alignment, aware of environmental commitments aimed at protecting the environment during construction and built these commitments into their work contracts.

- (6) Main Roads to ensure all re-contouring of embankments and batter slopes to be achieved to acceptable gradients in order to minimise erosion and subsequent siltation of watercourses (EPA, ARMA).
- (7) Main Roads to revegetate cleared areas of road reserve not required for Stage 1 road purposes (EPA, CALM, ARMA).
- (8) Main Roads to revegetate embankments and batter slopes susceptible to short term erosion impacts during the construction phase of the project (EPA, CALM, ARMA).
- (9) Main Roads to provide scour protection (e.g. rock reinforcement or similar) to all bridge and road embankments within the 100 year floodplain (EPA, ARMA, WAWA).
- (10) Scour protection structures to be monitored by Main Roads to examine their stability and durability with the results to be reported as appropriate.
- (11) Main Roads to ensure all major road structures are constructed to accommodate a 100 year ARI flood event and comply with backwater constraints set by the Water Authority (WAWA).
- (12) Main Roads to ensure all minor transverse structures such as culverts will be constructed to cater for a 50 year ARI storm event (WAWA).
- (13) Should drainage flows need to be dammed temporarily, Main Roads will ensure that the ponded water is treated appropriately before it is pumped downstream (WAWA, ARMA, EPA).
- (14) Main Roads to ensure stormwater drainage structures are constructed to design specifications to achieve necessary retention times and storage capacities to collect sediments and compensate stormwater runoff (ARMA, WAWA, EPA).
- (15) Main Roads to carefully plan and manage all earthworking and construction related activities in order to minimise loss of soil material and subsequent siltation along the Avon and Mortlock rivers (WAWA, EPA, ARMA).
- (16) Main Roads to restrict vegetation clearing and machinery movements to the road reserve area along important areas such as the Northam Scout Block and Avon River bank (EAP).
- (17) Main Roads to re-contour and prepare the ground surfaces of revegetation areas to appropriate standards in order to facilitate the successful establishment of indigenous plant species (EPA, CALM, ARMA).
- (18) In road reserve areas of the Route 9 alignment where noxious weed proliferation is obvious, Main Roads are to arrange the removal and burial of affected topsoils to borrow pits.

- (19) Main Roads shall prepare a revegetation programme outlining key areas to be revegetated, selected species and timetable for revegetation.
- (20) Main Roads will monitor the establishment of revegetation annually for a period of 2 years after practical completion of the bypass proposal. Results of monitoring will be included in the Annual Monitoring Report (EPA, ARMA, CALM).
- (21) If revegetation is not progressing to the satisfaction of approval authorities, Main Roads will implement appropriate measures to remedy revegetation establishment (EPA, ARMA, CALM).
- (22) Main Roads to ensure noise and vibration levels associated with blasting activities comply with standards set by the EPA's Pollution Control Division (EPA).
- (23) Main Roads are to undertake before and after inspections of houses in the vicinity of blasting in order to assess potential vibration disturbance (EPA).
- (24) Main Roads will ensure inconvenience caused by re-routing cross roads affected during construction of the bypass alignment will be kept to a minimum and provide appropriate signage to achieve this.
- (25) During construction, Main Roads shall notify relevant agencies such as the Northam Tourist Centre, Shire of Northam and Town of Northam regarding restricted access to the foreshore areas along the Avon River.
- (26) Main Roads to ensure earthworking is undertaken during suitable ground conditions or employ dust suppression measures, such as water carts, when dust levels become problematic (EPA).
- (27) Main Roads to implement approved contingency plan during the construction of the Bypass project in order to contain and/or recover chemical or fuel spillages.
- (28) Main Roads to seek input from the local community in regard to planning and rehabilitating the foreshore areas in an effort to incorporate community needs for this important recreation/conservation area (EPA, ARMA).

Post-Construction Commitments

- (29) Main Roads to ensure the revegetation of all road reserve, embankments and batter slopes, including those areas revegetated during construction, are revegetated with appropriate indigenous plant species (EPA, ARMA).
- (30) Main Roads to periodically check all minor transverse drainage structures for possible obstructions and if it is demonstrated that road construction has exacerbated local flooding, Main Roads are to investigate remedial measures.
- (31) Main Roads to periodically maintain stormwater drainage structures and remove material that may inhibit their function (ARMA, EPA).

- (32) If the chemical control of weeds is necessary prior, during or after revegetation, Main Roads shall take care to avoid contaminated runoff entering waterways (EPA, ARMA).
- (33) Main Roads shall revegetate road reserves with the intention of creating suitable habitat areas and providing wildlife corridors that minimise fauna road kills.
- (34) Main Roads to construct the infrastructure for information bays and enlist the support of local authorities, local businesses and the Northam Tourist Centre regarding the content of accompanying signage.
- (35) Main Roads to implement approved contingency plan during the construction phase of the project. During the post-construction phase of the project, the implementation of the contingency plan will be the responsibility of the relevant authorities (e.g. Police Department, Fire brigade, Town of Northam, Shire of Northam, EPA, ARMA, State Emergency Service, etc.).
- (36) Main Roads shall undertake annual monitoring of :-
- revegetation areas
 - scour protection structures within 100 year flood plain
- for a 2 year period following practical construction of the Route 9 alignment. Results of the monitoring shall be submitted to relevant agencies as appropriate (EPA, ARMA, WAWA, CALM).
- * Additional and/or modified commitments arising from submissions received during the Public Review period for the Northam Bypass CER.

Commitment Abbreviations

ARMA	Avon River Management Authority
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
WAWA	Water Authority Of Western Australia