



Statement No.

000577

**MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE**

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

**GERALDTON SOUTHERN TRANSPORT CORRIDOR**

**Proposal:** The proposal is for the construction and operation of a road/rail corridor to provide direct access to the Port of Geraldton from the Geraldton/Mount Magnet Road, Walkaway Road and North West Coastal Highway, as documented in schedule 1 of this statement.

**Proponent:** Main Roads Western Australia

**Proponent Address:** PO Box 6202, East Perth WA 6892

**Assessment Number:** 1375

**Report of the Environmental Protection Authority:** 1013

The proposal to which the above report of the Environmental Protection Authority relates may be implemented subject to the following conditions and procedures:

*Procedural conditions*

**1 Implementation**

- 1-1 Subject to these conditions and procedures, the proponent shall implement the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement.
- 1-2 Where the proponent seeks to change any aspect of the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement in any way that the Minister for the Environment and Heritage determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is substantial, the proponent shall refer the matter to the Environmental Protection Authority.
- 1-3 Where the proponent seeks to change any aspect of the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement in any way that the Minister for the Environment and Heritage determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

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## **2 Proponent Commitments**

- 2-1 The proponent shall implement the consolidated environmental management commitments documented in schedule 2 of this statement.
- 2-2 The proponent shall implement subsequent environmental management commitments which the proponent makes as part of the fulfilment of conditions and procedures in this statement.

## **3 Proponent**

- 3-1 The proponent for the time being nominated by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage under section 38(6) or (7) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 is responsible for the implementation of the proposal until such time as the Minister for the Environment and Heritage has exercised the Minister's power under section 38(7) of the Act to revoke the nomination of that proponent and nominate another person in respect of the proposal.
- 3-2 Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister referred to in condition 3-1 shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the proposal in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.
- 3-3 The proponent shall notify the Department of Environmental Protection of any change of proponent contact name and address within 30 days of such change.

## **4 Commencement**

- 4-1 The proponent shall provide evidence to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage within five years of the date of this statement that the proposal has been substantially commenced.
- 4-2 Where the proposal has not been substantially commenced within five years of the date of this statement, the approval to implement the proposal as granted in this statement shall lapse and be void. The Minister for the Environment and Heritage will determine any question as to whether the proposal has been substantially commenced.
- 4-3 The proponent shall make application to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage for any extension of approval for the substantial commencement of the proposal beyond five years from the date of this statement at least six months prior to the expiration of the five year period referred to in conditions 4-1 and 4-2.
- 4-4 Where the proponent demonstrates to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment and Heritage on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority that the environmental parameters of the proposal have not changed significantly, then the Minister may grant an extension not exceeding five years for the substantial commencement of the proposal.

## **5 Compliance Auditing**

- 5-1 The proponent shall submit periodic Compliance Reports, in accordance with an audit program prepared in consultation between the proponent and the Department of Environmental Protection.
- 5-2 Unless otherwise specified, the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environmental Protection is responsible for assessing compliance with the conditions, procedures and commitments contained in this statement and for issuing formal, written advice that the requirements have been met.
- 5-3 Where compliance with any condition, procedure or commitment is in dispute, the matter will be determined by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

### *Environmental conditions*

## **6 Environmental Management System**

- 6-1 In order to manage the environmental impacts of the project, and to fulfil the requirements of the conditions and procedures in this statement, prior to ground-disturbing activity, the proponent shall demonstrate to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection that there is in place an environmental management system which includes the following elements:
- 1 An environmental policy and corporate commitment to it;
  - 2 Mechanisms and processes to ensure:
    - (1) planning to meet environmental requirements;
    - (2) implementation and operation of actions to meet environmental requirements;
    - (3) measurement and evaluation of environmental performance; and
  - 3 Review and improvement of environmental outcomes.
- 6-2 The proponent shall implement the environmental management system referred to in condition 6-1.

Dr Judy Edwards MLA  
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

14 NOV 2001

## Schedule 1

### The Proposal (Assessment No. 1375)

The Geraldton Southern Transport Corridor project involves the design, construction and operation of an east/west transport corridor from the Geraldton - Mount Magnet Road to the Geraldton Port. The ultimate design of the project consists of 12.5 kilometres of dual carriageway, 11.6 kilometres of single rail alignment, the construction of eight bridges and removal of one bridge.

The Key Proposal Characteristics are contained in Table 1.

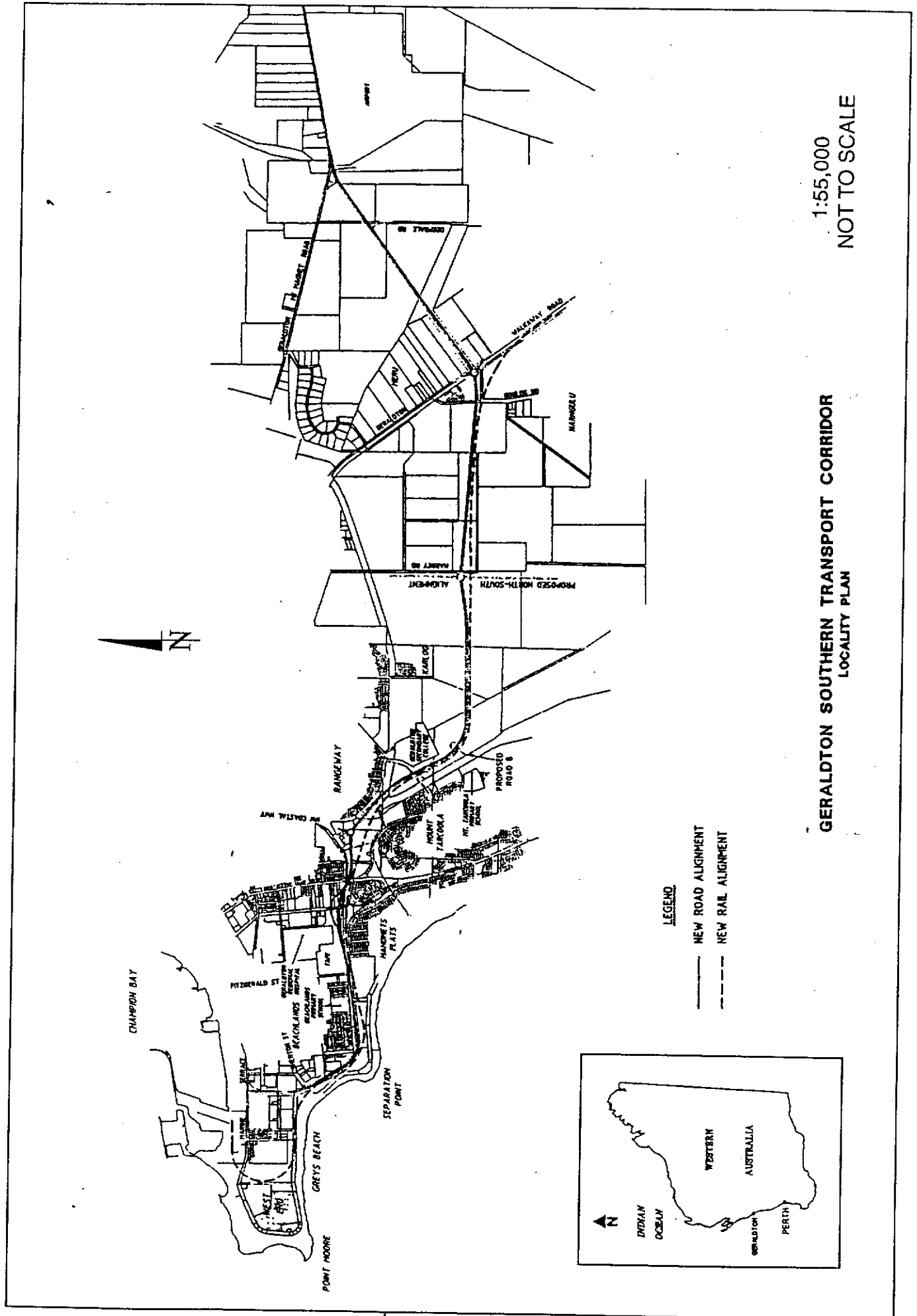
**Table 1 - Key Proposal Characteristics**

| Element                        | Quantities/Description  |  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Period of construction         | May 2002 – November 2004  |  |
| Project purpose                | Provide efficient and safe long term access to the Geraldton Port through an upgraded heavy haulage road and rail system. |  |
| Locality                       | City of Geraldton and Shire of Greenough.   |  |
| Major Components Proposed Road | 12.5 kilometres   | Dual Carriageway at ultimate stage. (6.5 kilometres at Stage 1).   |
|                                | 3 Bridges   | Spanning the east/west alignment at the Cathedral Avenue/Brand Highway Interchange, Durlacher Street and Highbury Street.                |
|                                | Removal of 1 Bridge   | North West Coastal Highway over Durlacher Street.  |
|                                | On and Off Ramps  | Linking Brand Highway/Cathedral Avenue Interchange to the east/west road alignment.  |
|                                | 3 Roundabouts   | Linking the east/west road alignment to North West Coastal Highway, Geraldton/Walkaway Road and the proposed Road B.                     |
|                                | Refer to Figure 1 - Locality Plan   |  |
| Major Components Proposed Rail | 11.6 kilometres   | Single Rail Alignment from Narngulu Industrial Area to the Geraldton Port.   |
|                                | 5 Bridges   | Spanning the railway alignment on Brand Highway/Cathedral Avenue Interchange (2), Durlacher Street, Highbury Street and proposed Road B. |
|                                | Refer to Figure 1 - Locality Plan   |  |

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Noise barriers                  | Minimum height of 3.0 metres and maximum of 4.0 metres along southern end of Eliot Street between Crowther Street and Central West College of TAFE. Minimum height of 2.0 metres and a maximum of 4.0 metres at other locations where noise level criteria are exceeded. |
| Containment basins              | Construction of 2-stage spill containment basins in areas of environmental risk.   |
| Foreshore set-back              | The corridor will be placed outside the coastal development zone buffer.   |
| Area of disturbance             | 117.2 hectares – total land requirement excluding existing road reserves.  |
| Area of vegetation clearing     | 41.3 hectares of remnant vegetation.   |
| Rehabilitation and revegetation | 29 hectares to be revegetated.<br>Acquisition of 10.3 hectares to be permanently retained for conservation.  |

## Figure

Figure 1 – Locality plan (attached).



1:55,000  
NOT TO SCALE

GERALDTON SOUTHERN TRANSPORT CORRIDOR  
LOCALITY PLAN

LEGEND  
 — NEW ROAD ALIGNMENT  
 - - - NEW RAIL ALIGNMENT

Figure 1. Locality Plan (Source: Main Roads Western Australia).

**Proponent's Consolidated Environmental Management  
Commitments**

October 2001

**GERALDTON SOUTHERN TRANSPORT  
CORRIDOR**

**MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

# PROPONENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITMENTS

## GERALDTON SOUTHERN TRANSPORT CORRIDOR (Assessment No. 1375)

| No. | Topic   | Action  | Objective/s  | Timing                                 | Advice |
|-----|---|---|--|--|--------|
| 1   | Environmental management                              | <p>Prepare and implement Environmental Management Plans to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetation protection and replacement;</li> <li>• Noise and Vibration;</li> <li>• Dangerous Goods; and</li> <li>• Aboriginal heritage.</li> </ul>  | Minimise environmental effects in the construction and operation phases.   | Prior to, during and post construction |        |
| 2   | Vegetation loss                                       | Acquire 10.3 ha of land containing vegetation adjacent to the Geraldton Southern Transport Corridor and manage for conservation purposes.   | Protect vegetation to compensate for loss.   | Prior to construction                  | CALM   |
| 3   | Vegetation Protection and Replacement Management Plan | <p>Prepare a Vegetation Protection and Replacement Management Plan to address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Revegetation of all areas that are cleared with local native species during the construction phase, that do not form part of the final road/rail structure.</li> <li>2. Protection of areas of existing vegetation outside the construction zone within the corridor during construction and enhance them during rehabilitation.</li> <li>3. Restoration of the former natural vegetation within the corridor in areas cleared for agriculture.</li> <li>4. Rehabilitation of the area occupied by the Separation Point Caravan Park.</li> <li>5. Fencing of both sides of the Geraldton Southern Transport Corridor along its entire length.</li> <li>6. A landscape rehabilitation program to replace vegetation cover lost during construction.</li> <li>7. Use of local native species in rehabilitation.</li> </ol> | <p>Sustain, improve and replace the values of natural vegetation cleared.</p> <p>Improve the diversity of plant species and communities within and adjacent to the corridor.</p> | Prior to construction                  | CALM   |



| No. | Topic   | Action  | Objective/s  | Timing   | Advice |
|-----|---|---|--|--|--------|
| 4   | Vegetation Protection and Replacement Management Plan | Implement the Vegetation Protection and Replacement Management Plan.  | Ensure appropriate management, protection and rehabilitation of vegetation.  | During and post-construction   | CALM   |
| 5   | Noise and Vibration Management                        | <p>1. Minimize noise and vibration emissions associated with the proposal as far as is practicable.</p> <p>2. Design and construct the project such that the operating noise levels received at noise-sensitive premises do not exceed the following –</p> <p>a) In relation to road and rail traffic separately, a noise level of 55 dBL<sub>Aeq,9h</sub> (over the period 10pm to 6am); and</p> <p>b) In relation to road traffic only, a noise level of 63 dBL<sub>A10,18h</sub> (over the period 6am to midnight).</p> <p>Note: Noise predictions are to be carried out according to methodology used in the environmental assessment of this Project.</p> <p>3. The maximum height of noise barriers designed to meet Commitment 2 will be 4.0 metres above existing ground level.</p> <p>4. Where a noise barrier is required under Commitment 2, the minimum barrier height shall be as far as practicable 2.0m above existing ground level.</p> <p>5. Construct a noise barrier to a height of at least 3.0 metres above existing ground level on the southern side of Eliot Street, between Crowther Street and the Central West College of TAFE, excluding openings for existing street access.</p> <p>6. Validate the design and location of noise mitigation measures to ensure compliance with noise criteria for the project.</p> | <p>Reduce noise levels to levels consistent with the noise level criteria agreed between MRWAWAGR/DEP.</p> <p>Maintain a balance between noise control and aesthetic appeal.</p> <p>Ensure design and construction meet noise criteria</p> | <p>Prior to and during construction</p> <p>Prior to construction</p> |        |

| No. | Topic                               | Action  | Objective/s  | Timing   | Advice |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--------|
| 6   | Noise and Vibration Management Plan | <p>Prepare a Noise and Vibration Management Plan to address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assessment of the potential for vibration prior to the design phase to predict areas susceptible to vibration.</li> <li>2. Determination of the need for vibration suppression in the railway track.</li> <li>3. A Property Condition Survey to be completed before construction on properties within 50 metres of any construction activity and on other nearby properties of heritage significance.</li> <li>4. Construction noise and vibration impacts.</li> <li>5. Operational noise and vibration impacts.</li> <li>6. Monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of barriers 6 months after completion of construction.</li> <li>7. Measures to be undertaken if monitoring indicates that noise emissions exceed noise level criteria.</li> <li>8. Noise and vibration complaint response and an ongoing noise and vibration monitoring program.</li> </ol> | <p>Reducing vibration in construction and operation.</p> <p>Avoiding damage to properties.</p> <p>Manage construction issues as they arise.</p> <p>Manage operational issues as they arise.</p> <p>Verify noise predictions.</p> | <p>Prior to the design phase</p> <p>Prior to construction</p> <p>Prior to construction</p> <p>Prior to construction</p> <p>Prior to construction</p> <p>Prior to and during construction</p> <p>During and post-construction</p> <p>During and post-construction</p> |        |
| 7   | Noise and Vibration Management Plan | <p>Implement the Noise and Vibration Management Plan.</p>   | <p>Ensure appropriate management of noise and vibration.</p>   | <p>During and post-construction</p>  |        |

| No. | Topic                           | Action   | Objective/s   | Timing   | Advice                      |
|-----|---------------------------------|--|---|--|-----------------------------|
| 8   | Coastal protection              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place the Corridor beyond the coastal development zone buffer described by the Maritime Transport Division of the Department of Planning &amp; Infrastructure.</li> <li>No discharge of runoff to active beach face.</li> </ol>   | <p>Protection of coast</p> <p>Protection of coast</p>   | <p>Prior to construction</p> <p>Prior to and during construction</p>   | Maritime Transport Division |
| 9   | Dangerous Goods Management Plan | <p>Prepare a Dangerous Goods Management Plan to address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of basins with a capacity of 100m<sup>3</sup> and an impermeable liner to capture contaminants prior to discharge to infiltration basins in zones of environmental threat.</li> <li>Advising emergency services of basin location and operation.</li> <li>Provision of turn pockets and storage for turning vehicles in the median at the Fitzgerald Street intersection.</li> <li>Construction of a noise barrier adjacent to the TAFE campus to provide additional blast protection.</li> <li>Reduction of societal risk to as low as reasonably practical for land uses in the vicinity of the <u>On Ramp (East)</u>.</li> </ol> | <p>Prevent spread of spill into the environment.</p> <p>Reduce the potential for vehicle-vehicle interaction.</p> <p>Reduce individual and societal risk.</p> | <p>During construction</p> <p>During construction</p> <p>Prior to construction</p> <p>During construction</p> <p>Prior to construction</p> |                             |
| 10  | Dangerous Goods Management Plan | <p>Implement the Dangerous Goods Management Plan.</p>  | <p>Ensure appropriate management of public health and safety associated with transport of dangerous goods in the design and construction of the project.</p>  | <p>During design and construction</p>  |                             |

| No. | Topic                               | Action  | Objective/s  | Timing                           | Advice |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|--------|
| 11  | Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan | <p>Prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan to address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Project personnel being informed of their responsibilities under legislation regarding Aboriginal heritage;</li> <li>2. Identifying areas of potential risk of uncovering new archaeological materials;</li> <li>3. Establishing a procedure for monitoring excavation and reporting the location of any new archaeological material to DIA should it be uncovered; and</li> <li>4. The manner in which the significance of any material will be determined.</li> </ol> | Develop and implement strategies when responding to any archaeological and Aboriginal heritage issues which may arise. | Prior to construction            | DIA    |
| 12  | Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan | Implement the Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan.  | Ensure appropriate management of Aboriginal heritage.  | Prior to and during construction | DIA    |

**Legend**

- CALM = Department of Conservation and Land Management
- DEP = Department of Environmental Protection
- DIA = Department of Indigenous Affairs
- EPA = Environmental Protection Authority
- GSTC = Geraldton Southern Transport Corridor
- MRWA = Main Roads Western Australia
- WAGR = Western Australian Government Railways Commission