



## Referral of proposed action

### What is a referral?

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) provides for the protection of the environment, especially matters of national environmental significance (NES). Under the EPBC Act, a person must not take an action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on any of the matters of NES without approval from the Australian Government Environment Minister or the Minister's delegate. (Further references to 'the Minister' in this form include references to the Minister's delegate.) To obtain approval from the Environment Minister, a proposed action should be referred. The purpose of a referral is to obtain a decision on whether your proposed action will need formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Your referral will be the principal basis for the Minister's decision as to whether approval is necessary and, if so, the type of assessment that will be undertaken. These decisions are made within 20 business days, provided sufficient information is provided in the referral.

### Who can make a referral?

Referrals may be made by or on behalf of a person proposing to take an action, the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency, a state or territory government, or agency, provided that the relevant government or agency has administrative responsibilities relating to the action.

### When do I need to make a referral?

A referral must be made for actions that are likely to have a significant impact on the following matters protected by Part 3 of the EPBC Act:

- World Heritage properties (sections 12 and 15A)
- National Heritage places (sections 15B and 15C)
- Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)
- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
- Protection of the environment from nuclear actions (sections 21 and 22A)
- Commonwealth marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (sections 24B and 24C)
- A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development (sections 24D and 24E)
- The environment, if the action involves Commonwealth land (sections 26 and 27A), including:
  - actions that are likely to have a significant impact on the environment of Commonwealth land (even if taken outside Commonwealth land);
  - actions taken on Commonwealth land that may have a significant impact on the environment generally;
- The environment, if the action is taken by the Commonwealth (section 28)
- Commonwealth Heritage places outside the Australian jurisdiction (sections 27B and 27C)

You may still make a referral if you believe your action is not going to have a significant impact, or if you are unsure. This will provide a greater level of certainty that Commonwealth assessment requirements have been met.

To help you decide whether or not your proposed action requires approval (and therefore, if you should make a referral), the following guidance is available from the Department's website:

- the Policy Statement titled Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance. Additional sectoral guidelines are also available.

- the Policy Statement titled Significant Impact Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies.
- the Policy Statement titled Significant Impact Guidelines: Coal seam gas and large coal mining developments—Impacts on water resources.
- the interactive map tool (enter a location to obtain a report on what matters of NES may occur in that location).

Can I refer part of a larger action?

In certain circumstances, [the Minister may not accept a referral for an action that is a component of a larger action and may request the person proposing to take the action to refer the larger action for consideration under the EPBC Act \(Section 74A, EPBC Act\)](#). If you wish to make a referral for a staged or component referral, read 'Fact Sheet 6 Staged Developments/Split Referrals' and contact the Referrals Gateway (1800 803 772).

Do I need a permit?

Some activities may also require a permit under other sections of the EPBC Act or another law of the Commonwealth. Information is available on the Department's web site.

Is your action in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?

If your action is in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park it may require permission under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* (GBRMP Act). If a permission is required, referral of the action under the EPBC Act is deemed to be an application under the GBRMP Act (see section 37AB, GBRMP Act). This referral will be forwarded to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (the Authority) for the Authority to commence its permit processes as required under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983. If a permission is not required under the GBRMP Act, no approval under the EPBC Act is required (see section 43, EPBC Act). The Authority can provide advice on relevant permission requirements applying to activities in the Marine Park.

The Authority is responsible for assessing applications for permissions under the GBRMP Act, GBRMP Regulations and Zoning Plan. Where assessment and approval is also required under the EPBC Act, a single integrated assessment for the purposes of both Acts will apply in most cases. Further information on environmental approval requirements applying to actions in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is available from <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/> or by contacting GBRMPA's Environmental Assessment and Management Section on (07) 4750 0700.

The Authority may require a permit application assessment fee to be paid in relation to the assessment of applications for permissions required under the GBRMP Act, even if the permission is made as a referral under the EPBC Act. Further information on this is available from the Authority:

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

2-68 Flinders Street PO Box 1379

Townsville QLD 4810

AUSTRALIA

Phone: + 61 7 4750 0700

Fax: + 61 7 4772 6093

[www.gbrmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au)

## What information do I need to provide?

[Completing all parts of this form will ensure that you submit the required information and will also assist the Department to process your referral efficiently. If a section of the referral document is not applicable to your proposal enter N/A.](#)

You can complete your referral by entering your information into this Word file.

### Instructions

Instructions are provided in blue text throughout the form.

### Attachments/supporting information

The referral form should contain sufficient information to provide an adequate basis for a decision on the likely impacts of the proposed action. You should also provide supporting documentation, such as environmental reports or surveys, as attachments.

Coloured maps, figures or photographs to help explain the project and its location should also be submitted with your referral. Aerial photographs, in particular, can provide a useful perspective and context. Figures should be good quality as they may be scanned and viewed electronically as black and white documents. Maps should be of a scale that clearly shows the location of the proposed action and any environmental aspects of interest.

Please ensure any attachments are below three megabytes (3mb) as they will be published on the Department's website for public comment. To minimise file size, enclose maps and figures as separate files if necessary. If unsure, contact the Referrals Gateway (email address below) for advice. Attachments larger than three megabytes (3mb) may delay processing of your referral.

Note: the Minister may decide not to publish information that the Minister is satisfied is commercial-in-confidence.

## How do I pay for my referral?

From 1 October 2014 the Australian Government commenced cost recovery arrangements for environmental assessments and some strategic assessments under the EPBC Act. If an action is referred on or after 1 October 2014, then cost recovery will apply to both the referral and any assessment activities undertaken. Further information regarding cost recovery can be found on the [Department's website](#).

Payment of the referral fee can be made using one of the following methods:

- EFT Payments can be made to:

BSB: 092-009

Bank Account No. 115859

Amount: \$7352

Account Name: Department of the Environment.

Bank: Reserve Bank of Australia

Bank Address: 20-22 London Circuit Canberra ACT 2601

Description: The reference number provided (see note below)

- Cheque - Payable to "Department of the Environment". Include the reference number provided (see note below), and if posted, address:

The Referrals Gateway

Environment Assessment Branch

Department of the Environment

GPO Box 787

Canberra ACT 2601

- Credit Card

Please contact the Collector of Public Money (CPM) directly (call (02) 6274 2930 or 6274 20260 and provide the reference number (see note below).

Note: in order to receive a reference number, submit your referral and the Referrals Gateway will email you the reference number.

## How do I submit a referral?

Referrals may be submitted by mail or email.

Mail to:

Referrals Gateway

Environment Assessment Branch

Department of Environment

GPO Box 787

CANBERRA ACT 2601

- If submitting via mail, electronic copies of documentation (on CD/DVD or by email) are required.

Email to: [epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au](mailto:epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au)

- Clearly mark the email as a 'Referral under the EPBC Act'.
- Attach the referral as a Microsoft Word file and, if possible, a PDF file.
- Follow up with a mailed hardcopy including copies of any attachments or supporting reports.

## What happens next?

Following receipt of a valid referral (containing all required information) you will be advised of the next steps in the process, and the referral and attachments will be published on the Department's web site for public comment.

The Department will write to you within 20 business days to advise you of the outcome of your referral and whether or not formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act is required. There are a number of possible decisions regarding your referral:

The proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have a significant impact and does NOT NEED approval  
No further consideration is required under the environmental assessment provisions of the EPBC Act and the action can proceed (subject to any other Commonwealth, state or local government requirements).

The proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have a significant impact IF undertaken in a particular manner

The action can proceed if undertaken in a particular manner (subject to any other Commonwealth, state or local government requirements). The particular manner in which you must carry out the action will be identified as part of the final decision. You must report your compliance with the particular manner to the Department.

The proposed action is LIKELY to have a significant impact and does NEED approval

If the action is likely to have a significant impact a decision will be made that it is a *controlled action*. The particular matters upon which the action may have a significant impact (such as World Heritage values or threatened species) are known as the *controlling provisions*.

The controlled action is subject to a public assessment process before a final decision can be made about whether to approve it. The assessment approach will usually be decided at the same time as the controlled action decision. (Further information about the levels of assessment and basis for deciding the approach are available on the Department's web site.)

The proposed action would have UNACCEPTABLE impacts and CANNOT proceed

The Minister may decide, on the basis of the information in the referral, that a referred action would have clearly unacceptable impacts on a protected matter and cannot proceed.

## Compliance audits

If a decision is made to approve a project, the Department may audit it at any time to ensure that it is completed in accordance with the approval decision or the information provided in the referral. If the project changes, such that the likelihood of significant impacts could vary, you should write to the Department to advise of the changes. If your project is in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and a decision is made to approve it, the Authority may also audit it. (See "*Is your action in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park*," p.2, for more details).

## For more information

- call the Department of the Environment Community Information Unit on 1800 803 772 or
- visit the web site <http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/about-us/legislation/environment-protection-and-biodiversity-conservation-act-1999>

All the information you need to make a referral, including documents referenced in this form, can be accessed from the above web site.

# Referral of proposed action

Project title: Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B

## 1 Summary of proposed action

NOTE: You must also attach a map/plan(s) and associated geographic information system (GIS) vector (shapefile) dataset showing the location and approximate boundaries of the area in which the project is to occur. Maps in A4 size are preferred. You must also attach a map(s)/plan(s) showing the location and boundaries of the project area in respect to any features identified in 3.1 & 3.2, as well as the extent of any freehold, leasehold or other tenure identified in 3.3(i).

### 1.1 Short description

The Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B is part of Yarra Valley Water's (YVW) strategy for metropolitan sewage network capacity upgrades to accommodate flows from the Northern Growth Area. The project is a sewerage alignment which involves the extension of the existing Epping Branch Sewer. The new Epping Branch Sewer is to be located in the future VicRoads extension of Edgars Road, Epping.

### 1.2 Latitude and longitude

Latitude and longitude details are used to accurately map the boundary of the proposed action. If these coordinates are inaccurate or insufficient it may delay the processing of your referral.

location point	Latitude			Longitude		
	degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
N extent	37	38	6.4	145	0	17.4
	37	38	7.7	145	0	17.2
	37	38	7.9	145	0	19.2
	37	38	13.3	145	0	18.4
	37	38	20.2	145	0	19.6
S extent	37	38	27.0	145	0	21.5
	37	38	33.8	145	0	24.4

The Interactive Mapping Tool may provide assistance in determining the coordinates for your project area.

If the area is less than 5 hectares, provide the location as a single pair of latitude and longitude references. If the area is greater than 5 hectares, provide bounding location points.

There should be no more than 50 sets of bounding location coordinate points per proposal area.

Bounding location coordinate points should be provided sequentially in either a clockwise or anticlockwise direction.

If the proposed action is linear (eg. a road or pipeline), provide coordinates for each turning point.

Also attach the associated GIS-compliant file that delineates the proposed referral area. If the area is less than 5 hectares, please provide the location as a point layer. If greater than 5 hectares, please provide a polygon layer. If the proposed action is linear (eg. a road or pipeline) please provide a polyline layer (refer to GIS data supply guidelines at [Attachment A](#)).

Do not use AMG coordinates.

### 1.3 Locality and property description

Provide a brief physical description of the property on which the proposed action will take place and the project location (eg. proximity to major towns, or for off-shore projects, shortest distance to mainland).

The site is located approximately 3 km west of Epping and approximately 20 km north of Melbourne CBD. The sewer alignment is located between the existing YVW sewerage network at the Cotters Road Pumping Station site (O'Herns Road) in the North and the commercial development at 300 & 320 Cooper St (EPBC referral 2008/4013) in the South. The sewer is to be aligned with the future Edgars Road extension.

### 1.4 Size of the development footprint or work area (hectares)

Approximately 3 ha. This is based on a worst case scenario assumed to involve a 40 m wide corridor along a 980m long alignment although this will likely be reduced following further design work and engagement of a construction partner.

1.5	Street address of the site	135-195 O'Herns Rd. Epping 3076 Road reserve of O'Herns Rd. Epping 3076	
1.6	Lot description Vol 9189 Folio 311 Portion 8 Section 4 Parish of Wollert Vol 9377 Folio 949 Portion 7 Section 4 Parish of Wollert Vol 9610 Folio 701 Land in Plan of Consolidation 159063Q Vol 10622 Folio 567 Lot 1 on Title Plan 023952A Vol 11510 Folio 715 Lot B on Plan of Subdivision 718233Y Describe the lot numbers and title description, if known.		
1.7	Local Government Area and Council contact (if known) If the project is subject to local government planning approval, provide the name of the relevant council contact officer. City of Whittlesea – Irena Krsreska – Engineering Manager.		
1.8	Time frame Specify the time frame in which the action will be taken including the estimated start date of construction/operation. Design Complete and available for Tender – October 2015 Construction commencement – January 2016 Construction complete and operation commences – July 2016		
1.9	Alternatives to proposed action Were any feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action (including not taking the action) considered but are not proposed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No   Yes, you must also complete section 2.2
1.10	Alternative time frames etc Does the proposed action include alternative time frames, locations or activities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No  Yes, you must also complete Section 2.3. For each alternative, location, time frame, or activity identified, you must also complete details in Sections 1.2-1.9, 2.4-2.7 and 3.3 (where relevant).
1.11	State assessment Is the action subject to a state or territory environmental impact assessment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No  Yes, you must also complete Section 2.5
1.12	Component of larger action Is the proposed action a component of a larger action?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No  Yes, you must also complete Section 2.7
1.13	Related actions/proposals Is the proposed action related to other actions or proposals in the region (if known)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No  Yes, provide details: The project involves construction within areas previously referred (2008/4013) and involves actions specified in that referral. This referral is specifically for areas outside the previously referred area.
1.14	Australian Government funding Has the person proposing to take the action received any Australian Government grant funding to undertake this project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No  Yes, provide details:
1.15	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Is the proposed action inside the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No  Yes, you must also complete Section 3.1 (h), 3.2 (e)



## 2 Detailed description of proposed action

NOTE: It is important that the description is complete and includes all components and activities associated with the action. If certain related components are not intended to be included within the scope of the referral, this should be clearly explained in section 2.7.

### 2.1 Description of proposed action

This should be a detailed description outlining all activities and aspects of the proposed action and should reference figures and/or attachments, as appropriate.

The Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B is part of Yarra Valley Water's (YVW) strategy for metropolitan sewage network capacity upgrades to accommodate flows from the Northern Growth Area. The project is extension of Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4A to O'Herns Road (from just north of Cooper Street) (referred to as Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B). Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4A was installed as part of the construction of the Melbourne Wholesale Market, a project previously referred under the EPBC Act (2007/3755 and 2008/4597).

The Melbourne Market Duplication section is within an area previously referred under the EPBC Act and granted approval to proceed (2008/4013 Development of 300&320 Cooper St Epping – Commercial and industrial subdivision). This referral specifically included "associated services" which includes the proposed sewer pipeline in this area. The project will avoid the identified Growling Grass Frog and Curly Sedge habitat at Edgars Creek by boring under the waterway and will not impact the constructed wetlands, therefore complying with the conditions of the approval granted. The area referred therefore only refers to Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B.

Ultimately, following completion of the Epping Tunnel, the Epping Branch Sewer will transfer flows from the Epping Sewerage Catchment Area Plan (SCAP) to the Merri Creek Main (Approximately 2021).

Prior to completion of the Epping Tunnel, the Epping Branch Sewer will only receive excess flows from the Aurora STP (where flows pumped to the plant exceed the capacity of the plant). The flows from the Epping Branch Sewer will outfall into the Edgars Road Pumping Station (SPS669) and be pumped east to the Edgars Creek SCAP.

### 2.2 Alternatives to taking the proposed action

This should be a detailed description outlining any feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action (including not taking the action) that were considered but are not proposed (note, this is distinct from any proposed alternatives relating to location, time frames, or activities – see section 2.3).

Not Applicable (N/A). Sewerage upgrades required to accommodate the Northern Growth Area.

### 2.3 Alternative locations, time frames or activities that form part of the referred action

If you have identified that the proposed action includes alternative time frames, locations or activities (in section 1.10) you must complete this section. Describe any alternatives related to the physical location of the action, time frames within which the action is to be taken and alternative methods or activities for undertaking the action. For each alternative location, time frame or activity identified, you must also complete (where relevant) the details in sections 1.2-1.9, 2.4-2.7, 3.3 and 4. Please note, if the action that you propose to take is determined to be a controlled action, any alternative locations, time frames or activities that are identified here may be subject to environmental assessment and a decision on whether to approve the alternative.

The alignment section being referred is designed to follow the proposed Edgars Road Extension (VicRoads project in planning phase), enabling ongoing access ahead of the anticipated development of the surrounding area. It meets with existing infrastructure at either end of the proposed pipeline.

### 2.4 Context, planning framework and state/local government requirements

Explain the context in which the action is proposed, including any relevant planning framework at the state and/or local government level (e.g. within scope of a management plan, planning initiative or policy framework). Describe any Commonwealth or state legislation or policies under which approvals are required or will be considered against.

The entire alignment is within an area identified within the Planning Scheme of the City of Whittlesea as Cooper Street Employment Area. The Development Plan (City of Whittlesea, 2007), proposes that the entire area be developed with the exception of areas retained as open space including the areas along Edgar's Creek and proposed wetlands and detention basins.

*Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988:*

A Permit to Take may need to be obtained from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for the project if Golden Sun Moth and Growling Grass Frog are to be impacted.

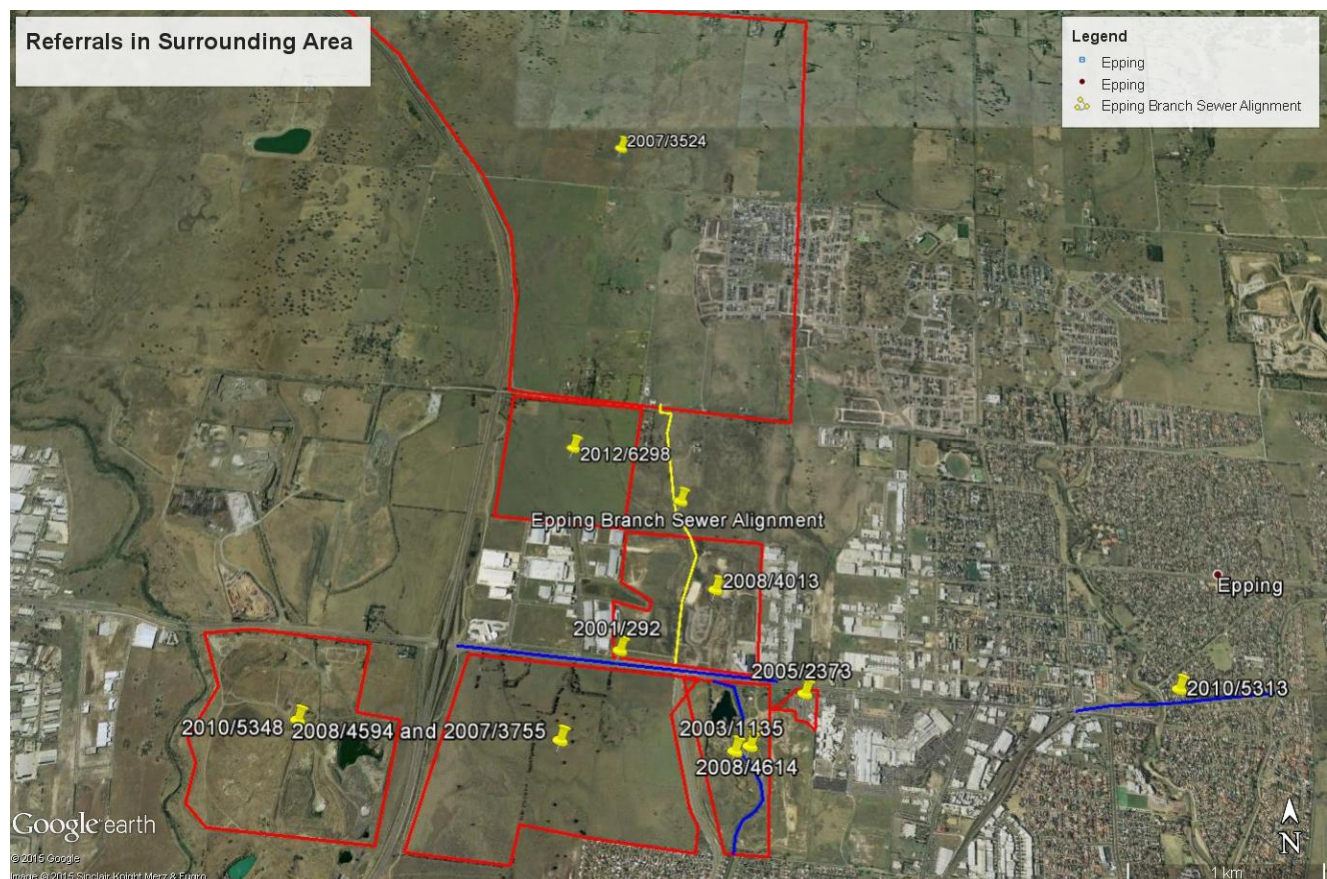
*Planning and Environment Act 1987:*



Where native vegetation is to be removed, a permit would need to be obtained from the City of Whittlesea and an application to DELWP will be undertaken to determine vegetation offset requirements, including potential impacts on rare and threatened species habitat. No native vegetation as defined in the Biodiversity Assessment Guidelines (DEPI 2013) was identified within the project footprint, with identified patches and scattered trees being avoided and therefore no vegetation offsets will be required under the *Planning and Environment Act*.

### Previous Referrals

There have been numerous referrals in the surrounding area that have been reviewed in preparing this referral. These are shown in relation to the current proposal below.



2001/292	VicRoads/Land Transport Infrastructure/Epping/VIC/Upgrade of Cooper Street, Epping 18 May 2001
2003/1135	Vic Roads/Land transport/Melbourne/VIC/Construction of the Edgars Road Extension, from Childs Road, Lalor to Cooper Street, Epping 30 July 2003
2005/2373	Department of Human Services/Urban and commercial redevelopment/Cooper Street/Epping/VIC/Car Park development for the Northern Hospital 31 Oct 2005
2007/3524	VicUrban/Residential development/Epping North/VIC/Aurora, Residential Subdivision, Epping North 3 July 2007
2007/3755	Department of Primary Industries/Commercial development/Cooper St, Epping, 17km north of Melbourne/VIC/Construction and operation of the Melbourne Wholesale Market 9 Oct 2007
2008/4013	Edgars St Pty Ltd/Commercial development/300 & 320 Cooper St Epping Melbourne/VIC/Commercial and industrial subdivision 13 Feb 2008
2008/4594	Yarra Valley Water/Waste management (sewerage)/Cooper Street, Epping/VIC/Geotechnical Drilling Research for the Sewer Alignment for the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Markets 20 Nov 2008

2008/4614	Melbourne Water Corporation/Water management and use/south of Cooper St, Epping, Melbourne/VIC/Edgars Creek Drainage Enhancement	26 Nov 2008
2010/5313	Department of Transport/Transport - land/Epping Railway Station to 393 Civic Drive, South Morang/VIC/South Morang Rail Extension Project	14 Jan 2010
2010/5348	The Alex Fraser Group /Waste management (non-sewerage)/Epping /VIC/Materials Recycling Facility & Business Estate	4 Feb 2010
2012/5348	MAB Corporation Pty Ltd /Commercial development/275 O'Herns Road, Epping /VIC/Subdivision of land for Industrial and Commercial Office use	29 Feb 2012

## 2.5 Environmental impact assessments under Commonwealth, state or territory legislation

If you have identified that the proposed action will be or has been subject to a state or territory environmental impact statement (in section 1.11) you must complete this section. Describe any environmental assessment of the relevant impacts of the project that has been, is being, or will be carried out under state or territory legislation. Specify the type and nature of the assessment, the relevant legislation and the current status of any assessments or approvals. Where possible, provide contact details for the state/territory assessment contact officer.

Describe or summarise any public consultation undertaken, or to be undertaken, during the assessment. Attach copies of relevant assessment documentation and outcomes of public consultations (if available).

N/A

## 2.6 Public consultation (including with Indigenous stakeholders)

Your referral must include a description of any public consultation that has been, or is being, undertaken. Where Indigenous stakeholders are likely to be affected by your proposed action, your referral should describe any consultations undertaken with Indigenous stakeholders. Identify the relevant stakeholders and the status of consultations at the time of the referral. Where appropriate include copies of documents recording the outcomes of any consultations.

The project requires a mandatory Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) which will involve consultation with the Wurundjeri Tribe Land Compensation and Cultural Heritage Council (WTLCCHC). The process of consultation with the WTLCCHC and preparation of the CHMP has begun but has not been completed at the time of this referral being prepared.

## 2.7 A staged development or component of a larger project

If you have identified that the proposed action is a component of a larger action (in section 1.12) you must complete this section. Provide information about the larger action and details of any interdependency between the stages/components and the larger action. You may also provide justification as to why you believe it is reasonable for the referred action to be considered separately from the larger proposal (eg. the referred action is 'stand-alone' and viable in its own right, there are separate responsibilities for component actions or approvals have been split in a similar way at the state or local government levels).

The project will include the duplication of the Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4A (referred to as the Melbourne Market Duplication) which will provide additional flow capacity between the Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B and Cooper Street. The duplication is not required until completion of the Epping Tunnel in late 2021. The Melbourne Market Duplication will be constructed within the road reserve of the Edgars Road extension which has already been constructed and referred by Edgars Rd Pty Ltd as part of a larger referral area (referral number 2008/4013).

## 3 Description of environment & likely impacts

### 3.1 Matters of national environmental significance

Describe the affected area and the likely impacts of the proposal, emphasising the relevant matters protected by the EPBC Act. Refer to relevant maps as appropriate. The interactive map tool can help determine whether matters of national environmental significance or other matters protected by the EPBC Act are likely to occur in your area of interest.

Your assessment of likely impacts should refer to the following resources (available from the Department's web site):

- specific values of individual World Heritage properties and National Heritage places and the ecological character of Ramsar wetlands;
- profiles of relevant species/communities (where available), that will assist in the identification of whether there is likely to be a significant impact on them if the proposal proceeds;
- *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance*; and
- associated sectoral and species policy statements available on the web site, as relevant.

Your assessment of likely impacts should consider whether a bioregional plan is relevant to your proposal. The Minister has prepared four marine bioregional plans (MBP) in accordance with section 176. It is likely that the MBP's will be more commonly relevant where listed threatened species, listed migratory species or a Commonwealth marine area is considered.

Note that even if your proposal will not be taken in a World Heritage area, Ramsar wetland, Commonwealth marine area, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park or on Commonwealth land, it could still impact upon these areas (for example, through downstream impacts). Consideration of likely impacts should include both direct and indirect impacts.

#### 3.1 (a) World Heritage Properties

##### Description

There are no World Heritage Properties on or adjacent the site

##### Nature and extent of likely impact

[Address any impacts on the World Heritage values of any World Heritage property.](#)

No World Heritage Properties will be impacted by the proposed project.

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#### 3.1 (b) National Heritage Places

##### Description

There are no National Heritage Places on or adjacent the site

##### Nature and extent of likely impact

[Address any impacts on the National Heritage values of any National Heritage place.](#)

No National Heritage Places will be impacted by the proposed project.

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#### 3.1 (c) Wetlands of International Importance (declared Ramsar wetlands)

#### Description

Edgars Creek, which runs adjacent the impact area, forms part of the Port Phillip Bay catchment. It flows into the Merri Creek and ultimately the Yarra River, which does not flow directly into any of the portions of the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site. The hydrology of Edgars Creek is not proposed to be altered by the project.

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

[Address any impacts on the ecological character of any Ramsar wetlands.](#)

No impact on Ramsar Wetlands will occur due to the proposed works

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#### 3.1 (d) Listed threatened species and ecological communities

## Description

### *Listed Threatened Ecological Communities/Communities*

Five threatened communities were identified as potentially occurring within the project area by the PMST:

- *Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain* (Critically Endangered)
- *Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia* (Endangered)
- *Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain* (Critically Endangered)
- *Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains* (Critically Endangered)
- *White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland* (Critically Endangered)

None are present within the project area based on a field assessment conducted by Jacobs (Australia) Pty Ltd on 12 March 2015. The project area is predominantly cleared grazing land dominated by environmental weeds, mainly Chilean Needle-grass (*Nassella neesiana*). One patch of native grassland has been identified but does not meet the criteria of the critically endangered EPBC community, *Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plain*, due to the small size of the patch (0.02 ha). Regardless, this patch will be avoided.

### *Listed Threatened Species*

A total of 19 Threatened Species were identified from the PMST as known or potentially occurring within 1 km of the proposed pipeline (5 birds, 3 fish, 1 frog, 1 insect, 1 mammal, 1 reptile and 7 plants). The majority of these will not be impacted as there is little to no habitat present within the impact area. Habitat was detected for Golden Sun Moth (*Synemon plana*), Striped Legless Lizard (*Delma impar*), Growling Grass Frog (*Litoria raniformis*), Matted Flax Lily (*Dianella amoena*) and Curly Sedge (*Carex tasmanica*) during a field assessment in March 2015. The findings of the field assessment are summarised below.

Grassland areas south of O'Herns Road are dominated by exotic Chilean Needle-grass (*Nassella neesiana*) and other exotic species, though some native grasses persist throughout at low abundance (Wallaby Grasses - *Rytidosperma* spp., Kangaroo Grass *Themda triandra*). Although not counted as native grasslands under the EPBC Act or Victorian guidelines, similar grasslands are known to support to provide suitable habitat for the critically endangered Golden Sun Moth. Referrals in nearby areas have confirmed presence of the species in similar habitats (see supporting information for 2012/6298, 2010/5348, 2008/4614, 2007/3755) with 110 records within 1 km of the proposed pipelines on the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (DELWP, 2015). Targeted surveys have not been undertaken for this project due to the proposed project timelines (would require survey in December 2015 at the earliest) and a conservative and precautionary approach has been adopted, with all suitable grasslands assumed to support GSM.

Although the habitat could support Striped Legless Lizard (numerous targeted surveys in surrounding areas have failed to locate any Striped Legless Lizards and is thought to be absent from the assessed area (Alan Webster, DELWP, pers comm.). Matted Flax Lily is known from nearby areas 1km north west of the northern most extent of the project (see referral 2012/6298) and from similar degraded grasslands but no Flax Lily plants of any species were seen during the field assessment of the area. Farm dams across the alignment and Edgars Creek to the west of the alignment are likely to provide suitable habitat for Growling Grass Frog. Edgars Creek may also provide habitat for Curly Sedge (which was putatively identified on the banks of Edgar's Creek) but is not crossed within the referred area.



#### Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on the members of any listed threatened species (except a conservation dependent species) or any threatened ecological community, or their habitat.

The proposed project will not impact on habitat for Growling Grass Frog or Curly Sedge habitat as it will avoid impacts on the farm dams and Edgars Creek within the referred area. A crossing of Edgars Creek is proposed within the area previously referred (2008/4015) and this area is habitat for Growling Grass Frog and Curly Sedge but will be avoided by installing the proposed pipes through trenchless technology. The fact no Matted Flax Lily plants were observed, nor were any Flax Lilies of any species observed, and the degraded nature of the grasslands which the project occurs in means that it is highly unlikely that the project will have a significant impact on this Vulnerable species as defined by the significant impact criteria (DoE, 2013).

We consider that it is likely that should targeted surveys be undertaken in the Chilean Needle dominated grasslands at an appropriate time of year that Golden Sun Moth would be detected, therefore we have taken the precautionary approach of considering all Chilean Needle Grass dominated areas to be Golden Sun Moth habitat. It is assumed that 3.0 ha of Golden Sun Moth Habitat would be removed based on a worst case scenario of a 40 m construction corridor and 750 m of the alignment being covered by Chilean Needle-grass dominated grasslands. It is likely this would be reduced once design has further progressed and constructor input to the construction footprint would be.

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#### 3.1 (e) Listed migratory species

##### Description

Habitat for a total of 12 Migratory species was identified within 1km of the alignment, comprising one Marine species, six terrestrial species, and five wetland species. There are no records and negligible habitat for these species along the alignment with the area within the project alignment exclusively supporting degraded grasslands.

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

The project will not impact on migratory species or their habitat.

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#### 3.1 (f) Commonwealth marine area

(If the action is in the Commonwealth marine area, complete 3.2(c) instead. This section is for actions taken outside the Commonwealth marine area that may have impacts on that area.)

##### Description

The project will not impact a Commonwealth marine area.

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

N/A

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#### 3.1 (g) Commonwealth land

(If the action is on Commonwealth land, complete 3.2(d) instead. This section is for actions taken outside Commonwealth land that may have impacts on that land.)

Description

The project does not take place on Commonwealth Land

Nature and extent of likely impact

N/A

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### 3.1 (h) The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

#### Description

The project will not impact the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Commonwealth Land

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

N/A

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### 3.1 (i) A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development

#### Description

The project is not a coal seam gas development or large coal mining development

#### Nature and extent of likely impact

N/A

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### 3.2 Nuclear actions, actions taken by the Commonwealth (or Commonwealth agency), actions taken in a Commonwealth marine area, actions taken on Commonwealth land, or actions taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

You must describe the nature and extent of likely impacts (both direct & indirect) on the whole environment if your project:

- is a nuclear action;
- will be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency;
- will be taken in a Commonwealth marine area;
- will be taken on Commonwealth land; or
- will be taken in the Great Barrier Reef marine Park.

Your assessment of impacts should refer to the *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies* and specifically address impacts on:

- ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities;
- natural and physical resources;
- the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas;
- the heritage values of places; and
- the social, economic and cultural aspects of the above things.

3.2 (a)	Is the proposed action a nuclear action?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment			

3.2 (b)	Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment			



3.2 (c)	Is the proposed action to be taken in a Commonwealth marine area?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(f))			
3.2 (d)	Is the proposed action to be taken on Commonwealth land?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(g))			
3.2 (e)	Is the proposed action to be taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?	X	No
			Yes (provide details below)
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(h))			

### 3.3 Other important features of the environment

Provide a description of the project area and the affected area, including information about the following features (where relevant to the project area and/or affected area, and to the extent not otherwise addressed above). If at Section 2.3 you identified any alternative locations, time frames or activities for your proposed action, you must complete each of the details below (where relevant) for each alternative identified.

#### 3.3 (a) Flora and fauna

The Epping Branch Sewer alignment is predominantly cleared grazing land dominated by environmental weeds. Native vegetation and habitat for threatened species still persist but are limited. Road reserve areas north of O'Herns Road comprise non-native grasses and planted Radiata Pine (*Pinus radiata*). Paddock areas further north are open grassland dominated by Chilean Needle-grass (*Nassella neesiana*) and have recently been slashed. A drainage line is present in this northern area, with limited native species present, which feeds into a farm dam. South of O'Herns Road is Toowoomba Canary-grass (*Phalaris aquatica*) / Chilean Needle-grass dominated grassland grazed by horses and kangaroos. Basalt boulders are present at the soil surface and cracking clay soils are present. Two farm dams are present in this southern area.

The Melbourne Markets Duplication sewer alignment, within previously an area referred under the EPBC Act (2008/4013) has previously been cleared of vegetation for construction work and so has little ecological value. The Melbourne Markets Duplication alignment does however, cross Edgars Creek as well as run adjacent to a constructed wetland.

During the field assessment Curly Sedge (*Carex tasmanica*) was potentially identified along the banks of Edgars Creek. The identity of this species is being confirmed at the time of report preparation as it may be the easily confused species Plains Sedge (*Carex bichenovia*). The alignment intersects the creek twice, once within the Epping Branch Sewer 4B alignment and once within the Melbourne Markets Duplication alignment. Within the Melbourne Markets Duplication alignment, further investigation would be required to determine if permitting requirements related to this species were addressed during the previous development of the creek crossing. Curly Sedge was not identified within any of the farm dams located within the alignment.

The species for which habitat is present and the potential for them to be impacted by the project are listed in Table 4.3. Chilean Needle-grass grassland, despite being a noxious weed, is considered to be habitat for Golden Sun Moth. This includes farmland north and south of O'Herns Road. Targeted surveys would need to be conducted during suitable conditions according to the required standards (DEWHA 2009a) to confirm presence or absence of this species. There are extensive records of Golden Sun Moth in adjacent properties in similar habitat, indicating a very high likelihood of them occurring within the sewer alignment. No Golden Sun Moth individuals were identified during the field assessment, however, this species is rarely if ever observed during March.

Known populations of Growling Grass Frog occur in Edgars Creek and habitat is present within farm dams and along Edgars Creek within the sewer alignment. As discussed in 4.2.2.1 the alignment intersects with Edgars Creek within the Melbourne Markets Duplication alignment which is in an area previously referred (2008/4013). These habitats will be avoided through employment of trenchless construction techniques.

Farmland north and south of O'Herns Road provides suitable habitat for Striped Legless Lizards as tussock-forming grassland with surface rocks and cracking soils. However, targeted surveys as well as search and salvage operations at adjacent sites have failed to locate any lizards. Considering this, as well as the degraded nature of the project area and lack of any suitable patches of remnant vegetation, it is assumed that Striped Legless Lizards are unlikely to persist in the project area.

### 3.3 (b) Hydrology, including water flows

The referred area is relatively flat, draining to the south east into Edgars Creek which is the major creek within the surrounding area. Edgars Creek will be maintained through the development of the surrounding area and wetlands have been constructed south of the referred area (see City of Whittlesea, 2007) in part to manage waterflows as the area is developed.

### 3.3 (c) Soil and Vegetation characteristics

As part of the Victorian Volcanic Plain, the referred area has deep basalt derived soils across a gently undulating plain. The soils at the time of field assessment had developed cracks as is common throughout the surrounding plain with occasional basalt floaters still evident except where past construction would have necessitated their removal.

The northern sections had been significantly disturbed through the construction of O'Hearn's Road and the water treatment plant where the proposed pipeline terminates. This area supported entirely non-native vegetation dominated by exotic grasses such as Kikuyu (*Pennisetum clandestinum*) and Toowoomba Canary Grass (*Phalaris aquatica*). The southern section in private land was dominated by degraded grasslands, now dominated by Chilean Needle-grass, a weed of national significance. Some native elements (Wallaby Grasses and Kangaroo Grass) remain but are now a minor component of the vegetation. By contrast a total of nine noxious weeds were detected during the field assessment (Jacobs 2015).

### 3.3 (d) Outstanding natural features

There are no outstanding natural features along the proposed alignment.

### 3.3 (e) Remnant native vegetation

No remnant native vegetation, other than the elements described in 3.3c are impacted by the proposed alignment. The single patch of native vegetation and the remnant trees identified during the field assessment will be avoided during construction of the pipeline.

### 3.3 (f) Gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area)

### 3.3 (g) Current state of the environment

[Include information about the extent of erosion, whether the area is infested with weeds or feral animals and whether the area is covered by native vegetation or crops.](#)

The area is currently in poor condition with weed invasion degrading the grasslands and woodlands that once would have been extant through the area.

### 3.3 (h) Commonwealth Heritage Places or other places recognised as having heritage values

None present within the referred area.

### 3.3 (i) Indigenous heritage values

The indigenous heritage values within the proposed project area are currently being investigated. Sites of known indigenous heritage value are known from the surrounding areas and further investigations are being undertaken to determine if any occur within the project area.

3.3 (j) Other important or unique values of the environment

Describe any other key features of the environment affected by, or in proximity to the proposed action (for example, any national parks, conservation reserves, wetlands of national significance etc).

There are no other important or unique values of the environment other than those described above.

3.3 (k) Tenure of the action area (eg freehold, leasehold)

The referred area is freehold land, and public road reserve.

3.3 (l) Existing land/marine uses of area

The referred area is predominantly used as an agistment with horses and kangaroos noted during field assessment. The area also comprises an existing water treatment plant and degraded road reserves each with negligible ecological and environmental value.

3.3 (m) Any proposed land/marine uses of area

None.

## 4 Measures to avoid or reduce impacts

Note: If you have identified alternatives in relation to location, time frames or activities for the proposed action at Section 2.3 you will need to complete this section in relation to each of the alternatives identified.

Provide a description of measures that will be implemented to avoid, reduce, manage or offset any relevant impacts of the action. Include, if appropriate, any relevant reports or technical advice relating to the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed measures.

For any measures intended to avoid or mitigate significant impacts on matters protected under the EPBC Act, specify:

- what the measure is,
- how the measure is expected to be effective, and
- the time frame or workplan for the measure.

Examples of relevant measures to avoid or reduce impacts may include the timing of works, avoidance of important habitat, specific design measures, or adoption of specific work practices.

Provide information about the level of commitment by the person proposing to take the action to implement the proposed mitigation measures. For example, if the measures are preliminary suggestions only that have not been fully researched, or are dependent on a third party's agreement (e.g. council or landowner), you should state that, that is the case.

Note, the Australian Government Environment Minister may decide that a proposed action is not likely to have significant impacts on a protected matter, as long as the action is taken in a particular manner (section 77A of the EPBC Act). The particular manner of taking the action may avoid or reduce certain impacts, in such a way that those impacts will not be 'significant'. More detail is provided on the Department's web site.

For the Minister to make such a decision (under section 77A), the proposed measures to avoid or reduce impacts must:

- clearly form part of the referred action (eg be identified in the referral and fall within the responsibility of the person proposing to take the action),
- be must be clear, unambiguous, and provide certainty in relation to reducing or avoiding impacts on the matters protected, and
- must be realistic and practical in terms of reporting, auditing and enforcement.

More general commitments (eg preparation of management plans or monitoring) and measures aimed at providing environmental offsets, compensation or off-site benefits CANNOT be taken into account in making the initial decision about whether the proposal is likely to have a significant impact on a matter protected under the EPBC Act. (But those commitments may be relevant at the later assessment and approval stages, including the appropriate level of assessment, if your proposal proceeds to these stages).

The primary mitigation measure applied to date is to avoid identified values. As such, native vegetation and discrete habitat areas such as dams and creeks have been avoided through selection of the alignment and specification of trenchless construction when crossing Edgar's Creek. The route selection also follows the proposed alignment for the extension of Edgars Road which will minimise the potential impact of that project when it proceeds.

The proposed project timelines, with approvals planned to be in place before December 2015 and construction planned to begin by February 2016, does not allow for the targeted surveys that could adequately inform other mitigation measures. As such YVW is prepared to accept potential conditions including obtaining offsets, pre-clearance surveys and subsequent preparation of management plans for threatened species potentially affected.

## 5 Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

Identify whether or not you believe the action is a controlled action (ie. whether you think that significant impacts on the matters protected under Part 3 of the EPBC Act are likely) and the reasons why.

### 5.1 Do you THINK your proposed action is a controlled action?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No, complete section 5.2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes, complete section 5.3

### 5.2 Proposed action IS NOT a controlled action.

Specify the key reasons why you think the proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have significant impacts on a matter protected under the EPBC Act.

### 5.3 Proposed action IS a controlled action

Type 'x' in the box for the matter(s) protected under the EPBC Act that you think are likely to be significantly impacted. (The 'sections' identified below are the relevant sections of the EPBC Act.)

#### Matters likely to be impacted

<input type="checkbox"/>	World Heritage values (sections 12 and 15A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Heritage places (sections 15B and 15C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protection of the environment from nuclear actions (sections 21 and 22A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commonwealth marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (sections 24B and 24C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development (sections 24D and 24E)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land (sections 26 and 27A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions (section 28)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commonwealth Heritage places overseas (sections 27B and 27C)

Specify the key reasons why you think the proposed action is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the matters identified above.

The proposed action will remove up to 3.0 ha of Golden Sun Moth habitat. Although not confirmed through targeted survey in the referred area, Golden Sun Moth has been detected throughout the surrounding area in degraded grasslands and through application of the precautionary principle is assumed to be present in the absence of actual data. The removal of more than 0.5 ha of habitat in an area of habitat more than 10 ha is considered a significant impact under the Significant impact guidelines for the critically endangered golden sun moth (*Synemon plana*) (DEWHA, 2009).

## 6 Environmental record of the responsible party

NOTE: If a decision is made that a proposal needs approval under the EPBC Act, the Environment Minister will also decide the assessment approach. The EPBC Regulations provide for the environmental history of the party proposing to take the action to be taken into account when deciding the assessment approach.

	Yes	No
<p>6.1 Does the party taking the action have a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management?</p> <p>Provide details            Party has accepted the recommendations of their biodiversity consultants.            Yarra Valley Water has established an Environmental Policy and Strategic Intent to provide services within the carrying capacity of nature and inspire others to do the same. The party reports its performance annually through a Sustainability Report.</p> <p>Yarra Valley Water's Environmental Policy is available at:  <a href="http://www.yvw.com.au/Home/Aboutus/Ourorganisation/Strategyandpolicy/Environmentalpolicy/index.htm">http://www.yvw.com.au/Home/Aboutus/Ourorganisation/Strategyandpolicy/Environmentalpolicy/index.htm</a>            Yarra Valley Water's Sustainability Reports can be viewed at:  <a href="http://www.yvw.com.au/Home/Aboutus/Reportsandpublications/Annualreports/index.htm">http://www.yvw.com.au/Home/Aboutus/Reportsandpublications/Annualreports/index.htm</a></p>	X	
<p>6.2 Has either (a) the party proposing to take the action, or (b) if a permit has been applied for in relation to the action, the person making the application - ever been subject to any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources?</p> <p>If yes, provide details</p>		X
<p>6.3 If the party taking the action is a corporation, will the action be taken in accordance with the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework?</p> <p>If yes, provide details of environmental policy and planning framework</p> <p>If yes, provide details of environmental policy and planning framework            Yarra Valley Water's environmental policy commits the organisation to provide water and sewerage services within the carrying capacity of nature. All works will be conducted in accordance with Yarra Valley Water's environmental policy.            Yarra Valley Water's Environmental Policy is available at:  <a href="http://www.yvw.com.au/Home/Aboutus/Ourorganisation/Strategyandpolicy/Environmentalpolicy/index.htm">http://www.yvw.com.au/Home/Aboutus/Ourorganisation/Strategyandpolicy/Environmentalpolicy/index.htm</a></p>	X	
<p>6.4 Has the party taking the action previously referred an action under the EPBC Act, or been responsible for undertaking an action referred under the EPBC Act?</p>	X	

Provide name of proposal and EPBC reference number (if known)

2001/459 Bundoora Sewage Flow Control Facility  
2002/601 Craigieburn Sewage Treatment Plant Decommission  
2004/1350 Mernda North Sewerage Strategy, Mernda-Doreen  
2004/1351 Mernda South Sewerage Pipeline  
2004/1503 Construction of sewerage pipeline from Craigieburn Sewage Treatment Plant to Melbourne metropolitan sewerage system  
2004/1505 Cessation or reduction of flows from sewage treatment plant  
2008/4042 Yuroke and Greenvale water supply mains  
2008/4315 Horne St shaft site and freeway shaft site Campbellfield – sewerage tunnel and shafts upgrade  
2008/4597 Geotechnical drilling research for the sewer alignment for the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Markets  
2008/4608 Pipeline to link Craigieburn Sewerage Treatment Plant to new Aurora recycled sewerage treatment plant  
2010/5653 Beveridge Wallan Infrastructure Project, Wallan, Victoria  
2011/6190 Kalkallo Class A Recycled Water Distribution Main, VIC  
2013/6823 Installation of the Mt Ridley Road West Water Mains (M703 & R004) and associated infrastructure

## 7 Information sources and attachments

(For the information provided above)

### 7.1 References

- List the references used in preparing the referral.
- Highlight documents that are available to the public, including web references if relevant.

DEWHA 2009, Significant impact guidelines for the critically endangered golden sun moth, Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts – PUBLICALLY AVAILABLE at <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/b945f32e-3f75-4739-a793-9f672893f3bb/files/golden-sun-moth.pdf>

Referrals (PUBLICALLY AVAILABLE at [http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/epbc/epbc\\_ap.pl?name=current\\_referrals&limit=999999&text\\_search=](http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/epbc/epbc_ap.pl?name=current_referrals&limit=999999&text_search=)) for surrounding areas as indicated in section 2.4, namely:

2007/3524	VicUrban/Residential development/Epping North/VIC/Aurora, Residential Subdivision, Epping North	3 July 2007
2007/3755	Department of Primary Industries/Commercial development/Cooper St, Epping, 17km north of Melbourne/VIC/Construction and operation of the Melbourne Wholesale Market	9 Oct 2007
2008/4013	Edgars St Pty Ltd/Commercial development/300 & 320 Cooper St Epping Melbourne/VIC/Commercial and industrial subdivision	13 Feb 2008
2008/4594	Yarra Valley Water/Waste management (sewerage)/Cooper Street, Epping/VIC/Geotechnical Drilling Research for the Sewer Alignment for the Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Markets	20 Nov 2008
2008/4614	Melbourne Water Corporation/Water management and use/south of Cooper St, Epping, Melbourne/VIC/Edgars Creek Drainage Enhancement	26 Nov 2008
2012/5348	MAB Corporation Pty Ltd /Commercial development/275 O'Herns Road, Epping /VIC/Subdivision of land for Industrial and Commercial Office use	29 Feb 2012

Jacobs (2015), Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B and Melbourne Markets Duplication - Ecology Report, Report for Yarra Valley Water.

### 7.2 Reliability and date of information

For information in section 3 specify:

- source of the information;
- how recent the information is;
- how the reliability of the information was tested; and
- any uncertainties in the information.

Information in section 3 was largely derived from the Ecology Report produced for the project which involved a desktop assessment and field assessment of the area conducted in March 2015. The description of on-ground conditions is an accurate description at that point in time. Given the time of year, late summer, targeted surveys for a range of species potentially occurring within the area were not able to be conducted and therefore uncertainty remains about the potential presence of threatened species, particularly Golden Sun Moth. Records of Golden Sun Moth in the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas were common in the surrounding area and coupled with information listed in the referrals listed in section 7.1, was used to deduce that there was a high likelihood of Golden Sun Moth occurring within the project Area

### 7.3 Attachments

Indicate the documents you have attached. All attachments must be less than three megabytes (3mb) so they can be published on the Department's website. Attachments larger than three megabytes (3mb) may delay the processing of your referral.



		✓ attached	Title of attachment(s)
You must attach	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the project locality (section 1)	X	
	GIS file delineating the boundary of the referral area (section 1)		
	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the location of the project in respect to any matters of national environmental significance or important features of the environments (section 3)	X	Flora and Fauna Map
If relevant, attach	copies of any state or local government approvals and consent conditions (section 2.5)		
	copies of any completed assessments to meet state or local government approvals and outcomes of public consultations, if available (section 2.6)		
	copies of any flora and fauna investigations and surveys (section 3)	X	Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B and Melbourne Markets Duplication - Ecology Report
	technical reports relevant to the assessment of impacts on protected matters that support the arguments and conclusions in the referral (section 3 and 4)		
	report(s) on any public consultations undertaken, including with Indigenous stakeholders (section 3)		

## 8 Contacts, signatures and declarations

NOTE: Providing false or misleading information is an offence punishable on conviction by imprisonment and fine (s 489, EPBC Act).

Under the EPBC Act a referral can only be made by:

- the person proposing to take the action (which can include a person acting on their behalf); or
- a Commonwealth, state or territory government, or agency that is aware of a proposal by a person to take an action, and that has administrative responsibilities relating to the action<sup>1</sup>.

Project title: Epping Branch Sewer Stage 4B

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### 8.1 Person proposing to take action

This is the individual, government agency or company that will be principally responsible for, or who will carry out, the proposed action.

If the proposed action will be taken under a contract or other arrangement, this is:

- the person for whose benefit the action will be taken; or
- the person who procured the contract or other arrangement and who will have principal control and responsibility for the taking of the proposed action.

If the proposed action requires a permit under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act<sup>2</sup>, this is the person requiring the grant of a GBRMP permission.

The Minister may also request relevant additional information from this person.

If further assessment and approval for the action is required, any approval which may be granted will be issued to the person proposing to take the action. This person will be responsible for complying with any conditions attached to the approval.

If the Minister decides that further assessment and approval is required, the Minister must designate a person as a proponent of the action. The proponent is responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process. The proponent will generally be the person proposing to take the action<sup>3</sup>.

1. Name and Title: Mon Gan  
Manager, Sewerage Growth Projects

2. Organisation (if applicable): Yarra Valley Water

3. EPBC Referral Number  
(if known):

4. ACN / ABN (if applicable): 93 066 902 501

5. Postal address: Lucknow Street, Mitcham, VIC, 3132

6. Telephone: 03 98721347

7. Email: Mon.Gan@yvw.com.au

8. Name of designated  
proponent (if not the  
same person at item 1

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<sup>1</sup> If the proposed action is to be taken by a Commonwealth, state or territory government or agency, section 8.1 of this form should be completed. However, if the government or agency is aware of, and has administrative responsibilities relating to, a proposed action that is to be taken by another person which has not otherwise been referred, please contact the Referrals Gateway (1800 803 772) to obtain an alternative contacts, signatures and declarations page.

<sup>2</sup> If your referred action, or a component of it, is to be taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park the Minister is required to provide a copy of your referral to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) (see section 73A, EPBC Act). For information about how the GBRMPA may use your information, see [http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/privacy/privacy\\_notice\\_for\\_permits](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/privacy/privacy_notice_for_permits).

<sup>3</sup> If a person other than the person proposing to take action is to be nominated as the proponent, please contact the Referrals Gateway (1800 803 772) to obtain an alternative contacts, signatures and declarations page.

above and if applicable):  
9. ACN/ABN of  
designated proponent (if  
not the same person  
named at item 1 above):

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU QUALIFY FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE  
FEE(S) THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE PAYABLE**

I qualify for exemption  
from fees under section  
520(4C)(e)(v) of the  
EPBC Act because I am:

- ☐ an individual; OR
- ☐ a small business entity (within the meaning given by section 328-110 (other than subsection 328-119(4)) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*); OR
- ☐ not applicable.

If you are small business  
entity you must provide  
the Date/Income Year  
that you became a small  
business entity:

**Note: You must advise the Department within 10 business days if you cease to be a small business entity. Failure to notify the Secretary of this is an offence punishable on conviction by a fine (regulation 5.23B(3) *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* (Cth)).**

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO APPLY FOR A WAIVER**

I would like to apply for a  
waiver of full or partial  
fees under Schedule 1,  
5.21A of the EPBC  
Regulations. Under sub  
regulation 5.21A(5), you  
must include information  
about the applicant (if  
not you) the grounds on  
which the waiver is  
sought and the reasons  
why it should be made:

- ☐ not applicable.

Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.  
I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.  
I agree to be the proponent for this action.  
I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf of or for the benefit of any other person or entity.

Signature



Date

16/7/15

**8.2 Person preparing the referral information (if different from 8.1)**

Individual or organisation who has prepared the information contained in this referral form.

Name Dr Drew King  
Title Senior Ecologist  
Organisation Jacobs Australia

ACN / ABN (if applicable)

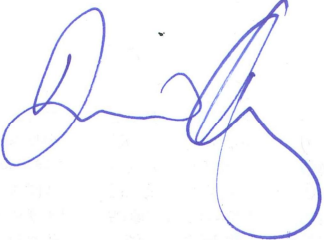
Postal address 452 Flinders St, Melbourne, 3000

Telephone 03 8668 6299

Email Drew.king@jacobs.com

Declaration I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.  
I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Drew King', written over a faint, repeating pattern of the word 'Signature'.

16/7/2015

Date

# REFERRAL CHECKLIST

NOTE: This checklist is to help ensure that all the relevant referral information has been provided. It is not a part of the referral form and does not need to be sent to the Department.

## HAVE YOU:

- ☐ Completed all required sections of the referral form?
- ☐ Included accurate coordinates (to allow the location of the proposed action to be mapped)?
- ☐ Provided a map showing the location and approximate boundaries of the project area?
- ☐ Provided a map/plan showing the location of the action in relation to any matters of NES?
- ☐ Provided a digital file (preferably ArcGIS shapefile, refer to guidelines at [Attachment A](#)) delineating the boundaries of the referral area?
- ☐ Provided complete contact details and signed the form?
- ☐ Provided copies of any documents referenced in the referral form?
- ☐ Ensured that all attachments are less than three megabytes (3mb)?
- ☐ Sent the referral to the Department (electronic and hard copy preferred)?

## Geographic Information System (GIS) data supply guidelines

If the area is less than 5 hectares, provide the location as a point layer. If the area greater than 5 hectares, please provide as a polygon layer. If the proposed action is linear (eg. a road or pipeline) please provide a polyline layer.

GIS data needs to be provided to the Department in the following manner:

- Point, Line or Polygon data types: ESRI file geodatabase feature class (preferred) or as an ESRI shapefile (.shp) zipped and attached with appropriate title
- Raster data types: Raw satellite imagery should be supplied in the vendor specific format.
- Projection as GDA94 coordinate system.

Processed products should be provided as follows:

- For data, uncompressed or lossless compressed formats is required - GeoTIFF or Imagine IMG is the first preference, then JPEG2000 lossless and other simple binary+header formats (ERS, ENVI or BIL).
- For natural/false/pseudo colour RGB imagery:
  - If the imagery is already mosaiced and is ready for display then lossy compression is suitable (JPEG2000 lossy/ECW/MrSID). Prefer 10% compression, up to 20% is acceptable.
  - If the imagery requires any sort of processing prior to display (i.e. mosaicing/colour balancing/etc) then an uncompressed or lossless compressed format is required.

Metadata or 'information about data' will be produced for all spatial data and will be compliant with ANZLIC Metadata Profile. ([http://www.anzlic.org.au/policies\\_guidelines#guidelines](http://www.anzlic.org.au/policies_guidelines#guidelines)).

The Department's preferred method is using ANZMet Lite, however the Department's Service Provider may use any compliant system to generate metadata.

All data will be provide under a Creative Commons license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/>)