



Basslink

Basslink Pty Ltd

Public Environmental Report

**Document number: SHES1027
June 2018**

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Acknowledgment

In 2009 Basslink Pty Ltd issued its first Public Environment Report which was produced by Coffey Natural Systems. BPL acknowledges that this 2018 issue of the Basslink Public Environment Report (PER) is based on that work undertaken by Coffey Natural Systems for the production of the 2009 Basslink PER.

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CEO Statement

I, Malcolm Eccles, Chief Executive Officer of Basslink Pty Ltd, acknowledge and endorse the following report on the environmental performance of our Basslink operations throughout the period of 1 May 2015 to 1 May 2018, in accordance with the requirements of the Tasmanian *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.



Malcolm Eccles
Chief Executive Officer

1 INTRODUCTION

Basslink Pty Ltd (BPL, also referred to as ‘the company’) operates and maintains Basslink, the high voltage direct current electricity interconnector that links the Victorian and Tasmanian electricity grids. The company includes the wholly owned telecommunications business Basslink Telecoms Pty. Ltd., providing telecommunication bandwidth between Victoria and Tasmania.

BPL is a wholly owned subsidiary of Keppel Infrastructure Trust, who purchased Basslink in August 2007. In Tasmania, Basslink is operating in accordance with conditions of a licence for the transmission of electricity issued under the Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995, as well as a permit issued under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 by reason of part 2 of Schedule 2 of Schedule A of the Order Enabling Basslink Project of State Significance to Proceed, issued under the State Policies and Projects Act 1993 on 1 August 2002 (the Permit). Environmental management of Basslink’s Tasmanian operations are regulated in accordance with the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 (EMPCA).

This report has been prepared in response to regulations that prescribe annual permit fees charged under the EMPCA. The Environmental Management and Pollution Control (General Fees) Regulations 2007 allow for a remission of permit fees on application to the Director of Environmental Management.

Basslink’s annual fee and remission requirements are based on its status as a level 3 activity as a project of state significance under the State Policies and Projects Act 1993 (SPPA). Had Basslink not been assessed under the SPPA, it would otherwise be a level 2 activity under Schedule 2 of the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 (EMPCA). The Guidelines regard such activities, by default, as ‘Large Activities’, however in 2010 BPL made application to Director of the Environmental Protection Authority for Basslink to be reclassified as a Small-Medium Activity (SMA). As of the 28th May 2012 BPL has been reclassified as an SMA.

Basslink requires the preparation of a Public Environmental Report (PER) as part of an application for fee remissions of its operation.

The content of this PER follows each element specified under Section 2.3 of the Annual Fee Remission Guidelines second edition (March 2010). As required, the PER publicly demonstrates BPL’s environmental performance over the last three years, and illustrates the company’s commitment to meeting the following objectives:

- Complying with the requirements of approval.
- Taking a proactive approach to protection of the environment in accordance with BPL’s Environmental Policy and the company’s Environmental Management System (EMS).

The reporting period for this PER is defined under the requirements of the regulations by the anniversary date of the Permit under which the project operates (1 August 2002). However as has been the custom to allow for a period of report preparation, this document reports on results up to 1 May 2015 with the ensuing three months to be reported in the next reporting period. That is, the reporting period for this PER is formally from 1 May 2015 to 1 May 2018. Basslink was in its operations phase for the entirety of this reporting period, with operations having commenced in April 2006.

2 COMPANY PROFILE

2.1 Company Description

Basslink Pty Ltd (BPL or ‘the company’) is a subsidiary company of Keppel Infrastructure Trust (KIT). KIT’s portfolio includes gas, electricity and telecommunication assets both in Singapore and Australia. Basslink was purchased by KIT in August 2007. KIT was originally listed on 12 February 2007 on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited as CitySpring Infrastructure Trust (CIT).

Basslink was established in 2000 when a UK-based electricity transmission company formed a project team to develop the Basslink Interconnector. The company grew as the project met various milestones and BPL became operators of the Interconnector following the commissioning of operations in April 2006. In July 2009 Basslink Telecoms commenced commercial operations using fibre assets of the Interconnector.

2.2 Environmental Policy

BPL has an environmental policy (Appendix 1) in place, which confirms the company’s commitment to a high level of environmental performance. Operation and maintenance activities for the Basslink project over the last three years are reflective of the environmental policy objectives. The policy is implemented through BPL’s Environmental Management System (EMS).

2.3 Environmental Management System

BPL has a formally documented EMS (document number SHES1024) which provides the structure necessary for effective environmental management of Basslink operations. The main objective of the EMS is to provide a framework for the company to ensure planned, controlled, monitored, recorded, and audited environmental performance of its operations. The framework was developed in accordance with the 2004 AS/NZS ISO 14001 Environmental Management System standard, which identifies the requirements for EMS development and implementation. Key environmental documents that form part of the EMS, and provide detail on management requirements, include:

- *Basslink Operations Environmental Management Plan* (Basslink OEMP) (document number SHES1026).
- *Organisational Structure* (document number MB103).
- *Emergency Management Plan* (document number SHES1021).
- Basslink Draft Integrated Impact Assessment Statement June 2001 and Basslink Final Integrated Impact Assessment Statement and Supplement to the Draft Integrated Impact Assessment Statement June 2002 that detail the assessment of environmental and social impacts of Basslink.

- *Compliance Procedure* (document number MB128.1).
- *Schedule of Laws* (document number MB128.2)
- Environmental reports.
- Compliance inspections.
- Environmental induction records.
- Development and environmental approvals from the Victorian, Tasmanian and Commonwealth governments including orders, consents, exemptions, notices, permits and licences for environmental management of construction, and operation and maintenance activities.
- Victorian and Tasmanian Transmission Licences.

The Basslink OEMP is the key document for environmental management of Basslink operation and maintenance activities in Commonwealth waters, and in Victoria and Tasmania and their territorial waters. It fulfils the requirements of Victorian legislation, and the environmental conditions of the Permit and transmission licences issued to BPL under Tasmanian law (see Section 4).

The EMS allows for the development and implementation of new environmental management documentation as required, e.g., as a result of incident, audit, or review of operation and maintenance activities.

The EMS is being applied to Basslink operations and will be externally audited before submission of the application this Public Environment Report to ensure that it meets the requirements of ISO 14001-2004. External audits will be conducted triennially to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and the requirements of ISO 14001:2004.

3 ACTIVITY PROFILE

3.1 Overall Basslink Operation

The Basslink Interconnector has been operational since 28 April 2006. BPL is a registered Market Network Services Provider under the National Electricity Rules and is licensed to operate a High Voltage Transmission Network in Tasmania and Victoria. BPL's operational and maintenance activities encompass:

- Overhead line inspection and maintenance.
- Transition station maintenance.
- Easement inspection and maintenance.
- Converter station maintenance.
- Subsea cable maintenance.



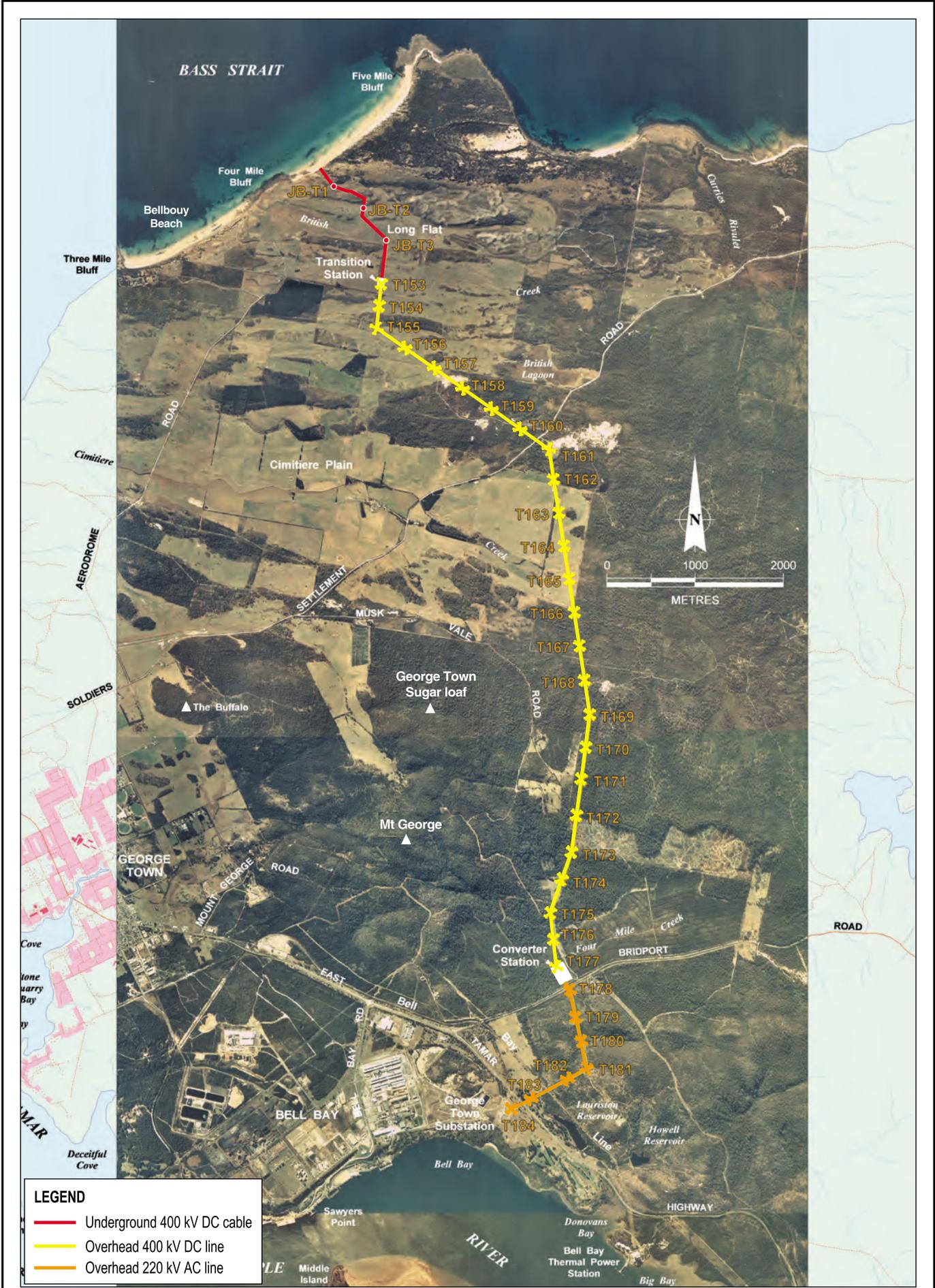
3.2 Tasmanian Component of Operation

The components of the operation under Tasmanian jurisdiction include:

- At the Tasmanian shore crossing, east of Four Mile Bluff, transmission, metallic return and fibre-optic cables laid in ducts installed under the coastal dune system.
- Underground transmission, metallic return and fibre-optic cables laid in a single trench (1.7 km in length) from the beach joint across Long Flat and British Creek to the transition station located adjacent to the end of Aerodrome Road. At the transition station the underground cables are connected to the 400 kV HVDC overhead line, which runs generally south to the converter station adjacent to Bridport Road. The overhead line traverses the following main landmarks: Soldiers Settlement Road, Cimitiere Creek, eastern slopes of Mt George and Four Mile Creek.
- The converter station is located approximately 5.5 km southeast of George Town in the triangle of land formed by Bridport Road to the south, Four Mile Creek to the north and west and the Bell Bay Aluminium plantation access track to the east. The converter station converts 400-kV HVDC (the transmission voltage on the Basslink subsea cable) to and from 220-kV HVAC (the transmission voltage on the Tasmanian grid) depending on the direction of current in the cable.

- A 220-kV HVAC overhead line connects the converter station to the Tasmanian grid at the George Town Substation, which is located adjacent to the East Tamar Highway.

Refer to Figure 1 for the Tasmanian general arrangement.



The primary activity of the operation phase of Basslink is the routine inspection and maintenance of the easements, overhead lines, underground cables, subsea cables, and converter and transition stations. The principal objectives of routine inspection are to:

- Identify any maintenance requirements of the infrastructure including the permanent access tracks and gates installed by BPL.
- Identify any inappropriate land uses or illegal structures that present a safety risk.
- Ascertain the extent of re-generating or emergent vegetation that exceeds the electrical safety clearance regulations and vegetation management regime adopted by BPL.
- Identify the location and extent of any noxious or environmental weeds resulting from the construction or maintenance activities.

Access to the infrastructure is also required to rectify faults or to respond to an incident or emergency situation. The land access and notification protocols for consulting with stakeholders and the project-specific requirements agreed with landowners apply to all operations and maintenance activities.

The subsea cable alignment is inspected as required (e.g., after a major storm event) to identify sections where the cable is exposed or spanning seabed formations.

3.3 Materials Used

Raw material consumed in the operations and maintenance activities of Basslink are listed:

Material	Average Quantity used per year
Transformer insulating oil	600 litres
Diesel fuel	Less than 5000 litres
Lubricating oil	Less than 200 litres
Sulphur hexafluoride (SF ₆) insulating gas	16.67 kg*
Chemicals for vegetation and weed control	Less than 100 litres

* All SF₆ recycled.

3.4 The Local Environment

The local environment between Four Mile Bluff and George Town substation is dominated by the peaks of the Tippogoree Hills, which separates the landscape of the Tamar Estuary and George Town to the west and south, and the flat country with low sand dunes of the Cimitiere Plain and Long Flat to the north. This area has been extensively cleared and drained for agricultural purposes. Land use is dominated by grazing and forestry, with conservation values represented in state forest and along the coastline. George Town and Bell Bay support an urban and industrial landscape in direct contrast to the striking drowned plains of the Tamar Valley, the open coastal plains in the north and the peaks and forest of the Tippogoree Hills. The changes in topography through this area allows for varied opportunities in visual screening and concealment of Basslink infrastructure.

Vegetation communities traversed by Basslink infrastructure include extensive areas of *Eucalyptus amygdalina* woodland in central areas and sand dune vegetation along the coast, as

well as wetlands and a range of grass, herb, sedge, heath and scrub communities inland from the coast, *E. ovata* and *E. viminalis* woodland and forest, and *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest. All native vegetation is classified as either of high or medium conservation significance in Tasmania.

3.5 Environmental Impacts

Environmental impacts from operations and maintenance of Basslink are minimal. The majority of Environmental impacts of the project occurred during the construction phase. However, there are activities that could continue to pose a risk to the environment if not appropriately managed. Assessment and management of these risks is set out in the component management plans of the Basslink OEMP.

3.5.1 Air and Water Emissions

Basslink does not generate air emissions or water emissions, apart from the release of stormwater and fire pump cooling water at the converter and transition stations. This is managed appropriately in accordance with the OEMP Stormwater Management Plan.

3.5.2 Land and Soil Contamination

Land and soil contamination could occur as a result of accidental release of hazardous materials on-site or during transport. No incidents on hazardous materials release have been recorded during this reporting period.

Ground disturbance from maintenance activities, in particular the rectification of faults on underground cables or counterpoise fault protection earthing cables of the transmission line can cause contamination if acid sulphate soils are disturbed. Acid sulphate soils were not detected during the construction of the Basslink project, so would not pose an issue for maintenance activities.

3.5.3 Discharges and Waste Control Measures

There are no uncontrolled discharges as a result of Basslink operations. The main discharges from the converter and transition station sites are stormwater and general waste. Hazardous materials used and stored on-site are controlled through the OEMP Hazardous Materials Management Plan to minimise risk or contamination. No incident of contamination has been recorded during this reporting period. Potential impacts resulting from discharges and control mechanisms used on Tasmanian sites are discussed below.

Stormwater

Stormwater runoff is controlled as it may contain hydrocarbon materials and mobilise sediment. Hydrocarbon materials and sediment have the potential to contaminate the surrounding environment, in particular watercourses leading to impacts on water quality, aquatic fauna and riparian vegetation.

Oil separator pits have been installed at the converter and transition station sites. At the converter station sites these discharge to stormwater runoff retention ponds, which function as both a retarding basin and sediment trap before discharging to local watercourses or drainage lines.

These stormwater control measures are managed in accordance with the OEMP Stormwater Management Plan.

Hazardous Materials

Electricity conversion and transmission equipment uses insulating oil, diesel, lubricating oil and sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) insulating gas (a significant greenhouse gas). Chemicals for vegetation and weed control are used during operation and maintenance activities. These products could, if released, pollute the surrounding environment. In most cases the amounts of these materials required is small, and their storage, transport and usage is controlled in accordance with the OEMP Hazardous Materials Management Plan.

Transformer insulating oil is the only material held in high volumes. Each transformer contains approximately 70,000 L of insulating oil and is housed within a bunded area the capacity of which exceeds the volume of oil in the transformer. If a transformer is transported for servicing or repairs, insulating oil is temporarily transferred to a bulk-fuel tanker, which is housed in a bunded area. Diesel fuel and lubricating oils are also stored in bunded areas. During the reporting period there have not been any incidents of hazardous materials release.

All bunded areas have been designed to comply with all relevant state and federal standards and guidelines including EPA Publication 347 *Bunding Guidelines* (Victoria only), and AS 1940-2004 and AS 2507-1998.

General Waste

Small amounts of domestic and industrial wastes such treated-timber packaging, sewage and general refuse is generated. This waste requires disposal to keep the Basslink easement, and converter and transition station sites tidy and safe, and to prevent land and water contamination.

BPL trains personnel in the principles of avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle, and the appropriate disposal of domestic and industrial waste. Appropriate domestic waste disposal facilities, such as rubbish bins, cigarette bins, and toilet facilities, are located at the converter and transition stations and designated work sites, and industrial waste disposal facilities are also provided at the converter stations to ensure appropriate segregation, storage and disposal of waste.

Disposal of sewage and sullage from toilet and kitchen facilities is via an anaerobic treatment system which is maintained in accordance with local council requirements

3.5.4 Managing and Minimising Greenhouse Emissions

The main potential source of greenhouse gas emissions from Basslink operations is from the accidental release of sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) insulating gas. This material is not stored onsite and SF₆ maintenance activities are carried out in accordance with industry standards and protocols. No incidents of the accidental release of SF₆ have been recorded during this reporting period. An automatic monitoring and alarm system provides an alert if a release of SF₆ occurs, and an inventory of SF₆ stocks is maintained.

3.5.5 Water Use

Basslink uses around 5000 litres of deionised water as a coolant for the conversion process. This water is part of a closed loop system where the water is recycled through high voltage equipment then force air ventilated heat exchanges.

A 1-million-litre static water tank is located at each converter station for firefighting purposes. This water is also used in the cooling of the fire pumps. The fire pump cooling is a total loss system that discharges to the site oil separator pits from which it is discharged to adjacent watercourses via the stormwater retention ponds.

3.5.6 Biodiversity

Terrestrial

The largest environmental impact as a result of the Basslink project is that on biodiversity. This is largely as a result of construction activities, which were completed prior to this reporting period. Rehabilitation of affected areas has been a required activity as part of conditions of Basslink's approval. During this reporting period, BPL has monitored the success of rehabilitation and has continued to improve on the re-establishment of flora and fauna communities.

As part of maintenance activities, some vegetation clearance is required to control re-growth on, and hazardous trees adjacent to, the easement to maintain safe and secure operation of the Basslink infrastructure and to ensure the infrastructure does not pose a fire hazard. The extent of this maintenance work does not greatly impact the biodiversity of the area and is done in accordance with the OEMP Vegetation Management Plan.

Biodiversity is also supported with the treatment of weed and pest infestations within native vegetation, as required. Washdown procedures for vehicles and personal items are in place to minimise the spread of weeds, reducing potential impacts on biodiversity.

Dieback due to *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is present in native vegetation at a number of locations along the Basslink easement. These locations are documented in the Basslink OEMP, marked with signs and known to Basslink personnel. Spread of *P. cinnamomi* is managed through washdown and significant vegetation species have been identified during environmental management activities pre- and post-construction and, if discovered, continue to be recorded and protected (e.g., Rice-flower (*Pimelea flava*) – Plate 1 – and Milky Beauty (*Calocephalus lacteus*) – Plate 2).

Marine

The survey and repair of faults on, or damage to, subsea cables as part of Basslink maintenance activities has the potential to impact marine biodiversity. Repairs to a cable are done from a cable-laying vessel that recovers the damaged cable bundle, undertakes the repairs, and re-lays the cable bundle. The activity is confined to a specific site and all cable recovery and re-laying activity will be usually contained within an area of less than 500 m either side of the fault or damaged section of cable to minimise impacts. Subsea surveys are done from suitably equipped survey vessels. Surveys have no impact on the marine environment.

3.5.7 Heritage

A record of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage sites identified in the archaeological clearance surveys during construction and is maintained in a record system. Maintenance activities are planned to avoid disturbance of these sites.

3.6 Significant Changes to Activities

During this reporting period there have not been any changes to operations and maintenance activities that would introduce new issues of environmental concern.



Plate 1
Rice-flower (*Pimelea flava*)
on the Basslink easement



Plate 2
Milky Beauty (*Calocephalus lacteus*)
on the Basslink easement



Plate 3
Overhead line easement rehabilitation

4 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Environmental Legislation and Policy

The following is a list of all relevant Tasmanian legislation and policies applicable to the operations and maintenance activities of Basslink.

- *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975.*
- Action Plan for the wedge-tailed eagle (*Aquila audax*): Tasmanian Recovery Plan (1998 to 2003).
- Blackberry Statutory Weed Management Plan (2003).
- *Building Act 2000.*
- Building Regulations 2004.
- Dangerous Goods (Fees) Regulations 1998.
- *Dangerous Goods (Safe Transport) Act 1998.*
- Draft State Environmental Protection Policy: Prevention and Management of Contaminated Land (1998).
- *Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995.*
- *Emergency Management Act 2006.*
- Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Distributed Atmospheric Emissions) Regulations 2018
- Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Environmental Infringement Notices) Regulations 2016.
- Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Noise) Regulations 2016
- Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Waste Management) Regulations 2010.
- *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1999 (EMPCA).*
- *Fire Service Act 1979.*
- *Forestry Act 1920.*
- *Forest Practices Act 1985.*
- Forest Practices Code 2000.
- General Specification G2 Contract Management Plan: Part G2.9 Traffic Management (DSG), July 2014.
- Gorse Statutory Management Plan (2003).

- *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995.*
- Historic Cultural Heritage Regulations 2016
- Information Bulletin 101: Notification for Obligations for Site Contamination due to Petroleum Hydrocarbons (August 2006).
- Information Bulletin 101: Notification for Obligations for Site Contamination due to Petroleum Hydrocarbons (March 2002).
- Information Bulletin 105: Classification and Management of Contaminated Soil for Disposal (August 2006).
- *Land Acquisition Act 1993.*
- *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.*
- Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2014.
- *Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995.*
- Local Government (General) Regulations 2015
- *Local Government (Highways) Act 1982.*
- *Local Government Act 1993.*
- *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002.*
- *Nature Conservation Act 2002.*
- Road Rules 2009.
- *Roads and Jetties Act 1935.*
- Spanish Heath Statutory Weed Management Plan (2003).
- State Coastal Policy (1996).
- *State Policies and Projects Act 1993.*
- State Policy on Water Quality Management (1997).
- Tasmania's Nature Conservation Strategy (2002 to 2006).
- *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995.*
- Threatened Species Protection Regulations 2016
- Threatened Species Strategy for Tasmania (2000).
- *Traffic Act 1925.*
- Traffic Control at Work Sites Code of Practice, Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER).
- *Vehicle and Traffic Act 1999.*
- *Water Management Act 1999.*
- Water Management Regulations 2009.

- *Weed Management Act 1999.*
- Weed Management Regulations 2017.
- Weed Plan: A Tasmanian Weed Management Strategy (2005).
- Workplace Relations Act 1996 (clauses relating to protection for emergency services volunteers)

4.2 Environmental Approvals

The Basslink project was approved as part of a combined Commonwealth-State assessment process that embodied the statutory procedures of each jurisdiction.

4.2.1 Permit

The Tasmanian component of the Basslink project was issued with a permit under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act by reason of part 2 of Schedule 2 of Schedule A of the Order Enabling Basslink Project of State Significance to Proceed. Conditions of approval related to:

- Land use planning and environment (Schedule 1 and 2 of Schedule A).
- Electricity supply (Schedule B).
- Threatened species (Schedule C).
- Easement (Schedule D).

This PER provides a review of Basslink's compliance against the Permit and, in particular, the environmental conditions provided in Schedule 2 of Schedule A (Appendix 2).

4.2.2 Environmental Protection Notices

As of 3rd October 2014, under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 Environmental Protection Notice (EPN) No. 7415/1 has been issued to Basslink Pty Ltd in accordance with Section 44(1)(d).

This EPN reflects the move of Basslink into the operational phase by incorporating all conditions relevant to operation and maintenance activities from previous construction focused EPNs and removing or revising construction conditions that are no longer relevant. Since the EPN was issued Basslink has undertaken maintenance and operation activities consistent with the EPN 7415/1.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE RECORD

In accordance with Tasmanian legislation, Basslink must operate in accordance with the requirements of the Permit and any current Environmental Protection Notice, as well as in accordance with BPL's Environmental Management System and Environmental Policy.

Compliance with these environmental requirements has been generally good over the reporting period. There have been no changes to operation and maintenance activities that could potentially result in environmental harm and, as required by the conditions of the Permit, operation and maintenance activities have continued to be in accordance with the Basslink OEMP, and in particular the specific management plans that form part of that document.

The Basslink OEMP was revised in 2016, this deadline was extended by . BPL submitted the revised OEMP to the Director (as well as the equivalent persons of authority in Victoria, the Commonwealth during the 2009 revision indicated no participation was required from the Commonwealth for future revisions). The revised OEMP was accepted by the final relevant jurisdiction in May 2017. The Basslink EMS was also reviewed in 2016, the EMS unlike the OEMP requires no jurisdictional acceptance.

A number of assessments of Basslink operations have occurred over the reporting period of this PER, highlighting successes and shortfalls in compliance, including:

- Overhead Line Inspection Reports (2015, 2016, and 2017).
- An external audit (2015) by environmental consultants to identify ISO 14001 conformance for Basslink Tasmanian Operations.
- Two external reviews of the Basslink OEMP (2015 and 2017) to identify whether operation and maintenance activities are being carried out in accordance with the Basslink OEMP and to identify any areas for improvement including relevance to current operating procedures and whether revision of documentation is required.

These activities documented the status of post-construction rehabilitation including the identification of areas of revegetation, invasion of weeds and erosion, requiring work. Plate 3 shows an example of post- construction easement rehabilitation.

The 2015 audit was the most recent comprehensive conformance review of the Basslink EMS. It found that BPL has developed and implemented an effective EMS generally in accordance with the requirements of the standard AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004. Most of the recommendations in the 2009 EMS Conformance Audit Report were addressed, however it has been decided by Basslink that those in the 2012 EMS Conformance Audit Report will be addressed in a 5-yearly review of the EMS and OEMP in 2016. The recommendations identified during that audit are discussed in the next sections. The element numbers referred to in the brackets correspond to those elements as set out in ISO 14001:2004.

5.1 General Requirements (Element 4.1)

The audit identified with respect to the General Requirements that:

1. At a future revision of the EMS, add the words (or similar) prior to the description of the project: “The scope of the Basslink EMS covers the whole of Basslink operations which are described below”. This will ensure that the scope of EMS is clearly understood to cover the whole of Basslink’s operations.

Amendments were made to the Basslink EMS as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

2. Add at the end of the Introduction the following words (or similar): “This EMS should be read in conjunction with the OEMP, in which there is information supporting the implementation of the EMS”.

Amendments were made to the Basslink EMS as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation

3. It is noted that on page 2 of the OEMP, the footnote references ISO 14001:1996. At a future revision of the OEMP this should be changed to ISO 14001:2004, which is the standard referred to in the text and to which the EMS conforms.

Amendments were made to the Basslink OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

4. Note that ISO 14001:2015 will be published in September 2015, however Basslink may not need to adopt this new standard as the EMS is not certified and the *Annual Fee Remission Guidelines 2010* mentions (only in a few places but not consistently) ISO 14001:2004. Basslink should monitor the regulations to determine if the EMS requirement is changed from ISO 14001:2004 to ISO 14001:2015, especially during the review of the EMS in 2016.

Although the standard has been updated and is now 14001:2016 the Annual Fee Remission Guidelines 2010 have not been updated and still refer to 14001:2004. Where significant changes to the OEMP/EMS were made during the 2016 review Basslink has endeavoured to make these updates in compatible with 14001:2016.

5.2 Planning (Element 4.3)

5.2.1 Environmental aspects (Sub-Element 4.3.1)

The audit identified with respect to planning (environmental aspects) that:

5. When reviewing the OEMP revise the number of management plans stated in the text.

Amendments were made to the Basslink OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

6. To document S1006 Risk Assessment and Hierarchy of Controls add environmental risk terms.

This documentation is part of a review for EnergySafe Victoria and will be updated when completed

7. Change document S1006A JSA Risk and Hierarchy of Controls Assessment (an MS Excel spreadsheet) to JSEA Risk and Hierarchy of Controls Assessment and add to the Cover Sheet environmental components at risk such as air, water, soil, community, vegetation, biodiversity, protected plants or animals etc.

This documentation is part of a review for EnergySafe Victoria and will be updated when completed.

8. Change the “Edit JSA” link to “Edit JSEA”.

This documentation is part of a review for EnergySafe Victoria and will be updated when completed.

5.2.2 Legal and other requirements (Sub-Element 4.3.2)

9. It is recommended that the Schedule of Laws is reviewed and that the Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2010 is listed under Health and Safety Legislation, not Environmental. This is also set out in Condition LO2 of revised EPN 7415/1. The placement of legislation under the correct heading should be reviewed throughout the entire document.

Amendments were made to the Schedule of Laws to address this recommendation.

10. It is recommended that the access to legislation by Basslink staff is clearly explained in a suitable procedure such as Documents MB 128.1 Compliance Procedure or MB 128.2 Schedule of Laws. Consideration should be given to hyperlinking the laws, regulations and codes etc set out in MB 128.2 Schedule of Laws to an appropriate website(s) for which purpose www.austlii.edu.au is suggested as this location holds all Australian legislation.

Amendments were made to Basslink’s Intranet to address this recommendation.

5.2.3 Objectives, targets and programme(s) (Sub-Element 4.3.3)

11. Consider changing the terminology in S.3.3 of the EMS to “Objectives and Targets”. Add wording that references the Objectives set out in the Management Plans of the OEMP and the OEMP Compliance Inspection Forms, and identifies the Targets that are derived from the Performance Measures in the OEMP Management Plans.

Amendments were made to the Basslink EMS as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

12. Add wording to S.3.3 of the EMS that identifies the “Procedures” set out in the OEMP Management Plans as the action plans (programmes or programs) to achieve the objectives.

Amendments were made to the Basslink EMS as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

5.3 Implementation and Operation (Element 4.4)

5.3.1 Competence, training and awareness (Sub-Element 4.4.2)

The audit identified with respect to Implementation and Operation (Competence, training and awareness) that:

13. Add the dates of re-induction to the OEMP Record of Inductions – Tasmanian Operations spreadsheet when personnel are re-inducted due to changes in the OEMP.

Amendments were made to induction records to address this recommendation.

5.3.2 Documentation (Sub-Element 4.4.4)

The audit identified with respect to Implementation and Operation (Documentation) that:

14. The EMS documentation is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure it is up to date and is revised in accordance with changes that take place Add to Section 2.2.5 of the OEMP and Section 5.4 of the EMS the following records (and any others that are included in the Basslink documentation that are not listed):

- Schedule of Laws
- Compliance Reports
- OEMP Completed Inspections
- MB103 Organisational Structure
- OEMP Record of Inductions – Tasmanian Operations

5.3.3 *Amendments were made to the Basslink OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation. Control of documents (Sub-Element 4.4.5)*

The audit identified with respect to Implementation and Operation (Control of Documents) that:

15. Add to Section 7.4 of MB136, after the word “Policy” in each case the words “and procedure” to clarify that the requirement applies to both policies and procedures.

Amendments were made to MB136 to address this recommendation.

16. Review all Basslink controlled documents for accuracy and consistency of their reference codes (in accordance with MB136) and company names.

17. *Amendments were made to MB136 to address this recommendation.* Add wording to MB136 requiring the revised and updated documents to be used for training and the older versions to be archived so that they cannot be used.

Ongoing amendments were and are being made to Basslink information systems to address this recommendation

18. It is recommended that Section 4.5 Control of Documents in OP26 Environmental Management System be reviewed to determine if the statement regarding document review reflects current practice, and if not that it is revised accordingly.

Amendments were made to the Basslink EMS as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

5.4 Checking (Element 4.5)

5.4.1 Evaluation of compliance (Sub-Element 4.5.2)

The audit identified with respect to Checking (Evaluation of compliance) that:

19. References to annual EMS compliance reports should be changed to triennial reports where applicable.

Amendments were made to the Basslink EMS as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

20. The PER should include a copy of the most recent triennial EMS Conformance Audit Report.

The Annual Fee Remission Guidelines 2010 set out the requirements for the PER. The guidelines do not require audit reports to be published with the report. Basslink summarises the findings of the EMS audit in accordance with the Annual Fee Remission Guidelines 2010.

5.4.2 Nonconformity, corrective action and preventive action (Sub-Element 4.5.3)

The audit identified with respect to Checking (Nonconformity, corrective action and preventive action) that:

21. The EMS, OEMP and OEMP-IR Incident Reporting Procedure should be reviewed and revised where necessary to achieve consistency and clarity, and to determine whether, in the context of Basslink's operations, NCRs and CARs are required, or if the Incident Reporting Procedure (without reference to NCRs and CARs) is sufficient.

Amendments were made to the Basslink EMS and OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

22. Depending on the outcome of Recommendation 16, consider if templates should be provided for Incident Reports, NCRs and CARs.

Amendments were made to the Basslink OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

5.4.3 Control of records (Sub-Element 4.5.4)

The audit identified with respect to Checking (Control of records) that:

23. See Recommendation No.15. OEMP Management Plans and other documents should be reviewed to ensure that all records relevant to the maintenance of the EMS are identified and listed.

Amendments were made to the Basslink OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

5.4.4 Internal audit (Sub-Element 4.5.5)

The audit identified with respect to Checking (Internal audit) that:

24. Consideration should be given to the development of an Internal Audit and Inspection Procedure that sets out a simplified process for conducting audits of the EMS, and includes inspections that are already undertaken as part of the process. In view of the triennial external EMS audit requirement, the internal audits could be spread over three years so that the full requirements of ISO 14001:2004 are covered internally between external audits. The internal audit reports would then form part of the audit evidence for the next external audit. As the EMS is not intended to be certified, it is not necessary to follow all of the requirements in the box above of ISO 14001:2004.

Due to changes in ownership structure and the size and activities of the organisation it is not recognisably practicable to undertake ISO14001:2004 internal audits however amendments were made to the Basslink OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

25. The wording of the Internal Audit and Inspection Procedure should reflect current practice, such as the periodic Overhead Line and Easement Inspections, which could be formalised into an “audit” format with relevant information on how the inspection was conducted etc to be included. The comments regarding work to be undertaken should be formalised as Recommendations, if appropriate.

Amendments were made to the Basslink OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

26. Section 5.5 Internal auditing/reporting of the EMS should be renamed 5.5 Internal Audits and Inspections to properly reflect and formalise the changes recommended above.

Amendments were made to the Basslink EMS as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

5.5 Management Review (Element 4.6)

The audit identified with respect to Management Review that:

27. Review the wording in Section 5.6 Management Review of the EMS in 2016 and revise if appropriate to nominate the monthly management meetings as the Management Review for the EMS. In this way a rolling review can be undertaken, and if combined with the recommendation above (No.25) for conducting internal audits over a three-year period, reporting of those audit results to the meeting will enable a rolling review of the EMS over three years. Because the OEMP and compliance are fundamental to the EMS, those

reports would form part of the monthly Management Review. The EMS or a separate Management Review Procedure should document how the EMS information (based on the relevant requirements in the box above) is provided to senior management at the monthly management meetings and how the follow up actions that relate to the EMS, OEMP or compliance are tracked and closed out on completion.

OR

nominate a special Management Review meeting to be held every 5 years in line with the review of the EMS and OEMP.

Amendments were made to the Basslink OEMP as part of the 2016 review to address this recommendation.

6 COMPLAINTS

Any complaints in relation to Basslink operations and maintenance activities, from a landowner, affected party, third party asset owner or member of the public, must be recorded in accordance with the Complaints Management Procedure of the OEMP.

During the reporting period of this PER, no complaints associated with Tasmania operations was made to Basslink.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

Environmental incidents associated with Basslink operations or maintenance activities must be reported and dealt with in accordance with the OEMP Incident Reporting Procedure.

Over the reporting period of this PER, one environmental incident was recorded. This incident did not cause or threaten environmental nuisance, serious environmental harm or material environmental harm. The incident related to a tree naturally falling across an access track in the area of the transmission easement. No adverse impacts on the easement were detected. OEMP procedures were effectively implemented, no further action was required and the incidents closed out.

No deficiencies of Basslink procedures were found as a result of these incidents.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Monitoring and inspection requirements for environmental aspects of operation and maintenance activities are set out in the Basslink OEMP, which adopts a risk-based approach to environmental management.

The frequency of inspection depends on the magnitude of risk associated with the environmental hazard/impact that is being managed. The Basslink OEMP identifies environmental hazards and their associated risk, and includes an assessment of the likelihood of the event occurring and the consequences of the event. High-risk hazards require more frequent inspection than low-risk hazards. A list of regular inspections and their frequency is provided in the Basslink OEMP.

Through implementation of the OEMP, all required environmental monitoring has been undertaken during reporting period of this PER.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING

In line with the requirements of BPL's EMS, the company inducts all personnel and contractors in the relevant management plans of the Basslink OEMP through a comprehensive induction package. Inductees are recorded in an induction register, which records the specific plans that each inductee has been trained in as well as induction expiry. The induction package requires all personnel to consult the Basslink OEMP decision tree to identify the management plans relevant to specific operation and maintenance activities. Contractors are inducted in the relevant management plans by Basslink personnel.

During the reporting period, Tasmanian-based Basslink personnel have been inducted in all the management plans in the Basslink OEMP. Basslink senior management personnel have also been inducted in the requirements of the Basslink OEMP. Tasmanian-based contractor personnel have been inducted into the specific management plans relevant to their work.

Three site engineers, and the Risk and Commercial Manager based at the Tasmanian converter station have undergone Basic Wildfire Awareness training to augment their training in the OEMP Fire Suppression Management Plan. The Risk and Commercial Manager has undertaken an Environmental Audit Certification Workshop. The Basic Wildfire Awareness and Environmental Audit Certification Workshop training was conducted by external providers.

10 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

BPL maintains a website to publish information to the public about Basslink operations, including the following relevant sections:

- Home, including relevant subsections:
 - **About Us.** States the basic assets and rationale.
 - **Keppel Infrastructure Trust.** States how organisation is registered and structured
- Senior Management, including the relevant subsections:
 - Details the names, titles, roles, responsibilities and experience of BPL senior management.
- Responsibility, including relevant subsections:
 - **Corporate Governance.** outlines BPLs Code of Ethics, Fraud, Whistle-blowing policies.
 - **Safety.** Highlights the organisation commitment to safety of public, staff and contractors.
 - **Environment.** Provides a downloadable version of BPL's Environmental Policy. Provides information about the Rejuvenate, Revegetate and Return initiative working with Greening Australia to return a former agricultural property to State Forest (a Basslink project based in Victoria). Also contains information about the Basslink OEMP and a copy of the current PER as well as downloadable copies of BPLs Bushfire Mitigation Plan and Electrical Line Clearance Plan for the Victorian jurisdiction.
 - **Community.** Summarises Basslink's community involvement, including the Basslink Community Grants Program through which the SCAT Carnival Series and the George Town Festival have been sponsored in Tasmania.
 - **Marine.** Describes consultation that has been undertaken with fishing groups, including the Tasmanian Marine Recreational Fishing Council and the Tasmanian Fishing Industry Council, and provides a downloadable version the Basslink Code of Conduct for Fishing and Safe Anchoring. It also provides information on other BPL initiatives such as the encouragement of the use of cable friendly anchors and the supply of maps and GPS software. A 24 hour marine emergency hotline telephone contact is provided along with advice on what to do in the event of snagging the cable.
 - **Easement.** Explains what an easement is and provides a downloadable version of the Basslink living with easement Brochure. It sets out in broad terms what can and cannot be done on an easement as well as providing a 24 hour emergency hotline telephone contact.
- The Basslink Interconnector, including relevant subsections:
 - **About.** Summarises the interconnector and the evolution of the Basslink group of companies.
 - **Benefits of Basslink.** Outlines the beneficial impacts of Basslink.

- **History.** Summarises the history of the Basslink project, including the consultation process, approvals and the construction timeline.
- **Maps.** Shows a map of the onshore Basslink (underground and overhead) transmission line route in Tasmania and Victoria, also a map of the offshore Basslink cable route.
- **Operations.** Highlights key asset characteristics and information.

Basslink Telecoms, including relevant subsections:

- **About.** Summarises the Basslink Telecoms History and Network.
- **Products.** Provide details on product offering.
- **Customer Service.** Provides information on service delivery.

Media:

- Presents news about BPL, Basslink Interconnector and Basslink Telecoms.

Contact Us, including:

- **Web Enquiry.** Web site generated enquiry for general enquiries.
- **Hotline contact numbers.** Details marine and land hotline telephone numbers.
- **Address details.** Provides head office address details.
- **Key contacts.** Documents contact details for key services.

This Public Environmental Report (including the Basslink Environmental Policy) will be published on the company's website.

11 COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT

BPL states its commitment to the environment in its environmental policy (Appendix 1), including its commitment to:

- Integrate environmental considerations into decision making on future business activities.
- Establish and continually improve environmental systems.
- Regularly monitor and audit, and report to stakeholders on environmental performance.

During the reporting period Basslink has reviewed its environmental systems which is consistent with the requirements of ISO 14001-2004. During this period, Basslink has also conducted environmental training, identified environmental responsibilities of management personnel, and confirmed compliance with environmental policy through recording and responding to complaints and incidents, conducting audits, inspections and monitoring.

APPENDIX 1 – BASSLINK ENVIRONMENT POLICY

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Basslink Pty Ltd (BPL) operates and maintains Basslink, the high voltage direct current electricity interconnector that links the Victorian and Tasmanian electricity grids by a 400kV direct current (DC) monopole electricity connector with a metallic return, the interconnector includes land and subsea components. The company includes the wholly-owned telecommunications business Basslink Telecoms Pty. Ltd., providing telecommunication bandwidth between Victoria and Tasmania.

BPL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Keppel Infrastructure Trust (KIT), a Singapore-based Infrastructure Trust, who purchased Basslink in August 2007.

BPL recognises that the environment is a fragile resource that it has a responsibility to protect, and that protection and enhancement of the environment are in the best interests of our shareholders and other stakeholders, including employees and the communities we serve. To this end, we are committed to minimise the environmental impact of our past, present and future activities.

In fulfilling these commitments, we will seek to achieve as high an overall level of environmental performance as reasonably practicable by: -

- As a minimum, comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to environmental protection, as well as any voluntary standards to which we subscribe;
- Participate in the development of environmental laws and regulations that might impact upon our business;
- Integrate environmental considerations into our decision making on future business activities;
- Establish and continually improve our environmental management systems;
- Set and review targets and objectives;
- Regularly monitor and audit our environmental performance; and
- Report regularly to stakeholders on our environmental performance.

To comply with this policy BPL will: -

- Comply with the requirements and objectives of the BPL Operations Environmental Management Plan
- Implement a comprehensive environmental management system, which will be compatible with ISO 14001, to meet legal compliance requirements, identify and address potential environmental liabilities and identify and pursue environmental opportunities;
- Carry out training to provide staff with the necessary skills to support the implementation of this policy and commit sufficient resources to this process;
- Identify managerial responsibilities for implementation; and
- Confirm compliance with environmental policy, including details of any weaknesses and improvement actions, and report as required to the BPL Chief Executive Officer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Eccles'.

Malcolm Eccles
Chief Executive Officer
Basslink Pty Ltd

July 2015*

* This Policy supersedes all preceding version of the Basslink Environmental Policy

APPENDIX 2 – LAND USE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT CONDITIONS

(Extracted from the permit)

SCHEDULE A

Land Use Planning and Environmental Conditions

Schedule 1 – Land Use Planning Conditions

Part 1 – Definitions

‘land’, ‘use’ and ‘development’

have the same meaning as they are given in the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

‘road authority’

has the same meaning as it is given in the *Roads and Jetties Act 1935*.

The definitions referred to in Part 1 of Schedule 2 also apply to Schedule 1, except that in this Schedule:

‘activity’

includes any activity concerning the use or development of the land in accordance with an order under section 26(6) of the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993* approving the Basslink Project.

Part 2 – Conditions

S1.1 General

- S1.1.1 Use and development, including its location, must be substantially in accordance with the final Basslink Integrated Impact Assessment Statement (IIAS) except as modified by these conditions.
- S1.1.2 The person responsible for the activity must prepare and submit to the planning authority all plans for structures that would normally require approval under the *Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993* and be subject to the Building Regulations 1994, Building Code of Australia and relevant Australian Standards.
- S1.1.3 All activity must be undertaken in accordance with the plans to the satisfaction of the planning authority.

S1.2 Agriculture

- S1.2.1 If footrot, lice or Ovine Johnes disease (OJD) in any animals (on land traversed by Basslink) is determined by the Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Division of the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment (DPIWE), the person responsible for the activity must prepare and submit to the planning authority an Agricultural Management Strategy for referral to the Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Division of DPIWE. The strategy is to include, but is not limited to, how to limit the risk of spreading footrot, lice or Ovine Johnes disease (OJD) in the course of any use or development authorised by the order approving the project.
- S1.2.2 Construction activities must not take place unless the Agricultural Management Strategy has been prepared to the satisfaction of the planning authority.
- S1.2.3 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the Agricultural Management Strategy prepared to the satisfaction of the planning authority.

S1.3 Infrastructure

- S1.3.1 The person responsible for the activity must ascertain the location of affected infrastructure, including water pipelines prior to commencement of construction activity.
- S1.3.2 Any user, including water users, potentially affected by construction activity must be advised at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to interruption of supply or service.
- S1.3.3 The person responsible for the activity must:
- (a) prior to commencing construction activity, identify the roads which it intends to use for heavy vehicles during construction activity; and
 - (b) compensate the road authority to the extent of increased costs reasonably incurred by the road authority for the repair and/or reinstatement of any roads (or bridges) which the person responsible for the activity uses for heavy vehicles during construction activities.
- S1.3.4 Certified engineering plans for all access roads and standing areas must be developed to the satisfaction of the road authority prior to the commencement of any road works. The plans must provide detail on, but not be limited to, treatment methods associated with the disturbance of sand dunes and/or sand patches resulting from the roadworks as well as control of stormwater runoff.
- S1.3.5 Works to be undertaken within roads must be undertaken to the standards required by the road authority.
- S1.3.6 Any new access from public roads to development sites must be located and constructed to the satisfaction of the road authority.
- S1.3.7 A Traffic Management Plan must be prepared and implemented to the satisfaction of the road authority. The Plan must be in accordance with Australian Standard AS 1742.3 Manual of uniform traffic control devices part 3 – Traffic control devices for works on roads and satisfy management codes of good practice applicable in Tasmania as applied by Roads and Public Transport of the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources.

S1.4 Visual Amenity

- S1.4.1 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the commitments made in the final IAS to minimise impacts of new overhead transmission lines and associated infrastructure on views and amenity.
- S1.4.2 The walls and roof of the buildings associated with the transition and converter stations must be coloured to tone in with the landscape setting or natural appearance of the area.
- S1.4.3 Overhead transmission line towers must be in accordance with the commitments given in the final IAS and relevant Australian Standards.

S1.5 Construction

- S1.5.1 Construction associated with the trenching option must avoid actively mobile landforms.
- S1.5.2 Upon commencement of construction activity, the person responsible for the activity must facilitate regular contact with affected landowners or occupiers of the land and take reasonable endeavours to notify landowners and occupiers of the land of schedules of activity including any general equipment movement schedules.
- S1.5.3 The construction activities must be undertaken in accordance with the final IAS and the commitments given in the Strategic EMP and all relevant Building Regulations and Australian Standards. This must include, but is not limited to, the following:
- (a) All construction areas must be minimised and appropriately marked out to the satisfaction of the planning authority.

- (b) Construction sites must include a fuel banded safety area and fuel spill kit where fuels are stored on-site.
 - (c) Construction vehicles must be restricted to defined and marked access routes and standing areas.
 - (d) Access roads must be constructed with minimal disturbance to native vegetation communities and fauna habitats in accordance with the principles and recommendations in the Strategic EMP.
 - (e) Lighting used at the site must be low impact with little or no disruption to sensitive viewing points in the immediate area.
 - (f) In the event that any Aboriginal sites are located during works associated with the development, then works must cease and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land Council and the Aboriginal Heritage Section of DPIWE must be informed to enable further assessment and advice prior to recommencing works.
 - (g) Aboriginal site TASI 8743 must be avoided with the provision of a buffer zone in a 20 m radius around the site.
 - (h) Aboriginal site TASI 8750 must be avoided with the provision of a buffer zone in a 50 m radius around the site.
 - (i) A protocol must be developed following consultation with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land Council and the Aboriginal Heritage Section of DPIWE for the assessment/management of unrecorded heritage sites that may be identified through preconstruction survey and construction monitoring. The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the protocol prepared to the satisfaction of DPIWE.
- S1.5.4 The activity must be in accordance with commitments made in the final IAS as these relate to Aboriginal Heritage and Historic Cultural Heritage.
- S1.5.5 The group of trees within the eastern corridor in Lauriston Park opposite the George Town substation must be retained where practical. An arboricultural assessment to determine the botanical and, or, amenity values must be undertaken before trees are removed. The assessment is to be carried out in consultation with the George Town Council.
- S1.5.6 Prior to the commencement of operation, a Safety Management System (SMS) for the construction phase and a Safety and Emergency Response Plan, in accordance with Aspect 14 of the Strategic EMP, must be prepared to the satisfaction of the State Emergency Service.

S1.6 Fire management

- S1.6.1 Prior to the commencement of construction activities, a Fire Management Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Tasmanian Fire Service. The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the plan.
- S1.6.2 Timber from the cleared easement must be salvaged to reduce fuel that may create a risk of fire.
- S1.6.3 Personnel, including contractors, must be trained and equipped to suppress any fires caused in the construction phase or during maintenance.
- S1.6.4 Activities within the easement must be integrated with fire agency fuel management operations.

Schedule 2 – Environmental Conditions

Part 1 – Definitions

‘activity’

means an environmentally relevant activity (as defined in section 3 of the EMPC Act) to which this order relates, and includes more than one such activity.

‘Best Practice Environmental Management’ or ‘BPEM’

has the meaning described in section 4 of the EMPC Act.

‘Board’

means the Board of Environmental Management and Pollution Control established under section 12 of the EMPC Act.

‘coastal zone’

has the meaning described in the State Coastal Policy 1996.

‘construction activities’

means activities associated with the construction phase of the activity.

‘construction corridor’

means the portion of land within which the transmission line and cable construction activities (other than the construction of vehicle access tracks and work camps) may take place, and includes all areas of soil and/or vegetation disturbance from such activities.

‘controlled waste’

has the meaning given to that expression in section 3 of the EMPC Act.

‘dangerous goods’

has the meaning given to that expression in the *Dangerous Goods Act 1998*.

‘Director’

means the Director of Environmental Management holding office under section 18 of the EMPC Act and includes a person authorised in writing by the Director of Environmental Management to exercise the relevant power or function on the Director’s behalf.

‘DPIWE’

means the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, and includes any other Department to which the administration of all or part of the EMPCA may be assigned.

‘EMP’

means Environmental Management Plan.

‘EMPC Act’

means the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.

‘environmental harm’, ‘material environmental harm’ and ‘serious environmental harm’

each have the meaning given in section 5 of the EMPC Act.

‘final IAS’

means the Draft Integrated Impact Assessment published by Basslink Pty Ltd in June 2001 and the document submitted by Basslink Pty Ltd to Environment Australia in July 2002 as a supplement to the Draft Integrated Impact Assessment Statement.

‘person responsible for the activity’

means any person who is or was responsible for the environmentally relevant activity for which this order is made and includes the officers, employees and agents of that person, and includes a body corporate.

‘planning authority’

means the George Town Council.

‘proposed alignment’

means the proposed transmission line and cable alignment as indicated in Figure 11.1 of the final IAS.

‘Strategic EMP’

means the Appendix to the final IAS entitled, Strategic Environmental Management Plan.

‘SPP Act’

means the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993*.

‘the land’

means the land indicated in Figure 8.1 of the final IAS. The land includes:

- (a) buildings and other structures permanently fixed to the land;
- (b) land covered with water; and
- (c) water covering land.

Any reference to an Australian Standard is to be taken as a reference to the most recent edition of that Standard, unless otherwise stated.

Part 2 – Conditions

S2.1 General

S2.1.1 A copy of the conditions and any associated documents referred to in these conditions must be held in a location which is known and accessible to the person responsible for the activity at all times. The person responsible for the activity must take all reasonable steps to ensure that all persons who are at any time responsible for the activity carried out on the land on which the activity will take place, including contractors and sub-contractors, are familiar with any requirements of these conditions which are relevant to their work, prior to these persons commencing work.

S2.1.2 If the person who is or was responsible for the activity ceases to be responsible for the activity, then, as soon as possible but not later than 30 days after that cessation, that person must:

- (a) notify both the planning authority and the Director in writing of that fact; and
- (b) provide both the planning authority and the Director with full particulars in writing of any person succeeding him or her as the person responsible.

S2.1.3 If an incident causing or threatening environmental nuisance, or serious or material environmental harm from pollution, occurs in the course of the activity, then the person responsible for the activity must immediately take all practicable action to minimise any adverse environmental effects from the incident.

S2.2 General construction issues

S2.2.1 Construction activity must be undertaken in accordance with the environmental management commitments made in the Strategic EMP.

S2.2.2 At least one month prior to the intended commencement time of construction activities, a Stormwater Management Strategy must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The Strategy must be consistent with best practice environmental management in accordance with section 31 of the State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997.

S2.2.3 Construction activities must not take place unless the Stormwater Management Strategy has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Board.

S2.2.4 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the Stormwater Management Strategy prepared to the satisfaction of the Board.

- S2.2.5 Sediment control measures such as erosion control berms and sediments pits must be installed immediately following clearing and grading activities on and at the base of any slope in the construction corridor which leads down to a watercourse, and the installation must comply with any written requirements of the Director.
- S2.2.6 Erosion control structures must be regularly inspected and maintained to ensure that they are performing effectively, particularly after high intensity rainfall or run-off events. The inspection and maintenance must be carried out in accordance with any written requirements of the Director.
- S2.2.7 Existing access tracks must be utilised wherever practicable to access the construction corridor. Reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that vehicles remain on designated access roads and tracks and within the construction corridor.

S2.3 Change in proposed alignment

- S2.3.1 The person responsible for the activity must notify the Director of any proposed change to the eastern alignment of underground cables and overhead transmission lines and respective tower placements of greater than 15 metres prior to commencing construction activities in relation to the proposed change of alignment and/or placement. The notification must include the following:
- (a) details and reason for the proposed change/s;
 - (b) details of any additional environmental survey undertaken or proposed to be undertaken in relation to the proposed change/s;
 - (c) details of any environmental impact which is expected to or which may arise from the proposed change/s; and
 - (d) details of any proposed management measures to avoid or mitigate environmental impacts.

S2.4 Fauna

- S2.4.1 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the environmental management commitments contained in the Strategic EMP, including but not limited to the following:
- (a) Habitat Loss or Disturbance
 - (i) Old-growth trees must be avoided, where possible, when selecting routes for the access tracks outside the easement.
 - (b) Barrier Effects
 - (i) The activity must avoid significant island-type remnants.
 - (ii) Retain native vegetation below 1.65 m in height below the overhead line where practicable.
 - (iii) Permanent access tracks must be as narrow as possible to minimise the clearance of native vegetation and must avoid impact on any threatened species unless no prudent and feasible alternatives exist.
 - (c) Disturbance to Local Populations
 - (i) The activity must not be located within 500 m of a wedge-tailed eagle nest.
 - (ii) During the period of 1 August and 1 February construction activities, or maintenance activities which last for a continuous period of greater than 30 minutes, or maintenance activities which last for more than a total period of 60 minutes within a 24 hour period, must not occur within:

1000 metres of a wedge-tailed eagle nest if the construction activities or maintenance activities are in line-of-sight of the nest site; or

500 metres of a wedge-tailed eagle nest site if the construction activities or maintenance activities are not in line-of-sight of the nest site.

(iii) Notwithstanding the periodic restrictions of condition S2.4.1(c)(ii) emergency repairs can occur up to but not within 500 m of a wedge-tailed eagle nest where the DPIWE Threatened Species Unit has been consulted on impact minimisation and the Unit's advice is acted upon.

(d) Bird Collisions with Lines and Towers

(i) The risk of bird strike must be minimised by siting overhead lines as far away from wetlands as practicable.

(ii) Where wetlands are nearby (ie British Lagoon wetland complex), overhead lines must be aligned in parallel with the predominant flight paths as much as practicable to minimise the risk of bird strike.

(iii) Bird flight diverters on overhead lines, including the earth wire, must be installed where appropriate.

(iv) Spacing of the conductor, return line and earth wire must be greater than 1.59 m to minimise the risk of electrocution of birds.

(v) Maintenance activities must include removal of any nesting material.

S2.4.2 Within six months of the order approving the project, a Fauna Management Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The plan must include, but is not limited to, details of the following:

(a) a program developed in consultation with DPIWE and relevant landowners to achieve the objective of no net loss of the ecological values of threatened fauna habitats as a result of the activity (which may include the creation of, or the prevention, repair or mitigation of damage to, habitats of threatened fauna inside and/or outside the construction corridor);

(b) an implementation timetable for key aspects of the plan; and

(c) a review and reporting program to regularly advise the Director of the results of the implementation of the plan.

S2.4.3 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the Fauna Management Plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Board, and any amendment to the plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Director.

S2.5 Flora

S2.5.1 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the environmental management commitments contained in the Strategic EMP, including but not limited to the following:

(a) Minimise Vegetation and Habitat Loss

(i) Retain native trees within the agricultural landscape throughout the route wherever possible.

(ii) Site towers to span native vegetation near roadsides wherever possible to reduce vegetation clearance and therefore permit the passage of native fauna along the existing habitat corridor.

(iii) Where the alignment is to support an overhead line, retain where practicable ground cover, shrubs to 1.65 m and all vegetation in some riparian gullies, to facilitate fauna movement and allow regeneration of flora species disturbed during the construction phase.

(iv) Retain intact flora in gullies and understorey in the native forest sections by using high towers where practicable.

(b) Minimise Vegetation Disturbance

- (i) Retained native vegetation near to, but outside, the construction zone (including scattered native trees) must be fenced or marked prior to any construction activities to prevent accidental damage, including damage to the root systems by construction traffic, mechanical injury, or alteration to soil surface conditions. Marked or fenced areas should be clearly identified as 'no go zones', and access by machinery or construction personnel must be prohibited.
 - (ii) Construction methods and machinery must be selected with the aim of minimising disturbance to soil, vegetation and fauna habitat as far as possible. Clearing prior to construction must avoid mechanical or other damage (eg fuel spills) to retained vegetation. No windrows, soil or other debris must be pushed into retained vegetation.
 - (iii) Subject to the terms of the Fire Management Plan prepared under condition S1.6, the removal of felled coarse woody material must be minimised where practicable to reduce soil disturbance that would significantly impact upon the habitat diversity within the easement and on the shrub and ground flora present.
 - (iv) For sections of alignments that affect areas of native vegetation, the width of the area cleared or otherwise disturbed during construction must be kept to a minimum. Construction earthworks, machinery traffic and other disturbance must be kept within the final easement width wherever possible.
 - (v) Material stockpiles must be placed on cleared land rather than in areas of native vegetation.
- (c) Biodiversity Conservation
- (i) Avoid siting towers in vegetation communities of high conservation significance.
 - (ii) Avoid siting towers in remnant vegetation in agricultural land, such as heathlands and wetlands.
 - (iii) Avoid siting towers in vegetation known to support threatened flora species.
 - (iv) Undertake tower site clearance surveys at appropriate times of the year to identify ephemeral threatened species (eg orchids) and allow them to be avoided, relocated or propagated. Revegetation works must, where practicable, utilise tree, shrub and groundcover material from areas to be cleared to propagate tube stock or provide material for other revegetation techniques, such as brush matting or weed-free mulch.
 - (v) Prevent sediment runoff into wetlands from ground disturbance.
- (d) Managing for Cinnamon Fungus (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*)
- (i) Avoid, to the extent practicable, the development of infrastructure in areas known to support *Phytophthora*-sensitive species (heathland and heathy woodland) and minimising access tracks.
 - (ii) The proposed route must be surveyed for the occurrence of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* prior to construction and any infestations marked. Machinery and personnel must not move from infected areas into uninfected areas without the appropriate hygiene precautions as detailed in the *Phytophthora cinnamomi* Hygiene Manual. (Parks and Wildlife Service, Tasmania (1993)).
- (e) Sediment and Drainage Control
- (i) The movement of sediment, weed seeds or pollutants from the construction zone into adjacent vegetation and waterways must be prevented.
- (f) Monitoring and Maintenance

- (i) Monitor for any changes in species richness of native vegetation within the post-construction easement and respond, where practicable, if changes are identified.

S2.5.2 Within six months of the order approving the project, a Flora Management Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The plan must include, but is not limited to, details of the following:

- (a) a program developed in consultation with DPIWE and relevant landowners to achieve the objective of no net loss of the vegetation values of threatened floral communities as a result of the activity (which may include the creation of, or the prevention, repair or mitigation of damage to, threatened floral communities inside and/or outside the construction corridor);
- (b) an implementation timetable for key aspects of the plan; and
- (c) a review and reporting program to regularly advise the Director of the results of the implementation of the plan.

S2.5.3 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the Flora Management Plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Board, and any amendment to the plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Director.

S2.6 Horizontal directional drilling (above high water mark)

S2.6.1 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the environmental management commitments contained in the Strategic EMP and the Shore Crossing Management Plan (see S2.7).

S2.6.2 Drilling fluid must be stored in an impervious containment facility which has been designed and maintained in such a way as to prevent emissions to groundwater.

S2.6.3 Drilling fluid collection and storage areas must be designed, maintained and managed in such a way as to prevent overflow of drilling mud, including during periods of heavy and prolonged rainfall.

S2.6.4 Drilling fluid and drilling hole cuttings must be stored, reused and/or disposed of in a manner and at a location in accordance with any written requirements of the Director.

S2.6.5 At least one month prior to the intended commencement time of activities for the horizontal directional drilling option, a report must be submitted to the Director which outlines the location of the proposed drill rig site and drill exit point, and the nature and volume of drilling fluid to be used and cuttings to be generated and the management of any wastes.

S2.6.6 Laying of the combined transmission, fibre-optic and metallic return cables under the dune system at Four Mile Bluff must be undertaken using a horizontal directional drilling construction method unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Director that it is technically infeasible to do so, including, but not limited to, three pilot hole failures for the combined transmission, fibre-optic and metallic return cable holes.

S2.6.7 The person responsible for the activity must notify the Director in writing as soon as practicable if the person responsible for the activity considers that it is likely that it will abandon the intention to use, or the use of horizontal directional drilling for the laying of the transmission, fibre-optic and metallic return cables under the dune system at Four Mile Bluff. The notice must include reasons why the abandonment of horizontal directional drilling is being considered.

S2.6.8 The person responsible for the activity must notify the Director within 24 hours of a decision to abandon the horizontal directional drilling for the laying of the transmission, fibre-optic and metallic return cables under the dune system at Four Mile Bluff. The notice must provide reasons for the decision.

S2.7 Four Mile Bluff shore crossing (above high water mark)

S2.7.1 At least one month prior to the intended commencement time of construction activities a Shore Crossing Management Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The plan must be consistent with the commitments made in the Strategic EMP, unless otherwise modified by the Director. The plan must include, but is not necessarily limited to, details of the following:

- (a) the construction method(s) to be used within the coastal zone;
- (b) coastal engineering studies examining potential impacts on coastal processes of the proposed construction methods and infrastructure and demonstrating the ability of the infrastructure to withstand a storm with a return period of 100 years and any changes to coastal morphology that might reasonably be expected to occur within the lifespan of the infrastructure;
- (c) results and methodology of a detailed fauna survey of the land within the area of the high water mark for the construction activities;
- (d) proposed management measures to avoid or minimise environmental impacts, including erosion, and impacts on coastal processes and terrestrial flora and fauna;
- (e) proposed dune stabilisation and revegetation measures;
- (f) a proposed monitoring and maintenance program;
- (g) an implementation timetable for key aspects of the plan; and
- (h) details of any maintenance works that may be required from time to time.

S2.7.2 Construction activities must not take place unless the Shore Crossing Management Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Board and conditions S2.6.6 and S2.6.8 have been met by the person responsible for the activity.

S2.7.3 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the Shore Crossing Management Plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Board, any amendment to the plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Director, and conditions S2.6.6 and S2.6.8 have been met by the person responsible for the activity.

S2.8 Rehabilitation Plan

S2.8.1 At least one month prior to the intended commencement time of construction activities, a Rehabilitation Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The plan must be consistent with the environmental management commitments made in the Strategic EMP, unless otherwise modified by the Director. The plan must provide details of the rehabilitation program for all areas disturbed as a result of construction activities on the land, including the work camps, storage areas, ancillary facilities, and temporary access tracks. The plan must include, but is not necessarily to be limited to, details in relation to the following:

- (a) stabilisation measures;
- (b) surface recontouring;
- (c) soil compaction relief;
- (d) erosion and sediment control;
- (e) resspreading of topsoil;
- (f) regeneration and revegetation;
- (g) replacement of habitat structural elements;
- (h) measures for restricting vehicle access to rehabilitated areas;
- (i) monitoring and maintenance program; and

(j) implementation timetable for key aspects of the plan.

The plan must place particular emphasis on areas where native vegetation will be disturbed.

S2.8.2 Construction activities must not take place unless the Rehabilitation Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Board.

S2.8.3 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the Rehabilitation Plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Board, and any amendment to the plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Director.

S2.9 Weed and Disease Management Plan

S2.9.1 At least one month prior to the intended commencement time of construction activities, a Weed and Disease Management Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The plan must be consistent with the environmental management commitments made in the Strategic EMP, unless otherwise modified by the Director. The plan must include, but is not necessarily limited to, details of the following:

- (a) weed and disease identification procedures;
- (b) proposed weed eradication measures;
- (c) vehicle and equipment washdown protocols;
- (d) access restrictions;
- (e) the areas where management measures will be implemented;
- (f) a proposed monitoring and maintenance program; and
- (g) an implementation timetable for key aspects of the plan.

S2.9.2 Construction activities must not take place unless the Weed and Disease Management Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Board.

S2.9.3 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the Weed and Disease Management Plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Board, and any amendment to the plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Director.

2.10 Air Quality

S2.10.1 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the environmental management commitments made in the Strategic EMP.

S2.10.2 Cleared vegetation must not be disposed of by burning unless no other reasonable and practicable disposal options are available, and must be undertaken in such a way as to prevent emissions from causing an environmental nuisance beyond the boundaries of the construction corridor and in accordance with any written requirements of the Director.

S2.10.3 Converter Station SF₆ Management

- (a) The activity must minimise releases of sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) to the atmosphere through the following measures:
 - (i) Install only SF₆ filled equipment compliant with best practice defined in international standards with respect to leakage. Current requirement is for an annual leakage rate of less than 1% per year per gas compartment.
 - (ii) Maintain SF₆ filled equipment so that, as far as is reasonably practicable, leakage is maintained at less than 1% per year for the service life of that equipment.
 - (iii) Adopt maintenance strategies and work methods that minimise releases of SF₆ to the atmosphere. Specifically, utilise SF₆ recovery equipment with the capability to recycle gas during maintenance operations that require internal access to gas compartments.

(iv) Maintain an inventory of SF₆ stocks and to track usage.

(v) Recycle SF₆ gas when equipment is decommissioned.

S2.10.4 Dust avoidance and mitigation measures must be implemented to prevent dust emissions from causing an environmental nuisance beyond the boundaries of the construction corridor, and must accord with any written requirements of the Director.

S2.11 Noise

S2.11.1 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the environmental management commitments made in the Strategic EMP.

S2.11.2 Operational noise limits of the converter station must meet the Australian Standards AS1055, AS2107 and AS2374.6 and be limited to the background noise level +5 dB from any sensitive premises.

S2.11.3 Construction activities within 200 metres of a residence or other sensitive use must only occur within the hours of 7.00 am to 7.00 pm Monday to Saturday and 8.00 am to 6.00 pm on Sunday, unless otherwise modified by the Director or unless the consent of the occupant(s) of the residence or premises has been obtained.

S2.11.4 Noise abatement devices or techniques must be employed where practicable to prevent noise emissions from causing an environmental nuisance to the general public or sensitive areas.

S2.12 Waste and hazardous materials

S2.12.1 The development must be undertaken in accordance with the environmental management commitments made in the Strategic EMP.

S2.12.2 All wastes generated in the course of the development, including construction waste and domestic waste, must be managed in accordance with the hierarchy of waste management. That is, wastes must be managed in the following manner:

- (a) waste must be minimised, that is, the generation of waste must be reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable having regard to best practice environmental management;
- (b) waste must be re-used or recycled to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable; and
- (c) any remaining waste must be disposed of at a site permitted by the planning authority for the purpose of disposal of the relevant solid waste.

S2.12.3 At least one month prior to the intended commencement time of construction activities, a Construction Solid Waste Management Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The plan must be consistent with the environmental management commitments made in the Strategic EMP, unless otherwise modified by the Director. The plan must include a program for the management of solid waste generated by construction activities, and in particular packaging waste, in accordance with the hierarchy of waste management.

S2.12.4 Construction activities must not take place unless the Construction Solid Waste Management Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. S2.12.5 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the Construction Solid Waste Management Plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Board, and any amendment to the plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Director.

S2.12.6 The storage and transportation of dangerous goods or controlled waste must be kept to the minimum reasonably practicable.

S2.12.7 All vessels containing dangerous goods or controlled waste must, as far as reasonably practicable, be located within impervious bunded areas or spill trays of appropriate

capacity, and in accordance with relevant Australian Standards, including AS 1940 and AS 2507, and in accordance with any written requirements of the Director.

S2.12.8 Where controlled wastes are transported from the land for fee or reward, the person responsible for the development must ensure that the transporter is the holder of a current Waste Transport Business Environment Protection Notice issued in accordance with the EMPC Act.

S2.12.9 Portable toilet facilities must be provided and maintained at all major work sites, including horizontal directional drilling sites and ancillary facility installation sites.

S2.13 Risk and safety

S2.13.1 The activity must be undertaken in accordance with the environmental management commitments made in the Strategic EMP.

S2.13.2 At least one month prior to the intended commencement time of construction activities, a Hydrocarbon Spill Contingency Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The plan must include management procedures to avoid or minimise environmental impacts associated with an incident which involves, or has the potential to involve, the discharge of liquid hydrocarbons into the environment.

S2.13.3 Construction activities must not take place unless the Hydrocarbon Spill Contingency Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Board.

S2.13.4 Construction activities must be undertaken in accordance with a Hydrocarbon Spill Plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Board, and any amendment to the plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Director.

S2.14 Decommissioning and rehabilitation

S2.14.1 If the permanent cessation of operations on part or all of the land is planned (other than a temporary suspension of operations) then the Director must be notified of this intention:

- (a) at least 30 days prior to the planned date of cessation; or
- (b) within 14 days of the person responsible for the development becoming aware that the cessation is planned; or
- (c) if notification to the Australian Stock Exchange is required under 'Chapter 3 Continuous Disclosure' of the Australian Stock Exchange Listing Rules then, within 24 hours after that notification of the planned cessation;

whichever is the earliest date.

S2.14.2 Following permanent cessation of operations, rehabilitation of the land must be carried out in accordance with a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan prepared to the satisfaction of the Board. The plan must be prepared in accordance with guidelines to be provided by the Director, and by such date as the Director may specify in writing.

Attachment 1 – To Schedule 2

Additional Information

1. General requirements

The activity must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* and Regulations thereunder, in accordance with the requirements of any relevant State Policies, and in accordance with the principles of Best Practice Environmental Management. These conditions of the order approving the project must not be construed as an exemption from any of those requirements or principles.

2. Notification of incidents under s.32 of EMPCA

- (1) A person responsible for an activity that is not a level 2 activity or a level 3 activity must notify the relevant planning authority, as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than 24 hours, after becoming aware of the release of a pollutant occurring as the result of any incident in relation to that activity, including an emergency, accident or malfunction, if this release causes or may cause an environmental nuisance.
- (2) A person responsible for an activity that is a level 2 activity or a level 3 activity must notify the Director, as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than 24 hours, after becoming aware of the release of a pollutant occurring as a result of any incident in relation to that activity, including an emergency, accident or malfunction, if this release causes or may cause an environmental nuisance.
- (3) A person responsible for an environmentally relevant activity must notify the Director, as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than 24 hours, after becoming aware of the release of a pollutant occurring as a result of any incident in relation to that activity, including an emergency, accident or malfunction, if this release causes or may cause serious or material environmental harm. The Director can be notified by telephoning 1800 005 171 (a 24-hour emergency telephone number).
- (4) Any notification referred to in subsection (1), (2) or (3) must include details of the incident, its nature, the circumstances in which it occurred and any action that has been taken to deal with it. This notification can be faxed to the Director on 62 333 800, or delivered by hand.
- (5) Any notification given by a person in compliance with this section is not admissible in evidence against the person in proceedings for an offence or for the imposition of a penalty (other than proceedings in respect of the making of a false or misleading statement).

3. Dangerous goods and blasting requirements

The activity must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Dangerous Goods Act 1998* and Regulations thereunder.