

5 Revised Statement of Commitments

The environmental assessment for the M2 Upgrade project identified a range of environmental outcomes and management measures that would be required to avoid or reduce the environmental impacts.

After consideration of the issues raised in the public submissions, the draft Statement of Commitments for the M2 Upgrade project (refer to Chapter 11 of the environmental assessment) has been revised. Should the project be approved, the revised commitments would guide the subsequent phases of the M2 Upgrade project development.

The following definitions apply in relation to the revised Statement of Commitments:

Pre-construction	Work in respect of the project that includes design, survey, acquisitions, fencing, investigative drilling or excavation, building/road dilapidation surveys, minor clearing (except where threatened species, populations or ecological communities would be affected), establishing ancillary facilities such as site compounds or other relevant activities determined to have minimal environmental impact (eg minor access tracks and adjustments to services/utilities etc).
Construction	All work in respect of the project other than that defined as a pre-construction activity/work.
Operation	The operation of the project, but not including commissioning trials of equipment, or temporary use of parts of the project during construction.

The revised Statement of Commitments, including commitments relating to the key issues described in the DGRs is provided in Table 5.1. Additional and/or modified commitments to those presented in the draft Statement of Commitments have been italicised and deleted commitments, or parts of commitments, have been struck out.

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Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
	P3	Maintain a register of all properties inspected, indicating whether the owner accepted or refused the property inspection offer. A copy of the register will be provided to the Director-General upon request.	All stages	
	P4	Where liable, rectify any property damage (at no cost to the property owner) caused directly or indirectly by construction or operation. Alternatively, the RTA may negotiate compensation for the property damage with the property owner.	Construction and operation	
	P5	All property acquisitions will be negotiated in accordance with RTA <i>Land Acquisition Policy</i> , and compensation will be assessed under the provisions of the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i> .	Pre-construction	RTA Land Acquisition Policy Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991
	P6	Property access will be maintained for the duration of construction. Temporary access requirements will be assessed, designed, managed and rehabilitation prepared in consultation with affected landholders.	Pre-construction and construction	
Ancillary facilities				
Minimise adverse impacts associated with ancillary facilities.	AF1	Ensure the sites for ancillary facilities satisfy the criteria provided in the environmental assessment unless otherwise approved through the CEMP.	Pre-construction and construction	

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
incident during construction.		distance away from watercourses and entry points to the stormwater system. Spillages will be contained and collected for disposal.	construction and construction	of Flammable and Combustible Liquids. <i>Section 10.9 of the environmental assessment</i>
	H2	Appropriate controls will be put in place for all hazardous and potentially contaminating activities to prevent contamination of watercourses.	Construction	<i>Section 10.9 of the environmental assessment</i>
	H3	Site specific safety issues and personnel responsibilities will be included in the project induction. Safety issues and responsibilities shall be included in activity specific briefings as required.	Construction	Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000 Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. <i>Section 10.9 of the environmental assessment</i>
Climate change				
Minimise greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy consumption.	GHG I	Energy efficient equipment and management measures will be used where feasible and reasonable to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Pre-construction/ post construction	<i>Section 10.10 of the environmental assessment</i>
Property and land use				
	P1	Conduct property inspections, subject to landowner agreement, on all structures within 50 m of construction activities that generate vibration impacts or any other locations identified by the proponent in a targeted property risk analysis.	Pre-construction	AS 4349.1 Inspection of Buildings
	P2	Give a copy of the property inspection report to the owner of each property inspected at least one week before construction that could affect the property commences.	Pre-construction	

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
Socio-Economic				
Avoid, minimise and manage adverse amenity impacts on residents during construction.	S1	Minimise disturbance to adjacent residents by managing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movement of vehicles (especially outside of standard working hours). • Construction noise attenuation, where feasible and reasonable. • Visual intrusion, dust and light spill. 	Construction	
Minimise amenity impacts on residents during operation.	S2	Provide vegetative planting, where appropriate at key locations, to screen the M2 Motorway.	Construction and operation	
Air quality				
Minimise air quality impacts.	AQ1	Feasible and reasonable mitigation and management measures will be adopted to minimise windblown, traffic generated or equipment generated dust and emissions.	Construction	
	AQ2	Dust generating activities will stop where visible dust is being emitted outside the construction corridor with the potential to affect significant receivers and areas and when dust suppression methods are ineffective.	Construction	
	AQ3	Dust monitoring will be undertaken at a number of locations along the M2 Motorway. These will be compared to pre-construction levels.	Construction	
Waste Management				
Waste production minimised.	W1	The 'waste hierarchy' will be maximised during construction and incorporated into work programs, purchase strategies and site inductions, and will be assessed quarterly to identify opportunities for improvement.	Pre-construction	NSW <i>Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2007</i> (NSW WARR).
Hazards and risks				
Minimised risk of an	HI	All storage areas for hazardous materials will be located an adequate	Pre-	AS 1940 The Storage and Handling

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
for receiving waters.		hazardous or contaminating activities, including, but not limited to refuelling stations and washing construction vehicles.	and construction	
Minimised impacts on waterways.	WS3	New bridge piers will be configured to be consistent with the existing structures to minimise hydraulic impacts and potential scour issues.	Construction	Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom 20052004) RTA Code of Practice for Water Management. <i>Section 9.8 of the environmental assessment</i>
Minimised scour impacts.	WS4	Permanent stream protection and/or energy dissipation measures as appropriate will be provided at affected culverts downstream of transverse culvert outlets to minimise scour and erosion of the natural waterways, if required and where sufficient space is available.	Construction and operation	RTA QA Specification G38 Soil and Water Management <i>AUSTROADS Waterway Design – A Guide to the hydraulic design of bridges culverts and floodways. Section 9.8 of the environmental assessment</i>
Contamination				
Protection of the environment, workers and the public.	C1	Risk management measures will be followed to address potential contamination in the site corridor during construction.	Pre-construction and construction	<i>Section 10.9 of the environmental assessment</i>
	C2	Collection, testing and classification of sediments in sediment basins will be undertaken. Appropriate management strategies will be implemented prior to works in sediment basins.	Pre-construction and construction	
	C3	An 'Unexpected Finds' Protocol will be developed and implemented.	Pre-construction and construction	

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
Non-Aboriginal Heritage				
Minimised impacts on non-Aboriginal heritage.	NH1	If previously unidentified non-Aboriginal heritage items are encountered during construction, all works that would potentially impact the find will stop immediately. Works will not re-commence until appropriate clearance has been received. Work will recommence once consultation with the RTA or project heritage specialists has determined the nature and significance of any finds, and determined an approach for further work, which may include further consultation with heritage agencies.	Construction	RTA Heritage Guidelines and Heritage Act 1977.
	NH2	Physical and procedural measures to mitigate potential impacts upon the heritage significance of the 'Farmhouse' at 266–268 Windsor Road, Model Farms will be developed and implemented prior to and during construction at this location.	Pre-construction	Heritage Act 1977 Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, 3 rd Edition.
	NH3	Reasonable physical and procedural construction management measures will be developed and implemented to avoid adverse heritage impacts on the heritage causeway beneath Beecroft Road bus ramp.	Pre-construction and construction	Heritage Act 1977 Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, 3 rd Edition.
Water management and soils				
Minimised erosion and sedimentation.	WS1	Management measures will be designed and installed in consultation with a soil conservation specialist. A maintenance and inspection program will be developed and implemented to ensure ongoing effectiveness.	Pre-construction and construction	Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom 2005/2004), (DECC, 2008) RTA Code of Practice for Water Management. Section 9.8 of the environmental assessment
Minimised contamination risk	WS2	Bunded areas will be used for storage of oils, chemicals, toxic substances, flammable and combustible liquids and potentially	Pre-construction	Section 9.8 of the environmental assessment

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
				Noise Wall Design Guidelines (RTA 2006) Landscape Guidelines (RTA 2008). <i>Section 9.6 of the environmental assessment</i>
Aboriginal Heritage				
Minimise potential for impacts on Aboriginal heritage in accordance with the strategies described in the environmental assessment.	AH1	Project induction will include responsibilities under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. Site-specific briefings will be given to relevant personnel when working in the vicinity of identified heritage items.	Pre-construction and construction	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. <i>Section 9.7 of the environmental assessment</i>
	AH2	If any skeletal remains are encountered, all works that would potentially impact the find will stop immediately. Works will not recommence until appropriate clearance has been received. Work will recommence once consultation with the RTA or project heritage specialists has determined the nature and significance of any finds, and determined an approach for further work, which may include further consultation with heritage agencies.	Pre-construction and construction	Skeletal remains — Guidelines for the management of human skeletal remains under the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW Heritage Office 1998). <i>Section 9.7 of the environmental assessment</i>
	AH3	Aboriginal heritage items and sites within 50 metres of work will be managed as environmentally sensitive areas.	Pre-construction and construction	
	AH4	Should any previously unidentified Aboriginal objects or items be located during the works, all work will cease in the vicinity of the find until specialist Aboriginal heritage advice is received.	Construction	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
Enhance existing habitat.	FF7	Revegetation of areas disturbed as a result construction activities will be conducted by suitably qualified and experienced persons. Suitable felled native trees will be used for habitat. Seeds will be collected in the corridor prior to and during clearing and used as part of the landscape plan.	Pre-construction and construction.	Same as FF1.
Manage the spread of weeds and plant pathogens.	FF8	Weed management will occur throughout the extent and duration of the project.	Pre-construction and Construction.	Noxious Weeds Act 1993.
Offset residual impacts.	FF9	<p>The Proponent will develop an offset strategy in consultation with DECCW with the overall aim of offsetting residual impacts to seven hectares of native habitat that is proposed to be cleared permanently. The strategy would focus on conservation and enhancement of habitat in the M2 corridor.</p> <p>The offset strategy would outline the process for identifying priority areas for habitat enhancement within the M2 corridor and management measures that would be undertaken to enhance habitat value.</p> <p>The offset strategy would be agreed with the Director-General prior to the commencement of construction.</p>	Pre-construction	
Urban Design, Visual and Landscape				
Minimised the visual impact and enhance the character of the road corridor.	UDI	The detailed design, implementation of built elements will be undertaken with consideration of the visual and urban design objectives and principles for the project.	Pre-construction and construction	RTA Urban and Regional Design Practice Notes, Beyond the Pavement (RTA 1999) Bridge Aesthetics (RTA 2003) Shotcrete Design Guidelines (RTA 2005)

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
	FF2	Clearing for construction compounds will be minimised by retaining mature trees where feasible within compound sites.	Pre-construction and construction.	Same as FF1. <i>Section 9.5 of the environmental assessment</i>
	FF3	Prior to any clearing of native trees, a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist will conduct a pre-clearing fauna survey. Potentially hollow-bearing trees within the clearing extents will be identified and marked. A two stage clearing and tree felling process will be implemented to reduce the risk of injury to ant nesting fauna from clearing. An ecologist will be present to supervise the removal of hollow bearing trees. <i>A targeted survey for microbat roosts in bridges and culverts will also be conducted by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist. All threatened microbats will be removed prior to identified roosts being disturbed.</i>	Pre-construction and construction.	Same as FF1. <i>Section 9.5 of the environmental assessment</i>
	FF4	Prior to any works in detention basins, a survey will be undertaken by an ecologist to determine if the basins contain potential habitat for frogs. If potential habitat is present a survey will be undertaken for threatened frog species. Any threatened frogs would be appropriately managed prior to basin works commencing.	Pre-construction and construction.	Same as FF1. <i>Section 9.5 of the environmental assessment</i>
	FF5	Prior to the commencement of construction in the area containing <i>Epacris purpurascens</i> ssp. <i>Purpurascens</i> would be marked by an ecologist. Clearing would aim to avoid this species.	Pre-construction and construction.	Same as FF1.
Water crossings designed to incorporate best practice principles.	FF6	All works adjacent to waterways will be developed in accordance with the fish habitat classification of each waterway.	Pre-construction and construction.	Same as FF1 Why do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings' – NSW Fisheries (DPI) Publication.

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
Operational Noise				
Operational noise and vibration managed.	ON1	All feasible and reasonable mitigation measures will be developed and implemented to meet the noise criteria applicable to the project. Where property treatments are considered they would be undertaken in consultation with the affected sensitive receiver.	Pre-construction and construction	RTA Environmental Noise Management Manual (RTA 2001) NSW Government's Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise.
	ON2	Operational noise will be monitored within one year of project opening. If monitoring indicates that traffic noise levels exceed those predicted, further feasible and reasonable measures will be implemented in consultation with affected sensitive noise receivers to <i>achieve the predicted levels or achieve the greatest practicable reduction.</i>	Operation	RTA Environmental Noise Management Manual (RTA 2001) NSW Government's Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise.
Flora and Fauna				
Manage impacts on flora and fauna.	FF1	Native vegetation will be retained where possible. Areas of vegetation to be retained will be clearly marked in order to reduce the risk of over-clearing.	Pre-construction	Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (TCA Act) Threatened Species Conservation provisions of the Fisheries Management Act 1994. Native Vegetation Act 2003 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 Water Management Act 2000 Noxious Weeds Act 1993. <i>Section 9.5 of the environmental assessment</i>

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
	CN2	Noise and vibration monitoring will be undertaken at key locations along the M2 Motorway to assess noise levels and the effectiveness of adopted noise mitigation measures.	Pre-construction and construction	Technical Basis for Guidelines to Minimise Annoyance Due to Blasting Overpressure and Ground Vibration (ANZECC 1990). German Standard DIN 4150 Part 3 Structural Vibration in Buildings DECCW Interim Construction Noise Guidelines 2009. <i>Section 9.4 of the environmental assessment</i>
	CN3	Prior to undertaking out of hours works, noise mitigation and management measures would be implemented where feasible and reasonable to minimise the potential impacts at nearby sensitive receivers. This would involve notification to affected communities.	Pre-construction and construction	DECCW Interim Construction Noise Guidelines 2009
	CN4	<i>For all situations where an existing noise wall would need to be removed prior to the construction of a new noise wall, a site specific noise assessment will be prepared. The assessment will identify each potentially affected noise receiver, determine the potential noise impacts and recommend feasible and reasonable mitigation measures at each location. Consultation will occur with all affected residents.</i>	<i>Pre-construction</i>	
	CN5	<i>Alternatives to traditional ‘beeper’ type reversing or movement alarms will be considered prior to use on site subject to an appropriate safety assessment. In particular, the “Review of Alternatives to ‘Beeper’ Alarms for Construction Equipment” (UNSW, 2009) will be reviewed.</i>	<i>Pre-construction</i>	
	CN6	<i>Site specific impact assessment of compound sites will identify measures to minimise noise and vibration impacts on the surrounding community</i>	<i>Pre-construction</i>	

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
	T2	Maintain a minimum of two traffic lanes available every weekday during peak periods (three lanes westbound from Lane Cove Road to Beecroft Road during PM peak period).	Construction	AS 1742, Part 3 Manual of uniform traffic control devices. Scope of Works and Technical Criteria (SWTC).
Minimised traffic disruption on non Motorway roads.	T3	Impact on non motorway roads will be minimised by using the M2 Motorway to access worksites where possible.	Construction	AS 1742, Part 3 Manual of uniform traffic control devices. Scope of Works and Technical Criteria (SWTC). <i>Section 9.2 of the environmental assessment</i>
Minimised disruption to bus services on the M2 Motorway.	T4	Disruption of bus services will be minimised by appropriate traffic management arrangements. Access to M2 Motorway bus stops will be maintained during the construction phase.	Construction	Scope of Works and Technical Criteria (SWTC). <i>Section 9.2 of the environmental assessment</i>
Minimised impacts on cyclists.	T5	An off-motorway alternative route for cyclists will be available and sign posted prior to commencement of construction. The cycle route will be formulated in consultation with cyclist user groups and councils	Pre-construction and construction	Scope of Works and Technical Criteria (SWTC). <i>Section 9.2 of the environmental assessment</i>
Operational Traffic and Transport				
Improved reliability and efficiency for M2 Users.	T6	The operation of M2 will be monitored following completion of the project and compared to predicted outcomes. Where feasible and reasonable, operational refinements will be made if required to optimise traffic condition.	Operation	<i>Section 9.1 of the environmental assessment</i>
Construction Noise and Vibration				
Minimised noise and vibration impacts during construction.	CNI	All feasible and reasonable mitigation and management measures to minimise construction noise and vibration at sensitive receivers will be implemented.	Pre-construction and construction	DECCW Interim Construction Noise Guidelines 2009. <i>Section 9.4 of the environmental assessment</i>

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Community Engagement				
Informed community.	CE1	<p>The community will be informed with measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter box drops, media releases and community updates. • An internet site established and maintained for the duration of the project. • Road signs (electronic and static). • Targeted consultation with affected individuals or groups. • Information to be provided will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes to access and traffic conditions. - Details of future works programs. - General construction progress. 	Pre-construction and construction	Community Involvement and Communications. Draft: A resource manual for staff (RTA 2008).
	CE2	<p>An Enquiries and Complaints Management System to be implemented and maintained throughout construction, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 24 hour, 1800 telephone number. • A system to receive, record, track and respond to enquiries or complaints within a specified timeframe. • Acknowledgement of complaints within 24 hours and a process for responding to the complainant within 10 days. • A mediation system for complaints not able to be resolved. 	Pre-construction and construction	Community Involvement and Communications. Draft: A resource manual for staff (RTA 2008). AS 4269 Complaints Handling.
Construction Traffic and Transport				
Minimised traffic disruption on the M2 Motorway.	T1	Impact on traffic flow during construction will be minimised by restricting lane occupancies to off peak periods.	Construction	AS 1742, Part 3 Manual of uniform traffic control devices. Scope of Works and Technical Criteria (SWTC).

Table 5.1 Revised Statement of Commitments

Outcome	Reference	Commitment	Timing	Guiding principle
Environmental Management				
Compliance and continuous improvement in environmental management.	EM1	The head contractor for the project will have an Environmental Management System (EMS).	Pre-construction and construction	ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management Systems — requirements with guidance for use. ISO 19011:2003 Guidelines for Quality and/or Environmental Management Systems Auditing. RTA QA specification G36 — environmental protection.
	EM2	Environmental management plans will be developed and implemented by suitably qualified and experienced personnel and will incorporate as a minimum the mitigation and management measures adopted in the environmental assessment.	Pre-construction and construction	Guideline for the Preparation of Environmental Management Plans (DIPNR 2004) RTA QA specification G36 – environmental protection.
Provide a consistent method for managing environmental issues.	EM3	Environmentally sensitive areas (such as native vegetation, cultural heritage and sensitive land uses) within or immediately adjacent to the construction site boundary will be marked on sensitive area maps as well as being demarcated and signposted where relevant. Maps will be made available during on-site briefings to applicable construction personnel.	Pre-construction and construction	<i>RTA (2008a) Community Involvement Policy and Community Involvement and Communication Resources Manual</i> <i>AS 4269 Complaints Handling Chapter 3 of the environmental assessment</i>
	EM4	All construction personnel will receive training regarding environmental management during project induction. Additionally, targeted environmental task specific training will be provided to appropriate personnel.	Pre-construction and construction	