



5. Environmental Assessment

5.1 Regional Setting

The location of the proposed quarantine waste treatment facility is at East Arm Wharf located approximately 7 km south of Darwin city, Northern Territory.

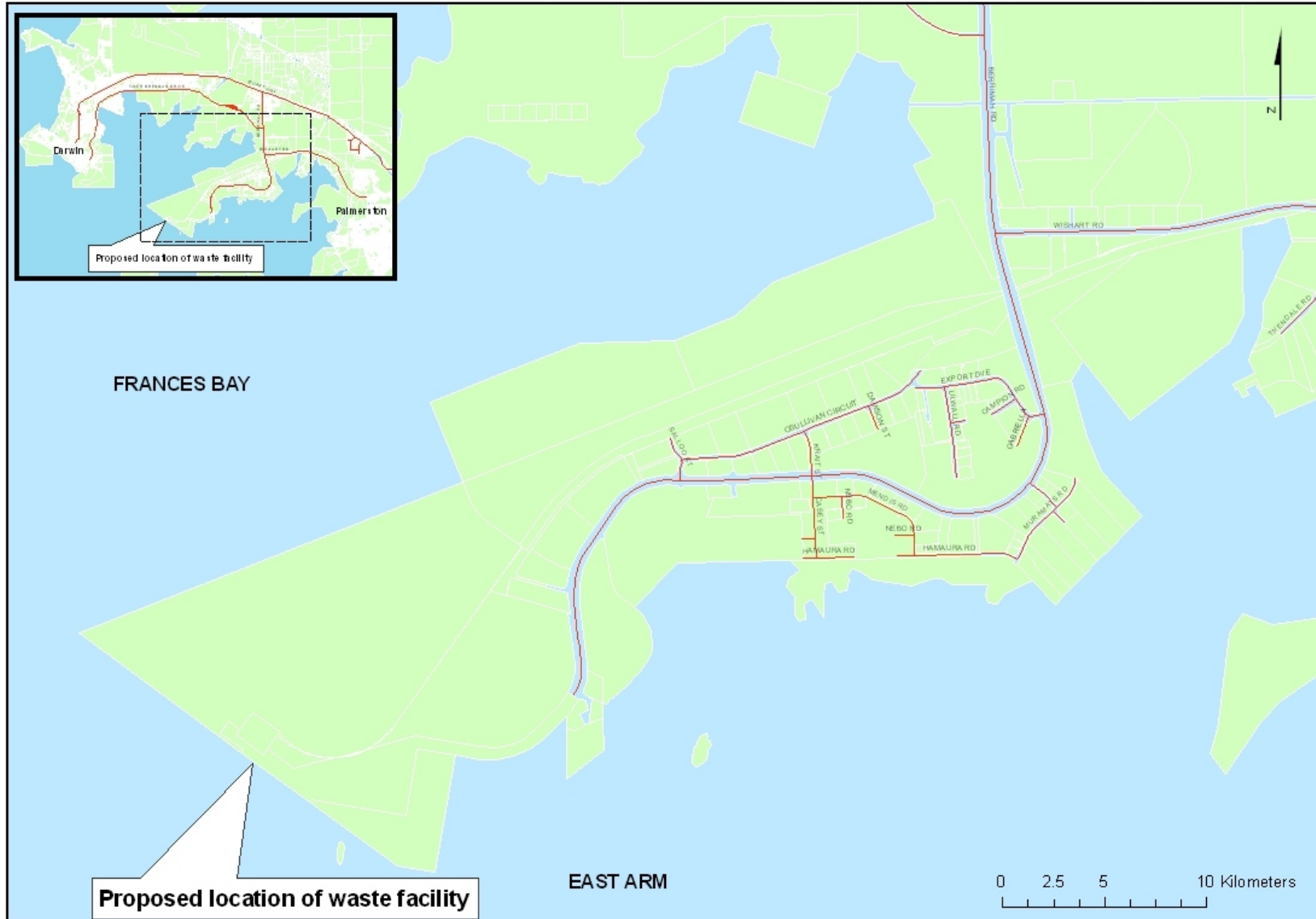
East Arm Wharf is partly reclaimed land and is located in Frances Bay, between Bleeser Creek to the north and Hudson Creek to the south. Catalina Island and South Shell Island are located south (refer to Figure 5-1).

A variety of industrial and port uses are located east and west of the site. A list of surrounding land uses is provided in Section 5.2.1.

East Arm Wharf was opened in February 2000 and is strategically located to serve the nearby Asian markets and the remainder of Australia.

The facilities listed (DPC website, 2006) for the Port of Darwin include:

- » 754m of continuous berth face, 600m of landbacked berth and 154m plus mooring dolphin with a new bulk liquids berth with a vessel design capacity of 80,000dwt;
- » 18 hectares of sealed hardstand, a 4,000sqm undercover cargo handling facility and a further 18 hectares of bunded area for future reclamation;
- » 300m of the south east end of the berth is dredged to 13m below chart datum, with the remaining berth dredged to 14m below chart datum. The Port of Darwin has an 8m tidal range;
- » A berth that caters for Panamax Class vessels and third generation container vessels and currently services vessels handling general cargoes, live cattle exports, liquid and dry bulk imports, containerised/breakbulk and specialized heavy lift cargoes, plus offshore rig tender service vessels;
- » A 16 metre wide railway access causeway links the Adelaide to Darwin railway and national rail network to an Intermodal Container Facility incorporating priority access to 200m of wharf of the common-user berth facility for container vessels;
- » The berth is served by a rail mounted Portainer Crane with a heavy lifting capacity of 70t at 10m outreach from the fender line and 40t at 30m outreach;
- » The facility has future capacity for the provision of three quay cranes able to handle third generation container vessels; and
- » Four hectares of an intermodal container terminal with capacity to handle in excess of 250,000 TEU per year. The facility has two rail sidings and mobile terminal operating equipment.



Regional Location

Figure 5.1