


NOTICE OF DECISION

Regulation 104(3) - Environment Protection Regulations 2020 (EP Regulations) for a decision on draft Terms of Reference for a strategic proposal to which a proponent initiated EIS referral applies

Name of strategic proposal	Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct
Proponent	Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
NT EPA reference	EP2022/013
Description of strategic proposal	A program for establishing a precinct on Middle Arm Peninsula, Darwin Harbour, as a strategic location for industrial development over 50 years with a focus on low emission petrochemical, renewable hydrogen, carbon capture and storage, mineral processing and advanced manufacturing. Individual proposals within the scope of the strategic assessment would undergo separate assessment and approval processes under the <i>Environment Protection Act 2019</i> , subject to approval of the strategic proposal.
Decision	In accordance with EP Regulation 104(3)(b), the draft terms of reference (TOR) are approved with changes the NT EPA considers appropriate.
Person authorised to make decision	Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA)
Signature	
Date of decision	29 September 2022
Matters considered	<p>EP Regulations 52 and 53:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submissions received in relation to the proponent initiated EIS referral during the public consultation period 12 April to 10 June 2022 from NT Government authorities and the public <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Government authority submissions received: 7 ○ Public submissions: 169.
Consultation	<p>Public and government authority submissions identified the potential for significant impacts on the environment.</p> <p>The submissions identified concerns including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • impacts on terrestrial ecosystems from land-based works and reclamation, including mangrove clearing • impacts to marine water quality and ecosystems from industrial discharges, vessel traffic, dredging and dredge spoil disposal • air quality impacts and greenhouse gas emissions from industry • human health impacts from establishment of hazardous facilities near residential areas • impacts on Darwin Harbour amenity • the need for transparency in project-level decision making • the assessment method should be by inquiry. <p>The appropriate changes have been made to the TOR to address the comments.</p>