

Appendix 4.1 – Constraints Planning and Field Development Procedure



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Constraints Planning and Field Development Procedure

AAP01-000-GEG-GGEN-00002

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Contents

1	Purpo	ose	1
2	Scop	e	2
3	Definitions and Abbreviations 2		
4	Resp	onsibilities	3
5	Cons	traints Framework	4
6	Proce	ess	5
	6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4 6.5 6.6	Conceptual Layout Review Survey and Field Validation Internal Approval Documentation Highly Constrained Areas Final Layout Review Land Access and Approvals	7 7 8 9 9
7	Cons	traints System	9
	7.1 7.2 7.3 7.4 7.5 7.6 7.7 7.8 7.9	Identifying and Ranking Constraints.1Ecological constraints1Culture and heritage constraints1Landscape and soil constraints1Water constraints1Land use and infrastructure constraints1Social impacts and sensitive receptors constraints1Other Constraints1Constraints1Constraints1	0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
8	Mitiga	ation Measures 1	5
9	Docu	ment Management 1	6
	9.1 9.2	Revisions and Approvals	6 6
10	Conc	lusion 1	6
11	Refer	ences 1	7
Tal	oles		
Tab Tab Tab Tab Tab Tab	le 3-1: le 4-1: le 7-1: (le 7-2: le 7-3: le 11-1:	Definitions and Abbreviations Roles and Responsibilities	2 3 2 2 3 3 7

Figures

Figure 6-1: Constraints Planning and Field Development Process
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1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to describe the objectives, purpose and application of the Constraints Planning and Field Development Protocol (the Procedure) for AAPowerLink (the Project). Due to the significant areas which are traversed by the Project, a refined process for the specific placement of Project infrastructure, such as OHTL tower structures, is required to minimise disturbance to the surrounding environment.

The final location of Project infrastructure will be determined progressively over time as the design advances and site characteristics are better understood in the context of external development constraints, including proximity and potential risk to existing infrastructure, areas of cultural significance and heritage importance, landholder requirements, and environmental constraints.

The Procedure details how the Project will assess and approve locations for infrastructure including within the OHTL Corridor and at the Solar Precinct, including for ancillary infrastructure through implementation of the specific requirements. It outlines various constraints and informs the planning and approval process by determining final infrastructure locations and minimising the environmental impacts of the Project. The Procedure includes the principles of:

- Avoiding or reducing adverse impacts on identified constraints including MNES listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwth) (EPBC Act) and NT threatened species protected under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* 1976
- Mitigating and managing impacts to minimise residual Project and cumulative adverse impacts on environmental and social values
- Active site remediation and reinstatement of disturbed areas to promote and maintain longterm recovery of environmental and social values.

This Procedure does not purport to constitute an approval process for the activities undertaken nor does it prevent all environmental and/or social impacts associated with the activities. The micrositing process will ensure that, throughout the construction and operations phases, infrastructure within each Project area (i.e., Solar Precinct, OHTL Corridor, including access tracks and construction camps, Cable Transition Facilities, Darwin Converter Site, temporary material laydown areas, Electrodes and access tracks) are in locations which aim to minimise potential impacts.

Using the framework and process detailed in this Procedure, potential impacts on MNES associated with the Project footprint will be systematically planned, identified, assessed and adequately managed. The Procedure sets out a process to manage impacts in accordance with the Environmental decision-making hierarchy (section 26 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019 (NT)*). It specifically focuses on the first two priorities of the hierarchy; designing actions to avoid impacts on the environment and identifying management options to mitigate adverse impacts on the environment. Risks to the environment are assessed on a risk weighted scale incorporating a lack of scientific certainty as a risk which should enhance protection in accordance with the principles of ecologically sustainable development, including the precautionary principle (Division 1 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019 (NT)*).

The Procedure will be applied throughout the life of the Project for each phase of development, including infrastructure planning and design, construction, operation, and decommissioning and reinstatement. It is most important during planning and design when infrastructure is being sited and construction footprints are being optimised, or when future modifications are potentially made to the Project. In order to ensure it reflects all potential environmental impacts of the Project, the Procedure will be periodically reviewed and updated in accordance with Section 9 of this document.



2 Scope

This Procedure applies to all activities associated with the AAPowerLink Project components, including but not limited to:

- Powell Creek Solar Precinct
- Ancillary Infrastructure
- OHTL Corridor
- Electrodes
- Cable Transition Facilities
- DCS.

A description of the Project and its associated construction, operational and decommissioning activities is set out within Chapter 2 Project Description of the Draft EIS, and Chapter 2 Project Refinements of the SEIS.

3 Definitions and Abbreviations

Project acronyms and definitions are included in the Supplementary to the EIS. Acronyms specific to this document are listed in Table 3-1.

Term	Definition
ААРА	Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority
ARI	Annual Recurrence Interval
Cable Transition Facilities	Darwin Converter Site, Underground Cable Corridor, Land Sea Joint Station and Shore Crossing Site
Cwth	Commonwealth
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
EA	Environmental Authority
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwth)
GIS	Geographic information system
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
NT	Northern Territory

Table 3-1: L	Definitions	and Abbre	eviations
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Term	Definition
NTPS	Northern Territory Planning Scheme
OHTL	Overhead Transmission Line
PASS	Potential Acid Sulphate Soils
RPO	Rail Protection Officer
TARP	Trigger and Response Plan
The Procedure	Constraints Planning and Field Development Procedure
The Project	Australia-Asia PowerLink

4 Responsibilities

Table 4-1 outlines the roles and accountabilities for the successful execution of the requirements in this Procedure.

Table 4-1:	Roles	and	Respo	onsibilities
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Project Role	Responsibility
Development Manager	Chair or review committee in part 5 of process (Section 6.5)
Manager, Environment	Owner of Procedure and responsible for review and approval process Approval of the final layout review (see part 5 of process) (see Section 6.5)
Area Engineer	Propose conceptual layout (part 1 of process) (see Section 6.1) Part of Review committee (part 5 of process) (see Section 6.5)
Environmental Officer	Arrange for and manage survey team (part 2 of process) (see Section 6.2) Coordinate information requirements between disciplines. Prepare secondary approvals required for process. Part of Review committee (part 5 of process) (see Section 6.5)
GIS Officer	Prepare and maintain a GIS database with all relevant layers required for part 1 of the process (see Section 6.1)
Land Access Officer	Part of Review committee (part 5 of process) (see Section 6.5) Conduct land access negotiations following approval of final layout
Cultural Heritage Officer	Part of Review committee (part 5 of process) (see Section 6.5) Arrange for cultural managers and heritage monitors as required



Project Role	Responsibility
Social / Stakeholder Engagement Officer	Part of Review committee (part 5 of process) (see Section 6.5) Plan and undertaken consultation and engagement activities as required.

5 Constraints Framework

When confirming locations for Project infrastructure, the Project will have regard to the environmental and social constraints at any proposed site. These constraints will be balanced against other drivers (including local geological characteristics, engineering requirements or landholder requirements, for example). The Project's priorities regarding constraints are (in order and in accordance with the environmental decision-making hierarchy in section 26 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019 (NT)*):

- Avoid avoiding direct and indirect adverse environmental impacts where practicable
- Minimise minimise direct and indirect adverse environmental impacts where these cannot be avoided
- Mitigate implement mitigation and management measures to minimise direct, indirect and cumulative adverse impacts
- Remediate and rehabilitate actively remediate and rehabilitate impacted areas to promote and maintain long-term recovery
- Offset (only if required) provide suitable offsets for activities that result in significant residual impacts to MNES, following the implementation of the above principles.

To ensure infrastructure locations will be chosen recognising local constraints, the project team will map environmental and social constraints on a site and activity-specific basis to identify areas that will be subject to various environmental and social limits. This mapping will be used to identify areas of land that will be suitable or unsuitable for infrastructure development. Areas with significant environmental and social constraints will be considered higher risk. The refinement of constraints mapping is an on-going process. All proposed infrastructure locations will be surveyed to confirm mapped constraints are accurate, and to identify any additional constraints not previously identified in desktop constraints mapping.

Examples of the environmental and social factors considered in constraints mapping include:

- Ecological constraints, including MNES and environmentally sensitive areas protected under the *Territory and Parks and Wildlife Act 1976* (NT)
- Restricted Works Areas and Sacred Sites pursuant to the *NT Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act* 1989
- Declared Heritage Sites pursuant to the NT Heritage Act 2011
- Landscape and soil constraints including potential acid sulphate soils (PASS), black cracking clays, sinkholes and erosion
- Water constraints including water-bodies, watercourses, flood considerations and groundwater impacts
- Existing and future land uses outlined in the NT strategic policy framework under the Northern Territory planning Scheme 2020
- Social impacts and sensitive receptors (e.g., residential and tourist accommodations).



Environmental and social data gathered for Project development will be collated in GIS for use in site selection of infrastructure. Mapping will be built and maintained from internal and external data sources, including government and non-government data bases and Project related technical studies. It will be updated based on results of relevant field surveys undertaken for Project activities and as new or updated government data becomes publicly available.

A ranking will be assigned to each constraint consistent with this Procedure. Where adverse impacts on constraints will be unavoidable (typically arising from project engineering complexities or land access issues), impacts will be minimised or mitigated as far as practicable. Site remediation and reinstatement of impacted areas will take place as per the relevant project environmental authority conditions to promote and maintain the long-term recovery of disturbed areas.

6 Process

The Procedure contains a series of steps including a desktop review, followed by field work to ground-truth the desktop assessment, followed by internal Project approval. Figure 6-1 encapsulates the process set out within this Procedure. The procedure is an iterative process and if the preferred site is not approved internally the site selection will return to conceptual layout review and restart the process.

Appendix 4.1 - Constraints Planning and Field Development Procedure AAP01-000-GEG-GGEN-00002 – Rev 00 **Proprietary**





Figure 6-1: Constraints Planning and Field Development Process



6.1 Conceptual Layout Review

The first stage of the process defines a scope required for onsite investigations. This is a strict internal process to select and approve the conceptual location of infrastructure and to inform followup survey and field validation activities. Infrastructure locations, proposed by the area engineer, will be reviewed against the relevant constraints mapping held in the GIS mapping portal. Specific instructions to the survey team to further investigate potential constraints will be identified at this stage. This stage may also include requirements that there be on-site investigation by an appropriately qualified specialist with skills relevant to a potential constraint (e.g., an ecologist, hydrologist, cultural manager etc.). Once conceptual locations are approved, a multi-disciplinary survey is undertaken to verify mapped constraints and identify any un-mapped constraints, approvals or permits that may be required and to document existing environmental conditions.

6.2 Survey and Field Validation

The second stage of the process involves a complete ground-truthing of potential sites to verify the location of constraints and confirm site conditions. The survey team will be arranged and managed by the environmental officer and may consist of:

- A surveyor
- A relevant design and construction representative
- An appropriately approved/qualified ecologist
- A cultural heritage representative
- A land access representative.

Where surveys occur within the Rail Corridor, a Rail Protection Officer (RPO) is also required to be present. Surveys may also be attended by Traditional owners and custodians and/or landholders.

All site assessments and field ecological surveys will:

- Take into account and reference previous ecological surveys undertaken in the area and any relevant new information on the likely presence or absence of constraints;
- Document the survey methodology, results and key findings in relation to constraints;
- Apply best practice site assessment and ecological survey methods appropriate for each listed threatened species, migratory species, their habitat and listed ecological communities, as documented in relevant NT and Commonwealth government guidelines.

Objectives of the survey include confirmation of constraints to infrastructure locations. Field surveys will record any potential disturbances to any high or very high environmental or social values (as detailed in Section 7.9).

Where a location is confirmed to be very highly constrained, the first response will be to consider alternative locations for proposed infrastructure which may evaluate not only environmental and social constraints, but also other Project objectives, including technical requirements and capital / operating costs. If no viable alternative location is available (recognising that locations may be subject to multiple and overlapping constraints), it will be necessary to locate infrastructure within the constrained area.



The Proponent will strive to avoid carrying out activities in very highly constrained areas, unless:

- Ground-truthing and field ecological surveys demonstrate that siting infrastructure in that location will cause minimal adverse impact
- Other constraints preclude any alternative location after consideration of multiple Project requirements
- Additional documentation is provided as outlined in Section 6.4.

6.3 Internal Approval Documentation

The above process requires the following documentation to be prepared for approval of the Final Layout (see Section 6.5):

- The proposed location, specific site and type of infrastructure or activity
- The total area of predicted disturbance
- Results of site assessment or field survey documentation
- Recommendations for addressing any constraints / management of potential impacts (e.g., secondary approvals, management plans required).

All information recorded during surveys will be recorded to a standard that can be independently audited. On completion of the field surveys, processing of site data and reporting, the packages of information will be collated and loaded into a second phase approvals package, as applicable (see Section 6.6).

6.4 Highly Constrained Areas

Any infrastructure proposed within high and very highly constrained areas requires the following documentation to be developed, in addition to that required by Section 6.3:

- Explanation of each high to very highly constrained feature subject to direct or indirect disturbance
- The related site assessment or field survey documentation and recommendations, and documented rationale for the constraints ranking determination (e.g., which constraint was present that drove the overall ranking)
- The disturbance footprint for each high to very highly constrained area that is impacted (if applicable)
- The reasons for the decision, including justification for the action taken, description of the efforts taken to avoid, minimize and/or offset the impact, and explanation for why other constraints might justify the impact on the feature that is most impacted
- Actions and commitments by the Project team to avoid, prevent, remediate, rehabilitate, or offset any unauthorised disturbance. Following the disturbance activities, the Project team will assess whether the level of impact was similar to that predicted to allow further improvements in this process
- Identification of further approvals/secondary permits from regulators where required under NT and/or Cwth legislation.



6.5 Final Layout Review

This phase of the Procedure seeks to gain acceptance of the proposed alignment/siting from each of the internal disciplines prior to approaching the landholder for negotiations and agreements. This stage confirms relevant constraints and includes any mitigation measures required. Following the selection of infrastructure sites, the Project will prepare documentation to support securing land access and statutory permit requirements, as needed.

This documentation must be reviewed by a committee containing the Area Engineer, Environmental Officer, Land Access Officer, Cultural Heritage and Stakeholder Engagement Officer and Development Manager. This clearance permit cannot be signed off until the committee has met to discuss the final layout.

6.6 Land Access and Approvals

This final stage involves securing land access and key environment permitting requirements to allow for final planning and construction.

Following approval of the final layout, the land access officer will ensure appropriate approvals are in place to access or occupy the land, and any notification processes required under the relevant land access agreements are undertaken. The environmental officer will identify any secondary approvals required (such as Development Applications or permits/licensing) for the activities proposed and finalise approval documentation for submission to the relevant statutory authority (e.g., management plans, pre-construction surveys etc.). Once all approvals have been obtained, the Development Manager will sign off the execution plan and transition the process to the Delivery Manager for stewardship of the construction process.

7 Constraints System

The Proponent has developed a custom GIS platform, which includes constraints mapping data. The system can be used to overlay multiple constraint layers (datasets) for each proposed project-related infrastructure design / footprint (new layers will be developed as infrastructure is designed and engineered). The environmental data gathered for the Draft EIS and SEIS has been collated in this system for use in site selection of infrastructure locations. The Project uses this data to make initial site selection decisions (see Section 6.1), and to identify further requirements including surveys (Section 6.2) and additional management plans and mitigations required for execution (Section 6.6).

Engineering and land access constraints are also considered in locating infrastructure. These constraints may dictate the property or area within a block on which infrastructure can be located, and therefore reduce the potential to avoid or minimise all environmental constraints.



7.1 Identifying and Ranking Constraints

All constraints will be assigned rankings as detailed in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1: Constraint Rankings and Definitions

Constraint Ranking	Description
Low	Development permitted with application of standard environmental and/or social management measures.
Medium	Development permitted with application of additional non-standard environmental and/or social management measures (refer to Table 7-3 for details of requirements).
High	Environmental and/or social feasibility must be assessed prior to development, after field investigations and ground-truthing carried out. Landholder agreement and compensation or offsets may be required.
Very High	Development may not be environmentally and/or socially feasible for the proposed infrastructure. Other location options and additional project requirements (technical; financial) should be considered and assessed for viability before selecting the final location. Sign-off on the site selection process by responsible parties is required. Significant mitigation likely required.

7.2 Ecological constraints

The Proponent has considered a comprehensive list of potential ecological constraints including:

- Flora, fauna and ecosystems protected under the EPBC Act (MNES)
- Flora, fauna and ecosystems protected under the Territory Parks and Wildlife Act 1976 (NT)
- Areas of increased ecological sensitivity such as riparian areas and watercourses.

The locations of high potential flora and fauna habitat in the Project footprint has been identified using regional mapping and targeted flora and fauna surveys; these are ongoing and will be supplemented by pre-construction surveys, where required. Identification of potential habitat for MNES would trigger the requirement for targeted surveys to be conducted in addition to a pre-clearance survey. Sites with higher ecological value would trigger additional controls to manage potential impacts where they could not be avoided.

7.3 Culture and heritage constraints

Culture and heritage constraints have been identified by the following process:

- Desktop review of records held by AAPA and NT Heritage Register
- Sacred site surveys with Traditional Owners and Custodians as part of AAPA certificate requirements or ILUA negotiations
- Stakeholder consultation with Traditional Owners and Custodians regarding the Project.



7.4 Landscape and soil constraints

Landscape and soil constraints include topography, erosion potential, PASS and black cracking clays. Topography, specifically land slope, has been used as a proxy of erosion potential with slopes of greater than 2% presenting an erosion risk (NTPS, land clearing guidelines). Regional mapping is used to identify areas which require site specific testing (e.g., for PASS) and specific engineering design or management strategies to be developed. This includes testing for caves as a structural stability concern in karst areas.

7.5 Water constraints

Water constraints are based around surface water inundation and proximity to drainage lines and water protection areas. These constraints cover risks associated with increased risk of surface water contamination, restricted access to and use of groundwater, risk of encountering PASS and high-quality riparian vegetation.

7.6 Land use and infrastructure constraints

The land use and infrastructure constraint identify the areas with non-compatible land uses (identified by land zoning). In these areas, further limits are required to minimise impacts. Where there is third-party infrastructure near the Project, management plans may be required by agreements in place.

7.7 Social impacts and sensitive receptors constraints

The social constraints mapping involves mapping high risk zones based on separation limits calculated in noise and air quality reports to meet appropriate levels at each residence. These separation distances are calculated based on several assumptions and are generalised along the entire Project. Actual separation distance may vary depending on the construction activities occurring, the sound power levels of actual equipment being used, atmospheric conditions at the time, and presence of natural landscape (topographic) features that may act to mitigate noise and air emissions. Vibration impacts to residences (including heritage structures) have not been directly accounted for in the constraints model as separation distances for noise and air quality are more conservative. Visual impacts will occur over a larger scale than can be addressed with micro-siting and thus have been excluded from this Procedure.

7.8 Other Constraints

This Procedure highlights the environmental and social considerations when determining the final site to locate Project infrastructure. In addition, there will be other constraints on the location of infrastructure due to:

- Engineering factors
- Land access
- Health, safety and security.

These factors will also be taken into consideration in steps 1 and 5 of the process above (Section 6).

7.9 Constraints Classification

Mapping of the different constraint types (refer to Section 7), is undertaken to form a GIS map of the project footprint which is classified based on the categories in Table 7-2. These categories outline which activities may occur and which additional controls are required prior to undertaking the activities described within Table 7-3.



Environmental Constraint	Very Highly Constrained	High Constraint	Medium Constraint	Low Constraint
Ecological	Identified significant community of federally or territory protected species or threatened ecological community, confirmed through field surveys.	Modelled high- medium potential habitat for protected species, no targeted surveys have occurred in area.	Modelled low potential habitat for protected species, no known species occurrences based on desktop data. Field surveys required to confirm habitat potential	No species identified during desktop review or mapped as potentially occurring within disturbance area that are protected under Territory or Commonwealth law.
Cultural heritage	Sacred and heritage sites identified or identified as a no go zone in AAPA certificate.	Identified as an area requiring specific management in AAPA certificates or Cultural Heritage Report.	N/a	Site has been surveyed and no cultural or heritage values identified in AAPA certificate or Cultural Heritage Report.
Landscape and soil	N/a	Slopes > 5% Identified black cracking clays or limestone base rock in an area of known sink holes or caves (Gunn Point and Katherine). High likelihood area of Potential Acid Sulphate Soils (PASS).	Slopes >2% with no evidence of (or insufficient field data to demonstrate no evidence of) black cracking clays, limestone base rock or PASS.	Slopes less than 2% slope and no evidence of PASS, black cracking clays or limestone base rock.
Water	Within 1 in 100 year flood extent of water body, watercourse or drainage line. Groundwater table <5 m Below Ground Level	Within riparian zone of watercourse (250 m from 5 th order stream or 100 m from less order streams).	Greater than 250 m from a drainage line but within a water protection area.	Outside a water protection area and greater than 250 m from drainage line.



Environmental Constraint	Very Highly Constrained	High Constraint	Medium Constraint	Low Constraint
Land use and infrastructure	Within residential land use area.	Within 500 m of a residential land use zone or infrastructure <15 m from OHTL infrastructure	Land use industry or zoned rural, infrastructure >15 m from OHTL infrastructure	No land use zone and infrastructure >15 m from OHTL infrastructure
Social impacts and sensitive receptors	Within 100 m of residence or sensitive receptor, such as school or hospital.	Between 100 m and 325 m of residence or high occupancy area. ¹	Between 325 m and 1.5 km of residence or high occupancy area. ²	1.5 km from nearest residence. ³

Table 7-3: Requirements for constraints levels

Environmental Constraint	Very High	High	Medium	Low
Ecological	No activities to occur within this area unless approved by Development Manager and in alignment with a species-specific management plan meeting legislative requirements (based on field surveys and on-going monitoring). Alternative locations with reduced impacts to species of interest must have been evaluated. Ecologist required to be present during Project physical disturbance activities (e.g., clearing; excavation).	Targeted surveys required for key ecological species or communities. Ecologist required to be present during Project physical disturbance activities (e.g., clearing; excavation). Species-specific management plan developed in alignment with legislated requirements. Ongoing monitoring may be required.	Qualified Professional required for on- site monitoring during Project physical disturbance activities (e.g., clearing; excavation).	Standard environmental management is sufficient.

¹ Based on the lowest separation distance for air quality impacts (NO₂) outside of the 100 m buffer.

² Based on the lowest separation distance for noise impacts.

³ Outside the air quality and noise separation distances identified in the Draft EIS technical appendices and not considered close range for visual amenity impacts in the Landscape and Visual Amenity Impact Assessment identified in the SEIS.



Environmental Constraint	Very High	High	Medium	Low
Cultural heritage	No activities to occur within this area.	Comply with AAPA certificate and Heritage Branch requirements, cultural manager and/or heritage monitor present during Project physical disturbance activities (e.g., clearing; excavation). Post-clearance survey to verify no impacts to cultural and heritage values.	Cultural manager and/or heritage monitor present during Project physical disturbance activities (e.g., clearing; excavation).	Standard environmental management is sufficient.
Landscape and soil	n/a	Requires site specific PASS management plan, and soil and sediment erosion management plan. Requires ground penetrating radar survey for potential caves prior to installing any infrastructure with foundations deeper than 2 m.	Requires site specific soil and sediment erosion management plan which will set out mitigation measures as well as monitoring requirements.	Standard environmental management is sufficient.
Water	No activities to occur within this area unless approved by Development Manager. Flood management plan must be developed. Avoid construction during the wet season, where possible.	Requires site specific PASS management plan and soil and sediment erosion management plan to protect water resources. PFAS management Plan (if geographically required). Requires additional assessment of Project activities with potential to affect water, aligned with relevant water allocation plan.	Requires additional assessment of Project activities with potential to affect water, aligned with relevant water allocation plan.	Standard environmental management is sufficient.



Environmental Constraint	Very High	High	Medium	Low
		Avoid construction during the wet season, where possible.		
Land use and infrastructure	No infrastructure to be located in this area.	TARP for air quality impacts. Construction operations to consider NT EPA noise guidelines. Agreed management plan in place with infrastructure owner, if required.	Review proximity of nearest receptors and if required develop TARP for air quality or noise impacts.	Standard environmental management is sufficient.
Social impacts and sensitive receptors	No infrastructure to be located in this area unless all other options have been ruled out. Site specific construction and management plan required including a TARP for air quality and noise.	TARP for air quality impacts. Noisy activities (such as rock crushing or drilling) to only occur during NT EPA prescribed acceptable construction times ⁴ . Additional visual mitigation measures considered as appropriate.	Noisy activities (such as rock crushing or drilling) to only occur during NT EPA prescribed acceptable construction times ⁵ . Additional visual mitigation measures considered as appropriate.	Standard environmental management is sufficient.

8 Mitigation Measures

Standard environmental mitigation measures to be implemented during the construction and operations for all Project infrastructure will be detailed in the Proponent's Construction and Operation Environmental Management Plans (under development, and as summarized in Chapter 17 of the SEIS). Additional or new mitigation measures needed to address siting constraints and any conditions of approval are highlighted in Table 7-3 and will be developed at a site-specific level through this process and issued in Environmental Work-Permits.

⁴ Monday to Saturday 7 am to 7 pm, and between 9 am and 6 pm Sundays or public holidays (NT EPA 2018)

⁵ Monday to Saturday 7 am to 7 pm, and between 9 am and 6 pm Sundays or public holidays (NT EPA 2018)



9 Document Management

9.1 **Revisions and Approvals**

This Procedure bears a revision status identifier which will change with each revision. All revisions to this document will be subject to review and approval of the Manager, Environment. Review of the Procedure will take into account the following:

- All relevant studies, policies, standards, guidelines in force or as updated
- Advice relating to the activity from the Commonwealth or Northern Territory government
- Good industry practice (i.e., benchmarked against similar projects and activities, as publicly available)
- Audit findings against any of the siting process findings and/or requirements
- Plans or other documentation required under the conditions of approval.

The approved documentation will be incorporated into the Project ESMS and kept current for the life of the Project.

9.2 Distribution and Intended Audience

This Procedure is intended for all personnel and contractors involved in siting Project infrastructure. This Procedure forms part of the AAPowerLink compliance system and is applicable to all Project phases.

10 Conclusion

This Constraints Planning and Field Development Procedure provides a process for the identification and ranking of known ecological, social, cultural heritage and other constraints to inform selection of proposed infrastructure locations. This Procedure, combined with the Environmental Design Criteria, incorporates a process for the thorough review of all site selection and design constraints. Once potential locations have been selected, pre-clearance surveys will be undertaken to verify constraints and identify previously unidentified constraints prior to construction. The constraints protocol is viewed in GIS format that interprets high risk areas for planning and placement of infrastructure. The methodology of the constraints weighting is reviewed throughout each stage of review in the internal planning and delivery process.



11 References

Table 11-1: Reference Documents

Document Number	Document Title		
Internal Companion Documents			
	Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS)		
AAP01-000-GPP-GAK-00006	Review and Approval Procedure		
Under Development	Construction Environmental Management Plan		
	Environmental Design Criteria		
Under Development	Operational Environmental Management Plan		
External documents			
EPHC, 2011	Environment Protection and Heritage Council and the Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council, 2011, National guidance for the management of acid sulfate soils in inland aquatic ecosystems		
NTG, 2021	Northern Territory Government, 2021, Northern Territory Planning Scheme (NTPS) Land Clearing Guidelines		
NTG, 2020	Northern Territory Government, 2020, Northern Territory Planning Scheme 2020		
NTG, 2018	Northern Territory Government, 2018, Northern Territory Noise Management Framework Guidelines		
NTG, 2007	Northern Territory Government, 2007, Guidelines and Field Methodology for Vegetation Survey and Mapping		
NTG, 2013a	Northern Territory Government, 2013, Guidelines for assessment of impacts on Terrestrial Biodiversity		
NTG, 2013b	Northern Territory Government, 2013, Northern Territory land suitability guidelines		
NWPASS, 2000	National Working Party on Acid Sulfate Soils, 2000, National strategy for the management of coastal acid sulfate soils		
WQA, 2018	Water Quality Australia, 2018, National acid sulphate soils sampling and identification methods manual		



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