

Referral form

Refer proposed action or strategic proposal under the *Environment Protection Act 2019*

Before you fill in the form

Guiding notes

- This form must be read in conjunction with environmental impact assessment guidance for proponents on the [NT EPA website](#) including Referring a proposal to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA).
- This form contains five (5) parts:
 - o Part A – Proponent details
 - o Part B – Proposal details
 - o Part C – Referral details
 - o Part D – Referrer declaration
 - o Part E – Nominated contact.
- This form contains two checklists:
 - o Cross reference of matters addressed in the referral report
 - o Proponent's general duty.
- This form will be published.
- Further guidance or example responses are provided below in light grey text.

These guiding notes may be deleted before submitting the referral form and report.

PART A – Proponent details

Name of the proponent (legal entity)	APT Management Services Pty Ltd
Proponent details	<i>Name:</i> Dennis Reid <i>Position/responsibility:</i> Principal Advisor, Infrastructure Delivery – Access and Approvals (Major Projects) <i>Physical address:</i> Level 14, 60 City Road, Southbank VIC 3006 <i>Postal address:</i> PO Box 423, Flinders Lane VIC 8009 <i>Phone:</i> (03) 8626 8400 <i>Email:</i> dennis.reid@apa.com.au
Proponent Trading Name if relevant	N/A
Australian Business Number/s Australian Company Number/s	ABN: 58 091 668 110 ACN: 091 668 110

Provide a description of the organisational structure with respect to responsibility of the proposed action, environmental approvals and implementation.	APT Management Services Pty Ltd (APA), who is a wholly owned subsidiary of APA Group, is an energy infrastructure business and the proponent of the North to East Pipeline (NEA) project, responsible for all aspects of the proposed action, including environmental approvals and implementation.
Joint-venture partners (if applicable)	N/A
PART B – Outline of the proposal and location	
Outline of the proposed action or strategic proposal (proposal)	
Name of proposal	North to East Australia Pipeline Stage 1
Provide a brief summary (one or two paragraphs) of the proposal including the activity type/ industry/ duration.	The Proposal involves the construction, commissioning, operating and eventual decommissioning of a subsurface high-pressure gas pipeline, supported by aboveground infrastructure at discrete locations along the alignment. The NEA Project is proposed in two stages, Stage 1 (the Proposal) located in the Northern Territory (NT) which extends approximately 622km from the Beetaloo Sub-basin gas fields to the NT/Queensland border near Camooweal. Stage 2 is in Queensland (QLD) and extends approximately 900kms from the border to a connection point on the existing South West Queensland Pipeline (SWQP). Key components of the Project include: • A high-pressure buried gas transmission pipeline • Construction right way up to 45m wide • Compressor stations • Access tracks • Associated temporary construction infrastructure including construction camps, pipe and material stockpile areas, extra workspaces, watercourse and road crossings and water storage facilities. Construction and commissioning of the Proposal are expected to take more than three years, after which the pipeline is anticipated to operate for approximately 40 years. The Proposal would result in a total disturbance footprint of approximately 4,703 ha, representing the maximum extent of construction-related ground disturbance. Following commissioning, approximately 4,294 ha would be rehabilitated and reinstated, while the remaining 409 ha would be retained to support ongoing operational requirements.

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Location																							
Provide location details as: street address, suburb	14981 Stuart Highway, BIRDUM, NT 852 (KP1)																						
tenement, lot/section numbers, town/hundred, NT Portion or pastoral lease numbers, as applicable	The proposal intersects the following NT Portion numbers: <table><tr><td>NT Portion 1</td><td>NT Portion 3936</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 1079</td><td>NT Portion 4</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 1483</td><td>NT Portion 4468</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 1605</td><td>NT Portion 5153</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 298</td><td>NT Portion 5159</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 3</td><td>NT Portion 601</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 308</td><td>NT Portion 702</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 309</td><td>NT Portion 7026</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 3861</td><td>NT Portion 7027</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 3927</td><td>NT Portion 7500</td></tr><tr><td>NT Portion 3933</td><td></td></tr></table>	NT Portion 1	NT Portion 3936	NT Portion 1079	NT Portion 4	NT Portion 1483	NT Portion 4468	NT Portion 1605	NT Portion 5153	NT Portion 298	NT Portion 5159	NT Portion 3	NT Portion 601	NT Portion 308	NT Portion 702	NT Portion 309	NT Portion 7026	NT Portion 3861	NT Portion 7027	NT Portion 3927	NT Portion 7500	NT Portion 3933	
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the nearest town, recognisable feature, and distance and direction from that town/feature to the site of the proposed action.	The Proposal area is located approximately 50 km north of the Alpururulam, and 85km north of Elliot from its nearest point.																						
Name of the Local Government Area/s in which the proposal is located.	Roper Gulf and Barkly Regional (includes Alpururulam and Elliot Local Authorities) Shire Councils.																						

What is the land tenure type, and proposed land tenure type?	Multiple Perpetual Pastoral Leases, Crown land (road corridors) and freehold land. No changes to existing land tenure arrangements are required for the Proposal. Where required and prior to the commencement of construction, a Non-Pastoral Use Permit (NPUP) will be obtained under the <i>Pastoral Land Act 1992 (NT)</i> to authorise non-pastoral activities. In addition, APA will obtain a pipeline licence under the <i>Energy Pipelines Act 1981 (NT)</i>, together with the necessary agreements with affected pastoral leaseholders. These approvals will provide APA with the rights to access, construct, operate and decommission the pipeline and associated infrastructure throughout the life of the Proposal.
Does the proponent have the legal (land) access required for the implementation of all aspects of the proposal?	No If no, provide details of legal access authorisations /agreements / tenure is required and from whom. APA has obtained Pipeline Permit No. 9 (Section 5) under the <i>Energy Pipelines Act 1981 (NT)</i> to undertake investigations associated with the development of the Proposal. The permit process included notification of, and consultation with, affected landholders and provides APA with authorised access to the Proposal area to undertake surveys and investigations required to support the detailed design of the pipeline. Prior to commencement of the Proposal, APA will obtain a Pipeline Licence (Section 12) under the <i>Energy Pipelines Act 1981 (NT)</i>. A pipeline management plan would also be prepared and submitted to the regulator, addressing the construction, commissioning, operation and decommissioning of the pipeline. As part of the licensing process, APA would enter into the necessary agreements with affected landholders and Traditional Owners before construction activities commence.
Is the land zoned under the NT Planning Scheme?	No
What is the current land use of the proposal site/s?	Pastoral land Freehold Land Road reserve

What is the approximate distance (direct line) and direction to the closest human sensitive receptor? For example, residence, accommodation, hospital, school, homeland from the proposal.	<u>Nearest residential community/town.</u> The indicative pipeline is located approximately 50 km north of the Alpurrurulam, 75km south of Daly Waters and 85km north of Elliot from the nearest point of the indicative pipeline. <u>Nearest regional centres (available health services, education).</u> The indicative pipeline is located approximately 230km north of Tennant Creek, and 300km south of Katherine. <u>The nearest human sensitive receptor.</u> The indicative pipeline is located approximately 2.5km southwest of Anthony Lagoon homestead.
What is the proposed end land use of the proposal site/s	The proposed land use comprises a buried gas transmission pipeline, a maintained operational right-of-way, and associated aboveground infrastructure required to transport natural gas from the Beetaloo Sub-basin to the east coast gas market. At the end of the operational life of the pipeline, the infrastructure will be decommissioned in accordance with the <i>APGA Code of Environmental Practice: Onshore Pipelines</i> and the conditions of the pipeline licence issued under the <i>Energy Pipelines Act 1981 (NT)</i>. Aboveground infrastructure would be disconnected, dismantled and removed from the site, and disturbed areas would be rehabilitated and revegetated, where required, to support the return of pre-existing land uses.

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Consultation	
Provide an overview of consultation undertaken specific to the proposal and potential environmental impacts.	Prior to lodging this Referral, APA undertook early and targeted engagement with government agencies, local councils, Northern Land Council (NLC), landholders, community organisations and the broader community. This engagement will continue as the Proposal progresses.
List the matters raised in consultation and identify how the proposal has been modified to respond to stakeholder feedback.	Early engagement in 2025 focused on introducing the Proposal and establishing communication channels, while targeted engagement in April–May 2026 supported social impact scoping through meetings, community sessions and accessible information materials. The targeted engagement included Barkly Regional (including Alpururulam and Elliott Local Authority) and Roper Gulf Shire Councils, NT Police (Elliot Station), NT Road Transport Association, NT Cattleman’s association, Chamber of Commerce, the Environment Centre NT and RN Employment Services. A dedicated engagement process with impacted Traditional Owners is being progressed in partnership with the NLC, which represents the relevant Traditional Owners and is facilitating consultation in accordance with appropriate cultural and statutory processes. APA is currently working with NLC to schedule meetings for direct engagement with Traditional Owners. Key matters raised by stakeholders related to the need for transparent communication, appropriate land access arrangements, and consideration of potential social and community impacts. Feedback received through the engagement process has informed Proposal planning, including logistics and impact assessment activities. APA is committed to avoiding and minimising impacts wherever practicable, refining engagement approaches, and adapting project design and management measures through ongoing consultation with stakeholders.

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PART C – Referral type

What type of proposal is being referred?	☒ proposed action ☐ strategic proposal ☐ proponent initiated EIS referral
Provide a brief justification including the reasons why you consider the action may have a significant impact on the environment and is referred to the NT EPA. Refer to section 11 of the EP Act and the NT EPA's environmental factors and objectives.	The Proposal has the potential to result in significant environmental and social impacts due to its scale and the extent of linear disturbance during construction, including the clearing of up to 4,703 ha of vegetation. Of the total disturbance footprint, approximately 4,294 ha would be rehabilitated and reinstated following construction and commissioning activities, while approximately 409 ha would be retained to support operational requirements, including permanent access arrangements and aboveground infrastructure. Key environmental risks associated with the Proposal include soil erosion and contamination, impacts on terrestrial ecosystems and threatened species, changes to surface water hydrology, groundwater extraction, and greenhouse gas emissions associated with construction and operation. The Proposal also has the potential to impact cultural heritage and social values. Both positive and negative economic and community outcomes are expected.
Does the proposal involve an action that may be or is a controlled action under the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)?	Yes
Has the proposed action been referred?	No
If referred, has a decision been made on whether the proposed action is a controlled action?	☒ Yes ☒ No

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PART D – Proponent referrer details and declaration

*The referral form must include the declaration signed by the proponent, or where the proponent is an organisation or business, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or duly authorised delegate within the proponent company.

Who is referring this proposal?

☒ Proponent

☐ Authorised representative within proponent entity

Does the proponent request that the NT EPA treat any part of the information in the referral as confidential under section 281(2) of the EP Act?

☒ No

☐ Yes

If yes, provide an application in accordance with regulation 271 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020 and submit the confidential information as a **separate** attachment

Referral declaration by proponent:

I, [Dennis Reid](#), declare that I am authorised to refer this proposed action/strategic proposal on behalf of

[APT Management Services Pty Ltd](#) and further declare that:

- the attached environmental impact assessment documents have been prepared in accordance with the EP Act and EP Regulations; and
- the attached environmental impact assessment documents (including attachments) are true; and
- the attached environmental impact assessment documents do not provide false or misleading information and I know it is an offence to provide false and misleading information, noting the penalties under section 260 of the EP Act, and section 119 of the *Criminal Code Act 1983*; and
- the proponent fully understands that referral under the EP Act does not limit, in any way, the requirements of the proponent to ensure approvals under any other regulatory regime are applied for, and adhered to; and
- the proponent has fulfilled its general duty in accordance with section 43 of the EP Act.

Note: if the NT EPA determine that an environmental approval is required, the proponent will be requested to provide supporting documents during the assessment process such as details to support that the person is a fit and proper person to hold an environmental approval in accordance with section 62 of the EP Act

Name: [Dennis Reid](#)

Signature:



Date: 17/08/2026

Position: Principal Advisor, Infrastructure Delivery – Access and Approvals (Major Projects)

Organisation (if a business or organisation): [APT Management Services Pty Ltd](#)

Email: dennis.reid@apa.com.au

Address:

Physical address: Level 14, 60 City Road, Southbank VIC 3006

Postal address: PO Box 423, Flinders Lane VIC 8009

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PART E – Nominated contact

Contact details for proponent contact
(provide the details for the person who
will be corresponding with the NT EPA
on the proposal)

Business name: APT Management Services Pty Ltd
Name of primary contact: Dennis Reid
Physical address: Level 14, 60 City Road, Southbank VIC
3006
Postal address: PO Box 423, Flinders Lane VIC 8009
Phone: +61 3 8416 2444
Email: dennis.reid@apa.com.au

Contact details of consultant (if relevant,
provide the details for the person who
will be corresponding with the NT EPA
on the proposal on behalf of the
proponent)

Business name: EcOz Environmental Consultants
Name of primary contact: Emma Lewis
Physical address: Level 1, 70 Cavenagh Street, Darwin, NT
Postal address: GPO Box 381, Darwin City, NT, 0801
Phone: (08) 8981 1100
Email: Emma.lewis@eco.com.au

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CHECKLIST 1 - Cross reference of matters addressed in the referral report (for more detail refer to the Referring a proposal to the NT EPA guidance)

Item	See Referral guidance for further detail on information requirements	Report section / page
<i>Publication statement</i>	Provide name and qualifications of relevant contributors to the referral.	Page 13
<i>Executive summary</i>	Overview of the proposal, its potential for significant impact and key conclusions.	Page 8-11
<i>Introduction</i>	Include a brief introduction to the proposal and the proponent (noting proponent details are also to be included in the referral form / environmental approval application form).	Section 1
<i>Proposal description - Key components</i>	Provide a clear and detailed description of the proposal, referencing maps and spatial information. Provide a key components summary table. Identify uncertainty / likely changes if particular elements of a proposal require further design at the time of referral. Provide an account of past, present and reasonably foreseeable future development, operations, or industries that are related the current proposal.	Section 2.5
<i>Proposal description - Location and regional context</i>	Location and regional context.	Figure 2 Section 2.3
<i>Proposal description – Alternatives (options)</i>	Describe any alternatives (location, timeframes, activities) considered or are under consideration in scoping and developing the proposal. Describe how the analysis of alternatives accounted for the <i>principles of environment protection and management</i> (Part 2 of the EP Act). Justification for the preferred/selected option. Describe any assumptions critical to your assessment.	Section 3

<i>Proposal description – Application of the:</i> - <i>Principles of environment protection and management (Part 2)</i> - <i>General duty of proponents (s43)</i>	Discuss how the proposal accounts for the <i>principles of environment protection and management</i> (Part 2 of the EP Act) and the general duty of proponents provided for under section 43 of the EP Act: • Principles of ecologically sustainable development • Environmental decision-making hierarchy • Waste management hierarchy.	Section 4.3
<i>Consultation</i> <u>Refer to NT EPA Stakeholder Engagement guidance 2020</u>	The EP Act (section 3 and section 43) puts an obligation on the proponent to consult with stakeholders and the community in the development of the proposal. As an example, the referral should include: • a description of stakeholder engagement and community consultation undertaken • an outline of the method and process of consultation with stakeholders • a summary of the key matters raised during consultation • any changes made as a result of consultation • the ongoing consultation, and options for feedback • whether the consultation has or has not been undertaken in accordance with NT EPA guidance on Stakeholder Engagement • whether the consultation has or hasn't been undertaken in accordance with the section 43 (EP Act) general duty of proponents (see Checklist 2).	Section 5
<i>Strategic and statutory context</i>	Table discussing proposal specific legislation, policies, and guidelines that are and may be applicable to the proposal and the sequencing and status of those, is provided.	Section 4
<i>Environmental Factors</i>	The sections below relate to information that describes the potential impacts of the proposal on the NT EPA's Environmental factors. Information requirements for each environmental factor identified by the pre-referral screening tool are provided (any technical studies and surveys included).	
<i>Environmental Factors and objectives</i> Presence/absence of environmental values	<i>Repeat for each NT EPA Factor being considered for your proposal/referral</i> The presence or absence of relevant environmental values and sensitivities are verified. Specify the source and currency of information (e.g. desktop assessments, and/or field surveys, the methods used, dates, sources, and whether the approach is conducted in accordance with relevant regulatory and industry guideline.	Section 6.2.1 and 6.3.4 Section 6.3.1 Section 6.4.1 Section 6.5.1 Section 6.6.1 Section 6.7.1

<i>Environmental Factors and objectives</i> Potential impacts and consistency with relevant policy/guidance	<i>Repeat for each NT EPA Factor being considered for your proposal/referral</i> Assessment of potential impacts (negative, direct, indirect, cumulative, short and long-term) of the proposal. Relevant policy and guidance described. Residual / remaining impact to the environmental factor described.	Section 6.3.2 Section 6.4.2 Section 6.4.2 Section 6.5.2 Section 6.6.2 Section 6.7.2
<i>Environmental Factors and objectives</i> Environment protection and management	<i>Repeat for each NT EPA Factor being considered for your proposal/referral</i> Describe in terms of management hierarchies: - measures proposed to avoid, mitigate or offset (if appropriate) - effectiveness of proposed measures and the level of confidence of implementation - whether the NT EPA's objective for the environmental factor is likely to be met.	Section 6.3.2 Section 6.4.2 Section 6.4.2 Section 6.5.2 Section 6.6.2 Section 6.7.2
<i>Environmental Factors and objectives</i> Cumulative impacts	<i>Repeat for each NT EPA Factor being considered for your proposal/referral</i> Describe potential cumulative impacts.	Section 6.8

CHECKLIST 2 - Consideration of the Proponent's general duty (in accordance with section 43 of the EP Act)

Section 43 General duty of proponents	Done	Comment
The following principles of ecologically sustainable development must be taken into consideration in the design of the proposed action.		Provide comment here
- Decision-making principle - Principle of proportionality	✓	The Proposal's decision-making process is based on a whole-of-life assessment that integrates environmental, social and economic factors into all key decisions relating to the Proposal, including route selection, design, construction methods and ongoing operations. The Proposal has and would continue to assess the short-term impacts such as vegetation clearing, landholder disturbance, construction emissions alongside long-term considerations including biodiversity outcomes, rehabilitation success, greenhouse gas emissions and potential cumulative impacts. Decisions would be informed by avoidance and mitigation measures that prioritise environmentally sensitive areas, supported by ongoing input from affected communities, even where this may increase upfront costs. Engagement with

		stakeholders, including Traditional Owners, pastoralists and local communities, would be embedded throughout the Project lifecycle to ensure that local knowledge, land use priorities and environmental and heritage values are incorporated into Proposal design and implementation. This would include negotiated land access arrangements, protection of cultural heritage values, and opportunities for community participation in environmental management. The Proposal would adopt an adaptive management approach, informed by continuous engagement and feedback, to respond effectively to community concerns and environmental outcomes over time.
• Precautionary principle	✓	The Proposal would apply a careful evaluation of alternatives to avoid serious or irreversible environmental damage wherever practicable, including route selection to bypass high-value environmental or culturally significant areas, and implementation of best-practice construction and operational controls. Decision-making would also be guided by an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options, comparing environmental risks, likelihoods and potential impacts to inform the most appropriate course of action. The Proposal construction and operational aspects and impacts have been comprehensively assessed to inform decision-making and minimise the effects of the Proposal activities, the findings of which are summarised in this Report. Activities have been evaluated in terms of their extent, severity and duration. Where there was uncertainty in any aspects of the impact assessment process, precautionary principle was adopted and a more conservative aspect applied. Community involvement is integral to the application of the precautionary principle, ensuring that local knowledge and concerns inform risk identification and management. Where uncertainty exists, stakeholder input helps shape precautionary measures, including additional buffers, monitoring, or modifications to construction methods. Ongoing consultation and transparent communication of risks, assumptions and management responses would support informed decision-making and build confidence that potential impacts are being proactively addressed. The precautionary principle will continue to be an integral component a robust environmental and cultural risk assessment for future stages of the Proposal

• Principle of evidence-based decision-making	✓	Construction and operational aspects and impacts have been comprehensively assessed, and the existing environment is well understood. These assessments drew on the best available, relevant, and reliable information to support sound and transparent outcomes. The same evidence-based decision-making principles would be used to further refine the pipeline corridor and avoid or and minimise potential impacts associated with the Proposal.
• Principle of intergenerational and intergenerational equity	✓	APA is committed to a structured, transparent and long-term approach to environmental management that is informed by ongoing community involvement. Decision-making for the Proposal considers the potential for both immediate and lasting impacts and would prioritise avoidance and minimisation wherever practicable. Significant residual impacts that cannot be avoided would be offset in accordance with statutory consent conditions to ensure no net loss of value to future generations.
• Principle of sustainable use	✓	The principle of sustainable use will be used across all stages of the Project and the Proposal, supported by ongoing community involvement. The Proposal would minimise the use of land, water and other natural resources by optimising pipeline design, construction methods and operational efficiency, including the careful selection of the pipeline corridor to reduce clearing, avoid sensitive areas and limit fragmentation of habitats. Construction practices would be designed to minimise disturbance, manage soil and water resources appropriately, and prevent degradation through erosion and contamination controls. Operational measures would focus on efficiency and reliability, including leak detection and maintenance programs, to ensure responsible and prudent use of resources over time. Rehabilitation commitments would aim to restore land capability and ecological function as far as practicable, ensuring that the productivity and environmental values of the landscape are maintained in the long term.

• Principle of conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity	✓ The Proposal would be designed and implemented to avoid and minimise impacts to ecosystems, species and habitats by prioritising pipeline route selection that avoids areas of high biodiversity value, including threatened species habitat, riparian zones and intact vegetation communities. Where impacts cannot be avoided, APA would implement targeted mitigation measures, such as minimising clearing widths, controlling invasive species, and managing construction activities to reduce disturbance to flora and fauna. Progressive reinstatement would aim to restore native vegetation and ecological function to ensure that biodiversity values and ecosystem processes are maintained over time (refer to Section 6.3 for further information). Threatened flora and fauna species and native vegetation within and surrounding the Proposal area would be subject to micro-rerouting of the pipeline to avoid or otherwise minimise impacts as far as reasonably possible. Impacts on fauna movement and foraging within the CRoW would be temporary, occurring only during the construction phase, and would affect a very small proportion of each species' overall range.
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• Principle of improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms	✓	Environmental factors, cultural heritage and Native Title impacts have been included in the valuation of the Proposal. Biodiversity and GHG emissions are considered in the evaluation of pipeline location, construction methods, design and operational practices. The Proposal would incorporate the use of biodiversity offsets where significant residual impacts to threatened ecological values cannot be avoided, ensuring that environmental assets are appropriately valued and that no net loss, or a net gain where practicable, is achieved. Similarly, if required, carbon offsets would be considered to address GHG emissions associated with construction and operation, ensuring that climate-related impacts are factored into the overall valuation of the Project. Although avoidance is a priority, APA acknowledges there may be residual potential impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage and Native title rights and are committed to working with Traditional Owners to understand the nature and significance of the impacts and how best to manage and or compensate for the impacts. These measures ensure that APA retains responsibility for environmental, cultural heritage and Native Title costs, rather than transferring them to the community or future generations. APA has and would continue to refine life cycle costing into planning and financial decisions, including construction, operation, decommissioning and final rehabilitation. This would include provision for long-term environmental management obligations, such as monitoring programs, site reinstatement and if necessary, rehabilitation and the implementation and maintenance of biodiversity and carbon offsets. APA would apply efficient and adaptive approaches to achieving environmental outcomes. This includes leveraging market-based mechanisms such as carbon offset schemes and biodiversity offset frameworks to deliver measurable environmental benefits in a cost-effective manner. Through this approach, the project would align economic decision-making with environmental outcomes, promoting accountability, innovation and long-term sustainability.
The following management hierarchies must be taken into consideration in the design of the proposed action.		Provide comment here

• Environmental decision-making hierarchy	✓	Through extensive environmental studies (desktop and field surveys), the Proposal area has focused on avoiding adverse impacts on the environment, cultural heritage and communities wherever practicable, including through careful route selection. Early engagement with stakeholders has played a key role in identifying these areas, ensuring that local knowledge informs avoidance decisions and that potential impacts are addressed at the earliest stage of project planning. Where impacts cannot be avoided, APA has and would continue to identify and implement management options to mitigate adverse impacts. This would include the application of good industry-practice construction and operational controls such as minimising vegetation clearing, managing erosion and sediment, protecting water quality, and implementing fauna management measures. In circumstances where significant residual adverse impacts remain after avoidance and mitigation, APA would, if required, provide for environmental offsets in accordance with relevant legislative and policy requirements. This may include the implementation of biodiversity offsets to compensate for residual impacts on ecological values and carbon offsets to address GHG emissions associated with the Proposal. The selection and design of offset measures will be informed by stakeholder engagement to ensure they are locally relevant, transparent and aligned with broader environmental objectives. APA would also incorporate opportunities to improve environmental outcomes. This would include commitments to progressive land rehabilitation, restoration of native vegetation and ecosystem function, and participation in offset or conservation programs that deliver measurable environmental benefits. Community involvement would support the identification of enhancement opportunities, particularly through collaboration with Traditional Owners and local stakeholders for offsets and long-term land management. Through this approach, the Proposal would not only minimise adverse impacts but also contribute to the maintenance and improvement of environmental values over time, consistent with the NT EPA's hierarchy.
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Waste management hierarchy	Waste management considerations would be embedded early in the Proposal planning and design, including the selection of construction methods, materials and logistics that reduce waste generation. Consistent with the requirement that waste be managed in accordance with the hierarchy of approaches, APA would prioritise the avoidance of the construction and production of waste wherever practicable, including through efficient design, accurate material estimation and procurement practices that reduce surplus. Where avoidance is not feasible, the project would focus on the minimisation of waste generation, for example by optimising construction processes and reducing packaging and material offcuts. Opportunities for the re-use of waste would be implemented where safe and practical, such as reusing cleared vegetation for rehabilitation or erosion control. If feasible, the Proposal would also maximise the recycling of waste, including segregation of recyclable materials such as metals and plastics for appropriate processing. Due to the remote nature of Proposal activities, opportunities for the recovery of energy and other resources from waste, are considered low. Waste that cannot be avoided, minimised, reused, recycled or recovered such as hazardous materials would be treated to reduce potentially adverse impacts in accordance with regulatory requirements. All waste would be disposed in an environmentally sound manner, using licensed facilities and ensuring that disposal practices do not adversely affect environmental values. The key wastes expected to be generated by the Proposal are: - hydrotest wastewater. - general waste, recycled waste and treated effluent from construction and operation of the temporary construction camps. Hydrotest water would be reused for multiple hydrotest rounds, thereby reducing the volume of groundwater required for extraction. The installation of turkey nests would facilitate and ensure water quality is maintained prior to reuse. APA is evaluating the procurement of materials and construction camp infrastructure that can be demobilised, transported, and remobilised between locations as the pipeline progresses. Other measures of beneficial reuse would be considered and adopted if feasible as project planning progresses. One such example currently being examined is the possibility of using biodegradable polymer as a membrane instead of PVC liner for turkey nest dams. A waste management plan would be developed for construction and operations in accordance with standard industry-practice principles for waste management and procurement of materials.
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Other section 43 considerations		
Have communities that may be affected by the proposed action been provided with information and opportunities for consultation?	✓	APA has engaged True North Strategic Advisory to undertake preliminary social impact scoping, develop an engagement approach for the development consenting and Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and complete an initial round of targeted stakeholder engagement. Initial consultation has been undertaken with key stakeholders to introduce the Proposal, identify potential issues and inform early planning. These findings have contributed to the identification of some potential social impacts as listed in Section 6.6: Community and Economy. APA has committed to developing an SIA and a Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) which would incorporate relevant issues and be used as a key tool to guide APA's decision-making, with a focus on enhancing positive outcomes and potential minimising adverse impacts. While these early activities represent an important preliminary step, APA acknowledges that consultation to date has been targeted rather than comprehensive. A broader engagement program with affected communities would be conducted as part of the SIA. In parallel, APA is advancing strategies to prioritise Local Content and First Nations Participation for the Project. This would establish a framework for local workforce involvement during construction and operation and forms an important component of ongoing engagement with relevant stakeholders.
Has consultation with affected communities, including Aboriginal communities' been undertaken in a culturally appropriate manner?	✓	APA has been consulting with key Aboriginal representative bodies, including the NLC and AAPA, as well as Traditional Owners and Custodians representing the Native Title holders. Engagement would continue with these organisations and relevant community stakeholders (such as local Aboriginal owned and operated businesses) throughout the approvals process. APA would conduct engagement in a culturally appropriate manner, consistent with the principles of free, prior and informed consent. This includes working through recognised representative structures and progressing ILUAs with Native Title holders within the Proposal area. Preliminary face to face community engagement has been undertaken in Elliott and Daly Waters. These sessions were publicly advertised locally and design to be accessible including the use of large format maps, visual materials and information sessions supported by BBQs. As part of early targeted engagement, APA has also briefed the Alpurrurulam and Elliott Local Authorities, providing an opportunity for representatives to receive information about the project and raise questions or concerns.

Has community knowledge and understanding (including scientific and traditional knowledge and understanding) of the natural and cultural values of areas that may be impacted by the proposed action been sought and documented?	✓	APA has drawn on technical expertise and early engagement with relevant stakeholder to inform its understanding of the natural, social and cultural values of the area. APA has engaged with government departments and specialist consulting firms to provide advice on local environment setting and to assess how the proposal may interact with any identified values. Due diligence has been undertaken to identify registered sacred sites in proximity to the Proposal area. These identified sites have informed Proposal design, with avoidance measures applied where known. Archaeological and cultural heritage surveys would be undertaken in partnership with Traditional Owners and appropriate representative bodies including through the AAPA Authority Certificate and ILUA processes.
Have Aboriginal values and the rights and interests of Aboriginal communities' been addressed in relation to areas that may be impacted by the proposed action?	✓	APA have commenced consultation with the NLC and AAPA and are progressing works and agreements required under the Heritage Act 2011, Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989, the EP Act and the Native Title Act 1993. These processes enable Aboriginal values relevant to the Proposal to be identified and negotiations to be documented regarding access and use of the Proposal area.

How to submit

Email your completed form to Environmental Assessments, Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security at eia.ntepa@nt.gov.au

Further information

For further information, contact Environmental Assessments, Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security (DEPWS) at eia.ntepa@nt.gov.au or phone 08 8924 4218.

Collection notice

Purpose: The purpose for the collection of information using this form is to provide the NT EPA with the relevant information needed to administer the environmental impact assessment process under the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

Failure to collect information: If the DEPWS does not collect this information, then correspondence will continue to be with the proponent last notified to the NT EPA/Minister and it may have implications in the Minister's consideration of a fit and proper person under s 62 of the Environment Protection Act and environmental approval holder entity/name.

Who is collecting the information: The information is collected by the DEPWS, who provide services to the NT EPA/Minister.

Who to contact for more information: The [DEPWS Privacy Policy](#) sets out how you can access and/or correct your personal information and how you can make a complaint if you feel we have not complied with the [Privacy Act 1988](#).

All enquiries about access, correction or to make a complaint should be directed to the Privacy Officer on (08) 8999 4410 business days, 8.00am - 4.21pm or write to PO Box 496, Palmerston, NT 0831 or email StrategicServices.DEPWS@nt.gov.au

