

Part 2 – Answer checklist for Sweep Bar / Plough Works

How to complete the answer checklist: Use questions 1-5 from Part 1 of the screening tool. Indicate answer to questions 1-5 in corresponding checkbox.

The table below gives an indication of possible *environmental values* and sensitivities for each environmental factor that should be addressed when considering each question. If the answer to a question is 'yes' or 'uncertain', it is possible that the proposal may have the potential to have a significant impact on the environment and the proposal should be referred to the NT EPA. If you answer 'no' to any question, provide a justification why there is no likely impact to that factor.

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values and sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
				Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
	Is the industry type or activity proposed inherently hazardous with the potential to give rise to multiple or major impact sources and environmental stressors with the potential to impact on the environment? If so, does the nature of the industry preclude impact sources and stressors being substantively reduced?		No ☒ Yes ☐				
LAND	1) Landforms <u>Objective:</u> Conserve the variety and integrity of distinctive physical landforms.	- distinctive features in the landscape, either geological or anthropogenic - subterranean karstic terrain and faults - craters, gorges, ranges, caves, massifs, escarpments, plateaus - monuments - tourism related to landforms	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Landforms, provide justification here: The sweep bar / plough works do not involve any land-based works						
	2) Terrestrial environmental quality <u>Objective:</u> Protect the quality and integrity of land and soils so that environmental values are supported and maintained.	- high quality soils, including chemical, physical, biological and aesthetic qualities that support life - the biological processes that depend on soil quality	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values and sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
				Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Terrestrial environmental quality, provide justification here: The sweep bar / plough works do not involve any land based works						
	3) Terrestrial ecosystems <u>Objective:</u> Protect terrestrial habitats to maintain environmental values including biodiversity, ecological integrity and ecological functioning.	'sensitive or significant' vegetation or buffers (as defined in the NT Land Clearing Guidelines) - listed threatened species and their habitat (NT and Commonwealth) - listed migratory species and their habitat (Commonwealth) - listed threatened ecological communities (Commonwealth) - locally endemic or restricted species and their habitat - species that are data deficient with unknown protection status - protected area or reserve, including Indigenous Protected Area - biosecurity - high quality biological and functional diversity, integrity and services	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
			No	X	X	X	X
			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
If you answered No to any screening questions for Terrestrial ecosystems, provide justification here: The sweep bar / plough works do not involve any land based works							
WATER	1) Hydrological processes <u>Objective:</u> Protect the hydrological regimes of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values including ecological health, land uses and the welfare and amenity of people are maintained.	- the supply and quantity of water in surface water features including rivers, lakes, wetlands, swamps, creeks, billabongs, intermittent streams, floodplains, mangroves and drainage lines - the supply and quantity of water in groundwater features including aquifers, aquitards, water tables and the ecosystems they support (stygofauna, vegetation and groundwater dependent ecosystems) - declared beneficial uses - present and future uses, and users of water - current or potential water supplies, including regional scale aquifers - culturally important water features or other features affected by water level	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
			No	X	X	X	X
			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
If you answered No to any screening questions for Hydrological processes, provide justification here: The sweep bar / plough works do not interact with groundwater or surface water							
	2) Inland water environmental quality	the quality of water in surface water features including rivers, lakes, wetlands, swamps, creeks, billabongs, intermittent streams, floodplains, mangroves and drainage lines	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
			No	X	X	X	X

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Indicative environmental values and sensitivities relevant to each environmental factor	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5				
				Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
	Objective: Protect the quality of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values including ecological health, land uses and the welfare and amenity of people are maintained.	- the quality of water in groundwater features including aquifers and water tables - declared beneficial uses - present and future uses and users of water - current or potential water supplies, including regional scale aquifers - potability / drinkability - culturally important water features	Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Inland water environmental quality, provide justification here: The sweep bar / plough works interact with inland waters						
	3) Aquatic ecosystems	- threatened species - the health of the biota in inland waterways - the habitats that support the lifecycle of aquatic biota - groundwater dependent ecosystems - Ramsar wetlands - high quality biological and functional diversity, integrity and services	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
	Objective: Protect aquatic habitats to maintain environmental values including biodiversity, ecological integrity and ecological functioning.		No	X	X	X	X
			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
If you answered No to any screening questions for Aquatic ecosystems, provide justification here: The sweep bar / plough works will not create plume of high intensity and extent. The material will be redistributed in the immediate area and not impact sensitive receivers. The sediment sampling and analysis confirmed that the material is not contaminated.							
SEA	1) Coastal processes	- processes that support marine ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves - processes that support coastal morphology such as beaches, rock bars, and sandbars - tidal creeks, deltas and river mouths - storm surge protection - unique coastal landforms	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
	Objective: Protect the geophysical and hydrological processes that shape coastal morphology so that the environmental values of the coast are maintained.		No	X	X	X	X
			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
If you answered No to any screening questions for Coastal processes, provide justification here: The sweep bar / plough works do not impact on coastal processes. The material will be redistributed in the immediate area and not impact coastal processes. No cumulative impacts are anticipated, the material deposited on the seabed is part of natural processes and any movement of this material aids in its natural migration pathways along the coastline.							
	2) Marine environmental quality	- quality of the water, sediment and biota - physical parameters that support fishing and aquaculture	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐

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				Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
	<u>Objective:</u> Protect the quality and productivity of water, sediment and biota so that environmental values are maintained.	- physical parameters that support recreation and aesthetics - industrial water supply - cultural and spiritual values	No	X	X	X	X
			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Marine environmental quality, provide justification here: The material will be redistributed in the immediate area and not impact sensitive receivers. The sediment is not contaminated and will not impact the local marine environment. There is no secondary plume source.						
	3) Marine ecosystems	- conservation significant marine and coastal fauna and critical habitat such as nesting, breeding or foraging habitat - conservation significant marine and coastal benthos (seagrass meadows, sponge gardens, coral reefs, mangrove communities and salt marshes) - groups of species (species richness and assemblages of species) - ecological functions and processes - high quality biological and functional diversity, integrity and services	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
	<u>Objective:</u> Protect marine habitats to maintain environmental values including biodiversity, ecological integrity and ecological functioning.		No	X	X	X	X
			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Marine ecosystems, provide justification here: The material will be redistributed in the immediate area and not impact sensitive. Receivers. Sweep bar works will not be of long duration (i.e. days or weeks, no greater than 2 weeks for each campaign)						
	1) Air quality	- ambient air quality in the local airshed - the chemical, physical and biological characteristics of quality air - the biological processes that depend on the air quality	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
AIR	<u>Objective:</u> Protect air quality and minimise emissions and their impact so that environmental values are maintained.		No	X	X	X	X
			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Air quality, provide justification here: The Sweep bar works will be undertaken by a commercial vessel in good working order, that meet industry standard for emissions. Any works will not be of a long duration, limiting any emissions. No impacts expected.						
	2) Atmospheric processes	- a contribution to the NT's greenhouse gas emissions through nearing or reaching emission thresholds for: - industrial projects of 100 000 tCO_{2-e} scope 1 emissions per year not counting emissions generated from land clearing	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
	<u>Objective:</u> Minimise greenhouse gas emissions so as to contribute to the		No	X	X	X	X

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PEOPLE	NT Government's goal of achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.	land use projects of 500 000 tCO₂-e scope 1 emissions from single or cumulative land clearing actions	Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Atmospheric processes, provide justification here: Any works will not be of a long duration, limiting any emissions. No impacts expected.						
	1) Community and economy <u>Objective:</u> Enhance communities and the economy for the welfare, amenity and benefit of current and future generations of Territorians.	- communities, towns and suburbs where people live - community aspirations for liveable environment and healthy lifestyles, - affordable access to food, water, electricity, transport and communication networks. - good amenity – air quality, noise, aesthetics - access to social infrastructure and services including transport and logistics - access to natural resources including bush food - recreational use of the natural or built environment (e.g. fishing, cycling, sports, picnics) - species of social, cultural, livelihood and or economic importance (terrestrial, aquatic and marine biota) - participation in jobs, businesses and education - existing industries such as agriculture, pastoralism, tourism, fisheries - vulnerable sectors of the community	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
			No	X	X	X	X
PEOPLE			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Community and economy, provide justification here: The sweep bar operations provide a rapid and useful method for maximizing vessel access to Darwin Ports. Improved vessel access leads to better economic outcomes for the port and local community.						
	2) Culture and heritage <u>Objective:</u> Protect culture and heritage.	- Aboriginal cultural values - sacred sites - the Territory's natural and built heritage - declared heritage places and objects protected under the Heritage Act 2011 (NT) such as: - any Aboriginal or Macassan archaeological place or object (coastal mounds and middens, rock art, stone arrangements, quarries, artefacts, graves, burial sites and ancestral remains)	Yes	☐	☐	☐	☐
			No	X	X	X	X
PEOPLE			Uncertain	☐	☐	☐	☐
			Not Applicable	☐	☐	☐	☐

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		○ underwater cultural heritage (isolated objects, shipwrecks, plane wrecks, underwater cables and evidence of Aboriginal occupation prior to sea level rise) ○ built heritage (colonial buildings and other historic buildings) ○ defence structures (defensive positions and airfields) ○ natural features (meteorite impact sites, palaeontological sites, springs, trees) ○ world heritage ● underwater cultural heritage protected under the Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018 (Cth) ● Aboriginal rights and interests, including right of access					
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Culture and heritage, provide justification here: All works will occur within the existing channels and berths, no impacts on cultural heritage will occur.						
	3) Human health <u>Objective:</u> Protect the health of the Northern Territory population.	● drinking water ● air quality ● bush tucker ● radiological limits ● biting insects	Yes No Uncertain Not Applicable	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐	☐ X ☐ ☐
	If you answered No to any screening questions for Human health, provide justification here: The action of levelling off high spots in the Port of Darwin channels and berths will not impact on human health in any way.						

Where the screening has been undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced person and all responses in the checklist are 'no', a referral to the NT EPA is not likely required. The NT EPA and DEPWS does not require the completed checklist to be submitted in this case. However, the checklist and its justifications for no likely impact should be retained by the proponent to demonstrate the screening has been conducted. The proponent should also retain the scope of the proposal that was considered in conducting the screening, the name, qualifications and contact details of the suitably qualified and experienced person(s) who conducted the screening using the table below.

The NT EPA retains to power to "call-in" a proposal under section 53 of the EP Act.

Recommended record keeping: Where a proponent intends to retain this checklist to demonstrate it has given consideration to whether a referral is required, it is recommended that the following details are recorded.

	Details
Proponent name	Landbridge Darwin Port
Propose action name	Sweep Bar / Plough
Description of proposed action	Levelling out high spots in the existing/approved channel and berth areas

Pre-referral screening has been conducted by: names, qualifications and date of works by suitably qualified and experienced persons⁷ engaged by the proponent.

Environmental factor	Name	Qualification / Experience	Signature	Date
All	Dr Daniel Spooner	PhD Marine & Coastal Processes (Env Chem.)		13/12/24

Proponent's declaration that the pre-referral screening has been conducted.

Screening declaration by proponent:

I, Dr Daniel Spooner, declare that I am authorised to verify the pre-referral screening of this proposed action/strategic proposal on behalf Of Landbridge Darwin Port name of legal entity organisation...Landbridge Darwin Port, and further declare that:

- 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*.

⁷ Section 4 of the EP Act provides the meaning of a qualified person. Experience may be provided in years and/or a description of relevant experience.