Chapter 1
Introduction
Contents

1 Introduction ................................................................................................................................ 1

1.1 The project ................................................................................................................................ 1
  1.1.1 Background ..................................................................................................................... 1
  1.1.2 Project objectives ............................................................................................................ 2
  1.1.3 Brief project description ................................................................................................... 2

1.2 Project proponent ......................................................................................................................... 4
  1.2.1 Proponent background .................................................................................................... 4

1.3 Purpose of the EIS ....................................................................................................................... 5

1.4 EIS approach ................................................................................................................................ 5

1.5 EIS scope ..................................................................................................................................... 6

1.6 EIS structure ................................................................................................................................. 6

1.7 EIS content ................................................................................................................................... 7

1.8 Environmental approval process ................................................................................................ 8
  1.8.1 Northern Territory environmental approval process ........................................................ 8
  1.8.2 Commonwealth environmental approval process ........................................................... 9

1.9 Regulatory framework and industry standards ............................................................................. 9
  1.9.1 Northern Territory legislation ........................................................................................... 9
  1.9.2 Key Commonwealth legislation ....................................................................................... 9
  1.9.3 Technical Standards and Codes of Practice ...................................................................... 11

1.10 Stakeholder engagement ........................................................................................................... 11

1.11 Consultation on the Draft EIS ..................................................................................................... 12

Figures

Figure 1-1: Location of proposed Katherine to Gove Gas Pipeline and land tenure in the region ........ 3

Tables

Table 1-1: Key Northern Territory legislation applicable to the KGGP Project .................................................. 10

Table 1-2: Key Commonwealth legislation applicable to the KGGP Project .................................................. 10
1 Introduction

1.1 THE PROJECT

1.1.1 Background

Pacific Aluminium (a business unit of Rio Tinto) operates and owns a bauxite mine and alumina refinery at Gove, 650 kilometres (km) east of Darwin in north-east Arnhem Land, Northern Territory through the following entities. The Gove mine and refinery are operated by Alcan Gove Pty Limited (ACN 000 453 663), a subsidiary of Swiss Aluminium Australia Ltd (SAAL) (ACN 008 589 099) and Gove Aluminium Limited (GAL) (ACN 000 640 353). SAAL and GAL are the registered holders of the Gove mineral lease and associated special purpose leases and are the owners of the Gove mine and refinery.

The Gove mine and refinery is a bauxite mining and alumina processing operation. High grade bauxite is mined, refined into alumina and then shipped for smelting.

The Gove refinery was constructed in the late 1960s with the associated mine commencing production of bauxite for the refinery in 1972. The operation includes a mine, refinery, residue disposal area, steam power station, port and ship loading facilities. Refining operations at Gove were significantly expanded as part of the G3 Project (Alcan Gove Third Stage Expansion Project), completed in 2007. The G3 Project was referred to the Commonwealth Government under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (the EPBC Act) (Ref 2003/1068) but was deemed to be “not a controlled action”.

Power and steam for the Gove refinery and mining operations are generated from imported fuel oil. In early 2000, consideration was given to sourcing an alternate fuel option. The Trans Territory Pipeline (TTP) was proposed in 2003 by Alcan Gove Pty Limited in association with the Blacktip Joint Venture participants (Woodside and ENI Australia) to deliver natural gas from the offshore Blacktip gas field via a processing plant at Wadeye and on to Gove, 940 km to the east.

The TTP proposal was referred to the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments and both determined that formal environmental assessment was required at the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) level (EPBC Act reference 2003/1186).

Alcan Gove Pty Limited and the Blacktip Joint Venture participants released a draft EIS for public comment in November 2004 but subsequently determined not to proceed with the TTP Project. The EIS process for the TTP was therefore not completed and the project referral was withdrawn under the EPBC Act and is proposed to be withdrawn under the NT Environmental Assessment Act (the EA Act).

The Gove operations face challenging global market conditions particularly related to high fuel oil prices, exchange rates, and a low alumina price. The delivery of competitively priced gas and conversion of the refinery to gas would provide significant efficiencies to the mining and refinery operations, helping to underpin the long term operating life of the refinery and sustaining the significant regional economic benefits that accrue to the community of Nhulunbuy, north-east Arnhem Land, the Traditional Owners, employees, suppliers and customers.

Pacific Aluminium has therefore decided to revisit the gas option for its Gove operations and proposes to construct and operate the Katherine to Gove Gas Pipeline (KGGP) Project.
1.1.2 Project objectives

The key objectives of the KGGP Project are to:

- Maintain and sustainably operate the Gove refinery and mining operations.
- Enable the Gove refinery operation to continue to contribute to the regional, Northern Territory and national economies.
- Deliver an ecologically sustainable development that balances economic, ecological and social outcomes.
- Reduce air emissions from the Gove refinery.
- Comply with legislative requirements.
- Avoid or mitigate environmental and social impacts.
- Rehabilitate the landform in disturbed areas to allow for continued use in the area traversed by the pipeline.

The KGGP Project will bring a range of benefits to Nhulunbuy, north-east Arnhem Land, the Northern Territory and Australia, including (based on current estimates):

- Capital expenditure of over $600 million for construction of the KGGP.
- Creation of approximately 780 jobs in construction and commissioning of the pipeline.
- Increased real economic output to the Gove regional economy of $2,382 million (net present value) over the period from 2013 to 2036.
- Increased Gross State Product (GSP) to the Northern Territory of $3,629 million (net present value) or an equivalent of 19.5% over the period from 2013 to 2036.
- Increased Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to Australia of $3,667 million (net present value) or an equivalent of 0.25% over the period to 2036.

Significant co-benefits of the KGGP Project associated with conversion of the Gove Refinery include (based on current estimates):

- Capital expenditure of over $150 million.
- Reduced sulphur dioxide and particulate emissions from the refinery operations.
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions from the refinery operations.
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions per tonne of product.

1.1.3 Brief project description

The KGGP is proposed to connect the Gove Operations Alumina refinery, via the construction of a new pipeline, with the existing NT Amadeus Gas Pipeline at a point approximately 20 km south of Katherine, NT. The route of the new pipeline between Katherine and Gove would extend east from the NT Amadeus Gas Pipeline south of Katherine, crossing the Alice Springs to Darwin railway line and the Stuart Highway, and passing just south of Beswick. The route would then curve to the north-east, passing close to Mainoru, Bulman and Nhulunbuy before reaching the Gove mine and refinery operations.

The KGGP would be approximately 603 km long and pass through pastoral and crown land, Aboriginal freehold land and mineral and petroleum exploration tenements (Figure 1-1).

The pipeline would be buried and located within a 30 m wide construction footprint (termed the Right of Way or ROW). Supporting infrastructure would include five construction camps, access roads, above ground facilities such as meter stations, scraper stations, mainline valves and a compressor station. No processing of gas would be required. The pipeline would be designed to have an operational life of 50 years.
**Figure 1-1:** Location of proposed Katherine to Gove Gas Pipeline and land tenure in the region

*Pacific Aluminium: Proposed Katherine to Gove Gas Pipeline*
The KGGP Project is currently at the pre-feasibility phase.

Key milestones for the KGGP Project are broadly as follows:

- **2012-13** Environmental and land access approvals finalised.
- **2013** Engineering design.
- **2014** Pipeline construction.
- **2015** Gas delivery to the Gove refinery.

### 1.2 PROJECT PROPONENT

The Project proponent of the Katherine to Gove Gas Pipeline is Alcan Gove Pty Limited (ACN 000 453 663), or a related entity of Alcan Gove Pty Limited that is controlled and operated by Pacific Aluminium. Alcan Gove Pty Limited is a subsidiary of Swiss Aluminium Australia Ltd (ACN 008 589 099) (SAAL) and Gove Aluminium Limited (ACN 000 640 353) (GAL). SAAL and GAL are the participants in an unincorporated joint venture that owns the Gove bauxite mine and alumina refinery in the proportions of 70% (SAAL) and 30% (GAL) respectively.

The key contact for the proponent is:

**Ms Alicia Sherwood**
Principal Advisor – External Relations
Pacific Aluminium
GPO Box 3452
Darwin NT 0801
Tel  08 8930 1502
Fax  08 8930 1509
Email: alicia.sherwood@pacificaluminium.com.au

### 1.2.1 Proponent background

Pacific Aluminium is a business unit of Rio Tinto. Formed in 2011, the fully integrated aluminium business produces more than one million tonnes of aluminium per annum through its operations in Australia and New Zealand. The operations in which Pacific Aluminium holds interests include:

- Gove bauxite mine and alumina refinery, Gove Northern Territory.
- Boyne Smelters Limited, Gladstone Queensland.
- Tomago Aluminium Smelter, Tomago New South Wales.
- Bell Bay Aluminium Smelter, Bell Bay Tasmania.
- New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Limited, Tiwai Point New Zealand.

Each of Alcan Gove Pty Limited, Swiss Aluminium Australia Ltd and Gove Aluminium Limited are currently wholly owned subsidiaries within the Pacific Aluminium business unit of the Rio Tinto Group.
1.3 PURPOSE OF THE EIS

This Draft EIS presents the findings and conclusions of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken for the proposed KGGP Project.

The objective of the EIA process is to ensure that potential environmental and social impacts associated with the project during both construction and operations, are identified and assessed and that potential environmental impacts are appropriately mitigated. In doing so, relevant preventative and management measures are developed to ensure that environmental impacts are avoided or managed to minimise adverse impact.

The Draft EIS has been prepared in accordance with Clause 8 of the Environmental Assessment Administrative Procedures of the EA Act of the Northern Territory. The KGGP Project is a controlled action under the EPBC Act (2012/6605) and the Commonwealth Government has determined that the project will be assessed by accredited assessment under the NT EA Act. Final EIS Guidelines were issued on 14 January 2013 (Appendix P).

The key objectives of this Draft EIS are to provide:

- A source of information from which stakeholders may gain an understanding of the proposal, the need for the proposal, the economic and other benefits that might arise from the proposal, the alternatives, the environment that it would affect, the impacts that may occur, the significance of these potential impacts and the measures adopted to minimise these impacts.
- A basis for public consultation and informed comment on the proposal.
- A framework against which regulatory authorities can consider the environmental and social aspects of the proposal, set conditions for approval to ensure environmentally sound development and recommend an environmental management and monitoring programme.
- A cornerstone document to aid in the development of the KGGP Project's ongoing environmental management program.

1.4 EIS APPROACH

The KGGP Project is a reactivation of a portion of the larger TTP Project which substantially (but not completely) progressed through a formal environmental assessment process in 2004. Much of the technical information gathered during the TTP EIS process remains relevant and useful in predicting environmental impacts from construction and operation of the section of pipeline now proposed in the KGGP Project. Where relevant and appropriate, this Draft EIS utilises information generated from the TTP EIS, in addition to newly commissioned studies that have been targeted to assess the KGGP within a contemporary setting.

All information has been reviewed and updated since the original TTP EIS documentation; however there has been specific work that has warranted substantial further effort. In particular, additional terrestrial fauna studies have been undertaken to update the earlier TTP EIS information. The original terrestrial fauna studies have been used to refine target species and survey locations for a new fauna survey that was undertaken in November 2012. In turn, the results of this survey will be used to refine methodologies for targeting of a further survey of parts of the project area in the 2013 dry season. Other additional studies include new economic modelling for the KGGP, social impact, air quality, greenhouse gas, safety and noise assessments.

Consistent with the EIS Guidelines, a risk assessment was conducted to identify the full range of potential environmental and other impacts arising from the KGGP Project and to rank the identified risks as the basis for identifying and prioritising the proposed management responses (Chapter 5).
The analysis of identified risks presented in the Draft EIS has been organised around each environmental factor with detailed information presented on the existing environment, potential impacts, management responses and residual impacts. This is intended to allow readers access to a consolidated analysis for each area of environmental interest. Chapter 4 (Existing Environment Overview) provides context to this analysis by providing relevant information at a regional (rather than project) scale. Chapter 10 separately addresses the Matters of National Environmental Significance (Matters of NES) to enable readers to more easily identify how those areas of national interest have been addressed.

1.5 EIS SCOPE

The KGGP Project, subject to the scope of this Draft EIS, comprises the following elements:

- Construction, operation and eventual decommissioning of a 603 km onshore-buried gas transmission pipeline between south of Katherine and Gove.
- Construction and operation of above ground facilities including a compressor station, meter stations, scraper stations, mainline valves and other ancillary facilities.
- Construction of temporary construction camps.
- Construction of temporary and permanent access roads and laydown areas.

Upstream activity from the KGGP (gas supply) and downstream activity (conversion of the Gove refinery to gas) do not form part of the KGGP Project and are not the subject of this Draft EIS. Gas supply will be provided by separate commercial parties and the potential environmental impacts of associated actions will be addressed by those parties consistent with legislative requirements.

Downstream activity will be undertaken by Alcan Gove Pty Limited as operator of the Gove refinery and the potential environmental impacts will be addressed through existing regulatory arrangements pursuant to current obligations under the Mining Management Act. The conversion of the refinery to gas was addressed in the 2004 EIS for the G3 Expansion of the refinery. The G3 Expansion EIS was completed and assessed under the EA Act in 2004. The G3 Expansion was not a controlled action under the EPBC Act.

Although the conversion of the Gove refinery to gas does not form part of the KGGP Project, the benefits from the transition to gas that will accrue to the Gove operations and the region more generally (for example, reduced greenhouse gas emissions at the refinery) have been included in this Draft EIS, where appropriate.

1.6 EIS STRUCTURE

This Draft EIS is presented in two volumes and is structured as follows:

Volume 1 – main Draft EIS report

- The Executive Summary provides a brief outline of the KGGP and a summary of each section of the Draft EIS.
- Chapter 1 provides an introduction to the Draft EIS and background to the KGGP sponsors, the socio-economic objectives and benefits of the KGGP and the environmental assessment process and relevant legislation.
- Chapter 2 provides a detailed project description including project design, schedule, construction commissioning, operations and decommissioning.
- Chapter 3 outlines the pipeline route selection process and alternative proposals considered for the development including alternative pipeline routes.
• Chapter 4 provides an overview of the existing biophysical environment in the vicinity of the project.
• Chapter 5 presents the approach to the environmental risk assessment.
• Chapter 6 provides risk and impact assessment and management measures for landforms and soils.
• Chapter 7 provides risk and impact assessment and management measures for hydrology and water quality.
• Chapter 8 provides risk and impact assessment and management measures for terrestrial flora.
• Chapter 9 provides risk and impact assessment and management measures for aquatic and terrestrial fauna.
• Chapter 10 provides risk and impact assessment and management measures for Matters of NES.
• Chapter 11 provides risk and impact assessment and management measures for conservation values within the vicinity of the project.
• Chapter 12 provides risk and impact assessment and management measures for air quality and global greenhouse gas emissions.
• Chapter 13 provides risk and impact assessment and management measures for Aboriginal culture and heritage values of the area.
• Chapter 14 presents a summary of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) undertaken for the project.
• Chapter 15 discusses economic considerations including employment benefit, business opportunities, economic benefit and indigenous communities.
• Chapter 16 summarises the health and safety issues pertaining to the design, construction and operational phases of the KGGP.
• Chapter 17 describes the KGGP Environmental Management System, project environmental commitments and Environmental Management Plans, which are described in more detail in Appendix O.
• A glossary and list of acronyms and references.
• A compendium of selected A3, high resolution maps drawn from main Draft EIS.

Volume 2 – Appendices

The technical reports upon which the Draft EIS has relied, and detailed maps of the pipeline route and associated infrastructure, are presented in the Appendices.

1.7 EIS CONTENT

EIS Guidelines (Appendix P) were prepared by the NT Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) to guide the content of this Draft EIS. The guidelines were released for public comment in December 2012 for a period of three weeks.

The guidelines are based on the initial outline of the KGGP proposal submitted in the Notice of Intent (NOI) (ELA 2012a). It is recognised that not all matters indicated in the guidelines may be relevant to all aspects of the proposal. Conversely, the guidelines are not seen as exhaustive and have not been interpreted as such. Any matters emerging as worthy of assessment from scientific studies, project design changes, public consultation process have been incorporated into this Draft EIS.

To facilitate cross-referencing of this Draft EIS with the guidelines, a table indicating where each requirement of the guideline has been principally addressed in the document has been provided in Appendix R.
The qualifications and experience of the people who have prepared this EIS are provided in Appendix T.

1.8 ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVAL PROCESS

In November 2012 the NT EPA determined that the KGGP Project required environmental assessment at the level of EIS. The Commonwealth Government subsequently determined that the KGGP Project was a ‘controlled action’ requiring assessment and approval under the EPBC Act (2012/6605). The controlling provisions under the EPBC Act are:

- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A).
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A).

The Commonwealth Government advised the proponent on 9 April 2013 that the project will undergo accredited assessment under the NT EA Act. Consequently, the KGGP Project will be assessed under Northern Territory environmental assessment process and the outcomes of that assessment will be provided to the Commonwealth Government to inform approval processes under the EPBC Act.

1.8.1 Northern Territory environmental approval process

The KGGP will be assessed and approved in accordance with the provisions of the EA Act and the Energy Pipelines Act respectively. The key additional approvals and regulatory requirements for construction and operation of the KGGP Project are set out in Section 1.9. Implementation of the environmental assessment process conducted under the EA Act is the responsibility of the NT EPA and the NT Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment.

The EA Act provides for the assessment of the environmental effects of development proposals and for the protection of the environment. The outcomes of the assessment conducted under the EA Act are not approvals but function to inform and advise the approvals required for a development under other laws of the Northern Territory. In the case of the KGGP Project, the recommendations flowing from environmental assessment will inform the construction and operational consent required under the Energy Pipelines Act, issued under the authority of the Minister for Mines and Energy.

The environmental assessment process commences with the lodgement of a Notice of Intent (NOI) by a proponent. The NOI is reviewed by the NT EPA in consultation with relevant Government advisory bodies to determine whether formal environmental assessment is required at the level of a Public Environment Report or an Environmental Impact Statement. Alcan Gove Pty Limited lodged a NOI for the KGGP Project on 5 November 2012 and the NT EPA subsequently determined that an EIS was required.

Draft Guidelines for the preparation of the EIS were then prepared by the NT EPA and were publicly released for community comment between 8 and 31 December 2012. The Guidelines were finalised on 14 January 2013 and provided to Pacific Aluminium (Appendix P). The Guidelines establish the matters that are required to be addressed in the EIS for the KGGP Project.
Pacific Aluminium is responsible for preparing this Draft EIS for community and Government comment. The NT EPA will forward all comments received on the Draft EIS to Pacific Aluminium, which will then prepare a Supplement to the Draft EIS responding to the issues raised. Together, the Draft EIS and the Supplement constitute the finalised EIS documentation.

Upon lodgement of the Supplement document by Pacific Aluminium, the NT EPA will prepare an assessment report for the KGGP Project and provide the report to the Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment. The Minister will provide a copy of the assessment report to the Minister for Mines and Energy to inform decisions on issuing construction and operational consent for the KGGP Project under the Energy Pipelines Act. Upon completion of the assessment report for the KGGP, the NT EPA will provide public advice as to where copies of the completed EIS and assessment report can be viewed.

In providing a copy of the assessment report, the Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment may also make written comment. If the comment is contrary to the assessment report, the Minister must advise the NT EPA why the comment is contrary and table this advice in the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory.

The EA Act (section 8A) provides that, if in considering licences for the KGGP Project the Minister for Mines and Energy makes a decision that is contrary to the assessment report, the Minister must advise the NT EPA as to the reasons and table this in the Legislative Assembly.

### 1.8.2 Commonwealth environmental approval process

The Northern Territory Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment will provide a copy of the NT EPA assessment report to the Commonwealth Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities for consideration in approving the KGGP Project under the provisions of the EPBC Act. The Commonwealth Minister has a period of six weeks to consider the grant of approval unless additional information is required.

Other Commonwealth approval requirements are set out in Section 1.9.

### 1.9 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS

The KGGP will be constructed and operated in accordance with a range of Northern Territory and Commonwealth legislation relating to planning, environmental assessment and management, and indigenous cultural heritage.

#### 1.9.1 Northern Territory legislation

The key Northern Territory legislation applicable to the KGGP Project is described in Table 1-1.

#### 1.9.2 Key Commonwealth legislation

The key Commonwealth legislation applicable to the KGGP Project is described in Table 1-2.
### Table 1-1: Key Northern Territory legislation applicable to the KGGP Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEGISLATION</th>
<th>MATTERS REQUIRING APPROVAL OR CONSIDERATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal Land Act</td>
<td>Entering Aboriginal freehold lands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Pipelines Act</td>
<td>Accessing land for surveys and pipeline consent to construct and consent to operate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Assessment Act</td>
<td>Impacts on the environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Act</td>
<td>Disturbance of sites of Aboriginal archaeology, Macassan or European heritage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lands Acquisition Act</td>
<td>Access for surveys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act</td>
<td>Identification and protection of Aboriginal sacred sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Lands Act</td>
<td>Land clearing on pastoral lands (noting that there are limitations on application with respect to pipelines)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Act</td>
<td>Land clearing on freehold lands (noting that there are limitations on application with respect to pipelines)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act</td>
<td>Conservation status of wildlife species in the Northern Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management and Pollution Control Act</td>
<td>Solid and hazardous waste disposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Act</td>
<td>Discharge into waterways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water extraction (noting that there are limitations on application with respect to pipelines)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 1-2: Key Commonwealth legislation applicable to the KGGP Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEGISLATION</th>
<th>MATTERS REQUIRING APPROVAL OR CONSIDERATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment Protection and Biodiversity and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</td>
<td>Impacts on listed threatened species and ecological communities and on listed migratory species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976</td>
<td>Negotiations to secure access to land via the grant of an interest in land held by a Land Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Title Act 1993</td>
<td>Consultation about and negotiation of Indigenous Land Use Agreements over impacts on native title rights and interests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.9.3 Technical Standards and Codes of Practice

The most relevant technical standards and codes of practice to the KGGP Project are detailed below.

**Australian Standards (AS 2885)**

The pipeline will be designed, constructed, operated and maintained in accordance with AS 2885 Pipelines – Gas and liquid petroleum. The relevant components of this standard are listed below:

- AS 2885.3-2012: Operation and Maintenance.
- AS 2885.5-2012: Field Pressure Testing.

**APIA Code of Environmental Practice (2009)**

The Australian Pipeline Industry Association (APIA) Code of Environmental Practice Onshore Pipelines (the Code) has been established to define the best practice techniques and methods presently available to mitigate or eliminate the environmental impact of pipeline construction, operation and decommissioning. The code aims to provide guidance and direction in the management of the environmental aspects of pipeline planning, design, construction, operation and decommissioning. The KGGP Project will adhere to the requirements of the Code.

### 1.10 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

To ensure comprehensive consultations are undertaken following the publication of the EIS, Pacific Aluminium has undertaken a stakeholder identification process. The initial stakeholder list compiled in conjunction with the TTP EIS was expanded and updated to capture additional stakeholders who are physically or socially impacted by the KGGP Project. Additional stakeholders were also identified through traditional and social media due to the high level of exposure that the gas allocation of the KGGP Project received.

Landholder and stakeholder engagement with a cross section of potentially impacted parties has commenced. Further ongoing consultations will also take place in parallel with other statutory processes, in addition to those required for this EIS. These include consultations in relation to Aboriginal sacred site protection and in securing access to indigenous and non-indigenous land for the KGGP.

Positive discussions and information sessions about the KGGP Project have been held with the Northern Land Council (NLC) and Aboriginal traditional owners prior to commencing specific land access discussions with traditional owners. These consultations will continue in accordance with the processes described in the Commonwealth *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act* and the *Native Title Act* to secure land holder agreement for access to land for the duration of the project.

Initial engagement has commenced with pastoralists and other land owners to commence discussions in relation to developing agreements to secure an interest in land for KGGP.

Pacific Aluminium has a positive and regular engagement with both the Northern Territory and Federal Governments. Since the commencement of the EIS process, Pacific Aluminium has met with various local, Northern Territory and Federal Government representatives or agencies to provide an overview and status update of the project. Where appropriate, government agencies have provided information and data to form parts of this EIS.

Pacific Aluminium understands that effective stakeholder engagement will be crucial to managing stakeholder aspirations and expectations for the KGGP Project. This is important in ensuring that
stakeholders have a realistic understanding of the opportunities and impacts likely to occur as a result of the project. A Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been developed for the project. A range of communication tools have been designed to support comprehensive communication about the KGGP Project. During the eight week public consultation period, Pacific Aluminium will be conducting information sessions and community consultations.

The stakeholders, including government agencies, consulted in the preparation of this Draft EIS can be found at Appendix S.

1.11 CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT EIS

The NT EPA has determined that this Draft EIS will be made available for comment for a period of eight weeks which commenced on 4 May 2013. This is a longer period than the minimum provided for under the EA Act and will enable full consultation with affected communities.

The availability of the Draft EIS for comment has been advertised in the NT News, Katherine Times and the Arafura Times.

Copies of the Draft EIS have been made available at the following locations:

- NT EPA, 2nd Floor, Darwin Plaza Building, 41 Smith Street Mall, Darwin.
- Pacific Aluminium, 39 – 41 Woods Street, Darwin.
- Pacific Aluminium, 1 John Flynn Drive, Nhulunbuy.
- Minerals and Energy Information Centre, Department of Mines and Energy, 3rd Floor, Paspalis Centrepoint Building, 48 Smith Street Mall, Darwin.
- SEWPaC Library, John Gorton Building, Parkes, Canberra.
- Northern Territory Library (NTL), Parliament House, Darwin.
- Roper Gulf Shire Office, 29 Crawford St, Katherine.
- Roper Gulf Shire: Barunga Community, Barunga; Beswick Community, Beswick; Bulman Community, Bulman.
- East Arnhem Shire Council Office, Corner of Chesterfield Circuit and Franklyn Street, Nhulunbuy.
- Katherine Town Council, Lot 1865 Stuart Highway, Katherine.
- Nhulunbuy Corporation Limited, Endeavour Square Nhulunbuy.
- Dhimirru Aboriginal Corporation, 1620 Arnhem Road, Nhulunbuy.
- Northern Land Council Head Office, 45 Mitchell St, Darwin.
- Northern Land Council Katherine, Lot 5, 29 Katherine Terrace, Katherine.
- Northern Land Council Ngukkur, Balamurra St, Ngukkur.
- Northern Land Council East Arnhem, Endeavour Square, Nhulunbuy.

Representatives from the KGGP Project team will hold a number of community consultation sessions in Darwin, Katherine, Nhulunbuy and communities impacted by the project. This will overcome any potential communication boundaries and enable stakeholders to seek information and thoroughly discuss and understand the project.

Draft EIS feedback and further consultative efforts will be channelled through a project website, community hotline, traditional reply-paid post and email mechanisms (via personal email or feedback page hosted on the website). Comprehensive project information and updates will be available on the project website, and advertised in local news publications as relevant.