

Chapter 15

Social and Economic Considerations

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15 Social and Economic Considerations

This section discusses the potential impacts on diverse social and economic issues relevant to the KGGP Project and the approaches Pacific Aluminium has taken and proposes to take to avoid, minimise or manage undesirable potential impacts. Aboriginal cultural issues such as sacred site management have been addressed in Chapter 13 and are not dealt with in this chapter.

Social and economic impacts are discussed together in this section, in acknowledgement of their interrelationships. This Chapter substantially draws from the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) for the KGGP Project, the full details of which can be found at Appendix M.

15.1 KEY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The key social and economic impacts associated with the KGGP Project are discussed in relation to the following:

- Economic development and employment.
- Community safety.
- Social values and community cohesion.
- Infrastructure and services.
- Unplanned closure.

General mitigation and management strategies have been identified in the following sections and detailed mitigation measures are outlined in the SIMP (Appendix M).

15.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

15.2.1 Maintaining the regional economy for north east Arnhem Land

The primary economic and employment benefits of the KGGP Project are related to the role of the pipeline in sustaining the operation of the existing Gove refinery. In 2012, Rio Tinto undertook a Strategic Review of the on-going feasibility of the Gove refinery, which included an assessment of potential closure or 'mothballing' options. This Review identified that the suspension of refining activities would result in approximately 1,100 direct job losses, leading to a reduction in the population of Nhulunbuy from approximately 4,000 people down to approximately 1,500 people (Rio Tinto Strategic Review, January 2013).

This expected population change may have a range of indirect or flow-on impacts on the local and regional economy, including:

- A significant decrease in the level of expenditure with local businesses who are direct suppliers of goods or services to the operation.
- A drop in local wages, leading to a direct impact on other businesses (including those without a direct supplier relationship to the operation) in the town.
- Significant changes to the local property market due to an oversupply of properties, potentially leading to mortgage stress for current home owners and difficulties in selling properties.

In addition to the economic impacts above, a range of social impacts would occur.

The KGGP Project's role in enabling the continuing operations of the refinery would therefore avoid these impacts and thus sustain approximately 1,100 long-term jobs and the on-going economic benefits of the refinery.

Directly, the KGGP Project would also have a short-term positive effect on the local and regional economy. Construction of the pipeline is expected to occur over a 12 month period, requiring an average workforce of 780 people over this period. The operations phase will require only a very small workforce of approximately 10 people.

An analysis of the economic impacts of the KGGP Project has been undertaken and the detailed report is included at Appendix A.

The assessment identified the economic impacts through a comparison to a Reference Case of curtailing refinery operations and exporting the mined bauxite. The analysis indicates that, over the period 2013 to 2036, the KGGP Project would increase the real economic output of:

- East Arnhem by a cumulative total of \$5,687 million, relative to the reference case (with a net present value of \$2,382 million, using a 7 per cent real discount rate).
- The Northern Territory economy (i.e. real Gross State Product (GSP)) by a cumulative total of \$8,792 million, relative to the reference case (with a net present value of \$3,629 million, using a 7 per cent real discount rate).
- Australia (i.e. real Gross Domestic Product [GDP]) by a cumulative total of \$8,920 million, relative to the reference case (with a net present value of \$3,667 million, using a 7 per cent real discount rate).

This is a substantial amount of economic activity generated by a single project. To place these projected changes in perspective, the discounted present values (using a 7 per cent discount rate) is equivalent to 19.5 per cent of Northern Territory's current GSP, with the average annual increase over the forecast period equivalent to 2.0 per cent of current GSP.

More importantly than the projected change in economic output, is the projected change in real income. Compared to changes in real economic output, real income is a better measure of the changes in the economic welfare of residents as it accounts for income transfers (including profit repatriation) and any changes in terms of trade. It is essentially the income that is available to the residents of a region to save or to spend.

Over the period 2013 to 2036, the KGGP Project is projected to increase the real income of:

- East Arnhem by a cumulative total of \$1,488 million, relative to the Reference Case (with a net present value of \$570 million, using a 7 per cent real discount rate)
- The Northern Territory by a cumulative total of \$2,729 million, relative to the reference case (with a net present value of \$1,098 million, using a 7 per cent real discount rate)
- Australia by a cumulative total of \$6,188 million, relative to the reference case (with a net present value of \$2,481 million, using a 7 per cent real discount rate).

To place these numbers in perspective, the discounted present values (using a 4 per cent discount rate) are equivalent to a one-off increase in the *average* real income of all current residents of the East Arnhem region and Northern Territory of approximately \$3,500 and \$5,200 per person, respectively.

15.2.2 Employment and training

Although the construction workforce would be significant, opportunities would be very short-term in nature, and positions would largely need to be filled by specialist workers with pipeline competency, particularly for management and supervisory positions.

The small populations of the communities along the pipeline route, and the broad skills profiles of these communities, indicate that sourcing specialist workers from the local area will be challenging. In particular, a number of barriers to local and Aboriginal employment in the area are acknowledged and Pacific Aluminium will apply management measures to overcome these.

Barriers to local and Aboriginal employment in the KGGP Project may include:

- Low work-readiness, skills, and education levels.
- A low willingness by local people to become involved in training and employment opportunities that are located away from their home communities.
- Proposed FIFO rosters that may be intensive or incompatible with community and family responsibilities.
- Settling in workers' camps or local towns with different socio-economic dynamics may be difficult for some workers.

Opportunities

Once potential barriers to employment have been thoroughly assessed, Pacific Aluminium will engage with the Project's primary contractor and local stakeholders to develop local and Aboriginal employment targets for the KGGP Project. These targets would be realistically defined based on the socio-economic context, and previous experience in other remote communities.

Training opportunities afforded by the KGGP Project are likely to be limited, given the short-term construction period and the project's requirement for highly specialised skills sets. The timeframes of construction limit the potential for apprenticeships and traineeships, as well as for longer term on-the-job training, mentoring and career progression. Community expectations and aspirations in relation to employment and training opportunities would be closely monitored and managed by Pacific Aluminium and would be a core component of the community consultation program prior to construction.

A range of benefit 'enhancement' measures would be applied to maximise the benefits for local employment and training opportunities. In particular, Pacific Aluminium would develop a Local Employment Plan which would outline the planned approach to sourcing a construction and operations workforce. This Plan would be developed in close consultation with the KGGP Project's primary contractor and local government stakeholders. The Local Employment Plan would include an employment preference to ensure that opportunities are afforded to local and Aboriginal people where the skills and qualifications requirements of employment positions could be adequately met.

Although the provision of training opportunities prior to construction would be limited, Pacific Aluminium would work through its existing Indigenous Training Program at Gove operations to identify and provide appropriate short-term training to maximise local employment outcomes. To maximise training success, training and employment for the KGGP Project would need to be linked to longer-term sustainable employment opportunities in Nhulunbuy. As such, Pacific Aluminium would work to define clear links between training, short-term pipeline construction employment, and longer-term sustainable employment at the company's Gove operations (or with other local and regional employers).

15.2.3 Business

Engagement undertaken to date indicates that stakeholders are largely aware of the specialised workforce requirements for the construction of the KGGP. Many stakeholders have identified that the key economic opportunities of the KGGP Project may be more indirect, specifically through business and procurement opportunities, and indirect (sub-contractor) employment.

In particular, opportunities to provide the following ancillary KGGP Project functions may be important to local businesses:

- Workforce camp management.
- Trench preparation.
- Water cartage.
- Movement of pipes.
- Trucking and transport.
- Equipment hire.
- Cultural heritage and environmental services.

Business development outcomes from past projects in the area give an indication of some of the challenges and barriers that could occur in relation to the KGGP Project, including:

- Local business tendering for works at inflated prices.
- Limited capacity among local firms to tender or undertake work

Consultation undertaken to date indicates that strong interest from the local business community would be likely. Many of the existing businesses in the local area may require further capacity to become engaged in the Project, and so a range of management strategies would be applied by Pacific Aluminium to maximise opportunities over the short- and long-term.

In particular, a Local Procurement Plan would be developed to ensure that fair and reasonable opportunities were provided for local business, industry and labour. Pacific Aluminium will work closely with the primary contractor to develop this Plan and to identify any direct local employment opportunities and packages of works that could be sub-contracted to local providers.

During consultation undertaken to date, stakeholders have emphasised the importance of having early and accurate information about potential supply chain opportunities. Pacific Aluminium would engage with local industry groups, such as the relevant Chamber of Commerce and Contractor Accredited Limited to provide this level of information and facilitate connections with local businesses.

Expectations regarding indirect business opportunities would need to be realistic given that the construction workforce would largely be located outside of towns and the workforce during the operations phase would be small.

Table 15-1 summarises the key economic development and employment impacts of the KGGP Project. Detailed management measures for enhancing these opportunities are described in Section 3.1 of the SIMP (Appendix M).

Table 15-1: Impact summary – economic development and employment

POTENTIAL IMPACT	PHASE	TYPE	SIGNIFICANCE PRE-MITIGATION	SIGNIFICANCE POST-MITIGATION
Sustaining the economic and employment benefits of the refinery at Gove	Construction Operation	Positive	Very high	Very high
Direct employment opportunities for local communities	Construction	Positive	Medium	Medium
Direct training and development opportunities for local communities	Construction	Positive	Low	Medium
Procurement and contracting opportunities for local businesses	Construction Operations	Positive	Low	Medium

15.2.4 Community safety

In stakeholder consultation to date, concerns have been raised regarding the potential for the KGGP project to compromise safety in the community, including:

- Heightened road safety risks due to increased vehicle traffic and damage to road surfaces.
- Potential increase in anti-social behaviours arising from increased incidence of alcohol consumption, drug use and substance issues due to increased availability of these substances.
- Increased spread of communicable diseases.
- Increased risk of gas leaks and explosions.
- Increased theft and vandalism.

The effects of transport and traffic are discussed in Chapter 14. There is community concern (expressed through consultation) that traffic generated by the KGGP Project may worsen the condition of local road surfaces, thereby decreasing road safety for communities. In particular, communities expressed a view that increased traffic could increase road accidents and injuries, as drivers may be unfamiliar with sharing the roads with trucks, and truck drivers may have difficulty seeing at night. This potential impact would be particularly prevalent during construction, where a higher number of equipment and materials delivery vehicles would be traversing the project area. The potential impacts during the operational phase would be less significant as it is likely that only a small number of maintenance vehicles would need to access the area.

Pacific Aluminium will address potential road safety issues by developing a Traffic Management Plan which will outline strategies to minimise the project’s impact on road infrastructure and safety, by for example identifying suitable times to transport equipment. Pacific Aluminium will communicate these strategies to the community in advance of construction and throughout the project’s construction period to ensure that communities are aware of and familiar with the type of traffic to be expected. Road safety awareness education will also be included during community visits or information sessions, so that communities can be familiarised with common road signs and the types of vehicles and equipment that will be moving through the area. Pacific Aluminium will also explore options to collaborate with the NLC and the Road Safety Council of the NT to implement a visual and/or bilingual road safety awareness campaign to inform communities of traffic movement during construction.

Currently, alcohol and substance abuse are existing social issues in a number of communities along the pipeline route. Pacific Aluminium will work with local councils and enforce strict workforce management strategies around alcohol and substance availability to ensure that the project does not exacerbate current problems.

The Northern Territory Department of Health raised a number of concerns around workforce and community safety, including the potential for an increase in communicable diseases, such as sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), should the FIFO workforce stop in transit at Katherine, Nhulunbuy or Darwin. To mitigate potential health risks, Pacific Aluminium would develop a Health Management Plan that will be communicated to the Department of Health and relevant Councils.

Concern is likely among communities along the pipeline corridor about the possibility of gas leaks or explosions. A fire or explosion could impact the ability of communities to carry out traditional practices and activities, while also posing a direct safety risk to people nearby. These risks are addressed in detail in Chapter 16 and a Preliminary Risk Assessment has been prepared (Appendix N). Pacific Aluminium will manage community anxiety around these issues and transparently communicate actual risks, the emergency management strategies in place, and the implications for community practices. Where appropriate, an interpreter would be used to assist in communicating these strategies to affected Aboriginal communities during community information sessions and in communication of the Emergency Management Plan for the project.

Community concern about the potential for theft or vandalism of project property and materials is also likely. The East Arnhem Shire Council noted during consultation that vandalism is already quite prevalent across the broader region, and it is possible that KGGP Project infrastructure could be vulnerable to vandalism. Pacific Aluminium will implement a range of security measures to prevent vandalism occurring and will work with local police to handle any incidents sensitively.

A summary of key potential Project impacts as they relate to community safety issues is provided in Table 15-2. Management measures for mitigating these impacts are described in Section 3.3 of the SIMP (Appendix M).

Table 15-2: Impact summary – community safety

POTENTIAL IMPACT	PHASE	TYPE	SIGNIFICANCE PRE-MITIGATION	SIGNIFICANCE POST-MITIGATION
Heightened road safety risk due to increased movement of traffic and machinery through the Project area	Construction Operations	Negative	Medium	Medium
Potential risk of gas leaks and explosions	Construction Operations	Negative	Medium	Low
Theft and vandalism of Project infrastructure and equipment	Construction Operations	Negative	Low	Low
Increased incidence of communicable disease due to population influx	Construction	Negative	Low	Low

15.2.5 Social values and community cohesion

Nhulunbuy currently serves as a key service centre for the Northern Territory and local government services. The ongoing viability and vitality of this town is therefore linked to the local communities' sense of security and wellbeing. The viability of Nhulunbuy as a town is intrinsically linked to the Gove refinery, the ongoing operation of which is now attached to the ability to access an alternate long term

energy source in the form of gas, facilitated through the KGGP Project. The Social Impact Assessment (Appendix M) reports that anecdotal evidence indicates that uncertainty about the future of the Gove refinery has impacted the social values of the Nhulunbuy community, particularly the local business community. The KGGP Project therefore facilitates an important benefit for local communities in ensuring the on-going operation of the Gove refinery, and offering some security to the local and surrounding communities that the town's function as a regional hub will remain viable.

In Nhulunbuy, the recent uncertainty regarding the future of the refinery has impacted the town's sense of community. Over the past 12-months, the Nhulunbuy Corporation noted an increase in graffiti, a decrease in social harmony and change in the type of people arriving into the town. The perceived transience of the local population has also increased, with the perception that people are now moving into the area only for a short while to work at the mine and refinery.

Many of the communities along the pipeline route are isolated, small and comprised predominantly of Aboriginal people. These communities hold a strong connection to their land and their community, and are marked by distinctive language, cultural, and social practices. Given their remote location, the smaller communities may have had little exposure to other cultural influences and could be sensitive to the presence of newcomers in the area and to any changes in social interactions or traditional network structures.

Given this social context, the introduction of a predominantly non-local workforce may impact existing social values and levels of community cohesion. During consultation, stakeholders expressed concern that the introduction of a predominately single male FIFO workforce may impact community cohesion by exacerbating existing community issues and increasing.

- Competition within communities for employment and/or training opportunities with the KGGP Project.
- Community anxiety related to an increased number of people accessing traditional lands.
- Tension and/or jealousy against the newly introduced non-Indigenous workforce.
- Potential conflicts if cultural awareness and sensitivity is low.
- Anti-social behaviour and abuse towards women
- Prevalence of social ills, such as alcohol consumption and substance abuse

Concerns raised about alcohol and substance abuse were particularly prevalent during consultation for the Social Impact Assessment, and community members expressed that strict and enforceable codes of conduct would need to be imposed on FIFO workers to ensure that existing issues were not exacerbated by the project workforce. It is likely that impacts on social values and community cohesion would be most pronounced during the construction phase of the KGGP Project, given that the pipeline would require only a very small workforce during operations.

The accommodation strategy for the construction workforce aims to mitigate some of these potential issues. The majority of the construction workforce would be housed at camps along the pipeline route. These camps would be self-contained to limit the requirement for workers to interact with local communities. The primary contractor for the Project would also ensure that FIFO workers entered and exited the project area via the most direct airline route possible, thus limiting 'stay overs' in local communities and avoiding potentially negative interactions in regional towns.

Pacific Aluminium would also implement a range of workforce management strategies. In particular, a workforce Code of Conduct will be developed to manage the behaviour of the workforce inside and outside working hours. The implementation of the Code would be strictly enforced by relevant disciplinary action and employment consequences for any reported breaches. Where practical, Pacific Aluminium will engage with the NLC and other local stakeholders during the development of the Code of Conduct to identify particular behaviours that should be encouraged / discouraged among the workforce.

The non-residential workforce will also be required to comply with camp rules and regulations, the development of which would include consideration of concerns raised by local communities.

To improve the workforce’s interaction with communities, cultural awareness training of the project workforce would also be implemented. This would be incorporated into all employee induction training, and would also be rolled out along the pipeline route as different communities and cultural practices are encountered, as the pipeline construction progresses. Respect for cultural differences, access to sacred sites, and expected cultural norms and traditions would be addressed.

A summary of key potential KGGP Project impacts as they relate to issues of social values and community cohesion is provided in Table 15-3. Management measures for mitigating these impacts are described in Section 3.4 of the SIMP (Appendix M).

Table 15-3: Impact summary – social values and community cohesion

POTENTIAL IMPACT	PHASE	TYPE	SIGNIFICANCE PRE-MITIGATION	SIGNIFICANCE POST-MITIGATION
Continued viability and vitality of Nhulunbuy community through sustained operation of the refinery	Construction Operations	Positive	High	High
Increase in community conflict and anxiety related to use of traditional lands and introduction of non-local workforce	Construction	Negative	Medium	Low
Increase in the occurrence of social ills (e.g. alcohol and substance abuse) through the introduction of non-resident workers	Construction	Negative	Medium	Low

Infrastructure and Services

During consultation for the Social Impact Assessment, a number of concerns were raised regarding the ability of existing local infrastructure and services to respond to any changes in demand associated with the KGGP Project. In particular, concerns about the local housing and accommodation market, and local health service provision were raised most strongly.

15.2.6 Housing and accommodation

Provision of suitable and affordable housing is an existing problem in the region. This was noted as a concern across all affected local government areas, including pressures of over-crowding in local communities, and difficulties in accommodating visitors or tourists over the short-term. Local rental rates were also reported to be high (particularly in Katherine and Nhulunbuy), making it difficult for local families and new workers to secure affordable housing.

Although the construction phase of the Project would lead to an influx of approximately 780 workers, the majority of these will be FIFO workers who would be housed in construction camps within the pipeline region. The increased demand for residential housing during construction would therefore be minimal, but is likely to be concentrated in Katherine or Nhulunbuy where the housing markets are very constrained.

Over the longer term, and given the small size of the operations workforce, the operation of the pipeline is not likely to result in any increased housing demand in local towns.

Any potential impacts on housing availability and affordability, particularly from a cumulative perspective, would be monitored in consultation with local Shire Councils so that emerging issues can be quickly identified and addressed. The potential for the construction of the KGGP to coincide with the possible construction of the Mount Todd mine has been noted in consultation as likely to result in a more significant impact on housing and accommodation issues in Katherine.

15.2.7 Health services

Potential impacts of the KGGP Project on existing health services were raised strongly during consultation. The capacity of existing service providers to meet increased demand, particularly during an emergency event was an important issue, given current capacity constraints. While there are hospitals in both Nhulunbuy and Katherine, as well as health centres and community clinics along the pipeline route, the ability of these services to meet increased health service demands, particularly of the construction workforce, was questioned. Local stakeholders were particularly of the view that the KGGP Project would need to demonstrate its own capacity to deal with emergency events, and would also need to provide detailed management measures to deal with mental health, drug, alcohol, sexual health, and other medical issues within the workforce. To the extent possible, all of these issues would need to be dealt with on-site to minimise any potential impacts on local service provision, which is already constrained in some areas.

Pacific Aluminium will liaise with the Northern Territory's Department of Health to develop a Health Management Plan. This Plan will describe the level of medical and emergency services to be provided on-site as well as how emergency medical issues will be dealt with. The primary contractor for the KGGP Project would adhere to this Plan, and the contents would be communicated to the construction workforce to ensure it is implemented across all levels. Pacific Aluminium will also ensure that a qualified emergency response team comprising paramedics and associated vehicles and a health team comprising doctors and nurses will service the construction workforce and deal with minor workforce health and medical requirements. Any requirement for emergency medical evacuation will be managed through an arrangement with a specialist medical evacuation company.

15.2.8 Road infrastructure

Through consultation undertaken for the Social Impact Assessment, stakeholders expressed an expectation that the Central Arnhem Road, or parts thereof, will be upgraded as part of the KGGP Project. Stakeholder sentiment on any potential upgrade was mixed. Stakeholders noted that an upgraded road would allow for improved movements of equipment and supplies to local service providers, such as community health clinics. Conversely, road upgrades would require on-going maintenance costs, and local council representatives questioned the sustainability of upgrading a road if maintenance activities would eventually become a council responsibility. Issues associated with increased access to traditional lands are also of concern in relation to the road upgrade.

An upgrade of the Central Arnhem Road is not envisaged as part of the KGGP Project. Measures, including elements of the Traffic Management Plan, would be put in place to ensure project traffic and use of the Central Arnhem Road does not result in a detrimental impact on road infrastructure.

15.2.9 Impacts on other industry infrastructure

Competing infrastructure requirements have the potential to impact other community, business and government sectors, particularly in Katherine where the industry base is wider. The Department of Defence in particular noted the necessity for KGGP Project infrastructure to be designed with consideration for the Department’s external planning requirements, and also to ensure that local services, such as the power supply, would not be impacted by project’s requirements, to the detriment of other organisations or industries that are reliant upon that source.

The final design and location of the pipeline and all associated infrastructure will be completed with full consideration of these issues. Environmental controls, such as buffers and monitoring, will be developed to mitigate any impacts on surrounding industry, services and associated infrastructure.

The workforce during the operational phase of the project would be small and located at Katherine and Nhulunbuy. The long term operation of the pipeline is therefore not likely to result in increased demand on infrastructure and services in the project area, beyond current demand levels associated with the operation of the Gove refinery.

A summary of potential project-related impacts on local infrastructure and services is provided in Table 15-4. Management measures for mitigating these impacts are described in Section 3.5 of the SIMP (Appendix M).

Table 15-4: Impact summary – infrastructure and services

POTENTIAL IMPACT	PHASE	TYPE	SIGNIFICANCE PRE-MITIGATION	SIGNIFICANCE POST-MITIGATION
Decreased housing and accommodation affordability and availability in local communities	Construction	Negative	Medium	Low
Increased pressure on local health and emergency services due to increased non-resident population	Construction	Negative	Low	Low
Potential disruption to the functioning of other industry infrastructure	Construction	Negative	Low	Low

15.2.10 Unplanned closure

Pacific Aluminium has considered the risks if the KGGP Project is forced to cease operations earlier than predicted or if the construction of the pipeline is not completed as planned.

Given the critical importance of the KGGP Project in supplying an energy source to the existing Gove refinery, the closure / non-completion of the pipeline would directly result in the closure or ‘mothballing’ of the refinery. Closure of the Gove refinery would have a range of direct and indirect socio-economic impacts for local and regional communities. In particular, loss of job opportunities, local business and income opportunities, and changes to the local property market would likely be significant, and would have a considerable knock-on effect for local and regional households.

To manage these potential impacts, and in line with Pacific Aluminium’s closure planning commitments, a Closure Management Plan would be developed for the KGGP. This Plan would link with closure management planning for the refinery.

Pacific Aluminium would maintain a social risk register on site that would proactively identify social risks associated with unplanned closure so that these can be appropriately managed in a timely manner.

A summary of potential project-related impacts of unplanned closure is provided in Table 15-5.

Table 15-5: Impact summary – unplanned closure

POTENTIAL IMPACT	PHASE	TYPE	SIGNIFICANCE PRE-MITIGATION	SIGNIFICANCE POST-MITIGATION
Unforeseen closure event or non-completion of the pipeline project	Decommissioning	Negative	High	Medium

15.3 CONCLUSION

The KGGP Project would have a range of direct and indirect benefits for local communities. Directly, the creation of employment opportunities would be an important benefit for the broader economy and labour force, although opportunities would be short-term over the construction phase (approximately 12 months) and would likely involve a highly specialised workforce. A range of appropriate and targeted management measures would be applied to ensure that a degree of benefit is experienced by local and affected communities. Indirectly and over the longer term, the primary benefit of the KGGP Project would be through its role in sustaining the ongoing operations of the Gove Refinery. This would facilitate the ongoing viability of approximately 1,100 jobs and a range of associated local business and household income opportunities.

Some potential negative impacts may be experienced by local and regional communities. The majority of these would be prevalent during the construction phase and over the short-term, where construction activities and the presence of a primarily non-resident workforce may impact on the community. In particular, stakeholders have raised concern about increased unauthorised access to Aboriginal traditional lands, as well as the possibility of local communities not having the full capacity or capability to engage in Project-related opportunities. Concerns have been raised that a non-local workforce and increased non-local access into the area may compromise community safety through increased road traffic risks and the potentially increased availability and abuse of alcohol and other substances.

Over the longer term, during operations, it is not likely that significant negative impacts would be experienced as ongoing maintenance activities would require the presence of only a small workforce and should be minimally invasive.

Pacific Aluminium will apply a range of management and mitigation measures to enhance benefits of the KGGP Project and minimise negative impacts. These are detailed in the SIMP for the project (Appendix M).