

Submission on the referral

RTA Gove Operations Pty Ltd – Closure Works at Pond 2 West

This submission is made under regulation 53 of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020

Government authority: NT Health. Public Health Division. Medical Entomology Branch.

Summary: The works should be carried out in a manner that prevents the creation of legacy mosquito breeding sites, which could otherwise negatively impact nearby communities and amenity.

Section of Referral	Theme or issue	Comment
Main report – section 5 Strategic and Statutory Context	Relevant Legislation and Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Public and Environmental Health Act 2011 and associated Public and Environmental Health Regulations 2014 are applicable to the proposed works, with regards to preventing the creation of mosquito breeding sites.
Main report – section 5 Strategic and Statutory Context	Public Health and amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential works within and nearby to tidal areas has the high potential to create new mosquito breeding sites, which could impact the public health and amenity of nearby communities, and the future amenity of the rehabilitated land. The Medical Entomology guideline ‘Guidelines for preventing mosquito breeding sites associated with construction practice near tidal areas’ is applicable to the proposed project. In general, the finished surface should be completely free draining. Sediment control devices that pond water should be removed when no longer required. Overall, the rehabilitation of the very large Pond 2 would carry a greater risk than this project. However, it is still recommended that a post works inspection be carried out during the wet season to assess if man-made mosquito breeding sites (wet season ponding) have been created. This should be carried out by the land handover authority, although Medical Entomology is happy to assist with post works inspections.
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