

Submission on the referral

Southern Cross Agri Pty Ltd– Sweetwater Agricultural Development-Stage 1

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

Government authority: Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet

Section of Referral	Theme or issue	Comment
Section 9.1 Community and Economy	Community and Economy Workforce	<p>The Referral outlines the potential economic benefits of extending irrigation supply to Sweetwater.</p> <p>Noting that Stage 1 of the Sweetwater development will commence as dryland cropping, the Economic Impact Statement (EIS) should clearly outline the economic benefits at the development stage, including workforce numbers for construction and operations and local hire targets.</p> <p>The assessment of economic benefits provided in the EIS should clearly identify targets and how the proponent will support local employment, particularly Aboriginal employment, and opportunities for NT communities and businesses.</p>
Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)	Community and Economy Information and analysis gaps	<p>The EIS should demonstrate that the project will maximise benefits and minimise costs for the Territory.</p> <p>The ToR includes the requirement for the proponent to undertake an Economic Impact Assessment. This assessment should align with NT EPA guidance for preparing an Economic and Social Impact Assessment and use current information and standards.</p> <p>Matters to incorporate in the ToR could include whole of lifecycle costs, impacts on the competition for labour and materials, externalities and key opportunity costs, Stage 1-specific workforce numbers and sourcing, local procurement targets and strategies, and cumulative economic impacts alongside other Ord developments.</p>