Stuart Plateau Pipeline

Pre-Referral Screening

APA SPP Pty Ltd

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Prepared by:

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SLR Project No.: 680.030274.00001

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Revision Record

Revision	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Authorised By
0.1	27 September 2024	Natalie Calder	Jill Woodworth	
1.0	17 October 2024	Natalie Calder	Jill Woodworth	Craig Smith

Basis of Report

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Australia (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with APA Group Limited (the Client). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

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SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Client and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.

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1.0 Introduction

APA SPP Pty Ltd (APA) proposes to construct and operate the Sturt Plateau Pipeline (the Project). The Project will receive gas from Tamboran B2 Pty Ltd's (Tamboran's) approved Beetaloo Basin Shenandoah South Exploration and Appraisal Program and transport it to the AGP. The Project is located approximately 50 km south of Daly Waters, and 80 km north of Elliott, in the Roper Gulf Region of the NT.

The AGP, APA Group's existing bidirectional gas pipeline, extends from the south of the NT to Darwin (in the north), transporting natural gas to Darwin, Alice Springs, and regional centres, primarily for power generation.

The Disturbance Footprint for the project is defined as the Project's combined construction footprint and is approximately 146 hectares (ha) comprising:

- the construction right of way (CROW) for the Sturt Plateau Pipeline.
- construction footprints for the Shenandoah Facility and Sturt Plateau Facility.
- the temporary construction camp, and
- additional work areas (including truck turnarounds, vegetation storage, horizontal bore entry and exit locations, and line pipe storage areas) required to facilitate construction.

The Disturbance Footprint is located within the larger Project Area comprising a 500 m wide corridor for the proposed pipeline, land for surface facilities at the start and end of the pipeline and the temporary construction camp.

2.0 Purpose

In accordance with the Northern Territory (NT) *Environment Protection Act* 2019 (EP Act) and the *Environment Protection Regulations 2020* (EP Regulations) an activity must be referred to the NT Environment Protection Authority (EPA) if the activity is inherently hazardous or has to the potential have a significant impact on the environment. The potential for a significant impact is assessed by the context and intensity of the proposed activity's impact and the sensitivity value and quality of the environment proposed to be impacted (considering the duration, magnitude and geographic extent) by s 5 of the EP Act. The impact may be direct, indirect or cumulative (s 10 of the EP Act).

The NT EPA pre-referral screening tool as Appendix 1 to the *Environmental Impact Assessment Guideline for Proponents; Referring a Proposal to the NT EPA* (NT EPA 2022a) has been completed. In completing the pre-referral screening tool the *NT EPA Environmental Factors and Objectives* (NT EPA 2022b) have been considered.

3.0 Pre-Referral Screening

3.1 Part 1 – General Screening Questions

The pre-screening questions that inform the screening tool are provided in **Figure 1** (NT EPA 2022a) are summarised below:

- Question 1: Is the industry type or activity inherently dangerous?
- Question 2: Does the site have or is likely to have environmental values that can be impacted (directly, indirectly or cumulatively)?

- Question 3: Will the activity directly impact the area of influence and the region's environmental values through construction and operation from scheduling, inputs and outputs?
- Question 4: Following completion of the activity will ongoing impacts or residual impacts occur to environmental values?
- Question 5: Is there potential for cumulative impacts to environmental values with other proposals and actions?

3.2 Part 2 – Checklist

The NT EPA Pre-referral screening tool checklist (NT EPA 2022a) has been completed in **Table 1** considering the context and framework of the NT EPA's environmental factors and objectives (NT EPA 2022b).

Figure 1 Pre-referral screening tool Part 1 Screening questions for the Project (NT EPA 2022)

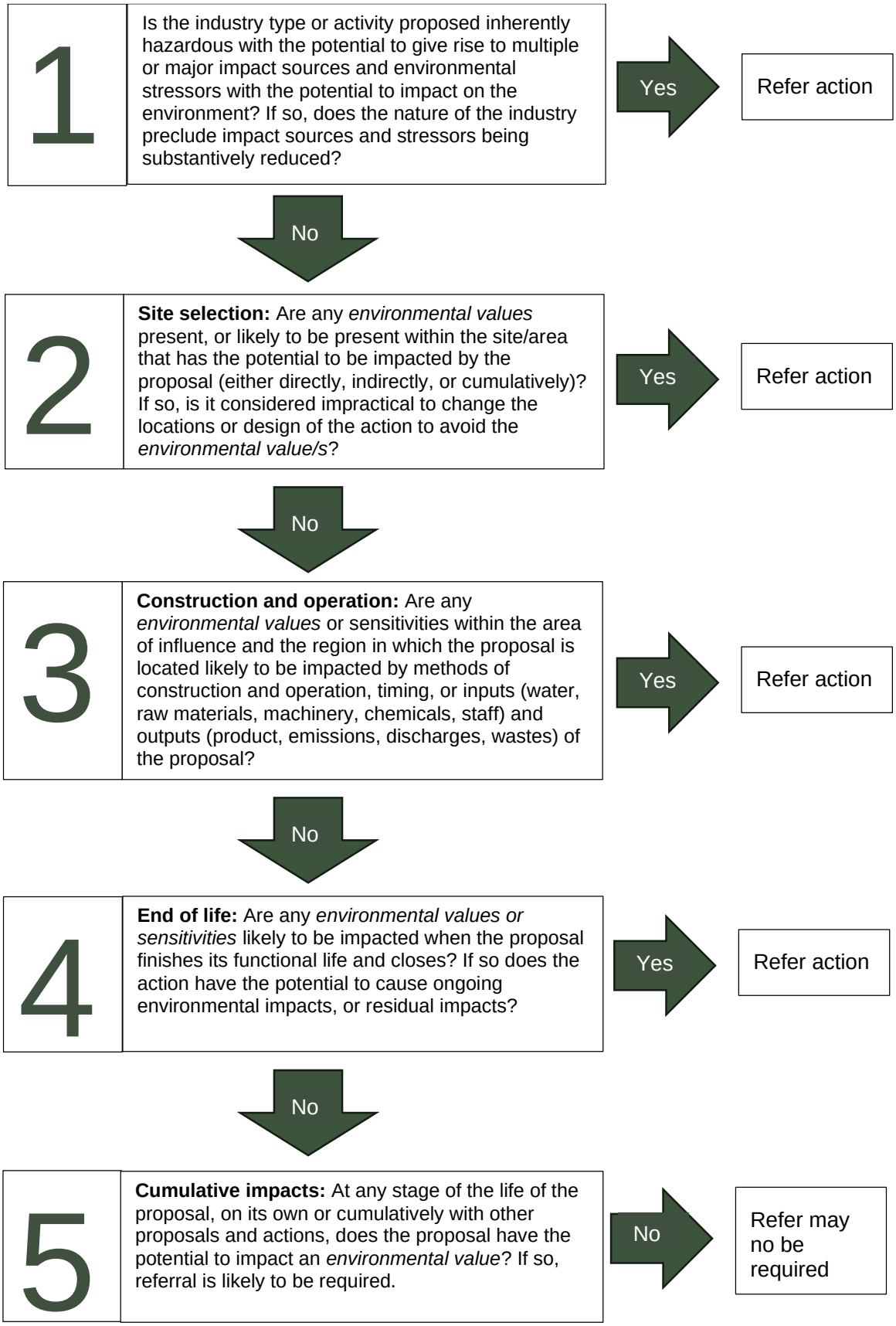

Table 1: Pre-referral screening tool Part 2 – Checklist for the Project (adapted from NT EPA 2022a)

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Background information	Summary of key environmental values and sensitivities of relevance to the Project	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5. If answer is 'yes' referral is required						Inherent Impacts without mitigation
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?				Q1		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	
				Yes No	☐ ☒					
Land	**Landforms** Objective: Conserve the variety and integrity of distinctive physical landforms.	There are no know craters, gorges, ranges, caves, massifs, escarpments, plateau's, monuments or tourism related to landforms within the Project area.	The Project is located within the Sturt Plateau Bioregion in the Carpentaria Basin. The bioregion comprises flat to gently undulating plains, with little local relief.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	The topography of the project area is relatively flat without distinctive physical landforms. The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on the variety and integrity of distinctive landforms. No further assessment is required.

	Terrestrial Environmental Quality
	Objective: Protect the quality and integrity of land and soils so that environmental values are supported and maintained.
		• The Project is located within an area of low to moderate erosion risk.
		• The Project area is generally moderately well to well drained with moderately to highly permeable soils.
		• Slopes across the Project area are generally less than 2% with generally slow to very slow run off.
		• Soils in the project area are generally categorised as:
		  ○ Czs: Red, yellow and brown clayey soil; residual sand; some ferruginous rubble.
		  ○ Czb: Dark grey and brown clayey soil.
		• The pH, salinity and sodicity of topsoil is within the optimal range to promote revegetation.
		• Historic land use is primarily pastoral with low risk of contamination.
		• The Project is a linear infrastructure Project with a total disturbance footprint of approximately 150 ha.
		• Construction will be staged with works commencing at one end of the pipeline and progressing in one direction to the other end of the pipeline.
		• The construction methodology involves the selective stripping of soils with stockpiles of topsoil and sub-soils to be separated to prevent mixing. Sub-soils will be reinstated in the pipeline trench and covered with topsoil to ensure adequate depth of top soils is achieved to promote revegetation.
		• Disturbed areas will be rehabilitated progressively as works progress from one end of the pipeline to the other end.
		• Construction of the Project is planned to occur during July-November when rainfall in the region is generally low.
		• There is low risk of acid sulfate soils.
			Sections of the Project area intersect habitat units (i.e. seasonally inundated black soil plains) that are characteristic of the Mitchell Grass Downs bioregion.
			The majority of the Project area is relatively undisturbed with no history of potentially soil contaminating activities.
			The surrounding land is used for pastoral purposes to support cattle grazing.
				Yes
				No
				Uncertain
				N/A
						☐
						☒
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										Inherent impacts:
										• Clearing of vegetation providing stabilising surface cover increasing the risk of erosion
										• Excavation of soils
										• Potential accidental spills/loss of containment of fuels and chemicals resulting in hot spots of contamination.
										The impact to the quality and integrity of land and soils from the Project is not considered to be significant because:
										• The Project is not located within an area of high erosion risk
										• Soil properties are within the optimal range for revegetation success
										• The Project is linear in nature with a discrete disturbance footprint that traverses a range of land units
										• Climatic conditions at the time of construction will reduce the potential for soil loss due to rainfall
										• Construction methodology will reduce the risk of adversely impacting soil quality and integrity
										• The Project is not an inherently contaminating activity
										• Accidental spills or loss of containment of fuels or chemicals will not result in significant environmental harm.
										The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on the quality and integrity of the land and soils. No further assessment is required.

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Background information	Summary of key environmental values and sensitivities of relevance to the Project	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5. If answer is 'yes' referral is required						Inherent Impacts without mitigation
	Terrestrial Ecosystems Objective: Protect terrestrial habitats to maintain environmental values including diversity, ecological integrity ecological functioning.	• No TPWC Act or EPBC Act threatened or migratory species were identified during the 2024 ecology survey. Three threatened species were observed incidentally in the Project area. Eight species have been determined to have a moderate or high likelihood of occurring within the Project area. • No TPWC Act or EPBC Act listed threatened flora or ecological communities occur within the Project area. • No groundwater-dependent ecosystems (GDEs) are present within the Project Area, or likely to be impacted by the works. • 158 native flora species and 119 native fauna species were observed during field assessment of the Project Area in May/June 2024. • Introduced flora species occur within the Project area commensurate with those occurring with the surrounding land use (cattle grazing) isolated to existing tracks and areas of prior surface disturbance. • One introduced animal species (feral cat) was observed in Survey Area. • A desktop search returned nine declared weeds (under the *Weeds Management Act 2001*) as potentially being present on site. • The Project area intersects a low potential groundwater dependent ecosystem. • Frew Ponds Historical Reserve is the only park or reserve that occurs within 30 km of the Project area. The Project is ~9.6 km from the Reserve and as such the Project will not impact the Reserve. • There are no Sites of Conservation Significance or Sites of Botanical Significance within 30 km of the Project area. • An estimated 70 ML of water is required for construction and will be sourced from existing and new bores within the Project area and from outside of the Project area from bores owned by Tamboran. • The high-level fauna noise assessment indicated that fauna (including domesticated mammals) exposed to the predicted construction noise are unlikely to experience adverse impacts.	The Project area is located within the Sturt Plateau Bioregion. TPWC Act and EPBC Act listed threatened species occur within the vicinity of the Project area but were not observed within the Project area itself. Habitat potentially supporting threatened species occurs within the Project area. Sensitive and/or significant vegetation (wetlands and riparian vegetation) are present within and adjacent to the Project area.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☐ ☒ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	Inherent impacts: • Direct removal of native vegetation and fauna habitat • Mortality of fauna species and impacts to threatened species breeding places. • Introduction of pest flora and fauna species. The impact to terrestrial ecosystems from the Project is considered to be significant because: • Up to 22 ha of sensitive and/or significant vegetation (riparian vegetation) will be cleared during construction of the Project. The terrestrial ecosystems environmental factor requires further consideration because there will be unavoidable impact to sensitive or significant vegetation.
Water	**Hydrological Processes** Objective: Protect the hydrological regimes of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values including ecological health, land	• Project area topography is slightly undulating and drainage paths are undefined. Surface runoff typically occurs as shallow overland flow with ponding observed along minor drainage paths.	The implementation of effective control measures on stormwater runoff or receiving water quality will ensure that the potential water quality impacts of the Project will be adequately managed during the Project's construction and decommissioning phases.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	Inherent impacts: • Diversion of stormwater flows by backfilled pipeline trench • Surface facilities are flooded or divert existing surface water flows

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Background information	Summary of key environmental values and sensitivities of relevance to the Project	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5. If answer is 'yes' referral is required						Inherent Impacts without mitigation
	uses and the welfare and amenity of people are maintained	• The SPP crosses the southern end of an ephemeral waterbody in the Newcastle Creek catchment, with a surface area of 500km^2 at overflow levels. • Flood assessments for the Project area (1% AEP) indicate flood depths up to 2 to 3 m where the pipeline crosses the large ephemeral waterbody upstream of the Stuart Highway and flood depths up to 2 m at a backwater area downstream of the Stuart Highway. • Surface facilities are located outside of the deeper areas of flooding along the pipeline route. However, modelling shows that the Shenandoah facility will be most impacted by a 1% AEP flood event, with relatively low flood depths of 0.4 m and velocities of 0.4 m/s. • The Project will have a negligible impact on groundwater-surface water interactions as trenches for pipeline construction are generally shallow (of the order of 1.2 m to 1.5 m) and will be backfilled and compacted after installation of the pipeline. • The use of trench breakers will prevent the backfilled trench from becoming a preferential pathway for sub-surface flow. • The Project occurs within the area of the Georgina Wiso water allocation plan.	The Project has been assessed against the significant impact criteria presented in the DCCEEW guideline (DCCEEW, 2022). Due to the relatively small and temporary surface disturbance caused by the Project, it will not have a significant impact on water resources.						• Surface movement due to pipeline buoyancy in inundated areas The impact to hydrological processes from the Project is not considered to be significant because: • The construction method aims to restore existing surface levels after the pipeline is buried • The pipeline will have no measurable impact on flooding or stormwater flows • Impacts to surface water flows can be readily addressed through engineering and design • The Project has been assessed against the significant impact criteria presented in the DCCEEW guideline (DCCEEW, 2022). Due to the relatively small and temporary surface disturbance caused by the Project, it will not have a significant impact on water resources. The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on hydrological processes. No further assessment is required.
	Inland Water Environmental Quality 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 Project crosses a large ephemeral water body within the Newcastle Creek catchment. • The Project area intersects one first and one second order mapped minor watercourse. Riparian vegetation in this watercourse provides instream ecological processes and physical stability of the waterway. • The Project's construction is scheduled for the dry season when the monthly average rainfall ranges from 0 mm – 30 mm from April to October. • Trenching of the pipeline will not impact on water quality within the identified waterways or the ephemeral water body during this period. • Risk of spills of fuel, lubricants, or sewage from construction activities, which could degrade surface water quality, however this risk is addressed in the CEMP.	The Project area intersects one first and one second order mapped minor watercourse and is located near the edge of an ephemeral water body within the Newcastle Creek catchment.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	Inherent impacts: • Potential to adversely impact surface water quality due to sediment in surface water run off • Potential accidental spills/loss of containment of fuels and chemicals resulting in hot spots of contamination. The impact to hydrological processes from the Project is not considered to be significant because: • The Project's construction is scheduled for the dry season when the monthly average rainfall ranges from 0 mm – 30 mm from April to October. • Trenching of the pipeline will not impact on water quality within the identified waterways or the ephemeral water body during this period. The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on inland water environmental quality. No further assessment is required.

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Background information	Summary of key environmental values and sensitivities of relevance to the Project	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5. If answer is 'yes' referral is required						Inherent Impacts without mitigation
	Aquatic Ecosystems Objective: Protect aquatic habitats to maintain environmental values including biodiversity, ecological integrity and ecological functioning	• The Project crosses a large ephemeral water body within the Newcastle Creek catchment. • The Project area intersects one first and one second order DEPWS mapped minor watercourses. Riparian vegetation in these watercourses provides instream ecological processes and physical stability of the waterway. • The Project area does not overlap with any RAMSAR wetlands or wetlands identified in the directory of important wetlands.	• The Project area intersects one first and one second order mapped minor watercourse and is located near the edge of an ephemeral water body within the Newcastle Creek catchment.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	Inherent impacts: • Direct removal of riparian vegetation • Potential introduction of weeds. The impact to aquatic ecosystems from the Project is not considered to be significant because: • The works are short in duration (approximately 6 months) and will occur mostly in the dry season. • Works will be staged to avoid ground disturbing works when the ground is saturated or during the wet season. • Rehabilitation or disturbed areas will occur prior to the onset of the wet season. • Much of the disturbed areas will be returned to pre-disturbance conditions as part of the rehabilitation works.
Sea	**Coastal Processes** Objective: Protect the geophysical and hydrological processes that shape coastal morphology so that the environmental values of the coast are maintained.	No disturbance will be required within the marine or coastal environment. Pipe for the Project will be delivered by ship to the Port of Darwin. Existing hardstand at the Marine Industry Park CUF is proposed to be used as a temporary laydown are for pipes. The CUF does not form part of the Project Area.	The Project will not impact coastal processes, marine environmental quality or marine ecosystems.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	Not applicable.
	Marine Environmental Quality Objective: Protect the quality and productivity of water, sediment and biota so that environmental values are maintained			Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	
	Marine Ecosystems Objective: Protect marine habitats to maintain environmental values including biodiversity, ecological integrity and ecological functioning.			Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☒	
Air	**Air Quality** Objective: Protect air quality and minimise emissions and their impact so that environmental values are maintained.	The Project is located in generally flat terrain, with no significant topographical features or complex terrain that would affect the dispersion of air pollutants from the Project site. There are no significant potential anthropogenic dust emission sources in Project area. The area is sparsely populated. The closest human sensitive receptors not associated with construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the Project are Dunmarra roadhouse and Hayfield Station homestead which are greater than 3 km from the Project Area. The Project area experiences hot summers and warm winters. Rainfall is very low during the dry season (May to September), with most rainfall originating from monsoonal systems that approach from the north during the wet season (November to March). The inter-annual variability of rainfall (variation of rainfall from one year to the next) is high. Wind direction influenced by the seasons is predominantly from the east to southeast in the	• Human health and wellbeing • Aesthetics of the environment • Health and biodiversity of ecosystems • Agricultural use of the environment.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	The following construction activities may create air quality impacts for the Project: • Land clearing, earthworks and construction of infrastructure associated with the pipeline. • Haulage of material for construction from areas of excavation (trench and borrow pits) to work areas and spoil dumps, including unloading and grading. • Horizontal boring under the Stuart Highway. • Construction of ancillary infrastructure (i.e., camps, laydowns). The impact to air quality from the Project is not considered to be significant because: • The Project is located in generally flat terrain, with no significant topographical features or complex terrain that would affect the dispersion of air pollutants from the Project site. • There are no significant potential anthropogenic dust emission sources in Project Area. The area is sparsely populated. • The closest human sensitive receptors not associated with construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the Project are Dunmarra roadhouse and Hayfield Station homestead which are greater than 3 km from the Project Area.

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Background information	Summary of key environmental values and sensitivities of relevance to the Project	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5. If answer is 'yes' referral is required						Inherent Impacts without mitigation
		dry season and variable during the wet seasons. The wet season predominantly has wind from the northeast in the morning to the east to southeast in the afternoon. Pollutant of concerns identified are: • Localised particulate matter from construction (fugitive dust) and fine particulate matter emitted from locomotives and other diesel-fuelled mobile plant and machinery. • Gaseous products of combustion. • VOCs from the storage and handling of diesel.							• The potential for any adverse air quality impacts at surrounding sensitive areas will be minimal, and air emissions during operations have not been considered further. The air quality impacts from the Project's operation are expected to be negligible. The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on air quality. No further assessment is required.
	Atmospheric Processes Objective: Minimise greenhouse gas emissions so as to contribute to the NT Government's goal of achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.	Greenhouse gas (GHG) Scope 1 emissions from land clearing, diesel consumption from the operation of construction equipment and generators with use of petroleum based oil and grease results in a Scope 1 GHG estimate of 17,040 tCO2-e per year. The combined Scope 1 emissions for the Project's construction are less than the trigger for: • 100 000 tCO2-e scope 1 emissions per year not counting emissions generated from land clearing. • 500 000 tCO2-e scope 1 emissions from single or cumulative land clearing actions. For the 2022 reporting year, which is the most recent available data available at time of writing, Australia's total Paris Inventory GHG emissions were reported to be 432.62 Mt CO2-e, with 16.73 Mt CO2-e contributed by the NT. Once operational, GHG emissions from the Project will be negligible. For the year of construction, the contribution of the Project to national and NT GHG emissions is estimated at 0.004% and 0.10% respectively.	• Net zero GHG emissions by 2050.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	The following construction activities will generate Scope 1 GHG emissions: • land clearing • diesel consumption from the operation of construction equipment • generators with use of petroleum based oil. The impact to atmospheric processes from the Project is not considered to be significant because: • No significant Scope 1, 2 or 3 greenhouse gas (GHG) emission sources have been identified for the Project's operation. • The contribution of the Project construction emissions to annual national and NT GHG emissions is estimated at 0.004% and 0.10% respectively. • Scope 1 GHG emissions for the 6 month construction period from land clearing, diesel consumption from the operation of construction equipment and generators, and use of petroleum based oils and greases, are estimated to be 17,040 tCO2-e. • Scope 1 GHG emissions from construction and operation of the Project are well below the relevant threshold in the Large Emitter's Policy and the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) scheme reporting threshold. • Once operational, GHG emissions from the Project will be negligible. The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on atmospheric processes. No further assessment is required.
People	**Community and Economy** Objective: Enhance communities and the economy for the welfare, amenity and benefit of current and future generations of Territorians.	The Project's location within an isolated region across two large pastoral stations has a limited population. A cluster of houses and outbuildings occur on the host station. The nearest settlement is the small homeland family outstation of Jingaloo, approximately 30km directly south of the eastern end of the pipeline. The nearest town is Daly Waters, approximately 50km north along the Stuart Highway. Several remote Aboriginal communities and homeland family outstations are located in the study area, including Jingaloo, Lily Hole, Murranji, as well as Marlinja, next to the	• The Project area includes the following land uses: ○ Pastoral land ○ Petroleum exploration and appraisal ○ Public infrastructure. • There are no sensitive receptors within 3km of the Project area. Heyfield station, Dunmurra roadhouse and the Tamboran camp are the nearest sensitive receptors and are all > 3 km from the Project area. • The Project Area intersects two Native Title Determination areas.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☐ ☒ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	The Project's location is largely isolated from existing settlements. The construction of the Project will limit strains on community through the operation of a temporary accommodation village, with the exception of health services. However, the impact to community and economy could be considered significant, owing to community division over project benefits and impacts and uncertainty regarding the impact to the rights and interest of Native Title Holders. This could have a noticeable and significant effect on community cohesion and social dynamics. This requires further assessment.

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Background information	Summary of key environmental values and sensitivities of relevance to the Project	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5. If answer is 'yes' referral is required						Inherent Impacts without mitigation
		historically significant Newcastle Waters pastoral station and historic township. The nearest community with local-level community services, such as health, education, and police, is the town of Elliott, approximately 70km south. Residents wishing to access higher-level social infrastructure and services such as hospitals, tertiary education, and civic services would need to travel either 280km north of the project to Kathrine or 330km south of the project to Tennant Creek. The Study Area has a usual resident population of 567 people, primarily clustered in the settlements of Daly Waters (55 residents), Newcastle Waters (Marlinja) (122 residents) and Elliott (287 residents). Aboriginal people make up 59.1% of the population A relatively balanced gender occurs within the study area. The study area's population differs significantly from the NT in terms of Indigenous status. While 26.3% of the NT population identifies as Aboriginal, the Study Area has a much higher proportion at 59.1%. Educational attainment in the Study Area is generally lower than the NT average. The income distribution in the Study Area skews lower than the NT average.								
	Culture and Heritage Objective: Protect culture and heritage.	• An Abstract of Records indicated Authority Certificates have previously been issued over the Project area and that the closest registered or recorded sacred site or restricted work area is located >1.5km from the Project. • A search of the Heritage Branch database showed there are no declared heritage places and no previously recorded Aboriginal archaeological sites located within the Project area. • The Project crosses two areas with native title determinations: the Shenandoah Pastoral Lease (Native Title Tribunal file no. DCD2012/007) and Hayfield Pastoral Lease (Native Title Tribunal file no. DCD2012/011). • An archaeological survey of the Project area with NLC nominated Traditional Owner representatives determined that there is generally low risk to heritage across the Project area. No archaeological features were recorded during the survey, which targeted high-risk land units.	Parts of the Project area are subject to Native Title interests. A sacred site restricted work area is located >1.5km to the north of the Project area. There is generally low risk to heritage across the Project area.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	Culture and heritage may be impacted by: • Disturbance or damage to archaeological objects inadvertently encountered during construction (chance/unexpected finds) • Construction impacting on sacred sites. The impact to culture and heritage from the Project is not considered to be significant because: • Abstract of Records indicates that AAPA has previously consulted over and issued Authority Certificates over the area and there is no registered or recorded sacred sites or restricted work areas within ~1 km of the Project Area. • Archaeological survey of the site determined that there is low risk of impact to European or Aboriginal heritage for the majority of the Project Area. • APA has applied for an Authority Certificate under the NT Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989. The Subject Land for the Authority Certificate covers the entire Project Area. Construction and operation of the Project will comply with the conditions of the Authority Certificate. The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on European or Aboriginal culture and heritage. No further assessment is required.

Theme	Environmental factor and objective	Background information	Summary of key environmental values and sensitivities of relevance to the Project	Proponent's answer to screening questions 1-5. If answer is 'yes' referral is required						Inherent Impacts without mitigation
	Human Health Objective: Protect the health of the Northern Territory population.	• Hazardous chemicals will be stored, handled and used in accordance with the Material Safety Data Sheet and Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011. • Aside from construction workers engaged to work on the Project or construction projects in the immediate vicinity of the Project, isolated receptors are not located near the Project Area. • The Project is not an inherently contaminating activity.	Distance of the Project's site to sensitive receptors reduces the impact to residents health.	Yes No Uncertain N/A		☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ ☒ ☐ ☐	Following consideration to surface water, groundwater, diseases, air quality, visual amenity, noise and vibration and land capability. The impact to human health from the Project is not considered to be significant because: • The Project's location is isolated from populated areas. Isolated receptors are not located near the Project Area. • Modelling has determined that no exceedances of the most stringent night-time noise level limit have been predicted. • Modelling has determined that, at Hayfield Homestead, cumulative noise impact is not predicted. The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on human health. No further assessment is required.

4.0 Preparation and Declaration

4.1 Preparation

The pre-referral screening has been conducted by:

Name	Email	Qualification/ Experience	Signature	Date
Natalie Calder	Natalie.calder@slrconsulting.com.au	Master of Science		17/10/2024

4.2 Declaration

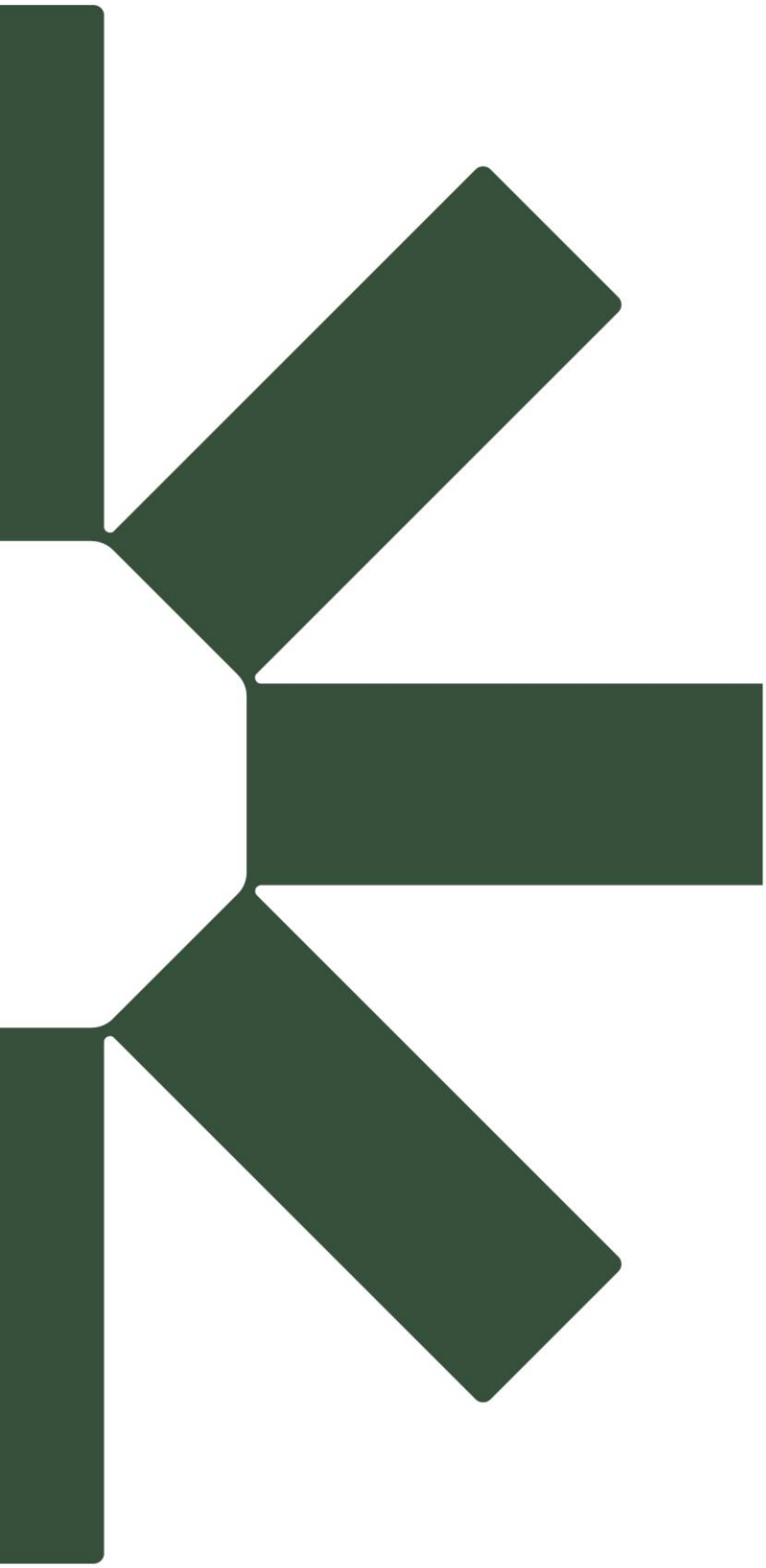
I, Natalie Calder declare that I am authorised to verify the pre-referral screening of this proposed action/strategic proposal on behalf of APA SPP Pty Ltd, and further declare that:

- 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*.

5.0 References

Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (2022a). *Referring a Proposal to the NT EPA: Environmental impact assessment, Guidance for proponents (Version 2.0)*

Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (2022b). *NT EPA Environmental Factors and Objectives: Environmental Impact assessment General Technical Guidance*



Making Sustainability Happen