

Submission on the referral

Blue Carbon S2C Pty Ltd - Blue Carbon Restoration research Pilot Project

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

Government authority: Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet

Summary:

Section of Referral	Theme or issue	Comment
Section 3.5 Proposed S2c Institute, page 42 Section 7.8 Future consultation, page 71	People: Community and economy Workforce	The proponent has assessed the overall socio economic impact on the local community to be net-positive. However, it is unclear from the Referral if the several dozen employees required to work at the institute will reside permanently at King Ash Bay or in Borroloola. An increase in the local population of 'several dozen' either at King Ash Bay or at Borroloola has the potential to have a substantial impact on the local communities and economies. King Ash Bay is a small fishing destination home to several small tourism and hospitality businesses whose business may be disrupted by an increase in population and construction of the 14 demountable building institute. In order to assess the impacts on the local community, any subsequent EIS should clarify where the institute's permanent workforce will reside and outline the intended increase in population to King Ash Bay and/or Borroloola.
Section 3.8 Phase 1 resources, page 46	People: Community and economy Workforce	To assist in the assessment of economic and employment outcomes, any subsequent EIS should state targets and projections for workforce including the proportion of positions that will be locally engaged from and how these targets will be supported.
Table 6.1 Principles of sustainable development and management hierarchies, page 62	People: Community and economy Local procurement	To assist the assessment of economic outcomes, any subsequent EIS should include details of the procurement opportunities for local businesses.
Section 7.4 Identification of key stakeholders, page 66	People: Community and economy Stakeholder engagement	The proponent has identified "community" as a key stakeholder, however, to ensure communities potentially impacted by the institute and its workforce, these communities should be specifically identified in any subsequent EIS.

Environmental impact assessment under *the Environment Protection Act 2019*

Table 8.5 Potential environmental impacts that may arise by implementing the Proposal, page 85	People: Cultural and heritage AAPA Certificate	It is unclear from the Referral if the application to the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority for an Authority Certificate includes the site for the institute. An Authority Certificate is required for the institute site as well as the research site.
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