



Core Lithium Finniss Lithium Project – BP33 Social impact assessment

Prepared by True North Strategic Communication

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Recipients are responsible for eliminating all superseded documents in their possession



Limitations

This Social Impact Assessment is based on desktop research, the initial scoping exercise, the findings of an impact assessment, client input, background documents, community and stakeholder consultation and dedicated social impact assessment interviews.

While True North Strategic Communication has applied its best efforts to produce a reliable and accurate study based on ethical research methodology, some of the limitations of this Social Impact Assessment include:

- the subjective and variable nature of many social impacts, which makes it difficult to assess and predict the level of risks and opportunities with accuracy
- using professional judgement to determine the appropriate level of time and resources, given an initial assessment of likely risk
- difficulties accessing up-to-date and relevant data on some issues, or lack of data for the local areas
- difficulties engaging with some stakeholders or difficulties getting direct feedback from some impacted stakeholders, due to availability
- the limited experience of some stakeholders with the environmental approvals process and social impact assessment.

The consultants have applied their best professional judgement to focus on likely key issues and generate sound analysis and prediction of likely beneficial and detrimental social impacts at different stages of the project. However, ongoing engagement by the proponent will capture any emerging issues and provide continued input to decision-making by those stakeholders impacted by the project. This is covered in the project's Social Impact Management Plan.

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Abbreviations and terminology

AAPA	Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AFANT	Amateur Fishermen's Association of the NT
DIPL	Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
DEPWS	Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EP Act	<i>Environment Protection Act 2019 (NT)</i>
FIFO	Fly-In-Fly-Out
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GRP	Gross Regional Product
GSP	Gross State Product
IAIA	International Association for Impact Assessment
IAP2	International Association for Public Participation
LGA	Local Government Area (ABS statistical area)
MSD	Mine Settling Dam
NLC	Northern Land Council
NT	Northern Territory
NTA	<i>Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth)</i>
NT EPA	Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority
NTG	Northern Territory Government
OHD	Observation Hill Dam
ROM	Run of mine
RWD	Raw Water Dam
SA3/SA4	Statistical Area 3/Statistical Area 4 (Australian Bureau of Statistics)
SEIFA	Socioeconomic Indexes for Areas
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SER	Supplementary Environment Report
SIMP	Social Impact Management Plan
WRD	Waste Rock Dump



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Executive summary

This Social Impact Assessment (SIA) has been prepared by True North Strategic Communication on behalf of Core Lithium (Core). It forms part of the additional information requirements of the Supplementary Environment Report (SER) for the proposed Finniss Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine (BP33 Project). The SIA informs the SER by providing a comprehensive assessment of the expected social impacts and opportunities of the project, on potentially affected communities, including Aboriginal communities.

The SIA was prepared after an initial scoping exercise, stakeholder and community engagement in August 2020 and May 2021, and focuses on a evidence based approach. This approach integrates research, knowledge of the area and previous work on the Grants Lithium project Social Impact Assessment completed by True North in 2018.

The SIA covers construction of the mine site and infrastructure, extraction of the ore, transportation of the mined ore via internal roads to the Grants Lithium project site for processing, trucking of the processed ore from the Grants Lithium project site to the Darwin Port and closure and rehabilitation of the mine site.

The BP33 Lithium project is assessed as being a low-scale mining project, as it is will operate over a short period of time with a small workforce as an underground mine. The project site has been mined in the past. As Core hopes to source local workers, there will not be an accommodation camp and it will not have a Fly-In-Fly-Out (FIFO) workforce.

The initial scoping phase assessed four potential social impacts and 21 potential negative impacts. Through research, local knowledge, stakeholder and community engagement and further assessment, many of these potential impacts were deemed as minimal or inconsequential. Four key potential positive impacts and seven key negative impacts remained for assessment.

Key social impacts and opportunities identified

The key potential positive impacts identified from the project are:

- boost to the regional economy through employment
- enhanced opportunities for local Aboriginal people for jobs and training
- boost to the regional economy through local procurement
- local communities benefit through sponsorship and local support.

Four positive impacts are rated as BENEFICIAL, meaning benefits may be felt across the region but may be of a smaller scale or incremental ([see Table 7](#)).

The key potential negative impacts identified are:

- higher level of road trauma as a result of mine traffic
- reduced sense of safety and wellbeing due to industrial traffic sharing roads with local traffic
- amenity impacts due to road train movements for seven years
- increased anxiety due to perceptions about the project's water use
- concerns about legacy mines and the impact on the environment
- reduced ties to land and ability to maintain culture
- cumulative impacts of multiple projects in the region (particularly increased traffic).

Of the seven key negative impacts, none had a residual CATASTROPHIC or HIGH rating. Two had a MEDIUM rating and the remaining five were assessed as LOW.

A Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) for the project has been prepared and submitted with this SIA. The SIMP is intended as a stand-alone document that summarises social impacts and opportunities of the BP33 Lithium project and outlines management plans to guide the company's long-term social performance.

Summary of findings

The table below outlines the information requests

Information requirements from NT EPA	Summary of findings	Where addressed in EIS and SIA
Conduct a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) in line with the New South Wales (NSW) Social Impact Assessment Guideline. The SIA scoping should be undertaken in consultation with DEPWS Environmental Assessments and should reflect the predicted nature and scale of the potential social (positive and negative) impacts of the proposal on potentially affected communities, including potentially affected Aboriginal communities.		
Provide information to: - demonstrate that communities that may be affected by the Proposal have been provided with information and opportunities for consultation to assist in their understanding of the proposal and its potential impacts and benefits. - demonstrate that stakeholder engagement and consultation undertaken in relation to the proposal is consistent with the NT EPA's Guidance for Proponents - Stakeholder Engagement.	Core undertook two phases of stakeholder and community engagement for the project. Communities affected by the project were provided with information on the project in electronic and printed materials and given a chance to ask questions and seek more information or provide feedback. The engagement approach was in line with the NT EPA's Guidance for Proponents - Stakeholder Engagement. A report of the engagement activity and outcomes is provided at Appendix A.	BP33 Lithium Project Engagement Report (Appendix A) and SIA page 23 – Community and Stakeholder Engagement
Provide a Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan that details how the community and stakeholders will be consulted, engaged and informed through the life of the project.	The Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan is provided as part of the SIMP.	BP33 Project SIMP, see Appendix D
Provide information to demonstrate that affected communities, including Aboriginal communities, have been consulted with in a culturally appropriate manner.	The Community and Stakeholder Engagement strategy identified all the impacted communities. The communication tools and tactics were developed to meet the audiences' needs. Content was written in plain English, maps and imagery was included, materials were in online and hard copy formats, and face-to-face interaction, email and phone options were provided.	BP33 Lithium Project Engagement Report and SIA page 23
Provide information to demonstrate that the Proponent has sought and documented community knowledge and understanding (including scientific and traditional knowledge and understanding) of the natural and cultural values of areas that may be impacted by the Proposal.	Consultation with Traditional Owners, custodians (during the Grants EIS process) and Belyuen residents and a literature review of anthropological work, including the Kenbi Land Claim, identified cultural values and traditional uses of the Cox Peninsula.	Pages 23, 25, 40 and 41
Provide information to demonstrate that the Proponent has addressed Aboriginal values and the rights and interests of Aboriginal communities in relation to areas that may be impacted by the Proposal.	As above	As above

Information requirements from NT EPA	Summary of findings	Where addressed in EIS and SIA
Provide detail about the extent of potential traffic impacts of the proposal and how those impacts would be managed.	The extent of potential traffic impacts and management of those impacts are addressed in the Traffic Impact Statement and Journey Management Plan. They are also assessed in this SIA, where potential impacts are increased road trauma, concerns about safety and wellbeing on the roads, impacts to amenity, and possible cumulative impacts with other projects in the area.	BP33 Traffic Impact Statement and Journey Management Plan SIA, pages 52 - 56
Confirm that there has been consultation with communities that may be affected by the proposal, including Aboriginal communities, and that Aboriginal values and the rights and interests of Aboriginal communities have been considered in relation to the areas that would be impacted by the proposal, including the proposed height of the waste rock dumps.	There has been consultation with communities that may be affected by the project and with key Aboriginal stakeholder groups, which includes both Larrakia and other Daly River language groups which share customary and economic use of the Cox Peninsula. True North and Core have worked closely with the Belyuen Community Council in planning consultation approaches. Consultation is ongoing. The detailed findings of the Kenbi Land Claim were taken into account when considering culturally significant places and traditional ownership of the site area. See Appendix C from the Kenbi Land Claim findings, which discusses the complexities of establishing traditional ownership of this land, which was excluded from the Kenbi Land Claim settlement.	BP33 Project Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report and SIA Page 25



1. Structure of this report

The structure of this report is:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <u>Section 2</u> | Project description |
| <u>Section 3</u> | The scoping process and findings. A separate scoping document provides further detail on the scoping process. |
| <u>Section 4</u> | Background on the purpose and objectives of the social impact assessment and the scope of the SIA. |
| <u>Section 5</u> | Methodology and standards for the SIA. |
| <u>Section 6</u> | Overview of the community and stakeholder engagement process. A separate engagement report outlines the stakeholder engagement activities and issues raised by impacted people. |
| <u>Section 7</u> | Impact and opportunities assessment. This section provides an overview of the assessment of impacts and opportunities. Further information on each of the key impacts and opportunities identified from the assessment are presented in Sections 8-12. |
| <u>Sections 8-12</u> | Profile of the area under study, including baseline data and conditions in relation to the social dimensions outlined in figure 2, and an assessment of each of the impacts identified for those social dimensions. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• People and communities• Healthy country• Cultural identity• Economies• Cumulative |

A separate Social Impact Management Plan provided as an appendix, summarises key positive and negative impacts, mitigation and enhancement measures and ongoing monitoring, engagement and reporting measures.

2. Project description

The following information is sourced from the Core *EP Act* Referral Supporting Information Document for the Finnis Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine (BP33 Project).

Core proposes to expand its Finnis Lithium Project mining activities on the Cox Peninsula. Core has received approval for open pit mining and processing of the Grants Project lithium ore resource. Core is proposing to develop an underground mine at the BP33 resource, which is about 3.5 kilometres south-east of the Grants Project site. The project will involve underground mining of lithium ore and trucking to the Grants processing plant via a 7.5-kilometre purpose-built haul road.

Location

The BP33 Project mine site is 2.5 kilometres south-west of the Cox Peninsula Road, about 33 kilometres west of Berry Springs and 3.5 kilometres from the Grants Project site.

The mine site is unincorporated land (not in any local government area), but the haul route passes through Litchfield, Palmerston and Darwin municipalities. It is not serviced by mains power, water or sewage.

Project footprint

The mine site footprint is about 88 hectares while the footprint of the haul road from BP33 to Grants is about 12.5 hectares (13 metres wide by 7.5 kilometres long). An additional 0.4 hectares will be required for a water pipeline from Observation Hill Dam (OHD) to the mine site.

Timeframes

Construction of the BP33 mining infrastructure, the box-cut portal and decline to access the underground resource will start six months before mining ceases at the Grants Project site. Mining at BP33 would begin once mining at the Grants Project site ceases. BP33 timeframes are outlined below:

- Construction – 6 - 12 months
- Mining – 44 months
- Closure and rehabilitation - 5 months
- Post-closure (ongoing).

Project detail

The key components of the BP33 Project are:

- construction of site infrastructure
- excavation of a box-cut portal to about 60-70 metres deep
- construction of a 450-metre long decline from the base of the box-cut to the top of the ore resource and progressive construction of a further 1.7 kilometre of decline over the mine life
- two onsite waste rock dumps (WRD) for temporary storage of oxide waste rock (from the box-cut) and transitional/fresh waste rock (from the underground) before progressively backfilling the material
- construction of a raw water dam (RWD) to store water for use in dust suppression and to supply the mine site facilities and a mine settling dam (MSD) to store and treat sediment-laden water
- underground mining of the resource over nine production levels using sub-level retreat mining methods over a life of mine of about four years
- transport of the mined ore 7.3 kilometres along a dedicated internal haul road (to be constructed) to the Grants processing plant.

All processing requirements of BP33 ore resource were assessed in the Grants EIS and Notice of Alteration, submitted to the NT EPA for approval.

Construction

Construction activities will consist of:



- clearing vegetation
- topsoil and subsoil stripping
- box-cut and decline excavation (using truck and shovel, and then drill and blast at the bottom 10 metres)
- bulk earthworks
- haul road and water pipeline construction including vegetation removal and clearing.

Mining

Drill and blast methods will be used to extract the ore from underground, which will be removed by loaders leaving behind an open space (stope). Mined material will be stockpiled on the production level or loaded directly onto 90-tonne capacity underground dump trucks. Ore will be hauled to the surface via the decline. An estimated 18 truck trips a day will haul 1,669 tonnes to the Run of Mine (ROM) pad.

Processing

Ore stockpiled on the BP33 ROM pad will be hauled to the Grants processing facility via the 7.5-kilometre haul road. The BP33 Project proposal does not involve any changes, additions or increase in production outputs from the processing facility. The ore mined at BP33 will be used to continue production from the processing plant only after the Grants ore resource is exhausted.

Closure and rehabilitation

At completion of the mining activities at BP33, the underground and box-cut will be completely backfilled, no waste material will remain on the surface and the site will be revegetated. A Mine Closure Plan will be prepared for submission with the Mine Management Plan. Closure and rehabilitation of BP33 will involve:

- progressively backfill the underground mine stopes using fresh rock from the underground waste rock dumps and additional backfill material sourced from the Grants WRD
- reclaim material from the box-cut WRD to completely backfill the box-cut
- spread the safety bund over the top of the finalised surface of the box-cut
- re-profiling of the final surface
- subsoil and topsoil re-spreading and contour ripping
- revegetation and weed control.

Water use

Total expected water use is 1047 kL/day. Water demand will largely be for underground mining, surface amenities and dust suppression.

Water sources

Water sources for the mine will comprise of surface water and groundwater from the following:

- OHD receiving catchment inflows (Core has applied for a surface water extraction licence under the *Water Act*)
- Underground mine intercepted water (pumped into MSD)
- Groundwater and rainfall in-flows to the box-cut.

If groundwater monitoring suggests the volumes available from dewatering are less than expected, the following supplementary water supplies will be further investigated:

- water extracted from a bore field subject to licencing under the *NT Water Act 1992*.
- water pumped from the old mine pits across the lease area, subject to water quality testing and confirmation of no potential for exposure of certain materials in pit walls.

Waste water discharge

Both the box-cut and the underground mine will require de-watering during development and operations. Excess water will be pumped to the MSD to remove sediments and any other contaminants. During the wet season, Observation Hill Dam will discharge over the existing dam wall to an ephemeral creek into the Charlotte River. A Waste Discharge Licence will be applied for under the *Water Act* if excess water needs to be released during the wet season.

Energy use

The project's power requirements will be met by on site diesel-powered generators as the energy requirement for the site will be minimal.

Storage of hazardous substances

Hazardous substances to be stored on site are:

- diesel – multiple locations using wrap tanks or bunded storage facilities –maximum quantity stored on site will be about 110,000 litres.
- greases, oils and lubricants – multiple locations using wrap tanks or bunded storage facilities
- oxygen and acetylene
- cleaning chemicals – degreasers in 1,000 litre tanks.

Air emissions

Underground mining has the potential to produce dust emissions. The planned dust suppression activity is expected to minimise dust emissions.

Exhaust emissions will be produced by the operation of heavy plant and equipment. Given the relatively small-scale of the proposed activity, the emission levels are not expected to be of a magnitude that would cause any measurable changes in air quality beyond the mine site.

Noise emissions

Noise emissions will occur from machinery and equipment operating 24 hours. As the site is remote from residences and other land users, and there is no sensitive habitat nearby, noise emissions are not expected to affect any sensitive receptors.

Transport

Once the product has been processed, it will be loaded onto road trains for transport to Darwin Port (East Arm), 94.5 kilometres away. The haul route is along Cox Peninsula Road, through to the Stuart Highway, along the Stuart Highway to Tiger Brennan Drive and then Berrimah Road, to the East Arm Port.

Expected truck movements along the transport route are up to 10 return trips per day. The BP33 Project will not increase the frequency of haul truck trips on public roads, however BP33 Project will extend operations of the haul route from three to more than seven years (i.e. 10 return truck trips a day for seven years).

Workforce

Construction will see a peak workforce of about 60 people. Across the whole operation (BP33 mine and Grants processing plant when the mining operations at Grants are closed), the project will employ between 150 and 180 personnel. The workforce composition is expected to be:

- Management/Supervision/Professionals – 20 %
- Contractors (Mining, Processing and Haulage) - 58 %
- Trades – 22 %.

The workforce is to be sourced locally from Darwin, Palmerston and surrounding areas where possible. There will be no on-site accommodation camp, with workers expected to travel to and from site for each shift. The travel time from Darwin/Palmerston to the site is about an hour. If skilled personnel cannot be recruited locally, provision will be made for a proportion of FIFO workers, using commercial accommodation in the region. As the operational workforce is relatively small, it is not expected that demand for short-term

accommodation will exceed local supply (although current constraints on short-term tourist accommodation in the Greater Darwin region will be monitored).

Indigenous Participation

Belyuen is the closest community to the project area. Core has committed to working with Aboriginal employment and training providers to maximise opportunities for employment of Larrakia, Wagaitj and other language groups from Belyuen and the broader region.

3. Scoping

True North Strategic Communication began the social impact assessment process with a scoping study, in line with the NSW SIA Guideline. The scoping report is provided at Appendix B.

The purpose of a scoping study is to guide research and analysis, to target the SIA and relevant issues, including potential impacts, perceptions or issues of concern to people and communities. The process identifies existing knowledge, highlights gaps and uncertainties in knowledge, prioritises the key areas for study and ensures integration with other EIS studies.

The scoping study listed all potential issues that might be considered in a SIA and drew on feedback and issues raised by the community and stakeholders for both the Grants and BP33 projects. A preliminary significance assessment was completed, prioritising those impacts that require further analysis and screening out those likely to be inconsequential.

The scoping study and preliminary significance assessment found that the key areas to be covered by this SIA were:

- higher level of road trauma as a result of mine traffic
- reduced sense of safety and wellbeing due to industrial traffic sharing roads with local traffic
- increased anxiety due to perceptions about the project's water use
- concerns about legacy mines, as this is a sensitive topic in the region
- reduced ties to land and ability to maintain culture (local Aboriginal people and other community members) – more information required to make an accurate assessment
- cumulative impacts of multiple projects increasing industrial traffic on the roads
- economic benefits, particularly due to local jobs and procurement
- training and job opportunities for local Aboriginal people.

It was also noted that additional issues may be included in the social impact assessment if:

- they were raised during consultation
- there were changes to the assumptions we were working to
- there is uncertainty or conflict about the significance of potential impacts
- situational factors made certain issues topical during our research.

4. Background

4.1 Purpose of a social impact assessment

The purpose of a social impact assessment (SIA) is to combine community insights with expert judgement in order to determine how the impacts of projects are likely to be felt or perceived by affected people, communities and service providers. Effective studies will:

- reduce uncertainty about the impacts of the project (or policy changes)
- inform and influence decision-making by regulators, project proponents and affected communities
- provide data and insights that improve project planning (for example workforce and accommodation issues, site configuration)
- provide baseline quantitative and qualitative data against which to track project and cumulative change across the life span of the project, from conception to closure
- inform effective management plans and proponents' long-term social performance (including enhancement of social and economic benefits, trust and relationships).

Social Impact Assessment

"A Social Impact Assessment includes the process of analysing, monitoring and managing the intended and unintended social consequences, both positive and negative, of planned interventions (policies, programs, plans, projects) and any change processes invoked by those interventions. Its primary purpose is to bring about a more sustainable and equitable biophysical and human environment."

Source: International Association for Impact Assessment, Principles of SIA, (Vanclay 2003)

The social impact assessment for Core's Finnis Lithium Project BP33 Underground Mine Project (BP33 Project) will:

- describe existing social, cultural and economic conditions in:
 - the project's immediate footprint, which includes the key areas that may be directly or indirectly impacted and the people, communities, institutions and social structures close to the project area or access routes.
 - secondary footprint – or area of influence – (regional areas that may form part of the project's workforce catchment area and supply chain, service providers or communities that are home to people with social, cultural and economic ties to the land on which the project is located)
- describe contextual factors that may compound the experience or perception of key negative impacts, enhance or act as barriers to maximising opportunities
- provide impartial, timely, accurate and culturally-appropriate communication about all aspects of the project, so stakeholders can provide objective and relevant input and feedback
- predict and assess the likely significance of key potential positive and negative, direct and indirect, tangible and intangible, long and short-term social, cultural and economic impacts in the project's immediate and extended social area of influence
- outline management plans, monitoring and reporting to minimise detrimental impacts and enhance the benefits of the project.

4.2 Objectives of this social impact assessment

The objectives of this SIA are to:

- describe the current socioeconomic environment in the project's area of influence
- outline likely change processes from project activities that could trigger impacts
- analyse and predict positive and negative impacts on people's lives, livelihoods and lifestyles arising from the project
- assess the significance of these impacts as experienced by stakeholders, based on likelihood and consequences (extent, duration, scale of change and sensitivity) before and after mitigation or enhancement
- incorporate good community consultation practice to capture qualitative insights
- produce concise and relevant reports that give regulators confidence that Core has a comprehensive understanding of the socioeconomic environment in which it will be operating
- produce a social impact management plan (SIMP) that outlines company commitments and measures to alleviate or manage potentially negative impacts, enhance beneficial impacts, such as opportunities for jobs and economic development, during various project stages and capture and respond to emerging issues throughout the life of the project. The SIMP has been prepared as a stand-alone document.

4.3 Scope

The scope of the study is:

- **Temporal:** covering all stages of the project including planning, construction, operations, Closure and rehabilitation.
- **Spatial (area of influence):** the key areas that may be directly or indirectly impacted and the people, communities, institutions and social structures close to the project area or access routes. The areas of influence are:
 - the closest towns/cities or communities - Belyuen
 - populations along the access route - Berry Springs, Tumbling Waters, Blackmore River/Southport
 - towns and communities that will share the access routes - Wagait Beach, Mandorah, Belyuen, and communities accessed via Fogg Bay Road (from Cox Peninsula Road). This includes people in Dundee, Dundee Beach and surrounding properties, Bynoe and Crab Claw Island
 - the surrounding rural areas such as the Cox Peninsula region and Darwin and Palmerston. These areas may be impacted by project infrastructure, logistics, supply chains, recruitment, services and supplies
 - the broader northern territory, mainly in relation to industry and economic benefits.
- The **social and cultural connections** of the people living in the area. This includes Larrakia and Wagaitj people with spiritual and cultural connections to the Cox Peninsula and all other people, families and communities in the project's area of influence who may visit the area around the mine site for hunting, foraging, camping or other economic, customary or recreational reasons.
- **Economic:** direct and indirect economic benefits for the communities and towns close to the project area and the greater darwin region.

This report recognises that the Grants Lithium Project and the BP33 Project are treated as separate projects as part of the NT EPA approvals process, however they are both owned by Core and are interconnected. Therefore some activities at the Grants project could trigger cumulative impacts that are assessed in this report. These are listed and discussed in the relevant sections.

Statistical boundaries

The project footprint is covered by a number of statistical boundaries, which often fail to align with each other. To maintain consistency, Census data generally will be gathered at the levels of:

- Local Government Areas: Litchfield, Darwin, Palmerston, Belyuen
- Greater Darwin
- ABS Statistical Area SA3: In particular Palmerston
- Suburbs of Wagait Beach, Berry Springs, Belyuen.

Quantitative data will focus on priority areas and will be reported along with qualitative data from community consultation.

4.4 NT EPA Requirements

The Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) provided a direction to Core to provide additional information on the BP33 Project in a Supplementary Environment Report (SER). The additional information requirements relevant to the SIA include the following:

- Conduct a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) in line with the New South Wales (NSW) Social Impact Assessment Guideline. The SIA scoping should be undertaken in consultation with DEPWS Environmental Assessments and should reflect the predicted nature and scale of the potential social (positive and negative) impacts of the proposal on potentially affected communities, including potentially affected Aboriginal communities.
- Provide information to:
 - demonstrate that communities that may be affected by the Proposal have been provided with information and opportunities for consultation to assist in their understanding of the proposal and its potential impacts and benefits;
 - demonstrate that stakeholder engagement and consultation undertaken in relation to the proposal is consistent with the NT EPA's Guidance for Proponents - Stakeholder Engagement.
- Provide a Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan that details how the community and stakeholders will be consulted, engaged and informed through the life of the project.
- Provide information to demonstrate that affected communities, including Aboriginal communities, have been consulted in a culturally appropriate manner.
- Provide information to demonstrate that the Proponent has sought and documented community knowledge and understanding (including scientific and traditional knowledge and understanding) of the natural and cultural values of areas that may be impacted by the Proposal.
- Provide information to demonstrate that the Proponent has addressed Aboriginal values and the rights and interests of Aboriginal communities in relation to areas that may be impacted by the Proposal.
- Provide detail about the extent of potential traffic impacts of the proposal and how those impacts would be managed.
- Confirm that there has been consultation with communities that may be affected by the proposal, including Aboriginal communities, and that Aboriginal values and the rights and interests of Aboriginal communities have been considered in relation to the areas that would be impacted by the proposal, including the proposed height of the Waste Rock Dumps (WRD).



5. Methodology

The methodology for this study and categorisation of impacts is in accord with the NSW SIA Guideline, a Guide to Social Impact (Munday 2020) and internal research at True North into best practice social and cultural impact assessment. The methodology is outlined in [figure 1](#) below.

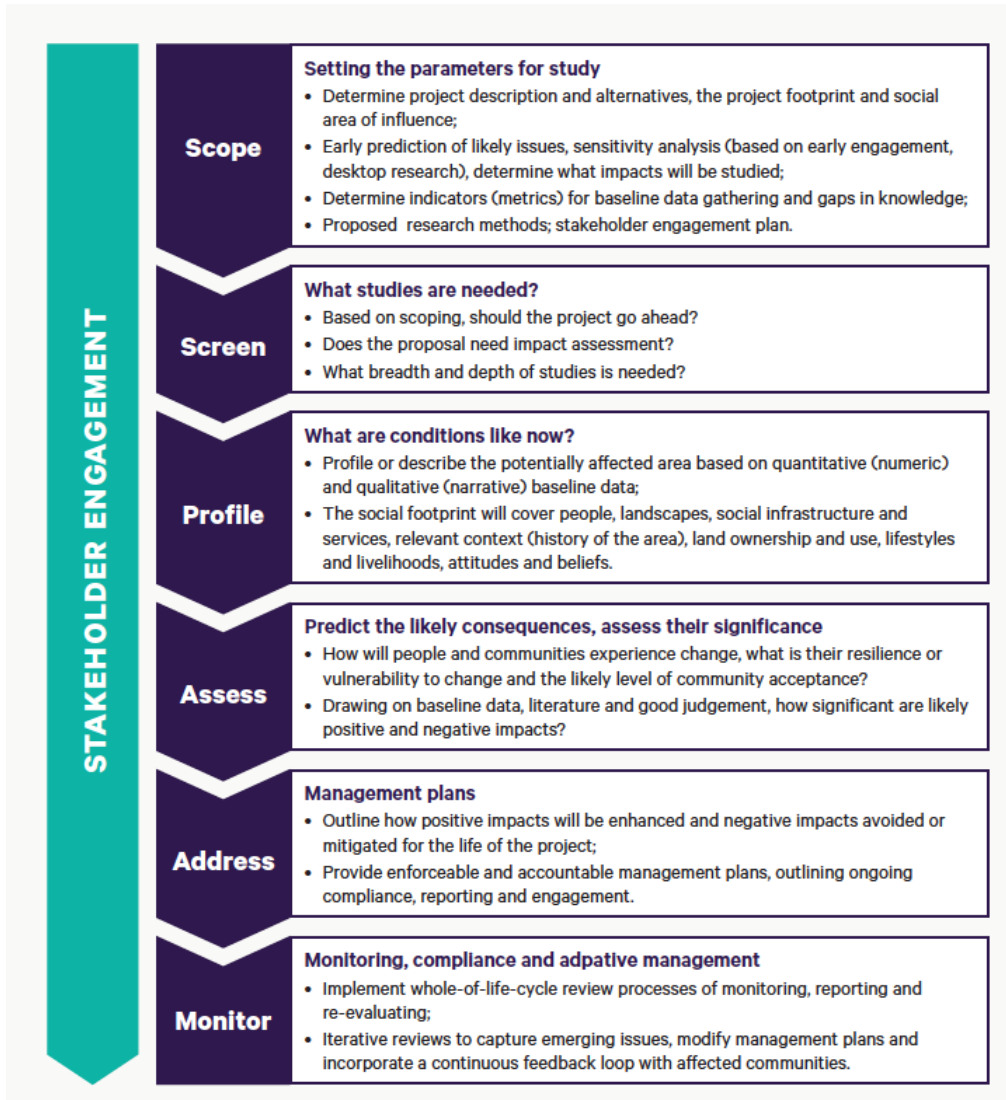


Figure 1: The steps of social impact assessment

5.1 Assessment methodology

An impact and opportunities assessment considered the likely social impacts and opportunities to people and communities as a result of the project, based on project information from the Core's Referral Supporting Information Document for the BP33 Project, submitted under the *Environment Protection Act (NT) 2019*.

These impacts were assessed based on likelihood and consequence. Likelihood is an assessment of how likely it is that the impact (perceived or not) will actually happen. Consequences are the extent to which impacts are felt. The following criteria (Munday, 2020) was used to determine consequence from the community's perspective:



1. **Extent:** how many people will experience the impacts
2. **Duration:** how long the impacts will last
3. **Severity:** the scale of change from the current conditions
4. **Sensitivity:** based on the level of controversy, disturbance to values, people's resilience and capacity to absorb change.

The tables below show the methodology used to assess the negative impacts and positive opportunities.

Likelihood	Descriptor	Negative consequence (for harms, disturbance)				
		1	2	3	4	5
		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
A	Almost certain	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
B	Likely	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
C	Possible	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
D	Unlikely	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
E	Rare	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5

Table 1: Negative impact ratings

Catastrophic	Intolerable social, cultural and economic cumulative impacts that are unlikely to be amenable to management.
High	Intolerable cumulative impacts that might be accepted if managed to as low as reasonably practicable, taking account of community perceptions, values and resilience.
Medium	Tolerable (depending on the level of community acceptance) cumulative impacts if managed effectively, but requires close monitoring.
Low	Tolerable, barely perceptible negative impacts, but implement adaptive management approaches to ensure the threat level doesn't increase and exacerbate emerging threats as development unfolds across the region.

Table 2: Descriptors for negative impacts



		Importance consequences (for benefits, opportunities)				
		1	2	3	4	5
Likelihood	Descriptor	Insignificant	Minor	Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
A	Almost certain	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
B	Likely	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
C	Possible	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
D	Unlikely	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
E	Rare	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5

Table 3: Positive impact ratings

Transformational	Transformational collective and socially, culturally and economically sustainable opportunities for the region, by building enduring capacity that benefits future generations
Beneficial	Beneficial cumulative benefits across the region that may be of a smaller scale or incremental, but which may suit culturally appropriate sustainable development.
Noticeable	Benefits are noticeable but may be quickly absorbed.
Imperceptible	Little change in the way of life, livelihoods and lifestyles of the region

Table 4: Descriptors for positive impacts

5.2 Categorising impacts

The potential key impacts and opportunities were categorised using the dimensions of social impacts adapted for a North Australia context by (Munday, 2020), which were adapted from the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Principles' (Vanclay, 2003) and Guidelines' (Vanclay et al., 2015) dimensions of social impacts. These dimensions are illustrated in [figure 2](#) below.



Figure 2: Dimensions of social impacts adapted for a North Australia context (Munday 2020)

5.3 Standards and statutory framework

The primary standards guiding this SIA are:

- *Environment Protection Act 2019* (NT): Noting objects of the Act
- International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA), Social Impact Assessment Principles (Vanclay, 2003)
- IAIA's Social Impact Assessment: Guidance for assessing and managing the social impacts of projects (Vanclay et al., 2015)
- New South Wales Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment of State Significant Projects (2017, revised 2020)
- Munday J, Guide to Social Impact Assessment, published by True North: Darwin, October 2020
- International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Core Values, Spectrum of Participation and Quality Assurance Standard (2015) that are the industry standard for effective public participation (or community and stakeholder engagement) (see www.iap2.org.au)
- Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, United Nations Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner, 2011
- Guidelines for the Preparation of an Economic and Social Impact Assessment, Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority, November 2013
- Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation: Environmental impact assessment guidance for proponents, NTEPA 2021
- International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards (2012) and Guidance Notes (2006) for community, social, cultural heritage and Indigenous engagement suggest that attention should

be paid to issues such as gender, labour, community health and safety, land acquisition and resettlement, Indigenous peoples and cultural heritage.

- World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (2017) and implementation notes offer broad and systematic coverage of environmental and social risks, including transparency, non-discrimination, public participation, and accountability—including expanded roles for grievance mechanisms.
- AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines.

The concept of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) is considered particularly important for Aboriginal people, recognising potentially unequal power relationships, vulnerability, disadvantage and access to resources:

- **Free:** no coercion, harassment or retribution
- **Prior:** before any activity starts
- **Informed:** full disclosure
- **Consent:** that communities have a real choice (vanclay et al. 2015).

Ethical standards

True North's research work is guided by our values and membership of several relevant professional associations that establish ethical standards for independent, impartial and rigorous research. These are the Environmental Institute of Australia and New Zealand; International Association for Impact Assessment; International Association for Public Participation and the Australia Market and Social Research Society.

We observe the standards set out by the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (National Health and Medical Research Council 2018) and Australia's *Privacy Act 1988*. This includes the protection of intellectual property, the ability for people to provide input confidentially if requested, protection of data gathered during our research.

We report on assumptions and limitations of our research on [page 2](#) of this report.



6. Community and stakeholder engagement

Consultation is a key requirement of this SIA. The objects of the Northern Territory *Environment Protection Act* (sections 3(d) and 3(e)) expressively:

- Provide for “broad community involvement during the process of environmental impact assessment and environmental approval”
- Recognise “the role that aboriginal people have as stewards of their country as conferred under their traditions and recognised in law, and the importance of participation by aboriginal people and communities in environmental decision making process”.

The NT EPA’s Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Guidance for proponents (updated January 2021) recognises that stakeholder consultation is an important component of social, cultural and health impact assessments, over and above formal opportunities for feedback on documents placed on public exhibition.

The guidance note recommends that proponents adopt the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) core values as principles for best practice stakeholder engagement, as outlined in [figure 3](#) below.



Figure 3: IAP2 Core values

The NT EPA guidance document emphasises the importance of culturally appropriate methodologies for consulting with Aboriginal communities, in line with the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), and the role of land councils in facilitating this.

It outlines the importance of identifying cultural, social, economic and environmental values significant to Aboriginal stakeholders, drawing on the traditional knowledge and expertise of Aboriginal people, providing sufficient time for Aboriginal stakeholders to consider the consequences of a proposal and the importance of free, prior and informed consent (UN 2007).

6.1 Objectives of stakeholder engagement

Early and meaningful engagement is an authentic process of involving people in solutions and decisions, listening to understand their perspectives, providing an honest account of people’s input and taking seriously the lived experience of communities (Munday 2020).

The objectives of engagement for the SIA were to:

- listen to and understand the priorities and perspectives of all stakeholder groups
- provide clarity and information on any issues of concern raised by stakeholders
- support delivery of a project that is environmentally, economically, culturally and socially acceptable to the community and key stakeholders (i.e. earn social licence to operate)
- provide regulators with confidence that all positive and negative impacts are well understood and can be managed through all phases of the project
- inform scoping and project planning, through the life of the project
- manage stakeholder expectations
- provide feedback to stakeholders on how their input influenced regulatory and project decisions.

The communication objectives were to:

- update stakeholders on changes to the Grants Project since previous consultation
- notify stakeholders of the commitments made by Core as part of the Grants EIS process
- inform stakeholders of the BP33 Project, details and potential impacts
- encourage stakeholders to provide feedback on interest or concerns about the project
- continue to build on existing stakeholder relationships and trust
- provide clarity and understanding about the various Core projects in the region.

Stakeholder engagement also involved identifying the bodies that can speak for Aboriginal people with ties to the project site, including:

- Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (custodians)
- Larrakia Development Corporation
- Larrakia Nation
- Northern Land Council
- Belyuen Community Council (represents a number of Larrakia and non-Larrakia Aboriginal residents of Belyuen, the closest community to the site)
- Kenbi Rangers.

6.2 Key stakeholders

Core began engaging with key stakeholder representatives about the BP33 Project and resultant changes to the Grants Project in August 2020. This was followed by broader engagement in May 2021 that focussed on speaking with the most impacted stakeholders about the BP33 Project, having a presence in the local communities and broadly communicating updates to the Grants Project to a wide range of stakeholders.

The key stakeholder groups identified as being within the project's area of influence, likely to have an interest in the project, or the potential to be positively or negatively impacted by the project, are outlined in figure 4 below:

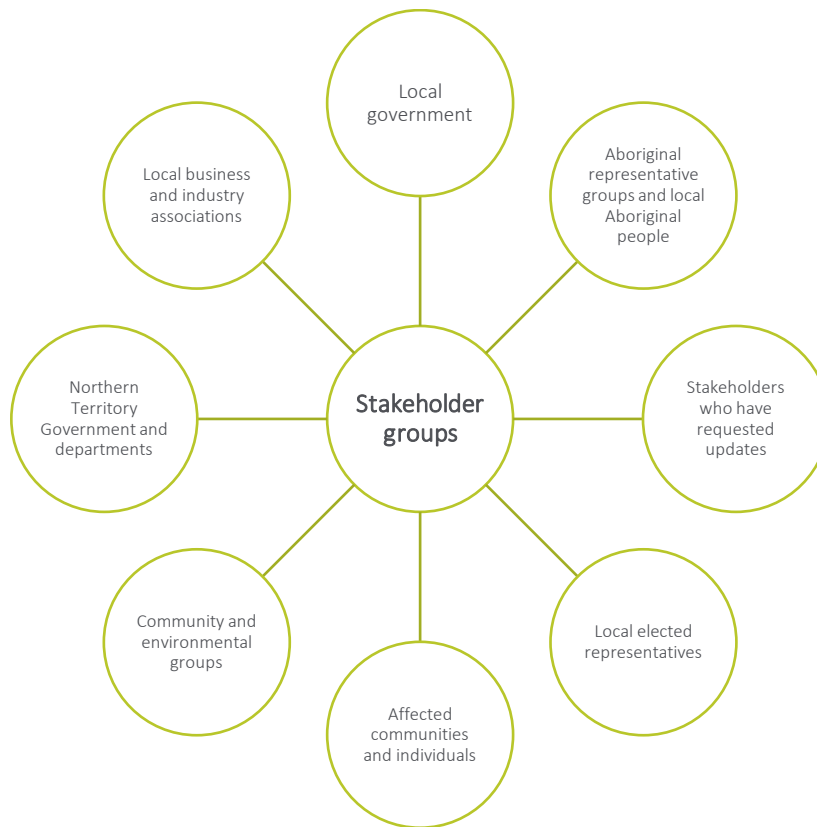


Figure 4: Key stakeholder groups for the project

6.2.1 Aboriginal engagement

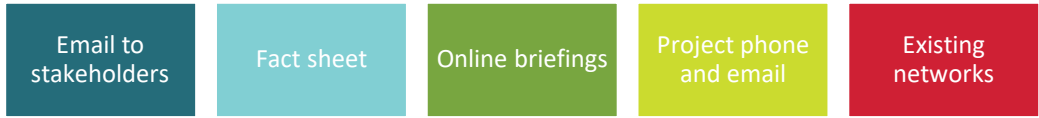
The Core project team visited the region in May 2021 and held a number of information stalls and briefings. Core did not visit Belyuen community at this time due to advice from the Belyuen Community Government Council that Core should brief the elected members on the project first, and seek elected members' advice on engaging with the community. The council members were not available to meet until the end of May and due to the issues with Council's Internet connection, Core was unable to brief the elected members online. One of the elected members and Traditional Owners had previously been briefed on the project. Those who were present at the meeting advised that a community meeting should be held to talk with the community about the project in late June 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Core representatives were unable to return to Darwin in June. Core has advised Belyuen Council that it will engage with community residents in line with Council's suggested approach when the team next visits Darwin provided this suits the Belyuen Council.

The Kenbi Rangers and Tommy Lyons Group (recognised as Traditional Owners for much of the Cox Peninsula under the Kenbi Land Rights Claim) were briefed on the project, as was the Larrakia Development Corporation. Many Belyuen residents attended the information stall at the Wagait Beach Supermarket and discussed the project, opportunities and impacts with the project team. Core and True North had previously held a meeting at Belyuen community with Ironbark, an Aboriginal employment agency, community and council members as part of the Grants Project engagement, in December 2018.

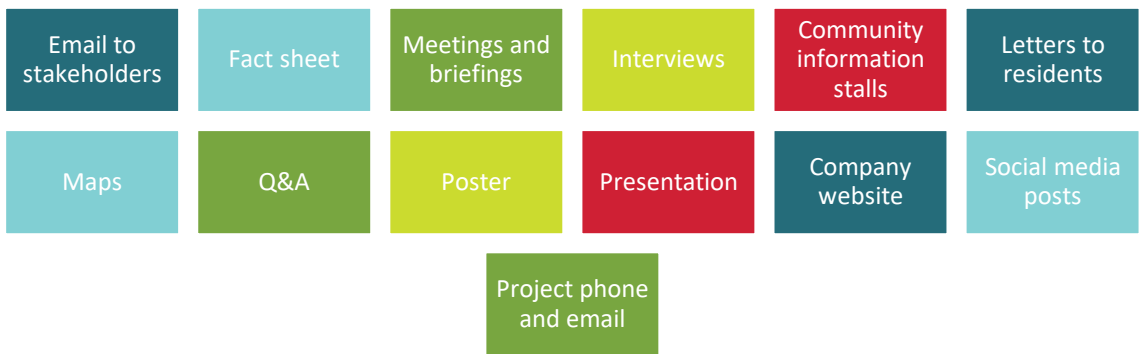


6.3 Tools and tactics

Core’s first stage of stakeholder engagement involved the following tools and tactics to reach the different audiences:



For the second stage of community and stakeholder engagement, Core and the project team produced a range of communication tools and used a range of tactics to engage broadly with the impacted communities, including:



6.4 Results of engagement

Over the two stages, the community engagement in:

- 117 stakeholders receiving emails with the project fact sheets
- 45 letters delivered to residences along the haul route on Cox Peninsula Road
- 15 briefings and meetings
- 5 interviews
- 77 attendees at community information stalls
- 5 phone calls.

The key themes raised during the community engagement were:



Questions about dust and rehabilitation and closure were also raised during the first stage of engagement.

A more detailed summary of the stakeholder engagement process and outcomes is outlined in the BP33 Engagement Report at Appendix A.

7. Impact and Opportunities Assessment

Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
People and communities, including impacts on social fabric, health, wellbeing and safety								
Higher level of road trauma as a result of mine traffic	Road train movements start (Grants Project)	C – possible	3 - moderate	C3: high	• The increased chance of serious road accidents was frequently raised as an issue during consultation. • This has a high significance rating due to community sensitivity and the severity of the consequence • BP33 Project will extend the duration of the impact (from the Grants Project) from four years to seven or more.	• Traffic management plans and measures in place to reduce injuries and fatalities • Collaboration with Berry Springs School and community on truck movements • Industry collaboration on road safety campaigns for the region	D3: medium	• Berry Springs Primary School, residents and businesses • Communities accessed via Cox Peninsula Road • Others regularly using Cox Peninsula Road
Reduced sense of safety and wellbeing due to industrial traffic sharing roads with local traffic	Road train movements start (Grants Project)	B - likely	2 - minor	B2: high	• Community sensitivity is high for this issue. Road safety issues were frequently raised during consultation. • Local traffic sharing the narrow roads with road trains is likely to reduce the sense of safety and wellbeing on the roads • Stakeholder feedback was that some people already feel unsafe driving on Cox Peninsula Road.	• Traffic management plans to reduce injuries and fatalities and communication that these will be implemented • Good communication about the likely impacts and implications of the project • Conduct a road condition survey before start of work. Core commits to repairing any damage to the road pavement that is attributable to the project. • Industry collaboration on road safety campaigns for the region	C2: medium	• Berry Springs Primary School, residents and businesses • Communities accessed via Cox Peninsula Road • Others regularly using Cox Peninsula Road



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
Amenity impacts due to road train movements for seven years	Project announcement	C - possible	2 - minor	C2: medium	- Up to 20 road train passes in 24 hours over seven years – noise likely to be the main amenity impact, however less than one truck per hour - Main area of impact is near residences along Cox Peninsula Road - About 50 residences along the haul route on Cox Peninsula Road. Many are set well back from the road with good vegetation cover - A few houses close to Cox Peninsula Road in Berry Springs	- Traffic management plans that include reduced speeds in Berry Springs - Ongoing communication with impacted residents - Night time noise levels from road train hauling activities will be managed in accordance with the NT EPA Noise Management Framework Guideline	D2: low	Businesses and residents along the haul route
Increased anxiety due to perceptions about the project's water use	Project announcement/consultation stage	C- possible	3- moderate	C3: high	- Water availability and use in this area is a sensitive issue, therefore it was given a high significance rating. Although water use was frequently raised during the Grants project consultation, it was not as much of a priority during the BP33 consultation. This is likely to be a result of Core's ongoing communication about water use for the projects - Technical information indicates that drawdown will not impact other consumptive users due to the large distance between the mine and other registered production bores, however this impact relates to perceptions, and should be managed through ongoing communication about water use and sources	- Ongoing communication with stakeholders and the community about water use and sources of water - Permits and licencing required under the Water Act will ensure there is no likely impact on other water uses - Bore monitors will be in place - The quality and quantity of water will be monitored - With mitigation, this impact is considered to be unlikely and therefore has a low impact rating	D2: low (included in the SIA due to the sensitivity about water use in the region)	- Local area residents and businesses - Properties in the area using bore water
Deterioration of roads increases wear and tear on vehicles, increases travel times for other road users	Road train movements start (Grants project) increasing heavy vehicle traffic on the roads	C – possible	1 - insignificant	C1: low	Deterioration of the roads, particularly Cox Peninsula Road was raised as a possible issue during consultation for Grants and by a few people during BP33 consultation	- Road quality monitoring before and during the project - Commitment by Core to cover any costs to repair damage to road caused by the project	D1: low Screened out	Residents and businesses in communities accessed by Cox Peninsula Road



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
					With extended traffic movements from 4 years to 7+ years, this will extend the duration, however it has a low rating due to the extent and severity of this impact	Ongoing engagement with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics		- Others regularly using Cox Peninsula Road - DIPL
Impact on other water users' lives and livelihoods as a result of groundwater drawdown	During operations	D- unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- Water use and availability are sensitive issues in this area and the impacts of the project's use on the water table levels was raised during consultation - Groundwater bores may be used to supplement the water supply if a water deficit occurs - There are no active groundwater bores within 9 km of the BP33 site. According to technical reports, drawdown will not impact other consumptive uses due to the large distance between the mine and other registered production bores and the lack of connectivity between aquifers.	- Bore permits and groundwater extraction licences would be required under the Water Act. - The Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer is 16 km east of the project area. Water use is subject to the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan. The Burrell Creek Groundwater aquifer beneath the project area has no connection to the Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer. - Permits and licencing arrangements will ensure there is no likely impact on other water uses	D2: low Screened out	- Local area residents and businesses - Properties in the area using bore water
Impact on other water users' lives and livelihoods as a result of contamination of groundwater or discharge water	During operations	D – unlikely	2 – minor	D2: low	- The operation does not involve the use of hazardous materials or chemicals that could impact water quality for consumptive uses. - There are no consumptive users of surface water downstream of the proposal area. - During the wet season, Observation Hill Dam will discharge over the existing dam wall to an ephemeral creek into the Charlotte River. A Waste Discharge Licence will be applied for under the Water Act. - According to technical information, the potential for Acid Rock Drainage (ARD) contamination of surface or groundwater is considered low but	- Environmental Management Plans - Social performance plans - A Waste Discharge Licence will be applied for under the Water Act. - Ongoing communication about Core's water use and water sources	D2: low Screened out	Cox Peninsula residents and environmental stakeholders



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
					there is some uncertainty however Core continues to conduct ongoing sampling and monitoring looking for evidence of ARD. Excess water will be treated if required and pumped to Observation Hill Dam. The required treatment and methods are to be further developed when the discharge water quality is known			
Infrastructure and services								
Increased pressure on police, fire and emergency services	Start of construction	C – possible	1 - insignificant	C1: low	- Higher rates of traffic incidents and fires were possible issues raised during Grants consultation, however these issues were not raised during the BP33 consultation. - The extent and severity of the impact results in a low rating.	- Emergency Management and Response Plan - Fire breaks to reduce risk of bushfires - Traffic Management Plan - Emergency Response capability and first aid facilities on site - Bushfire management plans and procedures - Explosive management procedures	D1: low Screened out	- NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services - St John Ambulance - Bushfires NT
Healthy country								
Impacts to recreation and fishing activities as a result of changes in downstream water flows or impacts to water quality	During operations	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- This was raised as a possible concern by an environment stakeholder - The Charlotte River and Bynoe Harbour are used for fishing and recreational activities. According to technical information, changes in downstream water flow or water quality could impact the quality of aquatic habitats, however this is uncertain and further modelling is being done. - The watercourse that flows into the Charlotte River supports a low diversity aquatic community only during the wet season and early dry season. In a worst	- Sampling and monitoring to identify and prevent downstream contamination - Water quality monitoring program includes monitoring sites downstream of the both the Grants and BP33 mine sites. Baseline pre-mining water quality data have been collected since 2016 for comparison. - Monitoring of vegetation health in downstream mangrove and riparian habitats – baseline pre-mining assessments have been undertaken for comparison.	D2: low Screened out	- Recreational fishers - Local area residents



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
					case scenario if the aquatic communities were altered, it is unlikely that this would affect biodiversity or ecological integrity within the Charlotte River system - Water quality downstream of the mine site could be affected by discharge of sediments, hydrocarbon contamination (leaks and spills) and discharge of excess water dewatered from the underground mine - The potential for ARD contamination of surface or groundwater is considered low but there is some uncertainty to be addressed by further studies. - As the technical advice is that this is unlikely, it has been assessed as low impact.	- Discharges of excess water from the mine site require a Waste Discharge Licence, which will stipulate the water quality criteria that should be achieved and monitoring required to demonstrate compliance. Assessment of compliance is the responsibility of NTG. - Extraction of water from surface water dams and bores requires an extraction licence under the Water Act. The application process requires Core to demonstrate a sustainable water supply and is assessed by NTG.		
Loss of productive land due to spread of weeds; costs of eradicating weeds	Start of construction	C – possible	1 - insignificant	C1: low	- Potential spread of weeds was raised during the Grants project EIS as a possible issue and some stakeholders mentioned the issue of Gamba Grass in the area. - This has a low significance rating as the impact is low severity, there would be a limited change and the extent limited.	- Weed management practices and control in place - Monthly weed surveys in high risk areas - Weed Management Plan in accordance with the Weeds Management Act 2001	D1: low Screened out	Nearby properties
Concerns about legacy mines and the impact on the environment	Project announcements/ consultation stage	B – likely	1- insignificant	B1: medium	- There is sensitivity in the region about the possibility of early mine closure, legacy mines and environmentally sound rehabilitation and closure - Rehabilitation and closure was a key topic raised during consultation - Early mine closure is unlikely due to economic feasibility studies and the short mine life.	- Mine Closure Plan - Ongoing community and stakeholder engagement - Care and maintenance plan under the <i>Mining Management Act</i> - Payment of bond to ensure costs not borne by the community if agreed closure objectives are not met	E1: low (included in SIA as there is sensitivity in the region about legacy mines)	Cox Peninsula residents



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
						Mine Closure Plan, including backfilling of BP33 box-cut		
Living environment								
Impacts to health, safety and wellbeing due to use of chemicals	Project announcements/consultation stage	D – unlikely	1 - insignificant	D1: low	- This was raised by one stakeholder during the Grants EIS process - The operation does not involve the use of hazardous materials or chemicals that could impact water quality for consumptive uses, therefore it has been given a low rating	- Ongoing communication with the community and stakeholders about any use of chemicals and environmental management - Environmental Management Plans	D1: low Screened out	- Residents in nearby communities – Belyuen, Wagait - Residents close to the haul route – Berry Springs
Reduced neighbourhood amenity and enjoyment as a result of dust emissions	Construction starts: The land is cleared for project activities	D – unlikely	1 - insignificant	D1: low	- Questions were raised about dust by one stakeholder during early consultation - The mine site is remote from residential areas and sensitive receptors, existing land uses and there is no public access to the area. Noise and dust emissions from the site are unlikely to be noticeable to the community or users of Cox Peninsula Road, therefore this has been given a low rating	Dust suppression and monitoring measures and communication of these to nearby communities	E1: low Screened out	Residents in nearby communities – Belyuen, Wagait



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
Negative impacts to land use, livelihoods and risks to life as a result of dam wall failure at Observation Hill Dam	During operations	D - unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- One community member raised the dam wall failure during the Grants EIS process - According to technical reports, dam wall failure is unlikely due to the design being in accordance with guidelines and additional measures designed to further reduce the likelihood - In the very unlikely event of a dam wall failure, the waterbodies downstream would receive a sudden surge in flow for a short period. - Due to the likelihood, and the duration, extent and severity, this is given a low impact rating	- Environmental management plans - Construction in line with design guidelines, and additional design measures in place	E2: low Screened out	Residents and businesses in the area
Reduced neighbourhood amenity and enjoyment as a result of noise and vibrations	Start of construction: blasting activity	C – possible	1 - insignificant	C1: low	- Potential traffic noise was raised during the Grants project consultation however was not raised during BP33 consultation. Noise from truck movements is addressed under <i>People and Communities: Amenity impacts due to road train movements for seven years</i> - Blasting noise is unlikely to impact people due to the distance from the project site to residences and communities. - Vibrations may be felt but are unlikely to impact amenity and enjoyment	- Environmental management plans - Ongoing monitoring - Community engagement	D1: low Screened out	- Berry Springs Primary School - Berry Springs residents and businesses near the haul route
Reduced enjoyment of landscapes and changed sense of place	Project announcements/consultation stage	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- During the Grants EIS process, some community members raised concerns about the impacts on flora and fauna in the region, and there is some sensitivity to land clearing in the region - It is unlikely that people's enjoyment of the landscape will be impacted by the project as the site is not visible	- Environmental management plans - Ongoing community engagement	D2: low Screened out	Cox Peninsula residents



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
					from the road, the project footprint is relatively small and the duration of the project is relatively short, and appropriate closure plans will be in place			
Cultural identity								
Impacts on cultural heritage causes distress to custodians and Larrakia people connected to the site	Disturbance of a sacred site during construction, operations or closure	D – unlikely (unlikely that the sacred site will be disturbed – distance to any project activity)	3 – moderate	D3: medium	- During the public feedback process AAPA queried the distance of the sacred site to the haul roads - Damage to the identified sacred site is considered unlikely due to the distance to any project activity	- The known sacred site will be designated as a 'no access' area - AAPA Authority Certificate - Code of Conduct for workers and inductions will cover protection of sacred sites - Engagement with custodians	D2: low Screened out	- Aboriginal custodians - Larrakia people
Reduced ties to land and ability to maintain culture	Start of construction	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- This was not raised as an issue during consultation however people mentioned picnics and hunting on the Cox Peninsula, in the meeting with Belyuen residents for the Grants project. During the BP33 consultation, consultants questioned locals about their use of the area for recreation, hunting, cultural or other activity. - Most stakeholders who were asked indicated that people mainly use the areas immediately surrounding Belyuen, across the road, and along the beach and coast all the way to Charles Point. One stakeholder said he used to frequent Observation Hill Dam	- The appropriate sacred site clearances - Ongoing engagement with local communities	D2: low	- Belyuen residents - Traditional owners - Local communities



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
					for recreation while many people were not aware of the existence of the dam. • The BP33 project area has a history of mining and exploration activity which, combined with community feedback, indicates that it is unlikely that the project will reduce ties to land and the ability for people to maintain their culture.			
Economies (jobs, economic and community development)								
Workers lose their jobs, and local contracts lost due to early closure of the mine	Closure and rehabilitation	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	• Early mine closure is unlikely due to economic feasibility studies and the short mine life	• Mine Closure Plan • Ongoing community and stakeholder engagement	E2: low Screened out	• Locals who secure work on the project • Local contractors
Positive – Economic Opportunities								
Boost to the regional economy through employment	Start of operations: workers employed	C – possible	2 - minor	C2: noticeable	• Regional economic benefits have been raised during consultation • A boost to the regional economy will be noticeable but the short mine life reduces the level of impact • Local employment was frequently raised during consultation	• Recruitment processes prioritising the local market • Local communication about job opportunities	B2: beneficial	• Local businesses • Head contractors
Enhanced opportunities for local Aboriginal people for jobs and training	Start of operations: workers employed	C – possible	2 - minor	C2: noticeable	• Employment and training for local Aboriginal people has consistently been raised during consultation and is a key expectation of local Aboriginal organisations and residents. • Core's extended operations increase the potential training and job opportunities.	• Business and Aboriginal participation plans • Work with local Aboriginal organisations and/or Aboriginal employment and training providers to identify and maximise local Aboriginal employment opportunities	B2: beneficial	• Local Aboriginal people interested in work on the project • Local Aboriginal and employment organisations • Head contractors
Boost to the regional economy through local procurement	Start of operations: workers employed	C – possible	2 - minor	C2: noticeable	• While local procurement will stimulate and strengthen the region's economy, the size and duration of the project reduces the impact. It is likely to have	• Package tenders to suit local capacity • Proactive identification of local business with the capacity to work on the project	B2: beneficial	• Local businesses • Head contractors



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
					a noticeable effect on the regional economy.	Specify the preference for local service and supply with head contractors		
Local communities benefit through sponsorship and local support	Construction and ongoing	C - possible	2 - minor	C2: noticeable	- Core has indicated an interest in providing sponsorship to support the local communities, with some sponsorship support provided to a local event in the past - Core aims to provide support and sponsorship to the most affected stakeholders and communities	- Develop a sponsorship plan to ensure the most affected stakeholders and communities benefit from the project - Work with local councils to identify sponsorship opportunities	B2: beneficial	Local communities
Cumulative								
Cumulative loss of community character and people's sense of place	Start of construction	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- Departmental feedback queried cumulative impacts of multiple projects in the region - The BP33 Project will begin operation once the mining at Grants has ceased. They will not operate concurrently - Road use, noise, dust and social / community impacts will not overlap and intensity of these impacts will not increase - The BP33 mine life is four years, and is unlikely to overlap with any future mining developments not yet proposed. - There could be cumulative impact to flora and fauna environmental values due to spread of weeds however appropriate management mitigation measures can limit the potential impact - It is considered unlikely that large numbers of people employed locally will relocate to Berry Springs or the Cox Peninsula to work on the project. Some people are likely to be accommodated	- Grants and BP33 will not operate at the same time - Care and maintenance plan under the <i>Mining Management Act</i> - Ongoing community and stakeholder engagement - Mine closure plans	D2: low Screened out	- Cox Peninsula residents - Berry Springs residents and businesses near the haul route



Impact/ Opportunity	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people and communities
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
					in areas around the mine, but this will not be large numbers and is unlikely to impact on the community character and people's sense of place It is possible that there will be an increase in the number of mine workers frequenting local businesses in Berry Springs however the consequence of those changes is considered insignificant.			
Cumulative impacts of multiple projects increasing industrial traffic on local roads	Announcement by other proponents of projects in the region	C - possible	2 -minor	C2: medium	- Although Core's use of the roads across Grants and BP33 will not be cumulative as they will not operate concurrently, there could be cumulative impacts if other, unrelated projects in the area proceed - Additional information is required on timing, level and impacts of road use by other potential projects	- ongoing community and stakeholder engagement - traffic management plans to reduce injuries and fatalities and communication that these will be implemented - good communication about the likely impacts and implications of the project - conduct a road condition survey before start of work - engage with the other projects companies to seek options to collectively minimise impacts.	C1: low	- Cox Peninsula residents - Other Cox Peninsula road users

Table 5: Impact and Opportunities Assessment

8. People and communities

People and communities includes people's health, wellbeing and safety, which are essential for good lifestyles. It includes our sense of connectedness, ability to live in harmony with each other, feel safe and be healthy. (Munday 2020).

This section provides a background profile of the region and baseline conditions, outlines the likely change processes and their consequences, and concludes with an assessment of the impacts of these changes from the perspective of local people and communities.

8.1 Social profile and baseline

8.1.1 The project area

The BP33 Project is located on vacant Crown land on the Cox Peninsula. The Aboriginal community of Belyuen is the closest community to the project. The site is 33 kilometres west of Berry Springs and 2.5 kilometres south-west of Cox Peninsula Road. Core's Grants Project, which has received environmental approval by the NT EPA, is 7.5 kilometres from the BP33 mine site. The two sites will be connected via an internal haul route that all mine vehicles will use to enter and leave the BP33 mine site.

The project site is in an unincorporated area, hence not covered by in any local government area, but the haul route to be used by trucks transporting processed ore from the Grants processing plant passes through Litchfield, Palmerston and Darwin municipalities. It is close to the Belyuen Community, which is served by the Belyuen Community Government Council. It is not serviced by mains power, water or sewage.

The project area is surrounded by bushland and generally undeveloped. The area has a long history of exploration and mining activity dating back 100 years and there are several historic mine sites in the surrounding area. The BP33 deposit has been mined for a number of years in the 1980s and 1990s as an open pit mine. The ore was trucked to a central processing facility located nearby at Observation Hill. The Observation Hill processing facility operated for more than a decade.

The immediate surrounding area is sparsely populated, however there are several nearby communities located along the proposed haul route between the project site and Darwin Port. These communities are Berry Springs, Tumbling Waters and Blackmore River/Southport. Cox Peninsula Road is the main access road for other communities on the Cox Peninsula and surrounding region, which are Wagait Beach, Mandorah, Belyuen, Dundee, Dundee Beach and surrounding properties, Bynoe Harbour and Crab Claw Island.

The project haul route passes through a number of rural areas in outer Darwin, however these are not directly on the Stuart Highway. An additional 10 return road train trips per day on the highway is unlikely to create noticeable change in traffic movements along the Arnhem or Stuart Highways. Therefore the communities excluded from the assessment are Noonamah, Humpty Doo, Bees Creek, Freds Pass and Coolalinga.

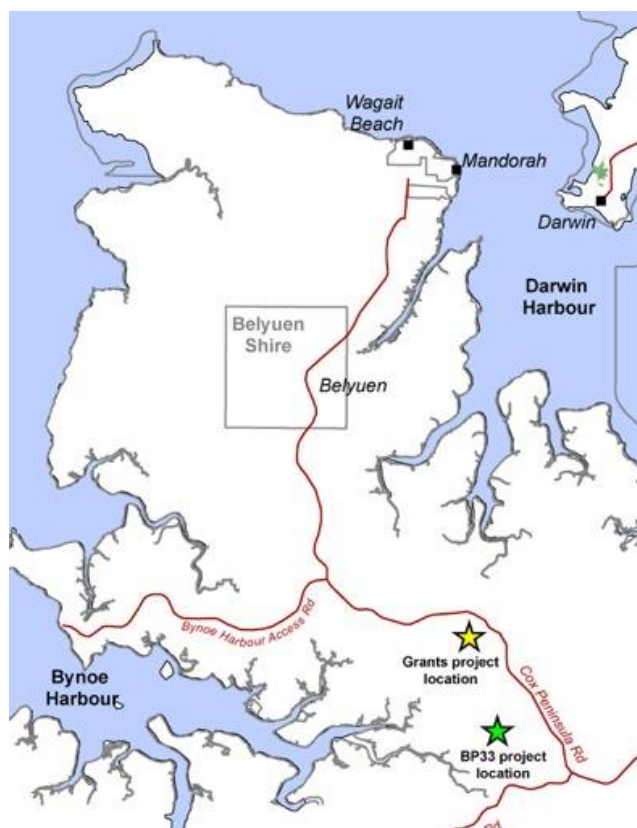


Figure 5: Map (left): the location of the BP33 project in relation to the Grants project site, Cox Peninsula Road and the Cox Peninsula region



Figure 6: Map (right): the proposed haul route between the BP33 and Grants project sites. Source: EcOz

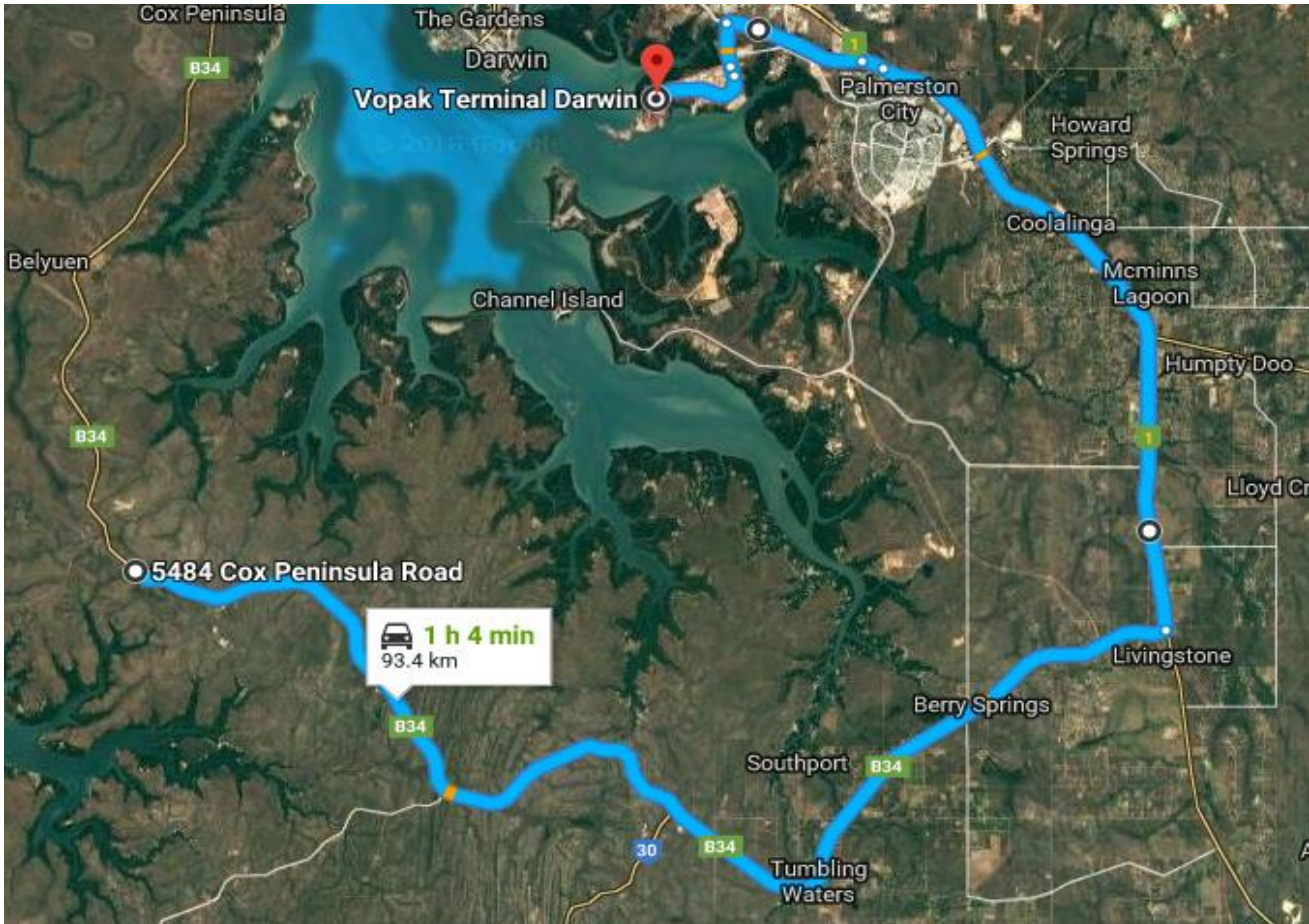


Figure 7: Map showing the haul route from the Grants project site to Darwin Port. Source: EcoZ

8.1.2 History of the Cox Peninsula

The Cox Peninsula is the section of land from the west of Berry Springs up to the west of Darwin. The long-running Kenbi Land Claim, lodged in 1979 under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1976*, recognised the Larrakia people as Traditional Owners of most of the Cox Peninsula.

The Aboriginal Land Commissioner, Justice Gray (2000) found the Tommy Lyons Group of six people, most of whom live in Belyuen, had ‘primary spiritual responsibility’ for the land claimed, with the exception of the south-east corner of the claim area. Justice Gray acknowledged longstanding ties to the Cox Peninsula, including foraging rights of an estimated 1600 Larrakia - who mostly live in and around Darwin - and Daly River language groups such as the Wagaitj and Berringen, who live in coastal regions between Wadeye and the Cox Peninsula.

Justice Gray found none of the four claimant groups (Tommy Lyons, Larrakia, Belyuen and Danggalaba group) had established the strength of attachment required by the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act* to the south-eastern portion of the claim area. This area includes the footprint of the BP33 Project.

Anthropologist Elizabeth Povinelli (1993) makes the distinction between land holders - a social group defined by spiritual ties to the land - and land users, groups with economic interests in the land, such as hunting and foraging.

This was clear in interviews for the SIA, where many Belyuen residents, the majority of whom are not Larrakia, described a range of customary activities conducted across the peninsula including camping, hunting and fishing.

The Cox Peninsula has been Aboriginal land for thousands of years. European settlers renamed the peninsula after Matthew Dillon Cox, regarded as the Territory's first pastoralist. Cox arrived in Darwin (then called Palmerston) just after it was established in February 1869. He inspected the country to the west of Darwin, where he obtained a lease.

Early gardens, plantations and pastoral properties were started near Bynoe Harbour, including a short-lived experimental sugar cane farm at Delissaville.

By the 1930s, government policy was to contain Aboriginal people in settlements, disrupting customary activities and language use. Many Wagaitj groups were rounded up and settled at the Delissaville compound. Larrakia were moved to Darwin's Kahlin and Bagot reserves. Mixed-race children from across the Territory were removed from their families and taken to these reserves as well.

In 1941, the Australian Government formally acquired 351 acres at Delissaville as a reserve for Wagaitj and Larrakia families, run by the Aboriginal Welfare Branch. During World War II, Delissaville residents were evacuated to Katherine 'war camps'. In the 1950s, it was re-established as an Aboriginal reserve, mainly for Wagaitj language group families.

The name was changed to Belyuen in 1975, after a nearby waterhole (Povinelli 1993). From 1977, the 4091-hectare site was held by the Delissaville/Wagaitj/Larrakia Aboriginal Land Trust.

Many residents of Belyuen identify as members of Daly River language groups such as Wadjigiyn, Kiyuk, Emi, Mentha, Marriamu and Marritjaben or as the 'Belyuen mob'. Most of these language groups have lived on the Cox Peninsula for 140 years but recognise the Larrakia as traditional owners (Povinelli 1992).

8.1.3 The Kenbi Land Claim

The Kenbi Land Claim was launched by the Northern Land Council in 1979, a year after Territory Self-Government and three years after the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1976*. One of the first acts of the new government was to promulgate town planning regulations which declared large areas around Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs as towns which were unable to be claimed as Aboriginal land (Morrison 2016).

The legal challenges to the Kenbi land claim were dropped by the Northern Territory's Labor Government in 2002, two years after Justice Gray's report.

The title deeds to the Kenbi land claim area were handed to Raylene Singh and other members of the Tommy Lyons Group in June 2016 by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, ending the longest-running land claim in Australia's history.

Under an agreement reached with the Australian Government, 52,000 hectares covered by the Kenbi claim became Aboriginal land under the *Land Rights Act*. Another 13,000 hectares in the northern section of the Cox Peninsula became freehold land vested in the Kenbi Land Trust, 20 per cent of which was granted to the Larrakia Development Corporation.

The agreement factors in the 2008 High Court Blue Mud Bay decision, which recognised traditional ownership of 85 per cent of the Territory's coastline, including the Cox Peninsula. Settlement of the Kenbi Land Claim maintained access for recreational fishers to most of the Cox Peninsula coastline and islands to the west.

As part of the settlement, the Australian Government also agreed to remediate lands across the Kenbi land claim area which had been degraded by toxic waste and defence materials (Morrison 2016).

The Kenbi Rangers were established on the Cox Peninsula in 2011 and have a Healthy Country Plan. Their duties are fee for service environmental and land management activities, research collaborations on sea country, management of sacred sites and managing visitor access to land trust areas (NLC 2021).



8.1.4 Defence history

The Cox Peninsula features substantial World War II history. As Ellis and Gardner (2015) outline, Darwin's defences in the 1930s were virtually non-existent as England's priority was an ill-fated Singapore fortress strategy, not Northern Australia.

However, the military presence in the north of Australia increased in the 1940s as the Japanese threat grew, including gun batteries, a radar site at Charles Point, anti-aircraft searchlight installations on the western shores of Darwin Harbour and an anti-submarine net between West Point and Dudley Point to the east of the harbour.

Many Aboriginal men on the Cox Peninsula joined a 'Black Watch', which patrolled the peninsula and coast under military control.

In January, 1945 an American B-24 Liberator bomber, the *Milady*, crashed in bushland south of Two Fella Creek on a training run, killing all six on board. The wreck site is now a heritage area, with interpretive signage providing background on the crash.

The north-western tip and parts of the northern area of the Cox Peninsula were used by the Commonwealth government for more than 70 years for maritime, communications and defence purposes, which resulted in extensive contamination with asbestos, pesticides and heavy metals found in the area (ABC, 2015). The Australian Government has since arranged remediation of the land to restore the natural environment and made the site safe for future use (Ventia, 2018).

8.1.5 Key communities

The following communities are considered to be part of the project's area of influence:

- Berry Springs (nearby community and on the haul route)
- Belyuen (closest community and traffic from Belyuen will share the Cox Peninsula Road haul route)
- Wagait Beach (the haul route is along the only access route to the community)
- Tumbling Waters, Blackmore River/Southport (rural localities on the haul route)
- Mandorah (will share the haul route)
- Dundee/Dundee Beach (will share the haul route)
- Bynoe (will share the haul route)
- Crab Claw Island (will share the haul route)
- Darwin and Palmerston (potential service and supply).

Summaries of each of the communities are provided below.

Berry Springs

Berry Springs is about 56 kilometres by road from Darwin and is within the Litchfield Council area. The Berry Springs community is a small rural settlement with a population of 818 and a median age of 35 (Australian Bureau of Statistics Census QuickStats, 2016). At the Census 2016, there were 348 houses and 205 families living in Berry Springs. The town spreads across Cox Peninsula Road and includes Berry Springs Shopping Village, Berry Springs Tavern, a service station and other local businesses. A kilometre past the town centre, along Cox Peninsula Road, is the Berry Springs Primary School and Preschool.

People who live in Berry Springs value the quiet, rural lifestyle while having easy access to the amenities of nearby Darwin and Palmerston. People are passionate about maintaining the slower, more relaxed lifestyle of the rural area and typically enjoy fishing, hunting, horse riding, quad biking and similar activities.

Berry Springs is the gateway to one of the Northern Territory's most popular tourist destinations, Litchfield National Park. It is also home to several popular tourist spots including the Territory Wildlife Park and Berry

Springs Nature Park and waterhole, which is popular with tourists and locals, which means the population and local traffic swells during tourist season.

Berry Springs is 33 kilometres east of the project area, and is on the Cox Peninsula Road, which will serve as the haul route between the Grants processing facility and the Darwin Port.



Berry Springs township



Berry Springs Primary School

Belyuen

Belyuen, about 15 kilometres north-west of the project area, is Aboriginal freehold land under the control of the Belyuen Community Government Council. Belyuen is on the eastern side of the Cox Peninsula – 128 kilometres by sealed road from Darwin (or 20 kilometres south-west as the crow flies) and 20 kilometres south of Mandorah.

In 2016, Belyuen had a population of about 164, of whom 157 were Aboriginal (ABS 2016). In the 2016 Census, the median age in Belyuen was 29 and there were 40 houses in the community, with an average 4.4 people per household. Only two thirds of the households in Belyuen have a vehicle and at the 2016 Census, the median weekly household income was \$850.

During consultation interviews, the CEO of Belyuen Community Government Council reported that unemployment in Belyuen is high, with few opportunities available apart from the shop, the council and the aged care service. Most employment is gained through government employment programs.

Belyuen Community Government Council reports high mobility between Belyuen and Darwin communities such as Bagot, One Mile Dam, Minmirama and 15 Mile as a result of close relationships between Belyuen and Darwin families and, occasionally, to escape conflict in the community.

The community is serviced by the Batchelor Police Station about 88 kilometres away. Fuel and food and limited groceries are available at the community store. There is an unsealed airstrip and a primary school (Northern Territory Government 2018). The Belyuen Health Clinic is open 9 am to 4 pm (five days per week) and provides clinical and emergency services to the surrounding area up to the Dundee Beach turnoff (Wagait, Mandorah, Belyuen). An ambulance is located at the clinic.

Wagait Beach

The freehold residential area of Wagait Beach (the Wagaitj word for sandy beach) is a small beachside community first settled in the 1970s on the north-east coast of the Cox Peninsula. From 1995, the Wagait Beach residential development was administered by the Cox Peninsula Community Government Council. Now the Wagait Shire Council, the municipality is a 15-minute ferry ride from Cullen Bay to Mandorah or 138-kilometre road trip from Darwin.



The suburb of Wagait Beach covers 568 hectares and in the 2016 Census had a population of 461, with a median age of 48. Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people made up 9.1% of the population (ABS Quick Stats 2016).

Wagait Beach is popular for fishing and camping and a popular weekend and holiday destination for Darwin and Palmerston residents. There are very few employment opportunities at Wagait Beach apart from the Wagait Shire Council, Wagait Beach Supermarket and the Cox Country Club. Most residents travel to Darwin or Palmerston and the rural area to work.

The main forms of transport to Darwin are by ferry or by car along the Cox Peninsula Road to Palmerston and the rural area. Others use Cox Peninsula Road for weekly shopping trips and other business.

Stakeholders commented that Wagait Beach has become very popular, with many properties now selling quickly after being on the market for a long time.

Interviewees commented that Wagait Beach residents enjoy the quiet, low-key location on the beach while maintaining the benefit of easy access to amenities nearby.

Representatives of the Wagait Shire Council reported that the main issues for the town are the high fire risk, the poor condition of Cox Peninsula Road, water availability for reticulation and ensuring cyclone shelters have the capacity to accommodate a growing population.

Tumbling Waters

Tumbling Waters, a small rural settlement in the Litchfield Council area has a population of 170 and a median age of 40 (ABS 2016). The main populated area is the Tumbling Waters Holiday Park, which offers tropical accommodation in the form of villas, cabins, caravans and camping sites close to Litchfield National Park and Berry Springs.



Road sign for Tumbling Waters



Tumbling Waters Holiday Park

Southport

Southport was once a thriving river port on the confluence of the Blackmore and Darwin Rivers, at the bottom of Middle Arm Peninsula. During a brief boom period from 1870 to 1889, the town was a staging and supply post for road and river traffic to the new colony's hinterland. This flourishing activity supported many substantial stores, hotels, a post office, powder house, Chinese shops, vegetable gardens and a Chinatown.

The town declined after 1888 when it was bypassed by the new Palmerston to Pine Creek Railway line. As the boom ended, the town's police station, telegraph station and businesses closed and public buildings were removed.

In the 1970s, Southport experienced a resurgence. Current residents comment on the growing popularity of the town's half-acre basic 'bush blocks' due to affordability and the attraction of a simple rural lifestyle. The town has limited amenities but easy access to a concrete boat ramp and fishing on the Blackmore River.

Located off the Cox Peninsula Road, Southport is 60 kilometres south of Darwin, a half hour trip to Palmerston via Finn Road and 10 kilometres south-west of the Berry Springs rural and horticultural area. It retains the 384



blocks laid out by Surveyor General George Goyder in 1869 and streets named after members of Goyder's party. An estimated 90 families now live on the mostly private residential blocks.

As with the rest of the Cox Peninsula, a major constraint to growth is the lack of reticulated or ground water. Residents and the volunteer rural fire service rely on rainwater tanks and cart water from a community bore, which can become unreliable when the aquifer drops after poor Wet seasons.

There are no services in town, with residents relying on the school and shops in nearby Berry Springs or commuting to Palmerston and Darwin.

Southport has a population of 232 people (ABS 2016) and the median age in Southport is 33.

Mandorah

Mandorah is at the north-east point of Cox Peninsula across the harbour from Darwin. Ferries travel the 15-minute trip from Darwin to Mandorah, offering residents in the region a convenient commute between Darwin and the Cox Peninsula. The main infrastructure at Mandorah is the Mandorah ferry terminal and carpark. Wagait Beach is about four kilometres from Mandorah.

Dundee/Dundee Beach

Dundee Beach is a small beachside locality south-west of the Cox Peninsula about 140 kilometres from Darwin. The Dundee region is an unincorporated area of the Northern Territory, which means it is not governed by local government and municipal services are provided by the Northern Territory Government.

The region includes tourist and fishing accommodation, a school, three pubs, and pastoral and residential properties. It is a popular weekend destination for Darwin locals. One of the main attractions is the land and sea based fishing, with locals regularly travelling from Darwin and Palmerston to launch their boats at the boat ramp at Dundee. The only access route to Dundee Beach is via Cox Peninsula Road.

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 Quickstats, Dundee Beach has a population of 207. In 2016, only half of the 200 dwellings in Dundee were permanent residential dwellings, with the other half unoccupied (ABS 2016), mostly used as weekend or holiday accommodation. The median age of residents was considerably older than other Northern Territory regions, sitting at 58.

A current issue for Dundee residents is the lack of a permanent health clinic in the area, with residents and tourists unable to access basic health services in the town (McCormack, 2021).

Bynoe

Bynoe is a small rural locality that sits inland from Dundee. It is south-west of the project area, with the only access to the area via Fog Bay Road, off Cox Peninsula Road. At the 2016 Census, the Bynoe area had a population of 96. Bynoe is an unincorporated area of the Northern Territory. It is a popular fishing spot, with many Darwin and Palmerston residents travelling to the region on weekends for fishing.

Crab Claw Island

Crab Claw Island resort is an isolated coastal tourist resort and a popular getaway for Darwin locals. The main attraction is the beach, fishing and relaxed atmosphere. The only road access to Crab Claw Island (which is on the mainland) is via a 4WD track off Fog Bay Road and then on to Cox Peninsula Road.

Darwin and Palmerston

Darwin and Palmerston are significant population centres, likely to provide people and services to support the project. The project's transport corridor passes through the City of Palmerston. People relocating to the region for work on the project could seek housing in Darwin or Palmerston, which are currently experiencing increasing property sales and tight rental markets.

According to the Real Estate Institute of the Northern Territory, there has been a surge in house sales across the Darwin region, up 51.1 per cent from last year (REINT 2021). Palmerston house sales were also up 62 per

cent annually. The rental market has also grown in the past year with a 10.3 per cent annual increase. Vacancy rates across Greater Darwin are 1.8 per cent, 1.6 per cent in Palmerston and 2.4 per cent in the rural area. However, it should be noted the Territory is currently coming off “perhaps the most depressed property market the Territory has seen in years” where close to a decade of capital gains were lost and the lowest sales volumes since 1999 were experienced (REINT 2021).

Darwin and The Top End have a generally younger population with a higher proportion of Aboriginal residents than in other parts of Australia, a higher proportion of Defence families and project-driven mobility.

Palmerston is the second largest city in the Northern Territory and is the fastest growing municipality in the Northern Territory. Many people in Palmerston enjoy a high income, but there is also a significant proportion of the population with low socio-economic status. There is a high proportion of Aboriginal people living in Palmerston making up 11 per cent of the population. Many young families choose to live in Palmerston due to availability of affordable housing (ABS 2016).

8.1.6 Governance and institutions

Australian Government

The project is in the Federal seat of Lingiari that covers much of the Northern Territory excluding the Darwin municipality and most of Palmerston. It has been held by Labor Member of Parliament Warren Snowdon since 1987 (except for a short period between 1996 and 1998). Darwin and Palmerston are part of the Federal seat of Solomon.

Northern Territory Government

The project is in the Northern Territory electorate of Daly, which surrounds Darwin City to the south and west of the Top End. The Daly electorate is bounded by Kakadu National Park to the east, the Fitzmaurice River in the south and Darwin Harbour in the north. Ian Sloane is the Country Liberal Party member for Daly and was elected in 2020 (ABC 2020).

A Labor Government, under Chief Minister Michael Gunner, was elected in 2016 and re-elected in 2020. The Government’s current priority is economic recovery from the impacts of COVID19, guided by a Territory Economic Reconstruction Commission report delivered in November 2020. Priorities are creating jobs, attracting private investment, supporting current and emerging industries, building on the Territory’s competitive advantages and unlocking the potential of the Territory’s regions (Northern Territory Government 2020). The report recommends focussing on five key industries: mining and energy, national security and Defence, tourism, manufacturing and agribusiness. After the 2020 state election, Minister Nicole Manison took over the portfolio of Mining and Industry.

Local government

The mine site footprint is outside any incorporated local government area but borders local governments with an interest:

- Belyuen Community Government Council
- Wagait Shire Council
- Litchfield Shire Council
- City of Palmerston
- City of Darwin

8.1.7 Demography

Darwin and Palmerston are likely to be a source of employment and goods and services. The regions around the project area, Wagait and Litchfield are also likely to be a source of employment, with representatives from



the Wagait Shire Council reporting that the population of Wagait has grown significantly in the last 12 months and has a number of FIFO workers now based in the town. Depending on the workforce capabilities in Belyuen, it is hoped that Belyuen community could also be a source of employment for the project.

Population

The Greater Darwin area comprises the three local government areas of Darwin, Litchfield and Palmerston. Greater Darwin has an estimated population of 136 000, which is more than half of the Northern Territory's population.

Darwin is the capital city of the Northern Territory. The Darwin Local Government Area had an estimated population of 82,030 in 2020 (ABS 2020). Darwin is well-known as a multicultural community, with almost a third of Territorians born overseas (ABS 2017).

Palmerston's population at the 2016 Census was more than 33,000. Palmerston has a young population and attracts many young families.

From 2011 to 2017, Palmerston and Litchfield were two of the fastest growing regions in the Northern Territory. Litchfield recorded 26 per cent growth in the population from 2011 to 2017, from 19,000 people to 24,000 while Palmerston recorded a population increase of 22 per cent from 28,000 to 34,000 (ABS 2017). In 2020, Palmerston recorded a 1.9 per cent increase in population however this is well below the 10-year average of 3 per cent growth (Northern Territory Government 2021).

Table 5 below shows the population composition at a local level based on 2016 ABS data. The table includes the population, median age, percentage of the population that is Aboriginal, the top three languages spoken at home and top three places of birth for each area.

Composition of the population

Area	Characteristic	2016 ABS Data
Litchfield Council Local Government Area (LGA)	Population	23,855
	Median age	37
	% Aboriginal	9.7%
	Language spoken at home (top 3)	74.8% English 1% Vietnamese 0.4% Greek
	Place of birth (top 3)	70.8% Australia 3% England 2% New Zealand
Belyuen (suburb)	Population	164
	Median age	30
	% Aboriginal	90.4%
	Language spoken at home (top 3)	36.8% Australian Indigenous language 13.5% English
	Place of birth	100% Australia
Berry Springs (suburb)	Population	818
	Median age	35
	% Aboriginal	9.2%
	Language spoken at home (top 3)	83% English
	Place of birth (top 3)	75% Australia 3.7% England 2.5% Vietnam
Darwin (LGA)	Population	78,804
	Median age	34
	% Aboriginal	7.4%
	Language spoken at home (top 3)	62.4% English 3.5% Greek 2.2% Tagalog
	Place of birth (top 3)	57.0% Australia 4.3% Philippines 3.3% England
Palmerston (SA3)	Population	33,786
	Median age	30
	% Aboriginal	11.3%
	Language spoken at home (top 3)	76.4% English 2.1% Tagalog 1.4% Filipino
	Place of birth (top 3)	70.6% Australia 4.0% Philippines 2.5% England
Wagait Beach (Suburb)	Population	461
	Median age	48
	% Aboriginal	9.1%
	Language spoken at home (top 3)	91.2% English 0.9% Tetum 0.7% German
	Place of birth (top 3)	80.5% Australia

Area	Characteristic	2016 ABS Data
		3.9% New Zealand 3.4% England

Table 6: Demographic composition based on 2016 Census data (ABS 2017)

Age profile

Greater Darwin has a young population with a median age of 33 compared to 38 nationally. Close to half of Greater Darwin's population (43 per cent) is aged between 25-49 compared with about a third nationally (34.7 per cent). Similarly, Greater Darwin has a lower proportion of older people compared with the rest of Australia with those aged over 50 accounting for 24.5 per cent of the population compared with 34.1 per cent nationally.

The Litchfield Council LGA median age of 37 is higher than Darwin (SA4) and the rest of the Northern Territory.

From 2005 to 2015, the Northern Territory's age structure has seen a significant growth in both males and females aged between 20 and 34 years. This is attributed to increases in employment in defence, mining, construction, education, public administration and health (Taylor & Wilson, 2016).

Population mobility

Darwin's population exhibits a high mobility rate, with fluctuations driven by the workforce needs of major projects. Between 2007 and 2017, the Greater Darwin population increased year on year, peaking at a 4 per cent increase in 2013 as a direct result of the INPEX Ichthys LNG Plant construction. However, Greater Darwin was the only capital city to record a population decrease in the 2019-20 financial year, dropping by 180 people or 0.1 per cent (ABS 2020). This ebb and flow results in a notable transient worker population across construction and hospitality industries.

In 2015, that rate of interstate arrivals and departures of 20- to 29-year-olds was significantly higher for the Northern Territory than for other states except the Australian Capital Territory. This high level of migration of young people in and out of the Northern Territory in 2015 reflects people moving for job and educational opportunities (ABS 2016).

Population growth projections

Historically the population in the Northern Territory is more volatile than the rest of Australia due to the impact of major projects on the Territory's interstate and overseas migration (Department of Treasury and Finance, 2014). However, border restrictions and uncertainty due to COVID-19 have disrupted interstate migration trends that normally influence Territory's population trends (Northern Territory Government 2021).

The Territory's population is forecast to increase by 0.5 per cent in 2021-22 after an estimated 0.3 per cent growth in 2020-21 and gradually strengthen to 1 per cent by 2024-25. There was no growth in 2019-20.

Overseas migrations are highly uncertain at this time and population projections assume a gradual return from early in 2022. Interstate migration flows are expected to return to normal long-term trends following the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine in Australia (Northern Territory Government 2021).

8.1.8 Community cohesion and resilience

Community cohesion is defined as the sense of harmony in a place, which can be established by the acceptance of social diversity, a shared sense of belonging across all groups, a broadly accepted vision and image of the location, reasonably similar life opportunities and access to services and positive relationships between people of different backgrounds (Vanclay et al. 2015).

Darwin's rural area spans the area beyond the City of Darwin and City of Palmerston and includes the Litchfield Council, Wagait Shire Council and Belyuen Shire Council. The communities of Berry Springs, Wagait and other localities on the Cox Peninsula are within the rural area, offering residents an open and laid back lifestyle but

at the doorstep of the conveniences of Palmerston and Darwin. In contrast with the high mobility of many urban areas, these small communities are tight-knit with many residents having lived in the region for decades. Discussions with locals and stakeholders revealed a region with a strong sense of identity with most people valuing the laid back and relaxed lifestyle.

The downturn in the mining boom across the Territory was felt in the area, with many locals losing jobs at the nearby Inpex Ichthys LNG Project, as it transitioned from construction to operations. The closure of the nearby Livingstone abattoir in mid-2018 also resulted in local job losses, with many residents moving away from the Territory to find work. Stakeholder consultation for this SIA suggests that local residents with mining experience and credentials commute to FIFO mining jobs in other locations. There is optimism in Berry Springs and the rural area that Core's Finnis Lithium Project will benefit the local communities through jobs, the use of local contractors and local spending. This signals a strong resilience in a community that adapts to challenging economic circumstances.

Interviews with local stakeholders indicated that, in Wagait Beach in particular, there is a strong sense of community, with many active volunteer and community groups. Stakeholder feedback suggested that people in Wagait Beach are generally confident, resilient, community-minded and well-informed about issues in the area.

Interviewees suggested that, although Belyuen is a fairly small community, there has been occasional conflict within the community in the past.

8.1.9 Wellbeing

A community's wellbeing is a key contextual factor that determines how change processes will disturb or enhance its social fabric.

Interviews for the SIA reveal that community aspirations generally for Wagait Beach revolve around maintaining an independent and low-key rural lifestyle. People are passionate about the region and issues facing the area, including environmental issues, fire management, road conditions and water availability.

Belyuen is a disadvantaged area, with a high rate of unemployment and few employment opportunities. Discussions with local residents indicated an appetite for work, however poor work readiness often forms a barrier to employment. Belyuen is an Alcohol Protected Area, which means that drinking alcohol is banned in the community, a response to past issues with alcohol and violence in the community. Belyuen residents can buy alcohol in Wagait and surrounding areas, subject to some restrictions. High rates of unemployment, problems with alcohol, violence and other socio-economic issues affect the overall wellbeing of a community and its ability to cope with change.

The ABS Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) measures how relatively 'advantaged' or 'disadvantaged' an area is compared with other areas in the state and within Australia.

The Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage, 2016 ranks Belyuen Local Government Area as amongst the most disadvantaged LGA in the Northern Territory. The City of Darwin ranks as the most advantaged LGA, followed by Litchfield Council LGA and Greater Darwin. Palmerston ranks as the fifth most advantaged LGA in the Northern Territory.

Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage

RDA Northern Territory's Local Government Areas and benchmark areas		
Area	2016 index	Percentile
City of Darwin LGA	1,041.0	71
Litchfield Council LGA	1,040.0	70
Greater Darwin	1,038.0	69

City of Palmerston LGA	1,027.0	62
Unincorporated NT	1,023.0	59
Wagait Shire LGA	1,011.0	52
Australia	1,001.9	46
Northern Territory	938.0	18
Belyuen Community Government Council LGA	435.0	1

Table 7: Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing_2016. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id the population experts.

8.1.10 Road trauma

Road toll statistics were reported in the Traffic Impact Statement prepared by GHD for the BP33 Project. According to the report, 2016 to 2020 saw 26 accidents along Cox Peninsula Road, resulting in two fatalities and 15 serious injuries. Nine of those accidents involved two or more vehicles and the remaining 17 were single vehicle accidents. Five of the crashes were alcohol related, including a double fatality. The data is insufficient to provide definitive insights into road safety issues with Cox Peninsula Road, however it should be noted that traffic includes residential, tourism and commercial vehicles sharing a two-lane road that passes through built-up areas such as Berry Springs and is the only access point to many parts of Cox Peninsula.

8.1.11 Water availability on the Cox Peninsula

Groundwater provides the main source of water for rural residential use, irrigated horticulture and aquaculture in the Berry Springs area. The Berry Springs Dolostone Aquifer System comprises two aquifer systems in the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan area that operate as one groundwater unit. Apart from its consumptive use, the aquifer maintains a number of ecosystems including at the Territory Wildlife Park and sites that are culturally important to the Kungarakana and Larrakia people (Department of Land Resource Management 2016). There is no official use of surface water for domestic or stock purposes within the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan area.

Water uses and availability in the Berry Springs area are sensitive topics that have attracted occasional media coverage. In 2019, rural residents reported fears for future water security after the driest Wet season in decades had diminished the water level to a record low (Culpitt 2019). Residents were quoted saying “every drop that you water on your garden is potentially someone else’s drinking water.” The communal bore that services Southport nearby which was “expected to run dry imminently, leaving locals no option but to ship in water at their own expense” (Culpitt 2019).

Limited access to reticulated or bore water is a key barrier to development on the Cox Peninsula. The Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan 2016-2026 specifies there will be no construction of new bores for additional extraction from the Berry Springs Dolostone Aquifer system until research and modelling demonstrate capacity can be increased without negative impacts on water quality and availability (Department of Lands Resource Management 2016). This has put a halt to further subdivisions and commercial development.

8.2 Key events or activities creating change processes

Key project events or activities creating change processes that may lead to positive or negative impacts to communities are:

- mobilisation of workforce for the Grants Project increasing workforce and industrial traffic and construction activity in the area of influence
- the start of road train movements for the Grants Project
- project announcements for either the Grants or BP33 Projects
- the start of operations on either the Grants or BP33 Projects.

8.3 Key impacts and opportunities

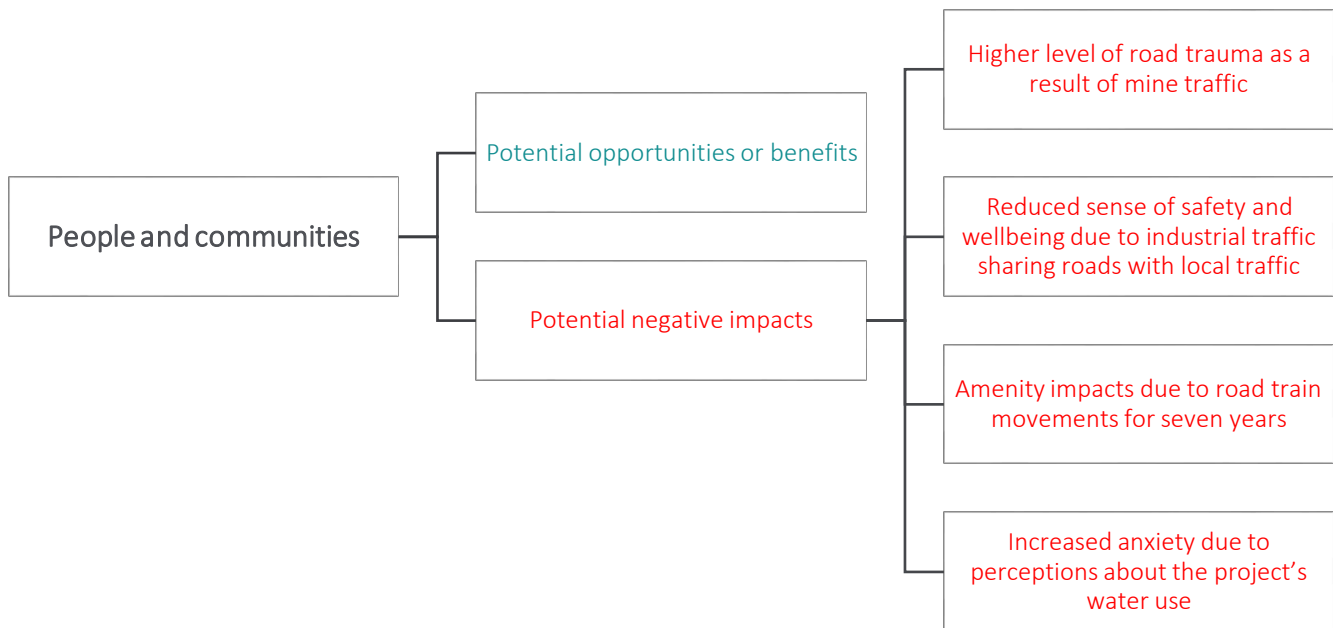


Figure 8: People and communities – key impacts and opportunities

8.4 Impact assessment for people and communities

The above information provides background data and context for an examination of social opportunities and impacts from the BP33 Project.

In assessing likely positive and negative impacts, this section considers change processes likely to be triggered by project activities such as a mobilisation of a workforce for the BP33 Project and extended road train movements from the Grants Project, as a result of mining at BP33 and project announcements. These changes are assessed in the BP33 Project impact and opportunities assessment at [Table 7](#).

Predicting positive and negative impacts includes a subjective assessment of community perceptions, scale and consequences of change, the level of concern and individual, family and community resilience or vulnerability to change. Four possible negative impacts were identified and are described in [Table 7](#). Each of these impacts is discussed below.

8.4.1 Higher level of road trauma as a result of mine traffic

The Traffic Impact Statement prepared by GHD (2021) states that the estimated daily traffic generated by the project will be 30 light vehicles and 25 heavy vehicles a day, totalling an extra 55 vehicles on the roads to and from the mine site. This includes worker, general operational and haul traffic.



During the construction phase of BP33, additional industrial traffic could increase the risk and severity of road accidents and trauma. Industrial traffic will share the road with pedestrians, commuters, tourists, recreation fishers, school buses and school traffic, cattle trucks and other motorists.

During operations, project traffic will consist of a fleet of three quad road trains travelling up to 10 return trips from the Grants processing facility to Darwin Port each day. This traffic will start during the operations phase of the Grants Project and will continue as a result of ore concentrate being extracted from the BP33 mine site. The BP33 Project will not increase the level of industrial traffic during operations but will, rather, extend the timeframe from three to seven years, effectively extending the duration of any impact. There will be some workforce vehicles including light vehicles and staff buses travelling along Stuart Highway and Cox Peninsula Road. Core has stated that it will transport workers to and from site by bus.

Cox Peninsula road and Berry Springs

The Traffic Impact Statement for the Grants Project compares the project traffic generation against forecasted traffic volumes and assesses the rate of traffic increase. Where the increase is greater than 5 per cent, it is concluded that further analysis is required, but the report states that these percentages can largely be attributed to the forecasted traffic volumes on those roads being low. The Traffic Impact Statement (2021) assessed the increase in traffic on Cox Peninsula Road as greater than 5 per cent.

A number of road safety risk hotspots were identified during research and stakeholder interviews for the Grants Project SIA. One key area was the Berry Springs Primary School and Pre-school on Cox Peninsula Road (see below). Core engaged with the Berry Springs Primary School about the increased traffic risk and committed to limit haul truck speeds in the school zone, restricting travel times to avoid peak school traffic periods and other safety measures. These measures will apply and remain in place for the duration of the BP33 Project.

Cox Peninsula Road runs through the centre of Berry Springs township, which includes turn-offs to a shopping centre, petrol station, hotel and a number of houses. There are no pedestrian crossings on Cox Peninsula Road in Berry Springs and very little pedestrian activity on the main road as most people access services and other places in the area by vehicle. Road trains travelling through the centre of the town could increase the risk to the safety of motorists in this area, however Core has committed to monitoring haul truck speeds and driver behaviour via monitoring systems to reduce this risk.



Road slowing bumps
outside Berry Springs
Primary School



Cox Peninsula Road outside
Berry Springs Primary
School



Cox Peninsula Road, Berry
Springs

The Territory Wildlife Park is a popular attraction for tourists and locals. It is near Berry Springs and is accessed from Cox Peninsula Road (as shown in image below). There is no turning lane for vehicles travelling towards



Berry Springs to the Territory Wildlife Park, which could create a potential traffic hazard particularly for tourist vehicles towing caravans turning into the site.



The entrance to Territory Wildlife Park on the left, from Cox Peninsula Road

School students use a school bus interchange on the corner of Cox Peninsula Road and Stuart Highway to change buses on their way to and from school. This interchange is well set back from the road reserves.

Cox Peninsula Road is the only access road to several communities and tourist spots including Belyuen, Wagait Beach, Crab Claw Island, Bynoe, Dundee and other rural properties. It is also an access road for Litchfield National Park, Southport and Tumbling Waters. The two-way road has one lane in each direction and unsealed shoulders on each side. Core has been working with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, and has committed to constructing a slip lane at the entrance to the Grants Lithium project, to enable the haul trucks to safely enter and exit the site. All traffic for the BP33 project will enter and exit via the Grants project site. The location of the slip lane is along a straight area of road, with clear sight lines in both directions.

During discussions with stakeholders and the communities, people expressed concern about the proposed increase in road train traffic travelling along Cox Peninsula Road for the Grants and BP33 projects. Residents reported a significant number of vehicles towing boats, caravans and trailers along Cox Peninsula Road. Several had witnessed incidents where impatience with slower traffic led drivers to overtake in unsafe locations due to the lack of overtaking lanes. Others expressed concern at additional risk posed by horses and pigs along unfenced sections of Cox Peninsula Road and reported that these animals often wander on to the road which, combined with regular quad road trains, could increase the risk of serious accidents.

A Belyuen stakeholder expressed concerns that Belyuen residents driving on Cox Peninsula Road included unlicensed drivers, people driving unroadworthy vehicles and some drink-driving. She was very concerned at the enhanced risk of these drivers sharing a narrow road with quad road trains.

Coolalinga intersection

The intersection between the Stuart Highway and Girraween Road at Coolalinga is a known area for traffic accidents. A school bus interchange, and access to Coolalinga Shopping Centre are all at this busy intersection. Road trains frequently travel along the Stuart Highway and through this intersection, and will travel this route for the duration of the Grants Lithium project and then the BP33 project. It is not expected that the extended timeframe for the haul trucks will increase the road safety risk in this area, but will extend the duration of the impact. The Northern Territory Government is aware of the existing road safety risk at this intersection and has announced \$28.6 million of Australian Government funding to upgrade the Stuart Highway at Coolalinga to address safety, efficiency and access. This work is expected to start in late 2021 and be completed by late 2022 (Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications 2021).

Mitigation measures and impact

When asked how risk of increased level of road trauma could be mitigated or minimised, most people suggested that the Northern Territory Government could widen the road or create some overtaking lanes, to minimise unsafe overtaking. Others suggested that road safety campaigns before the start of haul operations could help to minimise impacts. This will require road safety campaigns before haul operations for the Grants Project rather than BP33, and should include residents and others frequently using Cox Peninsula Road including recreational fishers, tourists, school students and visitors. Core's communication strategy for the Grants Project includes a commitment to road safety communication with key impacted stakeholder groups before the start of the project.

This impact had an initial risk rating of HIGH, but with mitigation and management the residual rating was assessed as MEDIUM.

8.4.2 Reduced sense of safety and wellbeing due to industrial traffic sharing roads with local traffic

Residents along the haul road will have four years' experience of sharing the road during the Grants Project by the time the BP33 Project starts, providing an opportunity to monitor and adapt to actual impacts or feedback. Apart from some construction traffic, the BP33 Project will not introduce additional industrial traffic to the region. It is not expected that BP33 will further reduce the sense of safety and wellbeing as a result of sharing the roads with industrial traffic; however it will extend the period of time that people in those communities are sharing the roads with industrial traffic and thus prolong any impact.

Conversations with people living in the region clearly indicate that many people don't feel safe travelling along Cox Peninsula Road now, particularly at night, in heavy rain or when sharing the road with vehicles towing boats and caravans. There is concern in the community about what it will be like to drive on Cox Peninsula Road with quad road trains over an extended period.

Most people were satisfied with the road safety measures that Core has committed to for the Grants Project, including speed restrictions in certain areas, driver monitoring, and restricting the haul trucks from travelling during peak school traffic periods, however people still had concerns about road safety on Cox Peninsula Road.

This impact had an initial risk rating of HIGH, but with mitigation and management the residual rating was assessed as MEDIUM.

8.4.3 Amenity impacts due to road train movements for seven years

Amenity impacts from road train movements includes potential impacts from additional noise, dust and lights caused by up to 20 road trains in 24 hours travelling between the Grants processing facility and Darwin Port. This haul traffic is expected to run 24 hours a day, except past Berry Springs Primary School during the peak school traffic periods. As outlined above, the BP33 Project will not create additional amenity impacts but will extend the duration of Grants Project impacts.

The BP33 haul traffic will travel from the Grants processing facility, along Cox Peninsula Road, on to the Stuart Highway and then on to Berrimah Road to the Darwin Port, returning by the same route. The Traffic Impact Statement (GHD 2021) compares the project traffic generation against forecasted traffic volumes on the haul roads and states that the traffic increases on the Stuart Highway and Berrimah Road are considered insignificant. Additional trucks on the Stuart Highway and Berrimah Road are not likely to be noticeable or to impact amenity as these densely populated areas already experience high volumes of industrial traffic.

There are about 50 residences directly off Cox Peninsula Road between the Grants Project site and the turn-off to the Stuart Highway. These are almost all set well back from the road with driveways and fences, are on medium to large blocks and are generally surrounded by trees and other vegetation.

Road trains currently travel along Cox Peninsula Road, but people living, working and stopping in Berry Springs along Cox Peninsula Road will likely notice the additional 20 truck passes in 24 hours, which is slightly fewer than one road train per hour. Although the additional trucks will be noticeable, it is considered unlikely that this will impact amenity for people along the haul route. The trucks will be transporting a gravel-like material that will be covered and will not create dust. Lights from the trucks are unlikely to affect residents or communities due to the directions of travel and distance of residences from the road.

Truck noise is unlikely to impact amenity for most residents due to the distance of most houses from the road and they are unlikely to be breaking or stopping along the route. A small number of houses closer to the road may be impacted by truck noise, however two of those houses are in Berry Springs and the speed limit in that area is 80 kilometres per hour, which reduces the noise impact slightly.

This impact had an initial risk rating of MEDIUM, but with mitigation and management the residual rating was assessed as LOW.

8.4.4 Increased anxiety due to perceptions about the project's water use

Water for the BP33 Project will be sourced from OHD, underground mine intercept water and rainfall inflows to the box cut. There will be no direct extraction of groundwater. The total water demand for the BP33 Project is 1047.5kL per day. Most of the water for the project will be sourced from underground mine intercept water and inflows from the box cut. These sources will be used first and OHD will supply additional requirements.

A Raw Water Dam (RWD) will be constructed to store water pumped from OHD and will be used for dust suppression and to supply the mine site facilities. A Mine Settling Dam (MSD) will store and treat sediment laden water from the underground inflows and rainfall into the box cut.

If water volumes from dewatering are less than expected, Core will investigate extracting water from a bore field subject to licensing under the *Water Act 1992* or pumping from old mine pits across the lease area. Preliminary site water balance modelling has indicated that it is unlikely that an extraction licence for groundwater will be pursued.

Preliminary groundwater assessment shows that the mine and mine's water sources are not connected to the Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer, which is subject to the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan (Groundwater Enterprises 2019). Modelling and technical information also indicate that drawdown will not impact other consumptive users due to the distance between the mine and other registered production bores (Groundwater Enterprises 2019).

It is estimated that about 950kL of water per day will be required during processing of ore from BP33 at the Grants site however this water use forms part of the Grants Project and is not assessed here.

Residents in the rural area and particularly Berry Springs and the whole Cox Peninsula region are aware of the lack of available groundwater in the region. Any perception of the project having an impact on water quality or availability is likely to cause some concern in the community.

Water was raised as a key issue by two stakeholders during SIA interviews. One referenced the halt on subdivisions in the area and ban on bores connected to the Berry Springs Dolostone Aquifer. This person said the mine using water will probably be an issue unless the mine can somehow improve the overall water

situation. The second person raised concerns about how the project's use of water would impact the water table.

Although the technical information demonstrates that the project will not impact other water users, this impact relates to community perceptions about the project's water use. Perceptions can be difficult to change, therefore the key mitigation measure will be ongoing and upfront communication with stakeholders and the community about the project's water use and sources. Results from monitoring of water quality and quantity should be shared with the communities as part of regular reporting.

This impact had an initial risk rating of HIGH due to the sensitivity of water use and availability in the region, but with mitigation and management, the impact is considered unlikely and able to be managed, therefore the residual rating was assessed as LOW.

8.5 Mitigation and management

The proposed mitigation and management measures for the impacts on people and communities are:

- reviewing traffic management plans and measures in place to reduce injuries and fatalities, including a journey management plan, driver monitoring and communication with the communities
- ongoing communication with Berry Springs Primary School and affected communities on truck movements and any likely impacts
- industry and community collaboration on road safety campaigns for the region
- ongoing repairs to any damage to the road pavement that is attributable to the project
- continue traffic mitigation and management measures in place from the Grants Lithium project
- ongoing communication with stakeholders and the community about water use and sources of water
- communication about any permits and licencing granted under the *Water Act* that demonstrates the terms of the permits that Core will adhere to
- reporting relevant information from monitoring of water quality and quantity.



9. Healthy Country

Healthy country refers to access to healthy natural resources, which is important for people's wellbeing, traditional livelihoods and recreation (Munday 2020).

This section provides information on the baseline conditions for healthy country, outlines the likely change processes and concludes with a prediction and assessment of the significance of these changes on the local communities.

9.1 Healthy country - baseline conditions

9.1.1 Healthy natural resources

According to SIA interviews, people in the area are passionate about their rural lifestyle, with many committed to preserving the environment and maintaining the rural, bush setting that supports personal recreational pursuits such as fishing, quad biking, horse riding and hunting. Strongly held environmental values can conflict with values supporting development that brings economic benefits to the region.

Public feedback received during the Grants EIS process indicates that people in the area place a high value on the area's biodiversity including ghost gums, floodplains, natural springs, and the abundant bird and wildlife.

Although people in the area value the region's natural environment, there is a long history of exploration and mining activity in the region, dating back 100 years. There are several historic mine sites in the surrounding area. The BP33 deposit was mined for a number of years in the 1980s and 1990s as an open pit mine. The ore was trucked to a central processing facility located nearby at Observation Hill. The Observation Hill processing facility operated for more than a decade, and Observation Hill Dam has been left behind from the mine. See the images below of remnants from previous mining activity in areas that will be used for the BP33 and Grants mines.





Images: Observation Hill with previous mining infrastructure left behind (top left); Observation Hill Dam, constructed for previous mining activity (top right); the area for the BP33 project, where a pit has been left from an old tin and tantalum mine.

9.1.2 Legacy mines

A legacy mine is a site that poses a risk to the environment and/or public safety after mine closure. There are a number of legacy mines in the Northern Territory including the well-known uranium mines at Alligator River and Rum Jungle.

Most of the Territory's legacy mine sites stopped operating before 2005 and predated the requirement for operators to lodge a rehabilitation security bond. The Northern Territory Government has a number of rehabilitation projects in place to manage the estimated \$1 billion worth of liabilities left behind by these sites (Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade, 2019) .

The north-western tip and parts of the northern area of the Cox Peninsula were used by the Australian Government for more than 70 years for maritime, communications and defence purposes, which resulted in extensive contamination with asbestos, pesticides and heavy metals found in the area (ABC, 2015). The Australian Government has since arranged remediation of the land to restore the natural environment and made the site safe for future use (Ventia, 2018).

This history of legacy mines in the Northern Territory and contamination of the environment after projects were abandoned, has led to many Territorians being cautious and concerned about the rehabilitation and closure requirements for future mines. People fear that their community will be left with the environmental or health costs and the government left with the economic costs of rehabilitation. Administrated under the *Mining Management Act*, the Northern Territory Government now requires that all new mines pay a one per cent levy into a Mining Remediation Fund before the start of work. The fund is used to rehabilitate legacy sites. Mines are also required to pay a 100 per cent bond for mine closure, which is not returned until rehabilitation and closure requirements are met.

9.2 Key events or activities causing impacts

The key events or activities creating change processes that may lead to positive or negative impacts on healthy country are:

- project announcements for either the Grants or BP33 Projects

- the start of operations on either the Grants or BP33 Projects
- the EIS process could trigger concerns about possible legacy mines in the area.

9.3 Key impacts and opportunities

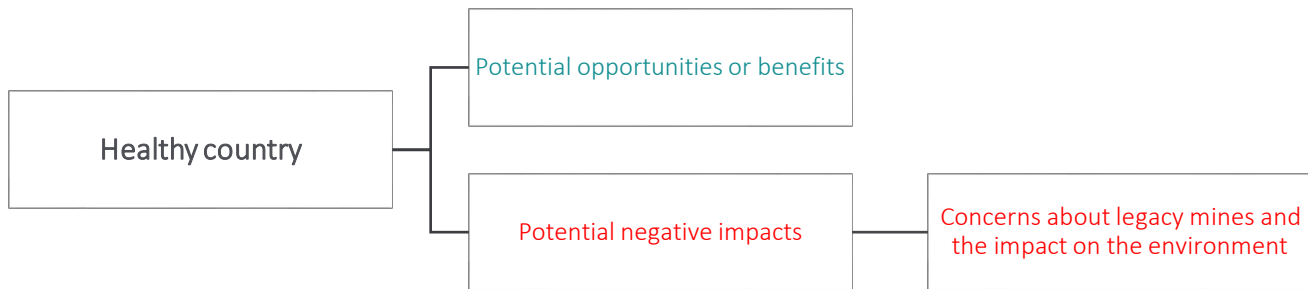


Figure 9: Healthy country – key impacts and opportunities.

9.4 Impact assessment for healthy country

9.4.1 Concerns about legacy mines and the impact on the environment

Many residents on Cox Peninsula have lived in the area for years and choose to live there because of the quiet, peaceful lifestyle, the surrounding bushland and natural environment. Stakeholder interviews revealed that some people in the area may oppose any industrial or mining activity in the region, viewing it as a threat to the area's natural values and beauty. Some community opposition to mining is likely to result from awareness of legacy mines in the Northern Territory which pose a risk to the environment and/or public safety.

There is some sensitivity in the region that a drop in lithium prices could lead to early mine closure and inadequate rehabilitation. There is also a level of distrust of the Northern Territory Government's ability to ensure environmental management and rehabilitation of mines.

Core has done economic feasibility studies that explore numerous possible scenarios for the BP33 project. These feasibility studies, combined with the short mine life mean that early mine closure is unlikely.

In line with the mining bond and Mining Remediation Fund requirements, Core is required to pay a security bond to the Northern Territory Government before the start of works, which will not be returned until the rehabilitation criteria are met.

The environmental contamination on the Cox Peninsula by the Commonwealth over more than a century, combined with the history of legacy mines in the Northern Territory, could compound concerns about legacy mines. These concerns can be managed by good communication. Stakeholder engagement around early closure, rehabilitation and the Mine Closure Plan, that includes backfilling the BP33 box-cut, will help to reduce the likelihood of this impact.

When talking with community members about the BP33 Project, a number of people enquired about the closure and rehabilitation of the BP33 site and were pleased that Core would backfill the box-cut and mine, remove all infrastructure and restore the area to a pre-mining state, with ongoing rehabilitation, erosion and water monitoring, after closure of the mine. Core has indicated that, as the BP33 Project would extend Core's mining operations on the Cox Peninsula, this increases the economic viability and likelihood that Core could backfill the Grants open pit at the end of operations.

This impact had an initial risk rating of MEDIUM, but with mitigation and management the residual rating was assessed as LOW.

9.5 Mitigation and management

The key mitigation measures for this impact are:

- ongoing community and stakeholder engagement that discusses early closure and rehabilitation
- preparation of a mine closure plan, which includes backfilling of the BP33 box-cut
- care and maintenance plan under the *Mining Management Act*
- payment of a bond to ensure costs are not borne by the community if agreed closure objectives are not met.

10. Cultural identity

Cultural identity captures connections to kin and country, cultural authority and respect for Aboriginal worldviews and knowledge. This section assesses the key impact of the project on cultural identity by reduced access to land and traditional livelihoods. It includes both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people's connection to and use of the land.

10.1 Cultural identity - baseline conditions

10.1.1 Connections to land

The project area has a long history of exploration and mining activity dating back 100 years and there are several historic mine sites in the surrounding area. The BP33 deposit was mined for a number of years in the 1980s and 1990s as an open pit mine. The ore was trucked to a central processing facility located nearby at Observation Hill. The Observation Hill processing facility operated for more than a decade.

The region is popular with tourists visiting Berry Springs, the Territory Wildlife Park and travelling through the region to Litchfield National Park, while locals frequent Dundee Beach, Crab Claw Island resort and numerous sites around the peninsula for camping, recreation and fishing.

As outlined above, while the Larrakia are recognised as traditional owners of the Cox Peninsula, many Belyuen residents are from other language groups who have lived on the Cox Peninsula for 140 years. During stakeholder discussions, many described visiting the area for camping, hunting and foraging.

People living in the region value the natural bushland, the abundant native birds and animals in the area and the surrounding landscape. Some stakeholders have previously expressed concerns about potential impacts to the natural environment and wildlife and birdlife populations as a result of mining operations.

There are temporary swimming holes in the wet season downstream from the project. Modelling indicates the reduction in flow is not expected to impact on those waterholes.

10.2 Key events or activities causing impacts

The key events or activities creating change processes that may lead to impacts on cultural identity are:

- the start of construction at the Grants Project
- the start of operations and use of OHD for the Grants Project
- announcements and the EIS process for the BP33 Project.



10.3 Key impacts and opportunities

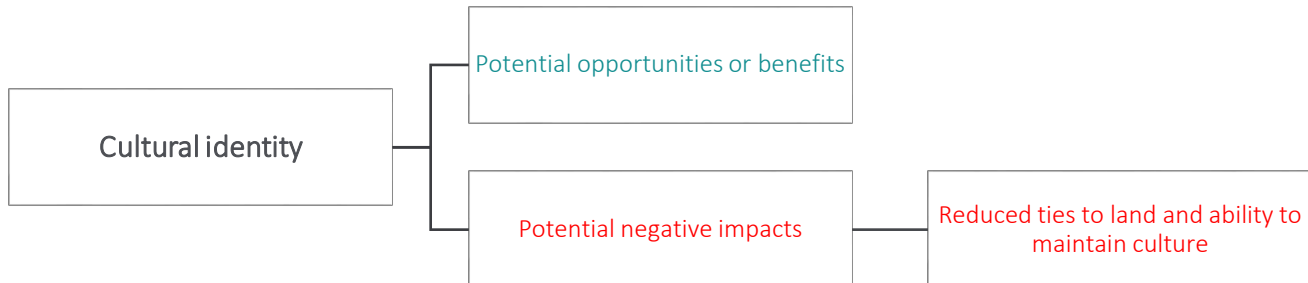


Figure 10: Cultural identity – key impacts and opportunities

10.4 Impact assessment for cultural identity

10.4.1 Reduced ties to land and ability to maintain culture

This section assesses whether the project will reduce peoples' ties to the land and reduce their ability to maintain culture. It includes Aboriginal people including Larrakia people, Belyuen residents and other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people living in the surrounding communities, that access the area for recreation and traditional activities and those that have cultural connections to the area.

There is a long history of mining at the project area, with evidence of the previous mines still remaining scattered throughout the area.

During consultation with the communities, one resident said that he used to visit OHD for picnics and camping, while a number of others said they didn't know it was there. A number of residents from Belyuen said they go hunting, fishing and collecting sugar bag honey in areas around Cox Peninsula but didn't indicate any specific locations. Most stakeholders who were asked indicated that people mainly use the areas immediately surrounding Belyuen, across the road, and along the beach and coast all the way to Charles Point.

The BP33 Project area has a history of mining and exploration activity. Combined with community feedback, this suggests the level of disturbance is unlikely to reduce ties to land or the ability for Larrakia and other Aboriginal residents to maintain customary practices.

This impact had an initial risk rating of LOW, and with mitigation and management the residual rating was assessed as LOW.

10.5 Mitigation and management

Strategies to mitigate impacts to cultural identity include:

- the appropriate sacred site clearances
- ongoing engagement with potentially impacted people and local communities.



11. Economies

This section begins with an overview of the economy in the region, the economic outputs, key industry sectors and the labour market. It then looks at employment profiles for the surrounding communities including employment providers, business counts and income profiles. The project's contribution to the economy is then detailed including the number of jobs and project expenditure.

[Section 11.4](#) then assesses the impacts of the BP33 Project on the local, regional and Territory economy through jobs, procurement, employment and training of local Aboriginal people and support for community development.

11.1 Economic baseline conditions

11.1.1 Economic output for the region

A key indicator for measuring the economic performance of a region is Gross Regional Product (GRP), which is compiled as a subset of the Gross State Product (GSP) and which in turn makes up the overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a nation. The measure can be presented for three groups – headline, local industry and residents, and can be an adequate tool for measuring economic activity at a local scale.

The headline GRP in the Litchfield LGA has been on a significant upward trend in the past four years. The 2019-20 financial year saw headline GRP rise 20 per cent to \$7.45 billion which follows a 13 per cent increase in the 2018-19 financial year. The local industry GRP is currently \$2.59 billion while the local residents GRP is \$2.03 billion (.id demographic resources, 2021).

The Northern Territory Government has allocated \$50 million in the 2021-2022 budget to replace the Mandorah (Wagait) jetty and marine facilities to improve safety and access for users and tourism development. The construction tender is expected to be released in mid-2021 and works completed by 2024. It will include a breakwater structure/rock groyne, a gangway and floating pontoon, boat ramp, fishing facility and infrastructure onshore to include a carpark and trailer parking (Northern Territory Government, 2021).

11.1.2 Industry sectors

Mining

The 2021 Northern Territory budget reports that the mining sector is worth \$4.4 billion per year to the Territory economy, with significant benefits for the remote and regional areas. The Northern Territory Government has identified initiatives to accelerate investment in mining projects to benefit the economy.

Mining and manufacturing contributes to the Territory economy through international trade, private investment and employment. The mining industry also has a significant impact on the Territory's construction industry, as mining development projects generally require significant levels of construction activity (Northern Territory Department of Treasury and Finance 2021).

Construction

The construction industry had the largest number of total registered businesses in Litchfield Council LGA (578), comprising 29.6 per cent of all total registered businesses, compared to 19 per cent in the Northern Territory (.id demographic resources, 2021).

11.1.3 Employment profile

Greater Darwin

Employment in the Greater Darwin area during the 2016 Census sat above the rest of the Territory and Australia at 95.4 per cent and 93.1 respectively. The highest industry of employment in Greater Darwin has long been public administration and safety (12.5 per cent) followed by construction (10.3 per cent) and accommodation and food services (9.3 per cent) (ABS 2017). Despite the Territory having the highest proportion of Aboriginal people, it also has the lowest employment rate of Aboriginal people: sitting at 27.3 per cent compared with 42.5 per cent nationally (ABS 2016).

Outside of Greater Darwin in the communities surrounding the BP33 mine site, employment rates are generally lower than the rest of the Northern Territory and Australia, likely connected to the higher Aboriginal population in the area, a cohort with known low employment rates (as evidenced by the unemployment rate in Belyuen cited below). While only 3.9 per cent of people living in the Litchfield LGA are unemployed, unemployment in surrounding communities is higher:

- Belyuen 58.6 per cent unemployed
- Berry Springs 4.7 per cent unemployed
- Wagait Beach 7.7 per cent unemployed
- Tumbling Waters 13.6 per cent unemployed
- Dundee Beach 14.9 per cent unemployed
- Southport 16.8 per cent unemployed
- Darwin City 4.2 per cent unemployed
- Darwin Suburbs 5 per cent unemployed
- Palmerston 5.1 per cent unemployed.

According to the Northern Territory Government's 2021-2022 Budget estimates, employment is expected to benefit from lifting of international border restrictions which will support the labour intensive tourism sector as well as private and public sector investment and benefit construction jobs (Northern Territory Government, 2021). Employment in the Territory as a whole is expected to grow by 1.8 per cent in 2021-22 and the unemployment rate is expected to fall to 5.4 per cent (Northern Territory Government, 2021).

Litchfield

Of the 91.1 per cent of people employed in the Litchfield area, technicians and trades workers is the most common occupation, accounting for 24 per cent of jobs. An additional 14 per cent work as clerical and administrative staff and 12 per cent as managers. Labourers make up 10 per cent of employment and 8.7 per cent of workers are machinery operators and drivers (sixth and seventh most common categories respectively).

The highest industry of employment in the Litchfield area is Defence, accounting for 6 per cent, closely followed by state government and administration (5 per cent). A total of 3.1 per cent of workers in the Litchfield LGA are employed in the mining industry and 3.4 per cent in manufacturing.

There are more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people employed as technicians and trades workers in Litchfield than any other occupation (19.3 per cent), with 15 per cent employed as clerical and administrative workers or community and personal service workers (.id demographic resources, 2016).

Berry Springs

People in Berry Springs are employed in a variety of industries and positions, including government administration, nature reserves and conservation parks, vegetable, fruit and tree nut growing and primary education. A quarter of those employed in Berry Springs work as technicians and trades workers, 14 per cent as professionals or managers, 13 per cent are clerical and administrative workers and 12 per cent are labourers. (ABS 2017).



The median weekly income for people aged 15 years and over in Berry Springs was reported by the ABS as being \$1068 (ABS 2017).

Belyuen

During the 2016 Census, 59 per cent of people in Belyuen were unemployed. Of those employed, the most common occupation was as a labourer, accounting for a third of employees, followed by 10 per cent managers and 10 per cent community and personal service workers (ABS 2019).

Creating local jobs is a high priority for the Belyuen Council. The council notes that jobs are often casual. However, casual employment allows people to gain experience in the workforce, which is empowering. In 2019-20, the Council was not aware of anyone who gained employment through the employment agency based in Belyuen (Belyuen Community Government Council, 2020).

Tumbling Waters

A total of 25 per cent of workers in the area are employed as technicians or trades workers and 22 per cent are labourers, while 13.6 per cent of Tumbling Waters residents were unemployed during the 2016 Census.

11.1.4 Employment providers

The Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation is an employment provider in Belyuen that works out of the local council office two days a week and seeks jobs and placements for Belyuen residents (Belyuen Shire Council, 2017, p.10 – 21). Ironbark employs people as part of community development and employment programs and provides other employment services for Aboriginal people.

The Larrakia Development Corporation, which provides employment and business opportunities for Larrakia people through the corporation's entrepreneurial activities, works with many large corporations with contractual or joint venture arrangements.

There are other employment providers in the region that can provide employment, training and workplace support for Aboriginal workers.

11.1.5 Business counts

As at 30 June 2019, there were 7099 businesses in the Darwin LGA, 1580 in the Palmerston LGA and 1897 in the Litchfield LGA. Across all three LGAs the construction industry accounts for the highest number of businesses per industry with 1217 in Darwin, 407 in Palmerston and 581 in Litchfield. Mining businesses do not account for a large number of businesses with only 28 in Darwin, 4 in Palmerston and 16 in Litchfield.

11.1.6 Income profile

In 2016, Territorians recorded the country's second highest median weekly income at \$871, with the Litchfield LGA recording the highest median income at \$1090 a week (ABS 2016).

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Darwin SA4 median total income (excluding Government pensions and allowances) in 2015 was \$71,185. The median household income in 2016 was \$1,316 per week compared to \$850 for Belyuen. In Litchfield Council LGA, 33.7 per cent of households earned an income of \$2500 or more per week in 2016.



11.1.7 Project economics

The BP33 Project will contribute directly to the economy by providing jobs and training, project expenditure, local sponsorship and procurement of local goods and services as well as indirectly through payment of taxes and royalties.

The expected capital expenditure for the project is an estimated \$45 million.

The BP33 Project will create up to 60 jobs for up to 12 months during construction and between 50-80 jobs during operations. The increase in jobs will be beneficial, although the scale of change will be small given the relatively low employment requirements.

The BP33 Project will extend operations at the Grants processing facility and will continue to employ workers at the processing facility over a longer period. Operation of the Grants processing facility was initially three years, but with the BP33 Project, operations will extend another four years to seven years. This extended period of employment may provide additional impetus for any workers from outside the Territory to relocate to the Territory.

Core has indicated its willingness to engage local businesses by encouraging its head contractors to source goods and services locally where possible. The company is likely to source any accommodation and food services required from the immediate local area. As at 2019 there were 43 accommodation and food services businesses in the Litchfield LGA (ABS 2019). Core will likely source local providers for bus transportation of workers as well as using the ferry for workers travelling from Darwin. The estimated value of transportation services is not yet quantified.

11.2 Key events or activities causing impacts

The key events or activities creating change processes that may lead to impacts on economies are:

- announcements about jobs and contracts or agreements for jobs and contracts
- employment of workers
- the start of construction and ongoing.

11.3 Key impacts and opportunities

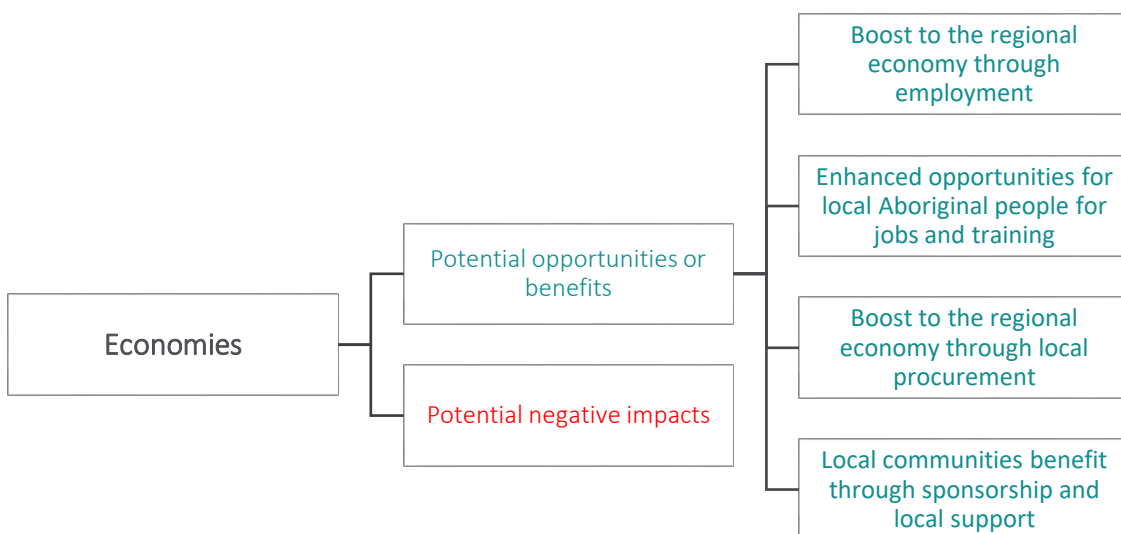


Figure 11: Economies – key impacts and opportunities

11.4 Impact assessment for economies

11.4.1 Boost to the regional economy through employment

Core will employ as many local workers as possible and encourage its head contractors to employ locally. Core expects to employ up to 60 people during construction for BP33 and 50 to 80 people during operations. Employment is expected to remain fairly constant over the life of the project with the workforce to be spread across the following three categories:

- Management/supervision/professionals – 20 per cent
- Contractors (mining, processing and haulage) – 58 per cent
- Trades – 22 per cent.

The BP33 Project will also extend the life of the processing facility at the Grants Project and therefore extend the timeframe for employment.

Employment and contracting opportunities were the most frequently raised topic during consultation about the project. People indicated they were supportive of the project as long as it provided local job opportunities. Many local residents said they were FIFO from other mine sites and saw Core as a more convenient option to work closer to home. While this presents an opportunity for local people, Core will need to manage expectations as this is a relatively small project with a limited number of jobs. Core will need to ensure it conveys its commitment to employ local to its major contractors as they will have their own recruitment processes and requirements. The sentiment expressed by FIFO workers also suggests a negative impact on remote mine sites which employ Cox Peninsula residents. However, given they commute to different sites, this effect is likely to be negligible.

Given that most workers are likely to be local, the project will not include an accommodation camp. Those employed from outside the Northern Territory because of local skills shortages will be encouraged to relocate to the region. The extended employment timeframe for the Grants Project will provide further motivation for any interstate workers to relocate. Accommodation providers in the region may receive benefits from providing short-term accommodation, although Core will need to monitor availability and ensure it does not displace tourism by taking up currently scarce beds.

There are national skills shortages across a range of industries, including the mining industry, with mines in other states reporting difficulties employing staff. If the skills are available locally, Core will benefit by employing from the local market. Employment at the mine is unlikely to have a major impact on the region's economy due to the relatively small employment numbers and the fact that many are likely to come from existing jobs.

This impact had an initial opportunity rating of NOTICEABLE. With management the residual rating was assessed as **BENEFICIAL**.

11.4.2 Enhanced opportunities for local Aboriginal people for jobs and training

Employment and training opportunities for local Aboriginal people has been a consistent and priority issue raised during consultation since Core first talked to stakeholders about the Grants Project. Core has regularly spoken with local Aboriginal organisations interested in contracting and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people such as Larrakia Development Corporation, Kenbi Rangers, and Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation. These organisations would like to see Aboriginal people living in Belyuen, Darwin and Palmerston employed on the project in some capacity. Core will work with these organisations to ensure training and job opportunities are maximised and to be a 'good neighbour'.

During 2021 community engagement, Aboriginal people from Belyuen said there were few work opportunities in the community and they looked forward to the prospect of jobs with Core. Some of these people already have jobs with the Kenbi Rangers while others are not currently employed. However, stakeholder interviews suggest that many people living in Belyuen may not be work-ready and will require prior training and job-readiness programs. A representative from Ironbark asked for details on job requirements in advance, so they can prepare Aboriginal people for employment. Larrakia Development Corporation mirrored this request and has a dedicated labour hire manager whose focus is to build a strong collaborative relationship in order to align client needs with labour services. The Kenbi Rangers noted they have been involved in rehabilitation work since 2016 and that some previous experiences dealing with major contractors on Aboriginal employment have not been good. Kenbi Rangers asked if works could be packaged in a way that increases opportunities for Aboriginal employment and contracts.

The extension of the Grants Project as a result of the BP33 Project enhances the opportunities for jobs and training for local Aboriginal people, as the longer project timeframe means it is more feasible for Core to train people for jobs.

Despite Core's good intent, it will be important to manage expectations as there will be many who are not successful securing work on the project due to the issues such as poor work-readiness and the ability to pass drug and alcohol tests. Recent experience with construction of the INPEX project could create false expectations of the size of project workforces that do not match reality.

The project is likely to generate jobs and training opportunities for Aboriginal people however the consequence of this is considered to be minor due to the relatively low number of people required on the project. However, at an individual level, the social benefits for local Aboriginal people (and their families and community) trained and employed on the project are likely to be significant.

The impact of opportunities for Aboriginal people had an initial rating of NOTICEABLE and with management the residual rating is BENEFICIAL.

11.4.3 Boost to the regional economy through local procurement

Core wants to maximise local jobs and business contracts and will encourage its head contractors to use local businesses. However, Core is not specifying quotas or requirements in its contracts, so this opportunity could be difficult for Core to manage.

There was a lot of interest during engagement about contracting opportunities. Some stakeholders and community members indicated they had contracts on the INPEX and ConocoPhillips LNG plants and would be suitable for this work. Others were unhappy with the way INPEX used interstate companies, which stakeholders felt had taken a lot of the work from local businesses. Similar to the sentiment around jobs, people were supportive of the project provided there are opportunities for local businesses. People see that they are being negatively impacted (e.g., increased road safety risks and road degradation) so they should be able to benefit in some way over interstate companies.

Core will need to convey its expectation that head contractors will provide local jobs and sub-contracts to ensure this commitment is upheld.

Core has indicated to some Aboriginal organisations that it hopes to select and award specific opportunities or contracts that would be suited to their strengths and capabilities but is aware it will need to work with major contractors to ensure this commitment is honoured.

While local procurement will stimulate and strengthen the region's economy, the scale of change and duration of the project reduces the impact. This impact had an initial opportunity rating of NOTICEABLE, and with enhancement the residual rating was assessed as BENEFICIAL.

11.4.4 Local communities benefit through sponsorship and local support

Core has indicated a willingness to provide sponsorship to support the local communities. The distribution of benefits will prioritise the most affected stakeholders and communities in Core's 'neighbourhood' as compensation for the company's key negative impacts.

Some stakeholder representatives have expressed an interest in securing Core's support for local causes. Core has already provided sponsorship funds to one local community event as part of its Grants Project.

Local support could include in-kind support such as that suggested by the principal of the local school – having specific staff such as geologists talking to students about science or Core purchasing seedlings from the local school.

Development of a sponsorship plan and policy will help Core ensure stakeholders in its area of operations benefit from the project. This is in line with Core's policies. Core has indicated it could work with local councils to seek their support identifying and prioritising suitable sponsorship opportunities.

This impact had an initial opportunity rating of NOTICEABLE, and with enhancement the residual rating was assessed as BENEFICIAL.

11.5 Mitigation and management

Strategies to enhance opportunities for economies include:

- recruitment and procurement processes prioritising the local market
- local communication about job opportunities
- local procurement plan, including communication of opportunities
- business and Aboriginal participation plans
- work with local Aboriginal organisations and/or Aboriginal employment and training providers to maximise local Aboriginal employment opportunities
- package tenders to suit local capacity
- proactive identification of local business with the capacity to work on the project
- agreements with contractors to include local service and supply requirements
- develop a sponsorship plan to ensure the most affected stakeholders and communities benefit from the project.

12. Cumulative

12.1 Overview

Cumulative impacts are those where multiple past, present and future projects compound the economic and social risks and opportunities. Cumulative impacts may arise when multiple projects are operating in an area at the same time, creating competition for staff, compounding pressure on services and multiple and interacting pressures on the environment, for example through land clearing and water extraction.

There are few industrial projects operating on the Cox Peninsula and there are no major projects in the Darwin region that would be competing for staff, infrastructure or services to a level that would negatively impact the region.

The BP33 Project will begin operations once mining at Grants Project has ceased. The two projects will not operate concurrently therefore any social impacts will not overlap and the intensity of those impacts will not increase. There will be some construction traffic travelling to and from the BP33 site while the Grants Project is still operational, but this traffic impact has been assessed in Section 8.4.

Given the current market demand and the geological profile of the area as prospective for lithium, this project may lead to further exploration and mining of lithium in the region. While this may result in cumulative impacts in the future, this assessment is based on current or planned projects.

Two planned projects in the region have been identified that could increase traffic impacts in the area. These are the proposed Project Sea Dragon by the Seafarms Group and the Department of Defence's upgrade of the Kangaroo Flats Defence training area.

12.1.1 Project Sea Dragon

Seafarms Group is working to develop one of the world's largest prawn farms at Legune Station in the Northern Territory. As part of the proposed Project Sea Dragon, Seafarms has received approval to build its main breeding centre and Broodstock Maturation Centre at Point Ceylon at Bynoe Harbour, with access off Fog Bay Road. While Project Sea Dragon has not yet received a financial investment decision, if the project was to proceed there will be increased traffic on Fog Bay Road and Cox Peninsula Road during construction and operations. The Seafarms Group submitted an EIS for the project however predicted traffic figures and timeframes were not outlined in the report. The Seafarms Group provided the following information (personal communication):

Light vehicles, such as cars and SUVs, will be associated with workers going to and from the site. Trucks will be limited to the twice weekly transport of freight. Initially a medium rigid truck and later a semi-trailer will be used to deliver the PLs up to twice a week to the grow-out facility. In addition there will be occasional supply deliveries to the breeding facility."

12.1.2 Kangaroo Flats Defence training area

The Department of Defence has announced it will spend \$747 million to deliver its United States Force Posture Initiatives (USFPI) Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades Project. The project will upgrade four training areas across the Territory including at Kangaroo Flats (Defence Connect 2021). Kangaroo Flats is located in the Berry Springs and Charlotte Area and is accessed via Litchfield Park Road, off Cox Peninsula Road. The project is subject to approvals but, should it proceed, there will be an increase in traffic including heavy vehicles travelling between Darwin and the Kangaroo Flats site. The project team advised (personal communication) there will be approximately 100 to 120 vehicles making a return trip from Darwin to the site per day, transporting workers and construction materials during the construction peaks (Dry season 2023 and 2024). About 20 to 30 per cent of these vehicle movements will be heavy vehicles.

12.2 Key events or activities causing impacts

The key events or activities creating change processes that may lead to cumulative impacts are:

- Announcements of other projects planned in the region
- Start of operations at other projects
- Multiple projects operating simultaneously in the area.



12.3 Key risks and opportunities

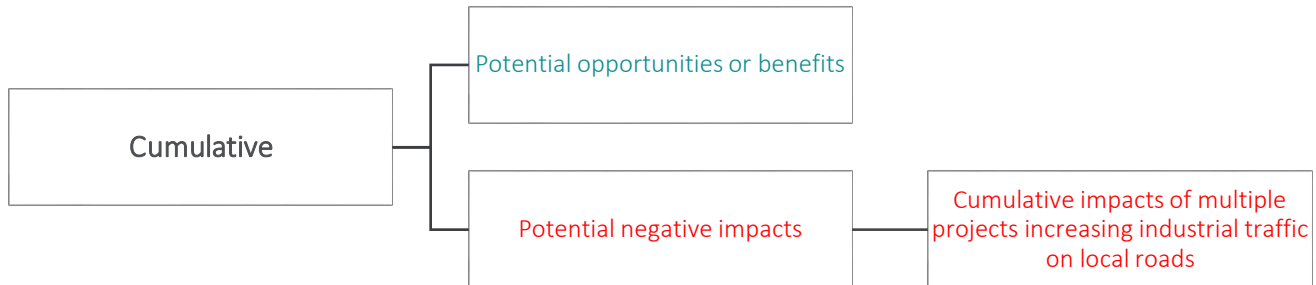


Figure 12: Cumulative impacts and opportunities

12.4 Cumulative impact assessment

12.4.1 Cumulative impacts of multiple projects increasing industrial traffic on local roads

Although Core's use of the local roads for the Grants and BP33 Projects will not be cumulative as they will not operate concurrently, there could be cumulative impacts if other, unrelated projects in the area proceed. The two projects that have been identified are still in the planning stages and have not reached final approval.

If the Department of Defence's Kangaroo Flats project proceeds, it will involve a significant increase in traffic to the region, likely to be particularly noticeable through Berry Springs and along Cox Peninsula Road to the turn off to Litchfield Park Road. It is noted however that the Defence project traffic movements will be double Core's predicted traffic movements (100 to 120 vehicles per day for Defence, and 55 per day for Core).

Although the Seafarms Group provided some information on the traffic that will potentially be generated by the project on Cox Peninsula, there is insufficient detail, including timeframes and projected traffic numbers, to make an assessment that considers this project.

The relatively short timeframe for the construction traffic, and the severity and extent of this impact has resulted in an initial rating of medium, and a residual rating of **LOW**, with management and mitigation.

12.5 Mitigation and management

Strategies to minimise cumulative impacts are:

- ongoing community and stakeholder engagement
- review of traffic management plans if any projects come online, to reduce injuries and fatalities and communication that these will be implemented
- good communication about the likely impacts and implications of the project
- conduct a road condition survey before start of work
- engage with the other projects companies to seek options to collectively minimise impacts.



13. Social Impact Management Plan

A Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) for the BP33 Project is submitted as an Appendix to this SIA. The SIMP is intended as a stand-alone document, which summarises social impacts and opportunities of the BP33 Project and outlines management plans to guide the company's long-term social performance.

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Appendices

- APPENDIX A: BP33 Stakeholder Engagement Report
- APPENDIX B: BP33 Scoping Report
- APPENDIX C: Excerpt from the Kenbi Land Claim findings
- APPENDIX D: BP33 Project Social Impact Management Plan
- APPENDIX E: Qualification of the consultants

Core Lithium Ltd Finniss Lithium Project Stakeholder Engagement Report

Prepared by True North Strategic Communication
August 2020

Version No.	Issue Date	Prepared by:	Approved by:	Approval Date
V1	11 August 2020	Claire Butler		
V2	25 August 2020	Claire Butler		
V3				

Recipients are responsible for eliminating all superseded documents in their possession

Consultation statement

True North Strategic Communication is guided by the principles of good community engagement, based on people's level of interest and concern as outlined by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2).

Our role is to provide stakeholders and the general public with objective information, so they can provide informed feedback on consultation projects. We give people the opportunity to provide input that is balanced and reflective of the range of community views to independently provide the best possible guidance to decision makers.

Our practice reflects professional standards and ethical standards for human research including anonymity, confidentiality, record storage and keeping people informed.

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Executive Summary

Core Lithium plans to expand its mining and processing activities as part of its Finniss Lithium Project in the Cox Peninsula region of the Northern Territory. On 30 April 2020, Core Lithium submitted a Notice of Intent to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NTEPA) for the proposed BP33 project.

Core Lithium engaged True North Strategic Communication to prepare and implement a stakeholder engagement strategy for the BP33 stakeholder engagement process. This strategy outlined the key stakeholders and a recommended approach for engagement. This strategy built on the previous and ongoing stakeholder engagement for the Grants project. The input and feedback from stakeholders will inform any future communication and engagement activity.

In July the Northern Territory Government advised that the BP33 Notice of Intent would be the first project to be assessed under the newly reformed environmental legislation, the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

On 10 July 2020, the BP33 project was advertised on the NT EPA website as open for public comment, with information on the proposal, including all relevant referral documents. The public comment period was open from 10 July 2020 to 10 August 2020.

As part of the environmental assessment process and in line with the recommended approach for stakeholder engagement, Core Lithium engaged with stakeholders to provide information on Core's proposed BP33 project, listen to any feedback and took the opportunity to update stakeholders on the Grants project.

The communication and engagement activity for the BP33 project included:

- an email sent to stakeholders with the project fact sheet, advising that the project was open for public comment on the NT EPA website, and inviting stakeholders to attend a briefing, provide feedback or contact True North or Core Lithium for more information
- arranging and attending 10 project briefings, where stakeholders were provided with an online presentation on the project and invited to provide feedback or ask questions.

This report outlines the methodology, the stakeholders contacted and briefed on the project, the tools and information provided to stakeholders, a discussion of the key themes raised and a summary of stakeholder discussions.

Methodology

Using the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) principles that guide good community engagement, this consultation was conducted at the levels of **inform, consult and involve**.

Level of engagement	Promise to the public
<i>Inform</i>	<i>We will keep you informed</i>
<i>Consult</i>	<i>We will listen to your concerns, keep you informed, and provide feedback on how stakeholder's input influenced the decision</i>
<i>Involve</i>	<i>We will work with you to ensure your concerns are reflected in the alternatives developed, and provide feedback on how the public's input influenced the decision</i>
Collaborate	We will look to you for advice, ideas and solutions and incorporate those into the decisions as much as possible
Empower	We will implement what you decide
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Consultation objectives

The consultation objectives of this stakeholder engagement strategy were:

- to listen to and understand the priorities and perspectives of all stakeholder groups
- to manage stakeholder expectations
- provide clarity and information on any issues of concern raised by stakeholders
- to support delivery of projects that are environmentally, economically, culturally and socially acceptable to the community and key stakeholders (ie earn social licence to operate)
- to provide regulators with confidence that all positive and negative impacts are well understood and can be managed through all phases of the project
- to provide guidance to the company's long-term social performance.

Communication objectives

The communication objectives of this stakeholder engagement strategy were to:

- inform stakeholders of the BP33 Project and details
- notify stakeholders that a Notice of Intent or Referral had been submitted for BP33
- update stakeholders on progress of the Grants Project since the previous consultation
- encourage stakeholders to provide feedback as part of the public feedback process
- continue to build on existing stakeholder relationships and trust
- provide clarity and understanding about the various Core projects in the region.

Approach

The approach to the stakeholder communication and engagement was to:

- ensure a tailored approach to reaching stakeholders, for example phone calls, emails, phone/online meetings and online presentations
- draw on feedback raised in previous consultation to help guide key messages and areas of focus for stakeholder meetings
- refer to previous stakeholder information requests to ensure all interested stakeholders are updated on the projects
- ensure key stakeholders receive objective information direct from Core rather than from media or third parties

- continue to build relationships and make sure it is easy to contact the company to clarify issues and address rumours and misinformation
- give key stakeholders a chance to provide early input on issues that may affect them or project design and provide regular updates to these stakeholders
- a risk-based approach that devotes the greatest effort to stakeholders likely to experience the greatest level of impact – positive or negative – from the project, while raising awareness of all stakeholders in the project footprint on how they can get information and provide feedback.

The approach focused on briefing priority stakeholder representative groups on the project, seeking their support to share information about the project with their members and communities and providing information on the project to other stakeholders. Stakeholders were invited to contact either True North or Core Lithium to provide feedback or to ask any questions about the BP33 or Grants projects.

Tools and tactics

An **email** and **factsheet** (see Appendix A: Fact sheet) were sent out to stakeholders from 8 July 2020 to provide background information about the project and the engagement process.

Priority stakeholders were invited to attend an **online briefing** by Core. Some stakeholders were offered an online briefing if they would like more information, and others were invited to contact Core or True North if they had feedback or questions. A number of stakeholder groups were invited to share the fact sheet with their members and communities to ensure people were informed of the project and had the opportunity to provide feedback or seek more information.

Online briefings rather than face-to-face briefings were arranged due to the social distancing guidelines associated with COVID-19. These online briefings were via Zoom and Microsoft Teams, depending on stakeholder preference. During these briefings, Blair Duncan, Chief Operating Officer at Core Lithium took stakeholders through an **online presentation** (see Appendix B: Online presentation) that outlined the BP33 project, updates on the Grants project and provided some overall information on Core's activity in the Cox Peninsula area. Stakeholders were invited to ask questions throughout the presentation and to provide any comments or feedback. A representative from True North attended all briefings to take notes.

Stakeholder briefing content

Key points outlined in the stakeholder presentation were:

- overview of Grants and BP33 projects and project location
- BP33 project:
 - preliminary mine design and layout, including maps
 - water use and resources
 - environmental management – weed management, waste rock dumps, water discharge
 - rehabilitation and closure
 - timeframes
- Grants project:
 - approvals
 - timeframes
- employment
- Indigenous participation
- traffic and safety.

Stakeholders

Targeted stakeholder groups were:

- relevant Northern Territory Government departments
- local government including Belyuen Community Government Council, Wagait Shire Council, Litchfield Shire Council
- relevant Indigenous groups including Larrakia Nation, Kenbi Rangers, Larrakia Development Corporation, IWMRA, Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation
- local elected representatives
- local industry associations including Chamber of Commerce, Minerals Council NT
- non-government organisations, including the Environment Centre NT
- representatives of affected communities
- stakeholders who have requested to be kept informed of project updates.

A summary of the organisations that were contacted, sent a fact sheet and briefed is provided below:

Organisation	Sent email and fact sheet	Briefed
Northern Territory Government		
Department of Primary Industry and Resources	✓	✓
Department of Environment and Natural Resources	✓	
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics	✓	✓
Department of Trade, Business and Innovation	✓	✓
Department of Education	✓	
Berry Springs Primary School	✓	✓
Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture	✓	
Power and Water	✓	✓
NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services	✓	
Bushfires NT	✓	
Daly electorate office	✓	
Local government		
Belyuen Community Government Council	✓	
Litchfield Shire Council	✓	
Wagait Shire Council	✓	✓
City of Palmerston	✓	
Indigenous groups		
Larrakia Development Corporation	✓	✓
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation	✓	
Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation	✓	

Kenbi Rangers	✓	
Indigenous Women in Mining Resources Association (IWMRA)	✓	
Environment and community groups		
Environment Centre of the NT	✓	✓
Amateur Fisherman's Association NT (AFANT)	✓	
Wagait Beach Progress Association	✓	
Rural Residents Rights Group	✓	
Dundee Progress Association	✓	
Business and Industry Associations		
Chamber of Commerce	✓	✓
Minerals Council of Australia, NT Division	✓	✓
Tourism Top End	✓	
NT Guided Fishing Industry Association	✓	
Palmerston Regional Business Association	✓	
Community members		
Community members from previous stakeholder engagement	✓	
Wagait Watch	✓	
Berry Springs Shopping Village	✓	
Dundee Beach Holiday Park	✓	
Sandpalms Resort and Tropical Motel	✓	
Dundee Social and Recreational Club	✓	
Cox Country Club	✓	
Wagait Beach Supermarket	✓	
Territory Wildlife Park	✓	
Australian Government representatives		
Member for Lingiari	✓	
Member for Solomon	✓	

Stakeholders were invited to share the fact sheet with their constituents, members, employees and general community members.

A total of 10 online briefings were conducted with key stakeholders. A number of stakeholders either declined the offer of an online briefing or did not respond to the offer. These included:

- Litchfield Shire Council
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Water Resources
- Department of Education
- Tourism Top End

- Kenbi Rangers
- NT Guided Fishing Industry Association
- Belyuen Community Government Council
- Larrakia Nation.

Key Themes Raised

The response and feedback from the online briefings was generally positive, with stakeholders appreciative of the information about the projects and Core's ongoing stakeholder consultation. Many were positive about the opportunities for local employment and local contracts, Indigenous engagement and investment in the local economy. The key themes raised in the briefings are outlined in the diagram below, starting with the most frequently raised topic. Core's presentation covered most of these topics, with stakeholders often asking questions in response to the presentation.

The most frequently raised topic was local employment and contracting opportunities, followed by Indigenous employment and contracting opportunities. Several stakeholders asked about Core's ongoing communication with the community. There was interest in the topic of rehabilitation and closure, and water use and discharge. Although dust was only raised by one stakeholder, they indicated it had previously been raised by a number of community members, so is likely to be of interest to the surrounding community.



Themes raised during briefings

Local employment and contracting opportunities

There was a lot of interest about employment and contracting opportunities for locals. People were pleased that Core is committed to local employment and that the longer mine life at Grants could encourage those in specialist roles to relocate to the region. Some stakeholders indicated that locals in the communities nearby would be interested in jobs at the projects.

Indigenous employment and contracting opportunities

A number of Indigenous stakeholder representatives indicated their interest in securing contracts with Core and asked about Core's commitment to Indigenous employment and content. Core outlined the ongoing communication with local Indigenous stakeholders and the company's commitment to Indigenous content. Core advised that the company will know more about the job and contract requirements after the final investment decision and they will discuss opportunities with Indigenous stakeholders once this information is known.

Ongoing communication with the community

Some stakeholders questioned when Core would be providing information to the wider community about the projects. This question stems from interest about job and contract opportunities. Core advised that until the final investment decision, it is too early to be making any announcements to the community about job and contract opportunities and making any firm commitments.

Rehabilitation and closure

Stakeholders were pleased to hear that the BP33 mine would be backfilled. They asked how long the rehabilitation process takes, the timeframes for ongoing monitoring and what will happen with the mining infrastructure on site. Core advised that all mining infrastructure will be removed from the site on project closure and outlined the timeframes for rehabilitation, closure and monitoring. Due to the issues surrounding legacy mines in the Northern Territory, this is likely to be an ongoing topic of interest.

Water use and discharge

Most stakeholders are aware that water availability is an issue in the Cox Peninsula area but were reassured that Core would not be using water from the Berry Springs Dolostone Aquifer and that Core's water use would not impact water availability for surrounding residents. Core advised that ground water from the underground mine at BP33 would be used and recirculated at BP33.

Core's presentation outlined information about water discharge from Grants and BP33 and the requirement for water discharge licences. One stakeholder asked where the water would flow and if the discharge water would contain chemicals from mining or processing. Core advised that no processing water from Grants would be returned to Observation Hill Dam or used at BP33 and that the discharge licences were for Observation Hill Dam and for rainfall events.

Dust

Wagait Shire Council was the only stakeholder that raised questions about the possibility of dust affecting nearby communities and residents, due to community members raising this issue during previous consultation about the Grants project. Wagait Shire Council asked about air quality monitoring and dust suppression activities during mining, processing, transportation of materials and at the tailings storage area. Core provided information about the likelihood of dust during the various stages of mining, processing, storage and transportation and advised about air quality monitoring and dust suppression. Core also outlined that it will share ongoing air quality monitoring results with the community, and will consult with the community on Core's performance in this area. This is likely to be a topic of interest or concern from any nearby residents or communities and will require ongoing communication and engagement.

Public feedback

Two public submissions were received by the NT EPA as part of the public consultation process.

The Environment Centre NT acknowledged Core's ongoing consultation and transparency on the projects and welcomed the intention to backfill the BP33 project. The key issues raised were:

- the piecemeal approach to development of Core's projects on the Cox Peninsula and the resulting difficulty assessing cumulative impacts
- that the Environment Centre NT believes the BP33 project should be assessed under the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process to adequately assess the impacts of the project
- impacts on groundwater and surface water

- the need for waste rock characterisation
- the need for a threatened species survey
- requirements for community consultation with Belyuen community
- renewable energy should be used for BP33
- economic viability of the project and the risk of early closure of the project.

The other public submission raised a range of questions about matters outlined in the referral documents. This included questions or comments about 27 items in the referral, including impacts on flora and fauna, human health, surface water, water discharge, transportation of materials, water use and treatment, erosion and others.

Consultation activity

Stakeholder	Summary of Feedback
Department of Primary Industry and Resources • Ian Scrimgeour, A/Executive Director Mines, Executive Director NT Geological Survey	• Asked if the Carlton prospect is on the same mining lease as Grants and if it would be an extension of the Grants approval. • Inquired whether there are other underground lithium mines in Australia. • Indicated that underground is a good outcome from an environmental perspective. • Asked about the mine closure plan and whether it is in progress. • Asked how financing is going for the project.
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics – Transport Planning • Bruce Michael, Executive Director • Chandan Kalase, Director • Kushan Gunarathne, Transport Planning	• Indicated they will require details on the access route to BP33, more information on the traffic impact assessment for the new timeframes/BP33 and the nature of the vehicles requiring access. • Asked if Core will still commit to previous commitments Core made regarding transportation/roads – Core confirmed these commitments still stand. • Advised that if any issues arise from a transport perspective, they are happy to work through those with Core.
Department of Trade, Business and Innovation • Karen Lo-Lai, Commercial Facilitation Director – Major Projects and Minerals	• Asked if the Mine Management Plans were approved for both Grants and BP33. • Interested to know when the Carlton project would start. • Asked about the operational expenditure for BP33. • Inquired about the amount of water BP33 would require. • Inquired if the construction workforce of 60 that was outlined in the NOI is still the same. • Asked about the Indigenous training and workforce opportunities. • Asked if AFANT is included on the list of stakeholders to be briefed. • Advised they can provide data or training information on Indigenous people if Core needs this information. • Advised that they are happy to arrange any connections with other government departments or stakeholders.
Berry Springs Primary School	• Aware that water availability is an issue for many in the area. • Interested in the timeframes for post-closure monitoring. • Asked if she can share the fact sheet and brief the school council, which Core supported.

• Carlie Mamo, Acting Principal	• Interested in Core providing maps and materials that can be used to teach students about the projects. Will advise Core what materials they would like.
Power and Water • Anthony Greenwood, Manager Power Engineering, Power Services, • Shaun De Zylva • Michael Murtagh	• Asked for confirmation of the sites requiring grid connection. • Discussed Core's power requirements for the Grants and BP33 projects. • Indicated that network disruptions are not uncommon and that Core should plan for this. • Advised that Power and Water could provide power along the road corridor and Core could distribute power onsite from there. • Indicated they would need more information on exactly what Core's requirements are and that they are happy to work directly with Core if that is how Core would like to proceed.
Wagait Shire Council • Renita Glencross, CEO • Neil White, Councillor and President	• Asked about the blasting and mining process. • Asked which site, Grants or BP33, is 10 km from the closest residential property. • Asked how long the rehabilitation process would take and the timeframes for this. • Advised that one of the main community concerns is around dust becoming airborne and drifting across to Wagait. Asked about air quality monitoring and dust suppression. Asked if the mined material would be left sitting in stockpiles awaiting processing and if that could create dust. Inquired if the tailings dam is kept wet and if materials are transported wet. • Indicated that there is a community of 400 people at Wagait and wanted to know if local workers will be working on the project. • Asked if Carlton is within the existing mineral lease. • Indicated that this is a worthwhile project with positive employment and economic opportunities. • Advised they would share the project information and fact sheet.
Larrakia Development Corporation • Nigel Browne, CEO	• Interested to know if Core is likely to get a final investment decision by the end of this year. • Asked if there are other mines like this in the Northern Territory. • Discussed water issues on the Cox Peninsula and indicated water availability and access could be an issue for Core. • Particularly interested in contract opportunities for LDC and understanding what those opportunities might be. • Asked what the minimum Indigenous requirements are that the Northern Territory Government has stipulated for the project. • Advised that LDC's experience has been that if the proponent doesn't set the ground rules for Indigenous participation then there is little or no commitment by contractors to implement. • Advised they would send LDC's capability statement to Core. • Want to know solid timeframes and project opportunities for Larrakia people. Would like to keep in touch when you start awarding contracts.
Environment Centre of the NT • Shar Molloy, Director	• Sought clarification that Grants is not changing from an open pit to an underground mine. • Inquired if Core had given further consideration to power generation. • Indicated that backfilling of BP33 is a good outcome. • Asked about the water discharge, where it would flow to, where at the sites the water would be coming from and what minerals/chemicals

	might be in the discharge water and asked if there would be any public consultation about the water discharge. • Asked about site rehabilitation and what would happen with the mining infrastructure. • Indicated their concerns would always be about mine pits being left open, water use and discharge and that the water discharge licence for Grants will be the biggest concern, particularly for people using the harbour. • Commented that Core has been very open and transparent and thanked them for the briefing and for answering all the questions and said Core is to be congratulated for the way they have engaged. (A public submission was provided to NT EPA. A summary of the issues raised is outlined in the Public Feedback section in this report).
Chamber of Commerce • Greg Ireland, CEO • Kate Morrissey, Manager Industry Councils	• Indicated a longer mine life was positive for local employment and economic opportunities. • Very supportive of the project as it will bring job and economic opportunities to the region and indicated it is likely that most of the members would also be supportive of the project. • Suggested that ongoing communication is important and that members would be interested in hearing an update. Invited Core to provide an update to Chamber members when Core is ready to do this. • Offered assistance if Core needs anything.
Minerals Council of Australia, NT Division • Drew Wagner, Executive Director • Janice Warren, Policy Research Officer	• Drew indicated he would be interested in a site visit if possible, to better understand the location and site. • Very excited about the project and the local prospects and hope it happens within the expected timeframes. • Wanted to know the consultation strategy for the broader community and advised that people don't know about the project or what is happening.
Belyuen Community Government Council • Cathy Winsley, CEO (phone call, no briefing)	• Advised during a phone call about the project that Belyuen is interested in any opportunities to work with Core and advised they are the only place on the peninsula with 24/7 fuel, they have a good workshop with three qualified mechanics that could be used for emergency breakdowns and also have a shop that could be used for any catering or lunches for workers.
Community member – via email in response to the fact sheet being sent out	• Interested in benefits to the local community (Wagait Beach) such as housing or ferry transport.
Community member – via NT EPA public feedback	• Raised a wide range of issues on 27 items in the referral, including impacts on flora and fauna, human health, surface water, water discharge, transportation of materials, water use and treatment, erosion and others.

Appendices

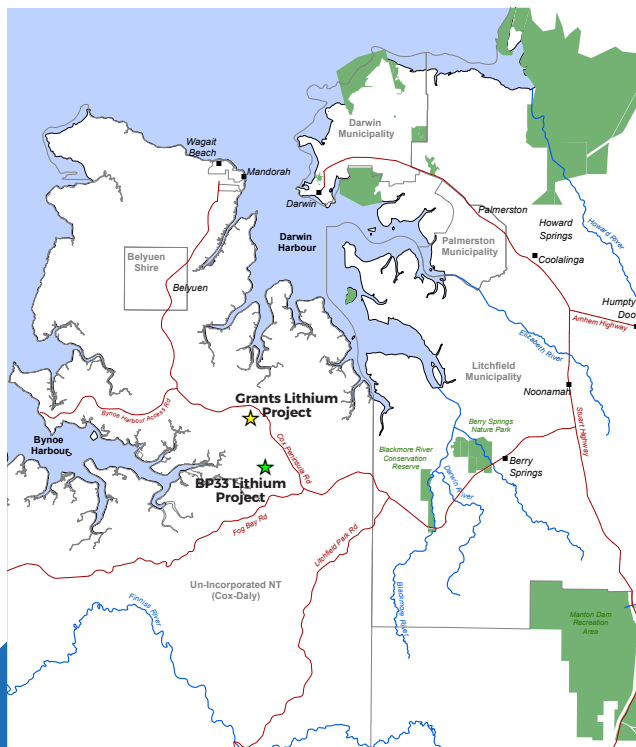
Appendix A: Fact sheet

Appendix B: Online presentation

Finniss Lithium Project

JULY 2020

Core Lithium Limited is an Australian resources company with 100% ownership of the Finniss Lithium Project. The Finniss Lithium Project covers more than 500 square kilometres in the Cox Peninsula area of the Northern Territory and incorporates several high-grade lithium deposits including the Grants Lithium Project, the proposed BP33 Lithium Project and other prospects being explored by Core.



On 1 April 2020 Core received approval from the Northern Territory Government for the Grants Lithium Project.

Further exploration in the area identified additional lithium ore deposits at the BP33 site.

On 30 April 2020 Core submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NTEPA) for the BP33 Project.

On 30 April Core submitted a Notice of Variation to the NT EPA for the proposed variations to the Grants Lithium Project.

On 25 June 2020, the NT EPA determined the variations to the Grants Lithium Project do not require further approvals.

Construction for the Grants Lithium Project will start in 2021 and production will start in 2022.

The BP33 Lithium Project is not expected to start until 2023.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

BP33 Lithium Project expected capital expenditure is \$45 million.

The Grants Lithium Project expected capital expenditure is \$73 million during construction.

EMPLOYMENT

The Grants Lithium Project will generate up to 250 jobs during construction and 250 jobs over seven or more years during the operational phase. This figure includes 50 – 80 jobs on the BP33 Lithium Project.

BP33 LITHIUM PROJECT

Core Lithium's BP33 site is 33 kilometres west of Berry Springs and 2.5 kilometres south-west of Cox Peninsula Road. The BP33 site contains 2.15 million tonnes of pegmatite, a granite type rock containing spodumene which is a source of lithium. Core is proposing to develop the BP33 site which would involve underground mining of ore and trucking to the Grants Lithium Project processing plant via a 7.5 kilometre purpose-built haul road.

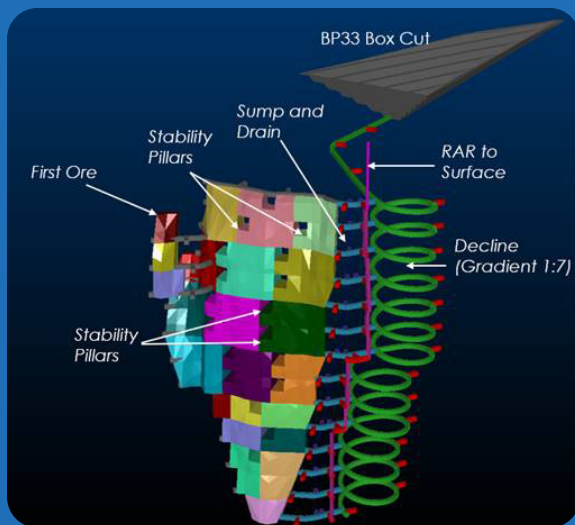


Diagram A - Concept diagram of a box cut portal

WATER USE

It is estimated that the BP33 Project will require 1047 kilolitres of water per day, with water to be sourced from surface water and, subject to approval, groundwater from the BP33 underground mine. This does not have any connection to the Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer which is subject to the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan.

REHABILITATION AND CLOSURE

At completion of the mining activities at BP33, the underground mine and box-cut will be completely backfilled and no waste material will remain on the surface. The project area will be rehabilitated as per the Mine Closure Plan.

The proposed BP33 Lithium Project would involve

- ✓ Excavating a box-cut portal over six hectares (see Diagram A) to a depth of approximately 60 metres.
- ✓ Initial construction of a 450-metre long decline from the base of the box-cut to the top of the ore deposit and progressive construction of a further 5.4 kilometres over the life of the mine.
- ✓ Two onsite waste rock dumps for temporary storage of waste rock before the material is backfilled.
- ✓ Construction of a dam to store water that will be used to minimise dust and supply the mine site facilities, and construction of a separate dam to store and treat water containing sediment.
- ✓ Construction of site infrastructure, including a contractor's area, internal access roads and drainage infrastructure and Run of Mine (RoM) pad.
- ✓ The contractor's area will accommodate office and staff facilities, laydown and storage areas, a maintenance workshop, fuel storage and refuelling and power generators.
- ✓ Construction of a 7.5 kilometre dedicated haul road over existing tracks between the BP33 site to the Grants Lithium Project site.
- ✓ Underground mining of the resource over approximately four years.
- ✓ Transport of the mined ore approximately 7.5 kilometres along a dedicated haul road to the Grants processing plant.
- ✓ Processing of the mined ore at the Grants Lithium Project site and transporting the concentrate product to the Darwin Port.

GRANTS LITHIUM PROJECT

On 1 April 2020, Core received approval from the Northern Territory Government for open pit mining and processing of 1.8 million tonnes of lithium ore at its Grants Lithium Project 36 kilometres west of Berry Springs.

Core's proposal to expand its mining activities in the area with an underground mine at the BP33 deposit will extend the life of the operating facility at the Grants Lithium Project to seven or more years. The changes to the Grants Lithium Project as a result of this include:

- ✓ increasing the tailings storage capacity to contain the additional tailings from the BP33 Lithium Project
- ✓ water will continue to be drawn from Observation Hill Dam for the life of the Grants Project
- ✓ extending the life of the mine site dam from three years to seven or more years before closure and rehabilitation
- ✓ extending the timeframe for trucking of ore from Grants Project to Darwin Port from three years to seven or more years
- ✓ extending the schedule for closure and rehabilitation of the Grants Project to seven or more years
- ✓ hiring additional workers to continue operation of the processing facility for an additional four or more years.

Core's intent is that as the Grants ore deposit is exhausted, the BP33 deposit will be developed.

EMPLOYMENT AND LOCAL CONTENT

Core is committed to employing local workers from Darwin, Palmerston and surrounding areas where possible. There will be no on-site accommodation camp, with workers expected to travel to and from site for each shift.

Core will continue to de-risk the project as it moves towards Final Investment Decision (FID). Interested stakeholders are encouraged to follow the company's progress by subscribing to the notifications on the company website or following progress on the ASX.

TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

Core consulted with the public in 2017 and 2018 about the Grants Lithium Project and advised that there could be some short, temporary closures of Cox Peninsula Road during blasting at the Grants project site. Core has committed to restricting blasting times and road closures to minimise impacts to road users and will consult with nearby communities about blasting operations and road closures. The BP33 project will not require any road closures.

Core has committed to restricting haul truck speeds to 40km/hr within the Berry Springs school precinct, it will restrict truck movements past the school during peak school traffic periods and truck speed and driver behaviour will be monitored via monitoring systems. Expansion of Core's mining activity on the Cox Peninsula will extend the timeframe for trucking of ore from the Grants Project site to Darwin port from three years to seven or more years.

CONTACT

P. 0429 444 725
E. feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au

OR

For job applications and recruitment, project supplier, engineering or processing queries, please visit the careers section on the Core Lithium website for information.

CORE
LITHIUM

For all other queries please contact the Core Lithium office on:

P. 08 8317 1700
E. info@corelithium.com.au

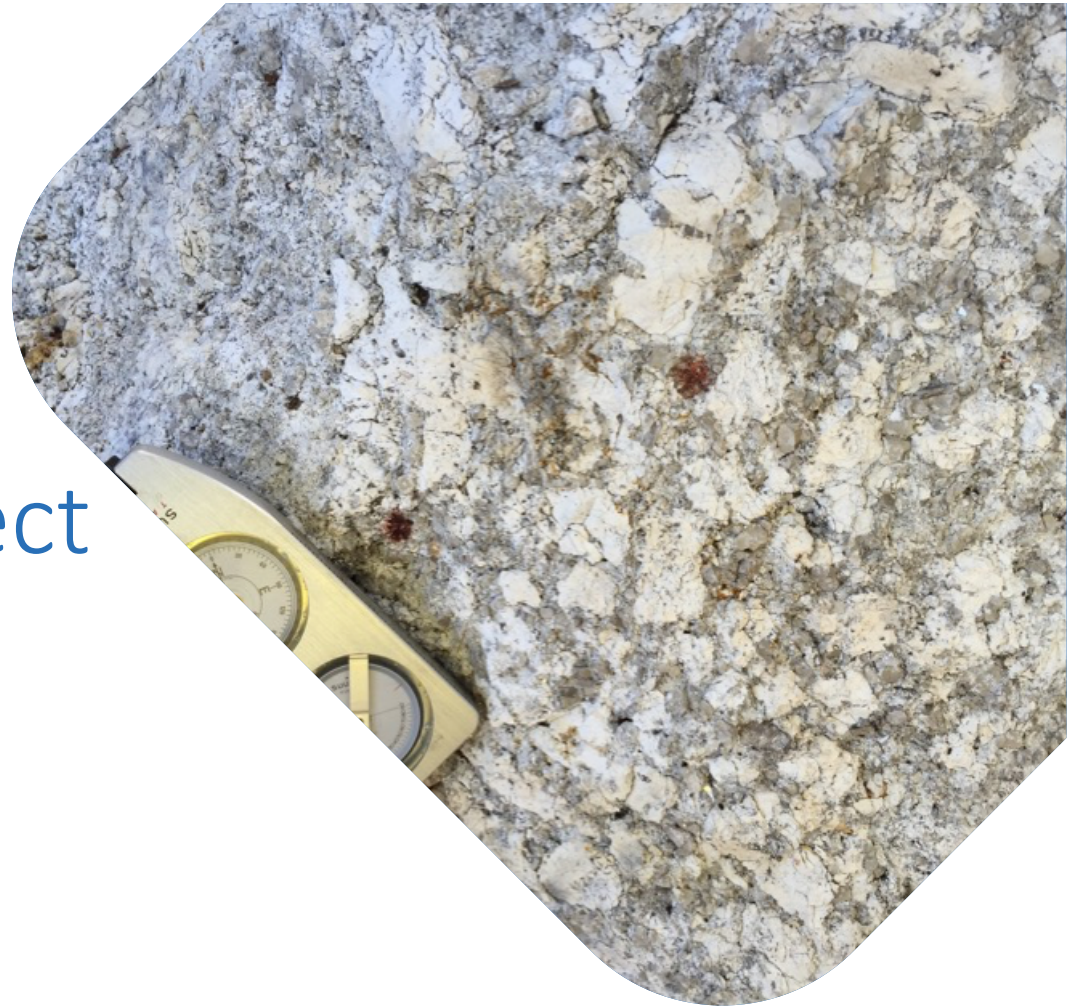
corelithium.com.au



Finniss Lithium Project

Briefing

July 2020

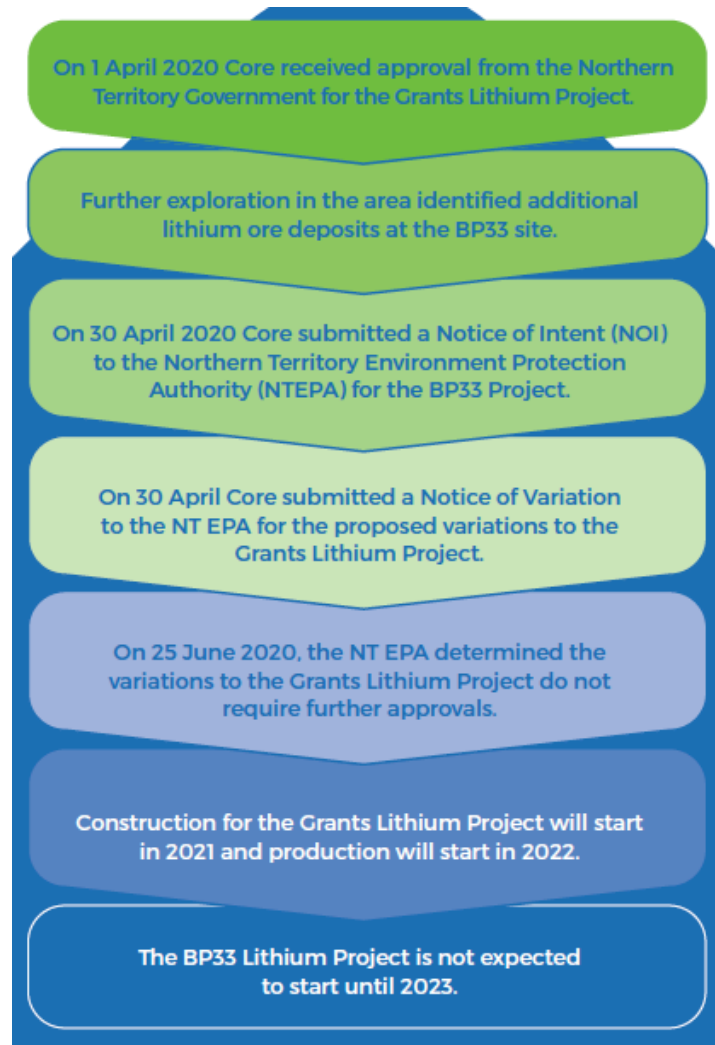


Overview of projects

- **Finniss Lithium Project**
 - BP33 Project
 - Grants Project
 - Other exploration tenements in the region
- 35 kilometres west of Berry Springs, 32 kilometres south of Darwin
- Core Lithium Limited has 100 per cent ownership of the Finniss Lithium Project
- Land tenure – Vacant Crown Land



Overview



BP33 Project

Overview

Location

- 33 kilometres west of Berry Springs and 2.5 kilometres south-west of Cox Peninsula

Resource

- 3.2 million tonnes of pegmatite, a granite type rock containing spodumene which is a source of lithium

Mining and processing

- Underground mining of the resource over approximately four years
- Ore processed at the Grants processing facility

Capital Expenditure

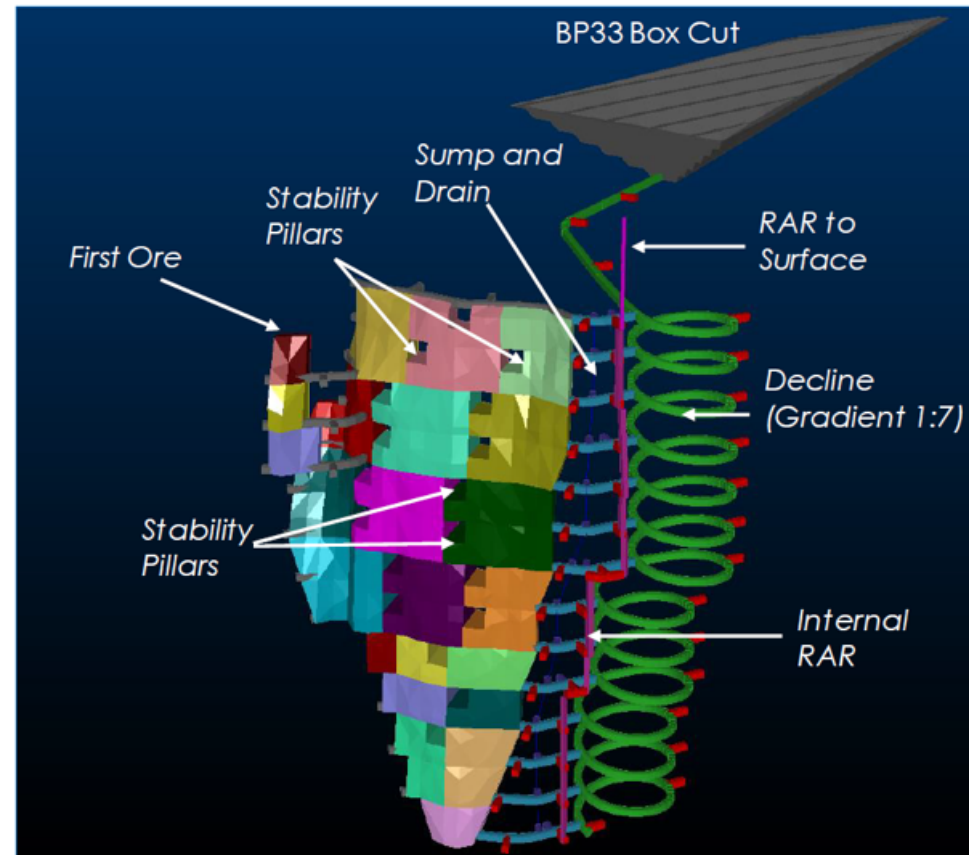
- Expected capital expenditure is \$45 million



BP33 Project

Preliminary mine design

- Excavate box-cut to 60 metres
- Initial construction of a 450-metre long decline to the top of the ore deposit
- Progressive construction of a further 5.4 kilometres over the life of the mine
- Transport of the mined ore 7.5 kilometres along haul road to the Grants processing plant
- Processing of the mined ore at the Grants Lithium Project site
- Transport concentrate product to Darwin Port

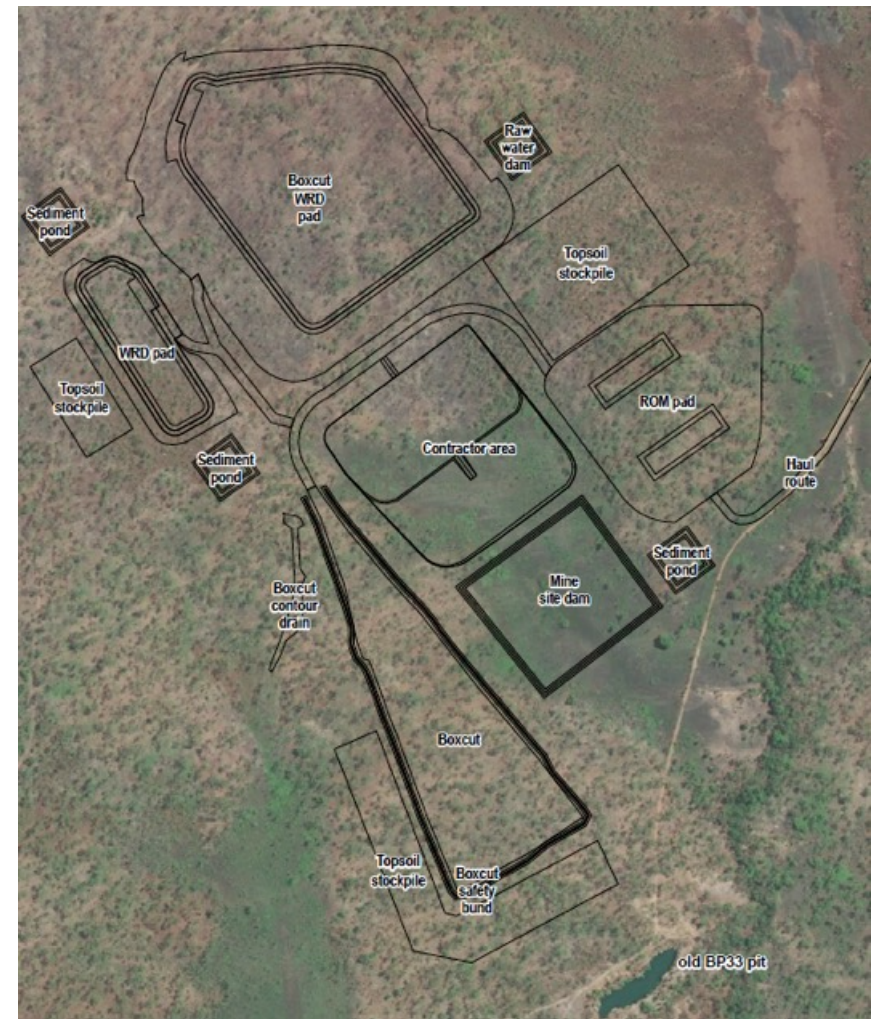


BP33 Project

Preliminary mine design and layout

Mine design

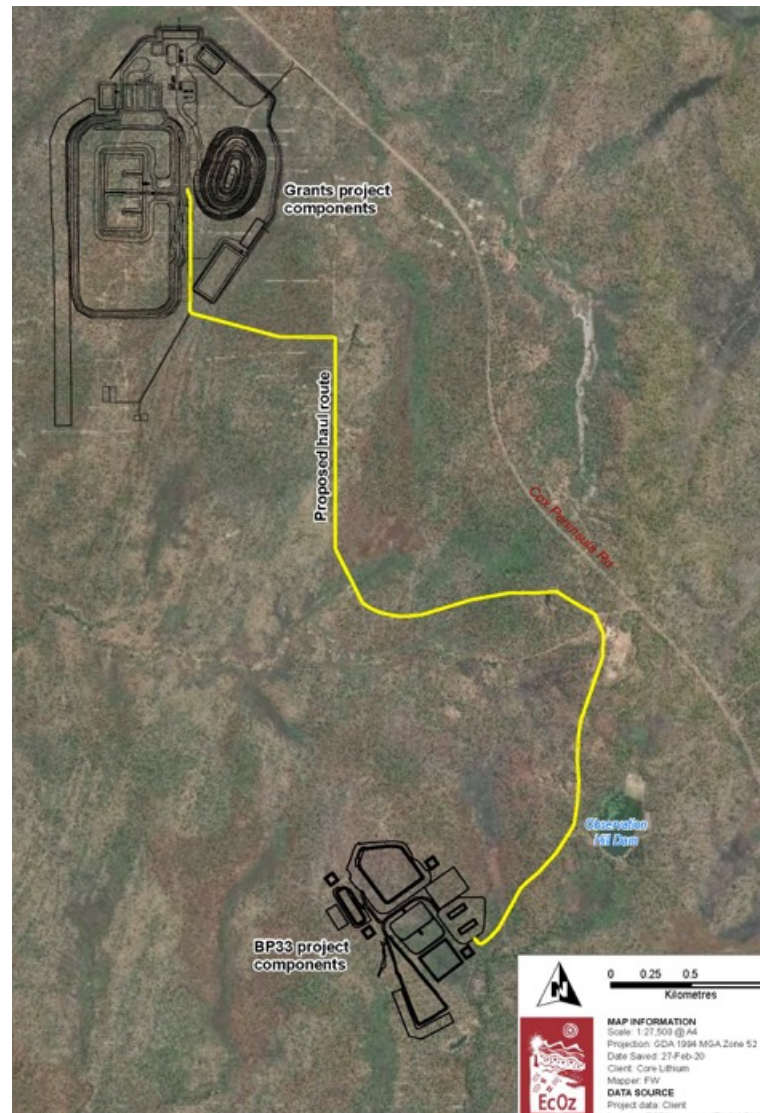
- Mine site footprint – 88 hectares
- Underground mine via box-cut and then portal
- Two onsite waste rock dumps for temporary storage of waste rock
- Construction of two dams:
 - Raw water dam - dust minimisation and water for mine site
 - Mine settling dam - store and treat water containing sediment.
- Site infrastructure:
 - contractor area – office and staff facilities, workshop, storage facilities, power generators, internal access roads and drainage infrastructure and Run of Mine (RoM) pad
- A 7.5 kilometre dedicated haul road between the BP33 site to the Grants Lithium Project site



BP33 Project

Preliminary mine design and layout

7.5 kilometre dedicated haul road between the BP33 site to the Grants Lithium Project site

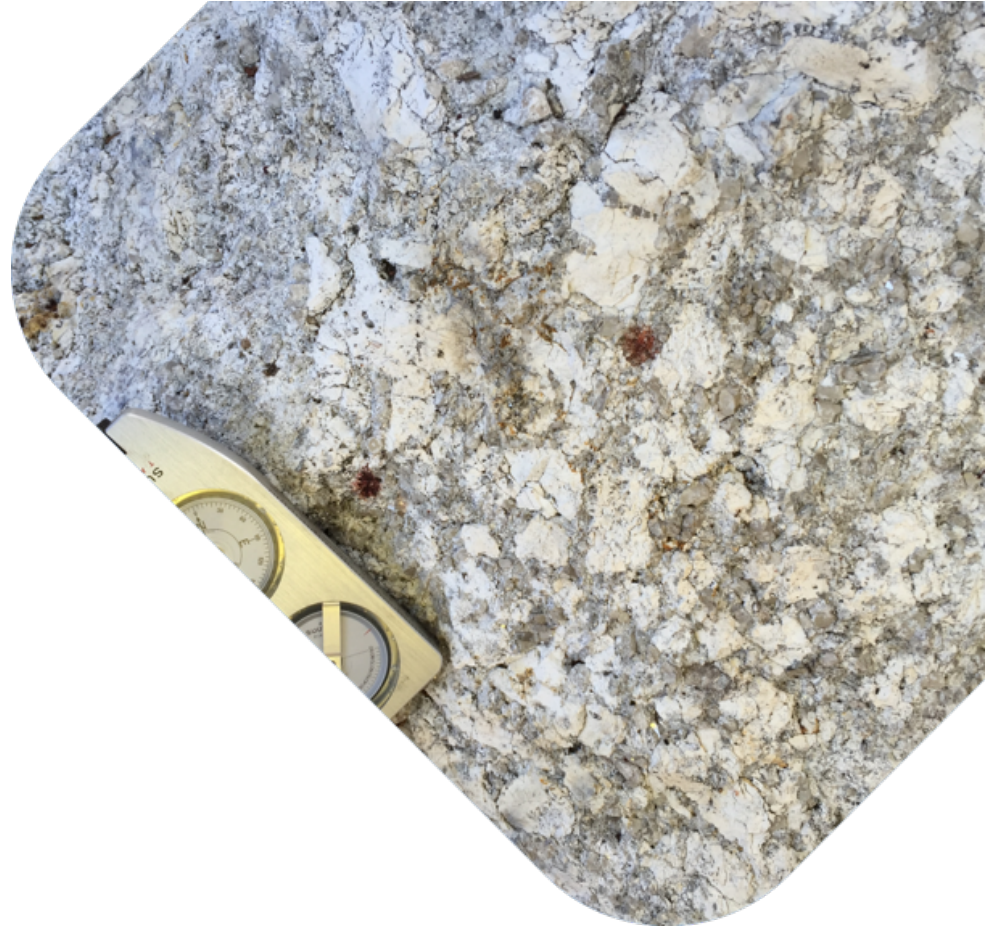


corelithium.com.au

BP33 Project

Water use and resources

- The box-cut and the underground mine will require dewatering during development and operations
- 1047 kilolitres of water per day
- Water sources - surface water and ground water from:
 - Observation Hill Dam catchment in-flows
 - Water from underground mine
 - Groundwater and rainfall in-flows
 - Water pumped from old mine pits
 - Burrell Creek Groundwater aquifer (subject to approval) – no connection to Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer which is subject to the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan



BP33 Project

Environmental management

Weed management

- Weed Management Plan in line with DENR guidelines
- Prevent and manage weeds throughout the project including post-closure

Waste Rock Dumps

- Two waste rock dumps for temporary storage of waste rock
- The waste rock dump material will be used to backfill the box-cut on mine closure
- On completion of mining, there will be no material remaining on the surface

Water discharge

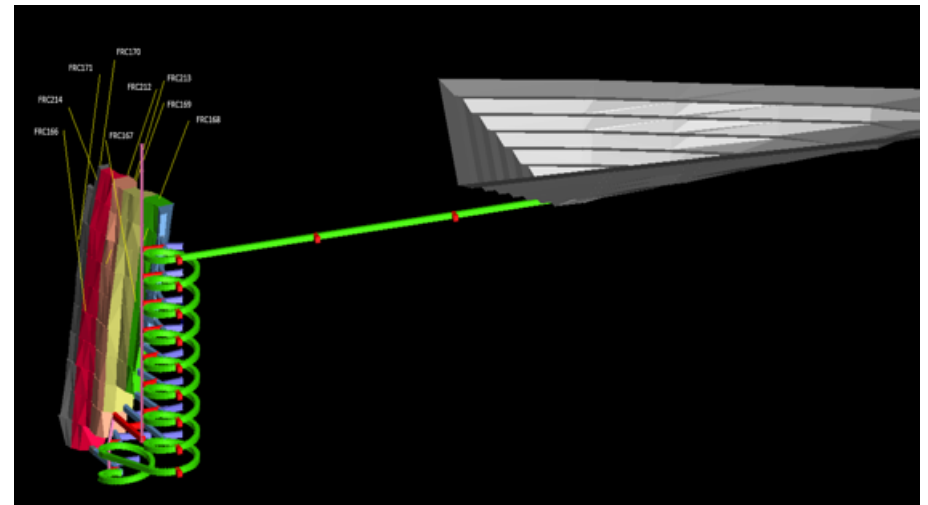
- Observation Hill Dam - storage and water supply dam. In high rainfall events, surplus wastewater will flow via an ephemeral creek into the Charlotte River
- A wastewater discharge licence (WDL) will be applied for under the *Water Act* through the NT EPA



BP33 Project

Rehabilitation and closure

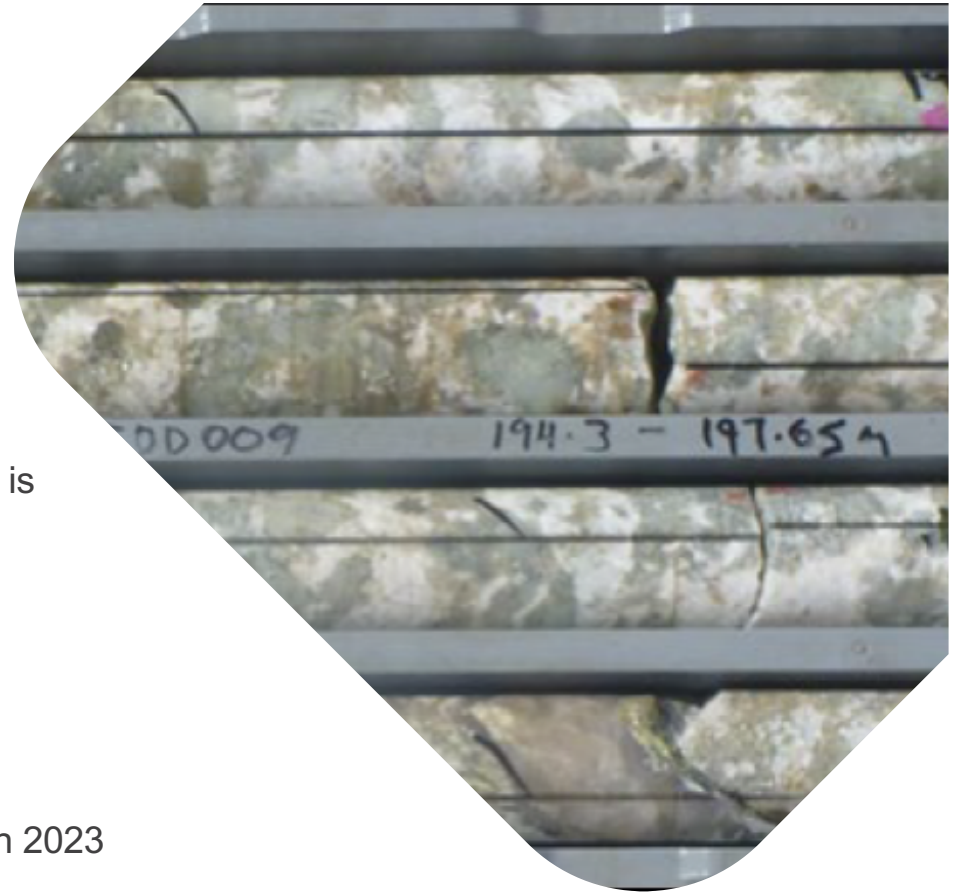
- On completion, the underground mine and box-cut will be completely backfilled, and no waste material will remain on the surface
- All mining infrastructure will be removed as part of the Mine Closure Plan
- The surface will be re-profiled and rehabilitated to enable the project area to be restored to a pre-mining state
- Core will undertake ongoing rehabilitation, erosion and water monitoring



BP33 Project

Timeframes

- Production at BP33 would begin once the Grants resource is exhausted and mining ceases at Grants
- Mine life - three to four years:
 - Construction - 6 months
 - Production - 44 months
 - Mine closure and rehabilitation – 5 months
 - Post-closure monitoring – ongoing
- Subject to approvals, BP33 is expected to be operational in 2023



Grants Lithium Project

Update

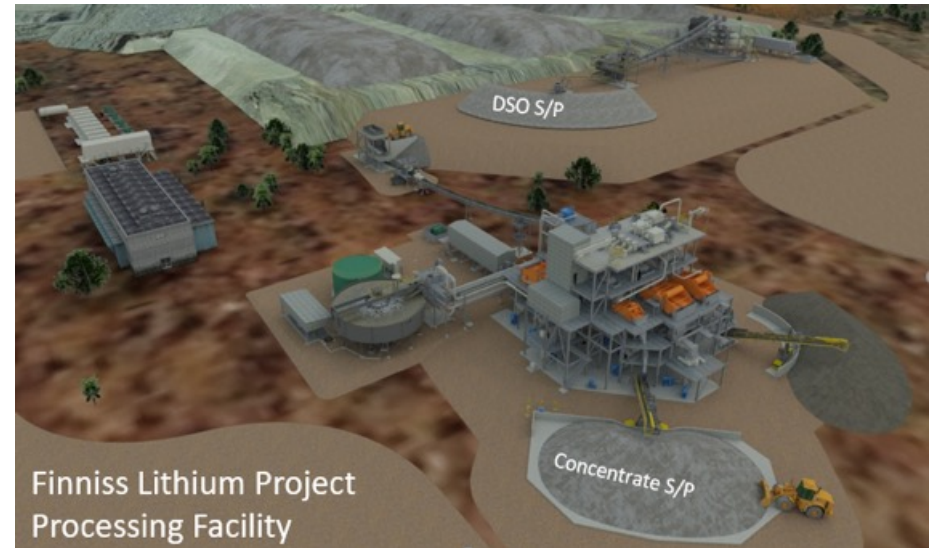
- On 1 April 2020, Core received approval for open pit mining and processing of 1.8 million tonnes of lithium ore at its Grants Lithium Project
- 30 April 2020, Core submitted a Notice of Variation
- On June 2020, NT EPA advised the variations do not require additional approvals

Capital Expenditure

- Expected start-up capital expenditure is \$73 million

Timeframes

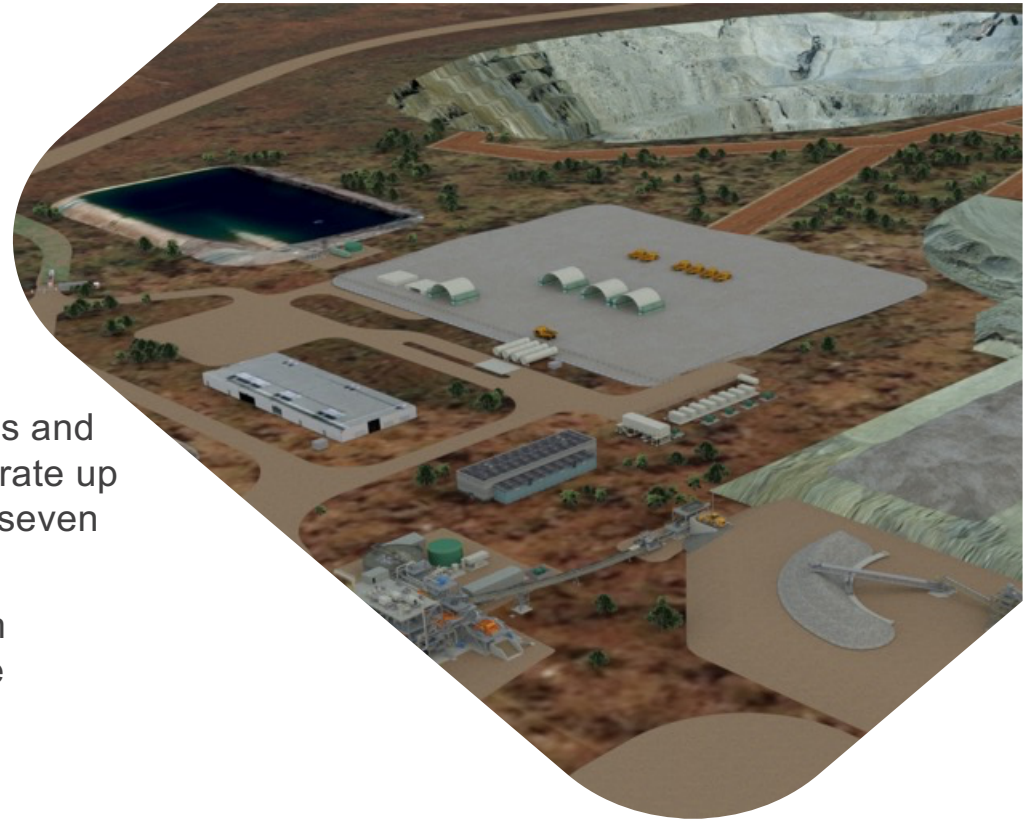
- Construction targeting a start in 2021 and production in 2022



Employment

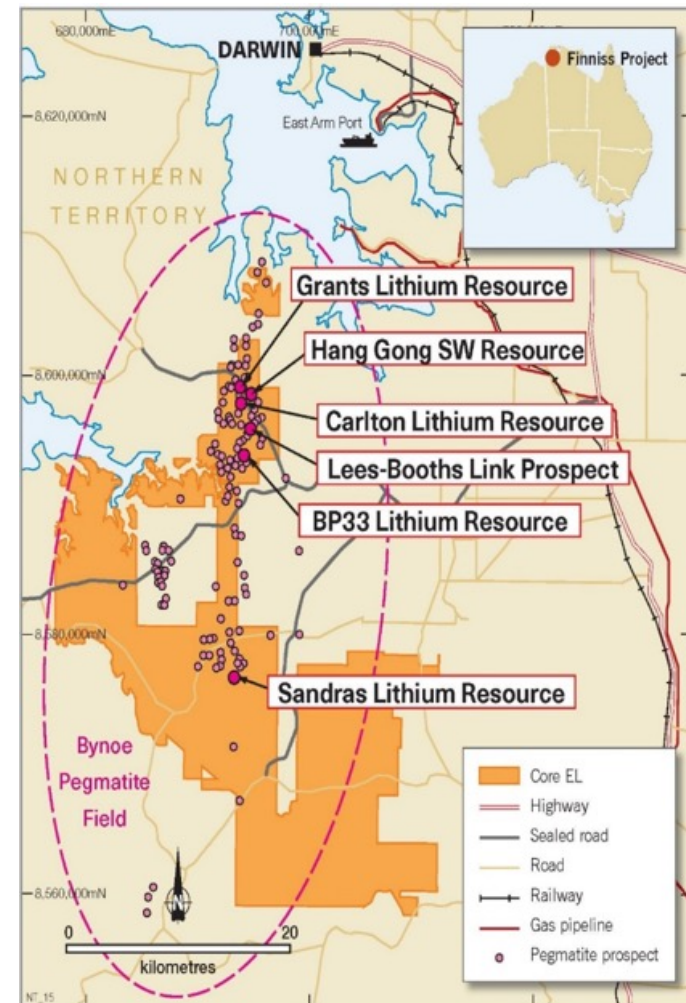
Employment

- The BP33 Lithium Project will generate 50 - 80 jobs and support the Grants Lithium Project which will generate up to 250 jobs during construction and 250 jobs over seven or more years during the operational phase.
- Core is committed to employing local workers from Darwin, Palmerston and surrounds where possible
- No on-site accommodation camp
- Workers will travel to and from site for each shift



Indigenous participation

- Belyuen is the closest community to the project area
- Core has committed to working with Indigenous employment and training providers to maximise employment of people from Belyuen and the broader region
- Core is engaging with Indigenous stakeholders including:
 - Belyuen Shire Council
 - Larrakia Rangers
 - Larrakia Development Corporation
 - Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation
 - Kenbi Rangers
 - Indigenous Women in Mining Resources Association



Cox Peninsula Road – Traffic and Safety

- In 2017-2018, Core consulted with the public about the Grants Lithium Project
- Some short, temporary closures of Cox Peninsula Road during blasting at the Grants project site
- Core has committed to:
 - restricting blasting times and road closures to minimise impacts to road users
 - restrictions on haul truck speeds to 40km/hr within the Berry Springs school precinct
 - restrictions on truck movements past the school during peak school traffic periods
 - truck speed and driver behaviour will be monitored via monitoring systems
- The BP33 project will not require any road closures
- Core will conduct a road condition survey before starting any work
- Development of the BP33 project will extend the timeframe for trucking of ore from the Grants Project site to Darwin Port from three years to seven or more years





Thank you

For more information please contact the Core Lithium office on:

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Core Lithium BP33 Lithium Project

Stakeholder Engagement Report

Prepared by True North Strategic Communication
June 2021

Version No.	Issue Date	Prepared by:	Approved by:	Approval Date
V1	1 June 2021	B. Thornton C. Butler		
V2				
V3				

Recipients are responsible for eliminating all superseded documents in their possession

Consultation statement

True North Strategic Communication is guided by the principles of good community engagement, based on people's level of interest and concern as outlined by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2).

Our role is to provide stakeholders and the general public with objective information, so they can provide informed feedback on consultation projects. We give people the opportunity to provide input that is balanced and reflective of the range of community views to independently provide the best possible guidance to decision makers.

Our practice reflects professional standards and ethical standards for human research including anonymity, confidentiality, record storage and keeping people informed.



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Executive summary

Core Lithium is continuing to engage with stakeholders and the community about its Finiss Lithium Project. Core received approval for the Grants Lithium Project in April 2020 and intends to develop and operate an additional mine, the BP33 Lithium Project. Core began consulting about the BP33 Lithium Project and resultant changes to the Grants project in August 2020, which forms Stage 1 of the BP33 engagement. A separate report for Stage 1 was produced but it is also summarised in this document. Stage 2 occurred during May 2021 and was a broader engagement which focussed on speaking with the most impacted stakeholders, having a presence in the local communities and broadly communicating Grants Lithium project updates to a wide range of stakeholders.

This stakeholder engagement report will help inform a Social Impact Assessment for the BP33 Lithium Project and is a regulatory requirement of the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority's referral of the project to a Supplementary Environmental Report.

Methodology and approach

Stage 2 of the BP33 engagement was conducted at the levels of inform, consult and involve. The high level objective was to ensure stakeholders knew about the project and its approved and proposed changes and had an opportunity to provide feedback. Core and the project team did this by producing a range of communication tools and using a range of tactics including:

- emails to stakeholders
- fact sheet
- meetings and briefings
- SIA interviews
- community information stalls
- letters to residents along the haul route
- maps
- Q&A
- poster
- presentation
- company website
- social media posts
- project phone and email.

These tools and tactics resulted in:

- 117 stakeholders receiving an email with the fact sheet
- 5 briefings
- 5 interviews
- 77 attendees at community information stalls
- 5 phone calls.

Key stakeholders

This program facilitated briefings and interviews with the most impacted stakeholder groups and conversations with the local communities. It also provided information and updates to a wide scope of interested stakeholders. The key stakeholders included in Stages 1 and 2 were:

- local government
- relevant Aboriginal groups
- representatives and people in affected communities
- local elected representatives
- local industry associations
- non-government organisations
- environmental groups
- stakeholders who have previously registered interest
- people who have previously provided feedback
- NT government departments, ministers and/or their advisors.



Feedback themes

Generally the sentiment around the project was positive and most people support the Finniss Lithium Project, mainly due to the potential employment and economic benefits. People are keen to see work start and many expressed an interest in work or contracting opportunities. The main feedback themes were spread across road safety and road degradation, local jobs and community benefits, opportunities for Aboriginal employment and contracts, contribution to the local economy and impacts to water.

Road safety and degradation

Road safety was a concern of both stakeholders and community members. People spoke about how Cox Peninsula Road is already unsafe, narrow and in poor condition. Councils often campaign for upgrades and community members are keen to see improvements. A number of people queried how Core's road trains would contribute to safety problems and decreasing quality of the road.

Local jobs and benefits

Sentiment around the project was generally very positive with many stakeholders and community members keen to see things start. Councils and Aboriginal groups would like to see as many jobs as possible go to local people and those who attended information stalls were readily raising their hand to be involved. Likewise, people want to see benefits from the mine flow onto the community and raised specific suggestions including visits and talks at the Berry Springs Primary School, purchasing goods and services locally and sponsorship of events and community groups.

Opportunities for Aboriginal employment and contracts

Local Aboriginal organisations said they would like to work with Core to identify work and contract opportunities that will benefit Aboriginal people over the long term. Many locals from Belyuen enquired whether there would be opportunities for local Aboriginal employment as there are few job opportunities in Belyuen.

Contribution to the local economy

Positive sentiment around the project also raised comments and feedback about the positive impact the project will have on the region. This sentiment was often tied with wishes for the project to provide local jobs and the project's ability to give back to the community.

Impacts to water

Water use is a sensitive topic in the communities surrounding the project. Some stakeholders raised concerns about how the project's use of water might have flow on effects to groundwater supplies which are already suffering. There was some misconception that the project will contaminate water in the area and there was mention, albeit limited, of Observation Hill Dam being used for recreational purposes.

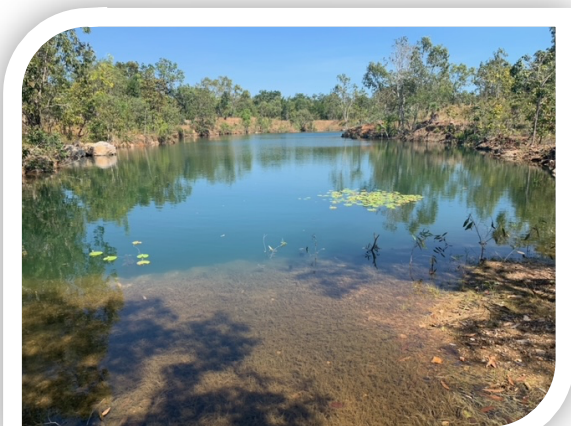


Background

Core holds approximately 500 km² of granted exploration tenements across the Bynoe pegmatite field in the Cox Peninsula area of the Northern Territory. This area which forms the Finnis Lithium Project incorporates several high-grade lithium deposits including the Grants and BP33 deposits and other prospects being explored by Core.

On 1 April 2020, Core received approval for its Grants Lithium Project which involves mining and onsite processing of lithium ore and trucking the concentrate product about 90 kilometres via Cox Peninsula Road and Stuart Highway to Darwin Port for export to China.

Further exploration across the Finnis Lithium Project area has identified a number of satellite ore resources near the Grants Lithium Project, including the BP33 deposit. Core is proposing to extend the operating period of the Grants Project processing facility to accommodate processing and export of ore mined from the BP33 project and potentially a number of other nearby ore deposits associated with the Finnis Lithium Project. In April 2020, Core submitted a Notice of Intent to the Northern Territory Protection Authority (NTEPA) for the proposed BP33 project.



BP33 site (left) and Grants site (right)

In July the Northern Territory Government advised that the BP33 Notice of Intent would be the first project to be assessed under the newly reformed environmental legislation, the *Environment Protection Act 2019*. On 10 July 2020, the BP33 project was advertised on the NT EPA website as open for public comment, with information on the proposal, including all relevant referral documents. The public comment period was open from 10 July 2020 to 10 August 2020.

As part of the environmental assessment process and in line with the recommended approach for stakeholder engagement, Core Lithium engaged with stakeholders in July and August 2020 to provide information on Core's proposed BP33 project, listen to any feedback and took the opportunity to update stakeholders on the Grants project. This forms the basis of Stage 1 engagement.

The NT EPA advised that a Supplementary Environmental Report (SER) and social impact assessment (SIA) would be required for the BP33 project. Core has continued to engage with the community and stakeholders on the BP33 and Grants projects and has sought additional feedback to inform the social impact assessment in line with the stakeholder engagement strategy.



BP33 Project

The BP33 site contains pegmatite, a granite type rock containing spodumene, which is a source of lithium. The BP33 Lithium Project is 2.5 kilometres south-west of Cox Peninsula Road, approximately 33 kilometres west of Berry Springs and 7.5 kilometres from the Grants Project site. The mine site footprint is approximately 88 hectares while the footprint of the haul road from BP33 to Grants is approximately 12.5 hectares (13 metres wide by 7.5 kilometres long).

The BP33 project will involve underground mining of ore and trucking to the Grants processing plant via a 7.5 kilometre purpose-built haul road. The key components of the BP33 project are as follows:

- Construction of site infrastructure, including a contractor's area (storage and maintenance), internal access roads and drainage infrastructure, water storages and Run of Mine (RoM) pad.
- The contractor's area will comprise a raised compacted pad with a footprint of approximately 6.4 hectares. The area will accommodate office and staff facilities, laydown and storage areas, maintenance workshop, fuel storage and refuelling, power generators.
- An underground mine that uses a box-cut portal that is excavated to approximately 60-70 metres deep to remove weathered waste rock and provide a stable foundation for construction of an underground portal. The box-cut will cover an area of six hectares.
- Construction of a 450-metre long decline from the base of the box-cut to the top of the spodumene and progressive construction of a further 1.7 km of decline over the mine life to connect lower levels of the underground mine.
- Two onsite waste rock dumps (WRD) for temporary storage of oxide waste rock (from the box-cut) and transitional/fresh waste rock (from the underground) before progressively backfilling the material.
- A Raw Water Dam (RWD) will be constructed to store water for use in dust suppression and to supply the mine site facilities. A Mine Settling Dam (MSD) will be constructed to store and treat sediment laden water.
- Underground mining of the resource over nine production levels using sublevel retreat mining methods over a life of mine of approximately four years.
- Transport of the mined ore approximately 7.5 kilometres along a dedicated haul road (to be constructed) to the Grants processing plant.

The estimated workforce of 150 to 180 is to be sourced locally from Darwin, Palmerston and surrounding areas where possible. There will be no on-site accommodation camp, with workers expected to travel to and from site for each shift. Belyuen is the closest community to the project area and Core has committed to working with Aboriginal employment and training providers to maximise employment of people from Belyuen and the broader region. Where there is a lack of available skilled personnel, Fly-In-Fly-Out arrangements will be made for a portion of the workforce, and commercial accommodation in the region provided.

Variation to Grants Lithium Project

Development of the BP33 Project will involve changes to the approved Grants Lithium Project. Once ore deposits from the Grants Project are exhausted, ore will then be mined from the BP33 project and will be trucked via haul road to the Grants site for processing.

This processed ore will then be trucked to the Darwin Port for export.

This process will extend the life of the processing facility at Grants Project from its current three-year timeframe approved under the *Mining Management Act* to seven or more years. The resulting changes to the Grants Project include:

- increasing the tailings storage capacity to contain the additional tailings from the BP33 Project

- water will continue to be drawn from Observation Hill Dam for the life of the Grants Project
- extending the life of the mine site dam from three years to 7+ years before decommissioning and rehabilitation
- extending the timeframe for trucking of ore from Grants Project to Darwin Port from three years to 7+ years
- extending the schedule for closure and rehabilitation of the Grants Project to 7+ years
- additional workforce will be required for continued operation of the processing facility.



Grants site (left) Observation Hill Dam (right).

The operation of the Grants processing facility was previously assessed under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. A separate Notice of Variation was submitted to the NTEPA to address the variation to the approved activities. In June 2020, the NT EPA advised that the Grants Project has approval to operate for seven years.

Methodology

Using the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) principles that guide good community engagement, this engagement was conducted at the levels of **inform**, **consult** and **involve**.

Level of Engagement	Promise to the Public
Inform	We will keep you informed
Consult	We will keep you informed, listen to your concerns and provide feedback on how the public's input influenced the decision
Involve	We will work with you to ensure your concerns are reflected in the alternatives developed, and provide feedback on how the public's input influenced the decision
Collaborate	We will look to you for advice, ideas and solutions and incorporate those into the decisions as much as possible
Empower	We will implement what you decide
©International Association of Public Participation www.ipa2.org	

Objectives

The **communication** objectives of this stakeholder engagement were to:

- update stakeholders on changes to the Grants Project since the previous engagement
- notify stakeholders of the commitments made by Core as part of the Grants EIS process
- inform stakeholders of the BP33 Project, details and possible impacts
- encourage stakeholders to provide feedback on interest or concerns about the project
- continue to build on existing stakeholder relationships and trust
- provide clarity and understanding about the various Core projects in the region.

The **engagement** objectives of this stakeholder engagement were to:

- listen to and understand the priorities and perspectives of all stakeholder groups
- manage stakeholder expectations
- provide clarity and information on any issues of concern raised by stakeholders
- support delivery of projects that are environmentally, economically, culturally and socially acceptable to the community and key stakeholders (i.e. earn social licence to operate)

- provide regulators with confidence that all positive and negative impacts are well understood and can be managed through all phases of the project
- provide guidance to the company's long-term social performance.

Approach

Core has developed positive relationships and trust with many of the Finnis Lithium Project stakeholders through early and ongoing engagement.

The **engagement approach** for the BP33 project SER was to:

- provide updates to the community and seek feedback through community information stalls
- provide briefings to those stakeholders who have not been briefed but who have an interest in the project or could be impacted by the project
- arrange one-on-one discussions with some community members or stakeholders who are likely to be most affected by the project, to understand their interest or concerns, to ensure the SIA accurately reflects and analyses any impacts to the community
- provide updates to other stakeholders via emails and fact sheets, including those who have been briefed on BP33, or who have received information on the project in 2020.

The content of the **communication and engagement** focused on providing updates and information to stakeholders on:

- management policies and plans or actions that Core has committed to since the Grants EIS process
- changes to the Grants project as a result of BP33
- information on the BP33 project
- timeframes
- any other updates.

Many stakeholder representatives were briefed on the updates to the Grants project and BP33 project in 2020, and online communication and fact sheets were sent to many community stakeholders. The second stage of the engagement process was seen as an opportunity to further engage with the communities and update everyone on the Grants project and provide information on the BP33 project and to seek feedback from all stakeholders.

Key **implementation strategies**:

- ensure a tailored approach to reaching stakeholders, for example phone calls, emails, meetings and briefings, presentations, letters, information sessions and pop-up stalls
- draw on feedback raised in previous engagement to help guide key messages and areas of focus for stakeholder engagement
- refer to previous stakeholder information requests to ensure all interested stakeholders are updated on the projects
- ensure key stakeholders receive objective information direct from Core rather than from media or third parties
- continue to build relationships and make sure it is easy to contact the company to clarify issues and address rumours and misinformation
- give key stakeholders a chance to provide early input on issues that may affect them or project design and provide regular updates to these stakeholders
- ensure a culturally appropriate approach to engagement for Aboriginal stakeholders
- a risk-based approach that devotes the greatest effort to stakeholders likely to experience the greatest level of impact – positive or negative – from the project, while raising

awareness of all stakeholders in the project footprint on how they can get information and provide feedback.

Key stakeholders

The key stakeholder groups included:

- local government including Belyuen Community Government Council, Wagait Shire Council, Litchfield Shire Council
- relevant Aboriginal groups including Larrakia Nation, Kenbi Rangers, Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation, Larrakia Development Corporation and others
- representatives and people in affected communities, including Belyuen, Berry Springs, Wagait Beach, Cox Peninsula
- local elected representatives
- local industry associations including Chamber of Commerce, NT Farmers Association, NT Cattlemen's Association, Tourism Top End and NT Guided Fishing Industry Association
- non-government organisations, including environmental groups, in particular the Environment Centre NT
- stakeholders who have requested to be kept informed of project updates
- stakeholders who have previously provided feedback on the Finnis Lithium projects
- NT Government departments, ministers and/or their key advisors.

A full list of stakeholders can be found in the section on stakeholders on page 10 of this report.



Tools and tactics

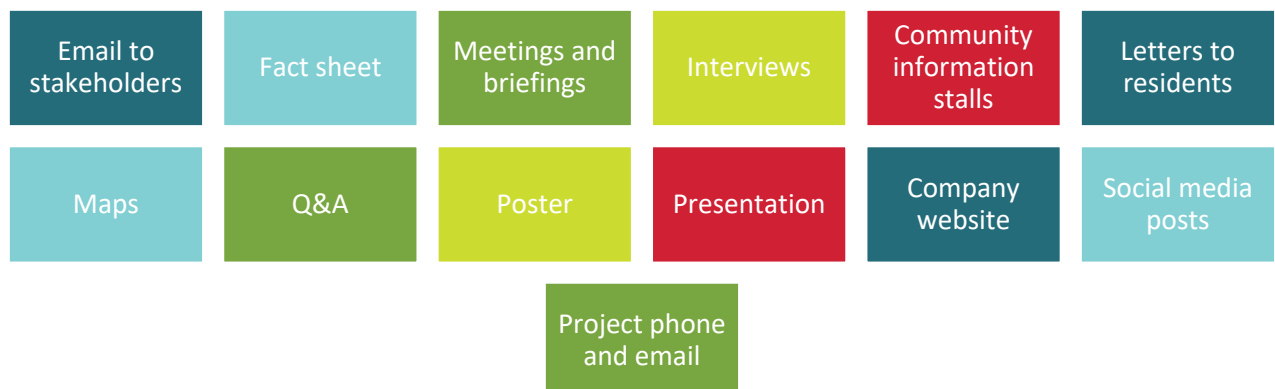
Stage 1



In July and August 2020, Core engaged with stakeholders about the BP33 project. This included:

- an **email** and **factsheet** sent out to stakeholders in July 2020 to provide background information about the project and the engagement process
- priority stakeholders were invited to attend an **online briefing** by Core while others were offered a briefing or invited to contact Core or True North if they had feedback or questions
- asking some stakeholders to share the fact sheet with their members, contacts and communities to ensure people were informed of the project and had the opportunity to provide feedback or seek more information
- providing online briefings (due to the social distancing guidelines associated with COVID-19) where Blair Duncan, Chief Operating Officer at Core Lithium took stakeholders through an **online presentation** that outlined the BP33 project, updates on the Grants project and provided overall information on Core's activity in the Cox Peninsula area. Stakeholders were invited to ask questions throughout the presentation and to provide any comments or feedback.

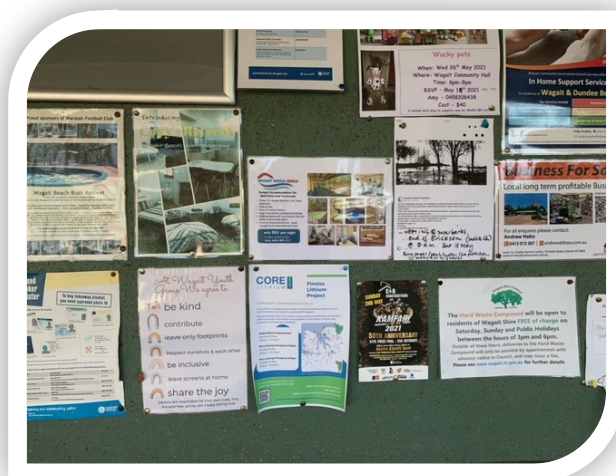
Stage 2



In May 2021, Core continued its stakeholder communication and engagement about the project with the following:

- An **email** and **fact sheet** were sent out to all stakeholders in May 2021
- The **fact sheet** was used to provide an update on the proposed BP33 Project and updates to the Grants Project. It included maps and images to visually show the location of the site, its layout and a concept of the box cut portal. The fact sheet listed the dates, times and locations of the three community engagement stalls as well as an email and phone number for queries and feedback.

- Priority stakeholders were invited to attend a **briefing** by Core while others were offered to contact Core or True North if they had any feedback or questions through the **project phone and email**
- Three **community information stalls** provided an opportunity for Core and the local communities to discuss the project and provide feedback:
 - Wagait Beach Supermarket, Saturday 15 May
 - Berry Springs Shopping Village, Sunday 16 May
 - Berry Springs Shopping Village, Tuesday 18 May
- **Interviews** with selected stakeholders to help inform the social impact assessment
- A **poster** was displayed at a number of locations to advertise the community stalls and included a QR code to access the fact sheet for more information. The poster was displayed at the Berry Springs Shopping Village, Wagait Beach Supermarket, Berry Springs Tavern, the Mandorah Ferry and ferry and was also sent to local member Ian Sloane's office, Wagait Shire Council, Litchfield Shire Council, Cox Country Club, Dundee Social and Recreational Club, Sandpalms Resort and the Lodge of Dundee
- A comprehensive **presentation** was used at briefings to provide detailed information about the Finnis Lithium project. The briefings provided an overview of both projects, updates on the Grants project, key information for the BP33 project, including the mine design, water use and sources, environmental management, rehabilitation and closure, traffic and road safety, employment and contracts, and timeframes.
- A number of **maps** were used to show the location of the project, the mine site layout and the proposed haul route between Grants and BP33.
- An internal **Q&A** document was also produced to ensure consistent messaging from all project team members during engagement activities.
- A **letter** to residents with the fact sheet was pegged onto approximately 45 fences along the haul route on Cox Peninsula Road to advise the planned start of construction for Grants later this year and to outline the haul operations, road safety measures and provide details about the information stalls. The letter included the phone and email to contact for more information.
- Information about the project and community information stalls were sent to various Facebook groups and pages as well as local contacts for promotion on **social media**.
- The fact sheet was made available on Core's **website**.



Posters displayed on local noticeboards

Copies of all materials are available at Appendix 1.

Stakeholders

A summary of the organisations that were contacted, sent a fact sheet and briefed is provided below. This is separated into stage one in July/August 2020 and stage two in May 2021:

Stakeholder	Stage one engagement BP33 July, August 2020		Stage two engagement BP33 May 2021	
	Sent email, fact sheet	Briefed	Sent email, fact sheet	Briefed
Australian Government				
Member for Lingjari, Warren Snowdon	✓		✓	
Member for Solomon, Luke Gosling	✓		✓	
Northern Territory Government				
Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (formerly Departments of Tourism, Sport and Culture, Trade, Business and Innovation, Primary Industry and Resources)	✓	✓	✓	
Department of Environment and Natural Resources	✓	Offered briefing	✓	Offered briefing
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics	✓	✓	✓	
Department of Education	✓	Offered briefing		
Chief Minister			✓	
Minister for Mining and Industry			✓	
Minister for Renewables and Energy, Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, Environment, Water Security and Climate Change			✓	
Daly Electorate Office. Member for Daly	✓		✓	Offered briefing
Berry Springs Primary School	✓	✓	✓	✓
Power and Water	✓	✓		
NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services	✓		✓	
Bushfires NT	✓		✓	
Local government				
Belyuen Community Government Council	✓	Offered briefing	✓	*
Litchfield Shire Council	✓	Offered briefing	✓	✓

Wagait Shire Council	✓	✓	✓	✓
City of Palmerston	✓		✓	
Aboriginal groups				
Larrakia Development Corporation	✓	✓	✓	✓
Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority			✓	
Northern Land Council			✓	
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation	✓	Offered briefing	✓	
Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation	✓		✓	
Kenbi Rangers	✓	Offered briefing	✓	✓
Indigenous Women in Mining Resources Association (IWMRA)	✓		✓	
Environment and community groups				
Environment Centre of the NT	✓	✓	✓	
Amateur Fisherman's Association NT (AFANT)	✓		✓	
Wagait Beach Progress Association	✓		✓	Offered briefing
Rural Residents Rights Group	✓		✓	
Dundee Progress Association	✓		✓	Offered briefing
Kamfari – Darwin Motorcycle Club			✓	
Livingstone Recreation Reserve Management Committee			✓	
COTA Berry Springs Seniors			✓	
Palmerston and Litchfield Seniors Association			✓	
Business and Industry Associations				
Chamber of Commerce	✓	✓	✓	Offered briefing
Minerals Council of Australia, NT Division	✓	✓	✓	Site visit
Tourism Top End	✓	Offered briefing	✓	
NT Cattlemen's Association			✓	
NT Farmers Association			✓	Offered briefing
NT Guided Fishing Industry Association	✓	Offered briefing	✓	Offered briefing

Palmerston Regional Business Association	✓		✓	
Sea Link			✓	
Community members				
Community members from previous stakeholder engagement	✓		✓	
Wagait Watch	✓		✓	
Berry Springs Shopping Village	✓		✓	
Berry Springs Tavern			✓	
Dundee Beach Holiday Park	✓		✓	
Sandpalms Resort and Tropical Motel	✓		✓	
Dundee Social and Recreational Club	✓		✓	
Cox Country Club	✓		✓	
Wagait Beach Supermarket	✓		✓	
Territory Wildlife Park	✓	Offered briefing	✓	
Tumbling Waters Holiday Park			✓	
Residents along the haul route on Cox Peninsula Road			✓	
Local community at community information stalls			✓	✓

*An online briefing was arranged for Belyuen Community Government Council as part of the May council meeting, however the council had technical difficulties and the briefing could not proceed.

As per the recommendation from the Belyuen Council, Core sought advice from the council members on how they would like Core to engage with the Belyuen community residents. At the council meeting, it was agreed that Core would arrange a community meeting in late June to present to the community residents and provide opportunities for questions and feedback.



Findings



Briefings

A total of five briefings were conducted with key stakeholders during Stage 2. A number of stakeholders either declined the offer of a briefing, were not available or did not respond to the offer. Many of the key stakeholder groups were briefed in Stage 1 and did not require additional information or updates.

Key feedback points from the briefings are detailed per stakeholder below.

Stakeholder	Comments, queries or feedback
Berry Springs Primary School	• Queries about timeframes • Would like to have Core staff i.e. geologists talking to the kids in classrooms, scientists coming in as part of the education program • Query about where workers will be bussed from • Pleased the trucks will not travel during peak school drop off and collection times • Advised 29 buses leaved Taminmin in the afternoon and there is about an hour of chaos • Would like to propagate natives and sell them back to Core • Keen for any educational support opportunities
Kenbi Rangers and Traditional Owners	• Queries and concerns about impacts to roads and increased traffic • Queries about how workers will transport to the site and whether workers will stay on site • Queries about opportunities for Kenbi Rangers. Keen for rehabilitation opportunities • Asked whether the project needs to meet a certain percentage of Aboriginal workers/capacity • Noted previous Aboriginal engagement with major contractors has not always been good and processes didn't work. Asked if works can be broken down purposefully for Aboriginal opportunities
Litchfield Council (including Council Members)	• Feedback was positive and supportive of the benefits to the local economy • Questions around the mine size, number of staff, how staff will travel to the site • Queries about road train size

	• Question about whether the NT Government is committing to any infrastructure upgrades to any intersections • Gets a lot of complaints about safety at intersections • Supportive of the project and engagement process to date • Would like to see job opportunities for Litchfield residents
Wagait Council	• Feedback was generally positive • Questions about the mine life, jobs and procurement, lithium refineries, blasting and road closures • Discussion about communicating the road closures to the community and the importance of ongoing communication
Larrakia Development Corporation	• Discussed Aboriginal employment opportunities • Discussed need for Core and LDC to continue to engage on workforce opportunities for local Aboriginal people • Core reiterated that opportunities for workers will be better known once management contracts are awarded • LDC raised heritage management and the desire for someone to walk the site for cultural heritage items so they are not destroyed before construction

Interviews

Targeted interviews were conducted in Stage 2 with a select group of five stakeholders to gain information to help inform the social impact assessment. Information from previous interviews for the Grants Lithium social impact assessment also informed the social impact assessment.

Information provided by stakeholders in these interviews is detailed below.

Stakeholder	Comments, queries or feedback
Kamfari – Darwin Motorcycle Club President	• Kamfari is a one day event on the Sunday of the May long weekend every year • Always in touch with exploration staff at Core about the mine and the event • Kamfari is east of the mine site on the northern side of the Cox Peninsula • The event always has traffic controls from around 7am to 4pm • Might look for new locations when their five year permit expires in a couple of years • Three to four other Sunday events throughout the year. Other events have minimal impact on the road • Can't foresee any issues in the future as it is just one Sunday a year but would like to keep in contact
Belyuen Council, Chief Executive Officer	• Belyuen is a small community of about 190 people. It used to be larger but there were some family problems a long time ago • Only two Larrakia people in the community, others are a mix • Not many employment opportunities • People are passionate about culture and the cemetery holds strong significance • People don't tend to travel much or to Observational Hill Dam and will instead go fishing along the coastline • Some people have access to cars and drive to Darwin and Palmerston. Some go on the ferry

	• Road safety will be an issue and people travel regularly to the Tumbling Waters pub • Issues of drink driving, unroadworthy vehicles and some unlicensed driving • Concerns about additional trucks on the road as there is no space to pull over • Long stream of cars from Darwin on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with trailers, boats, quad bikes etc. Sunday afternoon they all head home • Few instances where trailers have been overturned • Trucks should be well lit so people can see them from a long way away • Suggested additional signage about the road trains and a community meeting and safety campaign about how to be safe on the roads
Wagait Shire Council, Chief Executive Officer and President	• A lot of FIFO workers living in Wagait, some who already have contracts with Core • Approx. 580 people • Not as many weekenders and holiday houses as before. More retirees or families moving in • People value a peaceful and laidback lifestyle • People are passionate about conservation and ecology • Community minded population described as confident, resilient and robust • Generally, people who work in Darwin take the ferry, people who work in Palmerston and rural drive • Strong awareness about the mine in the community and some looking forward to it starting • Positive community sentiment with no negative comments made to council • A lot of early fears have been met with adequate responses • Big turnover in property sales and new residents perhaps because of the mine starting up • Some interest in employment opportunities • Road safety is a concern • Road deterioration is already a concern during the wet and expects this to become worse with more trucks • Caravans say it is difficult to pass another car coming in the other direction • Continually pressuring NTG about upgrading the road • Keen for ongoing communication with community particularly around road closures • No known current use of Observation Hill Dam
Litchfield Shire Council, Mayor	• Mix of people who are older, long term residents with larger parcels of land who are committed to the environment and maintaining rural living setting • People only want improvements to the basics like roads, water, community infrastructure • People have horses, go fishing and mind their own business and like it that way • Some mango growers and mango farms. A number of people agist cattle but not cattle farmers

	• Southport residents live on urban sized blocks for affordability • People who commute to Darwin and Palmerston often use back roads like Finn Road to connect to Amy Johnson • Water is an issue in the area and there has been a halt on any subdivisions and a ban on bores. The ban is still in place in some areas – those connected to the Berry Springs Dolostone Aquifer • The mine's use of water will probably be an issue unless the mine can somehow improve the water situation • People do ask about Core with some concern about roads and the environment and where they will go hunting, quad biking and fishing • People are keen to see the prosperity of the area increase and job opportunities • Interested in community benefit from Core
Wagait Beach Supermarket, Owner	• Wagait Beach is just down the road from the mine and there is opportunity to use the ferry rather than roads • Would like to see local opportunities and community benefits • Some long term rental options in the area that Core could use • Questions about who would operate staff transportation busses • Question about who will be main employer for the mine • Supermarket is on the market. Have owned for 21 years and now want to sell it but stay living in the area. There could be opportunities in Wagait for transporting people from the ferry to the mine site • Would like to see the local community as involved as possible • Possible catering opportunities for the supermarket • Concerned about impact on water table. Community water is sourced from Charles Point but said underground aquifers all interact • Misunderstanding about analogies previously used to explain the mining process • Questions about mine site remediation • Said the mine is not currently a hot topic in the community but likely will be once things start up. People are active on the Wagait Beach Community Facebook page • Best ways to communicate locally are the ferry notice board, council, Cox Country Club, supermarket and social media • Belyuen is definitely up with social media and have some groups amongst themselves

Community stalls

Three community information stalls were held on the following dates, times and locations:

Saturday 15 May 2021	Sunday 16 May 2021	Tuesday 18 May
•Wagait Beach Supermarket •8:30am - 12:00pm •35 attendees	•Berry Springs Shopping Village •9:00am - 12:00pm •15 attendees	•Berry Springs Shopping Village •3:00pm - 6:00pm •27 attendees

A summary of feedback areas raised and discussed during the community information stalls from Stage 2 is listed below.

Stall	No. attendees	Key feedback areas
Wagait Beach Supermarket – 15 May	Approx. 35	• Jobs and contracting opportunities • Project timeframes • Road safety • Road condition/degradation • Environment – water use and sources, chemicals, rehabilitation • Sponsorship • Other – shares, cultural heritage, recreation, shipping product to China
Berry Springs Shopping Village – 16 May	Approx. 15	• Local jobs and contracting opportunities • Project timeframes • Road safety • Environment • Other
Berry Springs Shopping Village – 18 May	Approx. 27	• Local jobs and contracting opportunities • Project timeframes • Road condition • Aboriginal employment opportunities • General questions about the mine and shares



Community information stalls

Phone and email

The project phone and email details were included on fact sheets distributed to residents on the haul route, sent to stakeholders and registered community members and displayed on posters around the impacted communities. There was little uptake of this method, with only five incoming phone calls and no emails. Of the five phone calls:

- One was from a community member who previously was involved in the Wagait Beach Progress Association, providing feedback:
 - Cox Peninsula Road is very broken up this year and people question what it will be like once road trains start
 - Suggested using the barge landing next to the jetty to transport ore to the port rather than via trucks and noted NTG is doing \$40 million upgrade to improve the jetty
 - Noted 25 per cent population growth in the past 18 months due to COVID and blocks of land that have been sitting on the market are now selling
- One person called to register for updates
- One call from Ian Sloane's electorate office
 - Explained he hasn't seen any of the lithium trucks yet but has received complaints that they don't have their lights on at night. The project team member explained the Core Lithium trucks haven't started yet
- Call from a stakeholder to organise a time to book a meeting
- One call from Warren Snowden's office to arrange a briefing.



Analysis

Summary

The response and feedback received about the BP33 Lithium project during Stages 1 and 2 of the stakeholder and community engagement was generally positive. Most stakeholders were positive about both the Grants and BP33 projects provided there are opportunities for locals, including jobs, contracts, the opportunity to provide services and supplies, and Core providing sponsorship and support in the local communities. Jobs and contract opportunities for local Aboriginal people and groups was also raised across both stages of the engagement.

Some who expressed support of the project also raised issues they were concerned about, including road safety and road degradation on Cox Peninsula Road, water use and sources, and there was interest in understanding the rehabilitation and closure plans for both projects.

There were some community members who were not supportive of the project mainly due to environmental concerns.

Key themes



Road safety

Road safety was the largest concern shared by stakeholders and the community. Litchfield Council receives complaints about the safety of intersections along Cox Peninsula Road and Belyuen Council referenced people drink driving, driving unlicensed and in unregistered vehicles. Belyuen Council also noted some instances where trailers have been overturned in recent times due to issues with the road. The Wagait Shire Council raised similar concerns and said it can be hard for caravans to pass oncoming traffic currently and questioned what it would be like when road trains start, noting there is limited areas where you can pull over. The Kenbi Rangers also raised concerns about road safety as did numerous people at the community information stalls, where they talked about the increased risk of road accidents with quad road trains on Cox Peninsula Road.

Local jobs and benefits

One of the most common feedback themes between stakeholders and community members is the opportunity for local jobs and local benefits. Councils in the area are all keen to see as many jobs go to local people as possible and people in the community are readily putting their hands up to be involved.

Other stakeholders and community members queried what benefits would go back to the community and explained this is an important area for them. The Berry Springs Primary school would like to see educational benefits through Core staff talking with students at the school and the potential for Core to purchase propagated plants from the school. The Wagait Beach Supermarket is interested in potential catering opportunities and opportunities to transport workers to the site. The owner mentioned there are some houses in the community that could serve as rental opportunities

for people working at the mine. Some stakeholders raised suggestions for sponsorship of local events and community groups.

Opportunities for Aboriginal employment and contracts

Residents from Belyuen, representatives from Aboriginal organisations and other community members enquired whether there would be opportunities for local Aboriginal employment and contracts due to the proximity of the project to Belyuen, Palmerston and Darwin. Some Belyuen residents indicated that there are few job opportunities in the community and expressed interest in working on the project. Aboriginal organisations said they would like to work with Core to identify opportunities that will benefit Aboriginal people and help develop skills that are transferrable to future projects.

Road degradation

The current state of Cox Peninsula Road was often raised in conjunction with road safety concerns with many stakeholders and community members noting faults and the poor condition of the road, particularly after the most recent Wet season. Litchfield Council specifically noted residents are keen to see the road upgraded and Wagait Shire Council noted it regularly campaigns the Northern Territory Government for upgrades. Stakeholders and community members feel the condition of the road will get progressively worse with the addition of the haul trucks.

Contribution to the local economy

People who visited the community information stalls were generally positive about the project and noted it will be good for the local economy. Litchfield Council mirrored this sentiment and is keen to see the project start and the trickle down benefits for local people in the area.

Impacts to water

Two stakeholders and a number of community members who attended an information stall raised concerns about impacts to water in the area. The owner of the Wagait Beach Supermarket was concerned about how the project's use of water will impact the community's local supply and explained this concern stems from not knowing how the aquifers interact. Core representatives explained that geologists use scientific methods to study and monitor the aquifers and water sources and that the primary source of water for the project will be water from Observation Hill Dam. Litchfield Council explained water is an issue in the area and spoke about how there is a halt on new subdivisions and ban on new bores in certain areas due to limited supplies in the Dolostone Aquifer. The Council feels water will be an issue for the community unless Core can somehow improve the current situation. One stall visitor thought the tailings would contaminate the water table when water levels rise, a couple asked about the impacts to the water table and a number queried where the project will source its water. One person who attended the stall said their family regularly swims at Observation Hill Dam and explained it is their only local waterhole. Other stakeholders said they are not aware of community use at the dam.



Recommendations

The following recommendations are made following the stakeholder engagement:

- Core to note the feedback received from stakeholders and the community and incorporate into project planning, specifically noting:
 - impacts to road safety
 - contribution to road degradation along Cox Peninsula Road
 - ways to improve or reduce the impact of road safety concerns such as well-lit road trains and ample signage about road trains
 - employ locals where possible and uphold commitment for limited FIFO jobs
 - continue to engage with local Aboriginal organisations to develop work and contract opportunities for local Aboriginal people
 - consider opportunities for community benefits such as those suggested by stakeholders during this engagement.
- Develop and implement an overarching communication and engagement plan to guide ongoing conversations with the community and stakeholders for the life of the Finnis Lithium Project
- Continue to communicate and engage with stakeholders (particularly at key milestones such as the submission of the EIS) to ensure they are kept informed and can comment.



Appendices

Appendix 1 – Materials

- a. Fact sheet: Finniss Lithium Project July 2020
- b. 2020 online presentation
- c. Fact sheet: Finniss Lithium Project Update May 2021
- d. Poster
- e. 2021 presentation
- f. Maps
- g. Letter to residents
- h. Social media graphics and supplied content

Appendix 2 – Stage 1 engagement report

Finniss Lithium Project Update

MAY 2021

Core Lithium is an Australian resources company with 100% ownership of the Finniss Lithium Project. The Finniss Lithium Project covers more than 500 square kilometres on the Cox Peninsula and includes several high-grade lithium deposits including the Grants Lithium Project, the proposed BP33 Lithium Project and other exploration prospects.

GRANTS LITHIUM PROJECT

In April 2020, Core received approval from the Northern Territory Government for open pit mining and processing of lithium ore at its Grants Lithium Project, 36 kilometres west of Berry Springs. Since then, the government has approved an expansion of the Grants Lithium Project to include processing of lithium ore from the nearby BP33 deposit, which will extend the life of the operating facility at the Grants Lithium Project from three to seven years. Some of the changes to the Grants Lithium Project as a result of this include:

- ✓ water will be drawn from Observation Hill Dam for the life of the Grants Project
- ✓ extending the life of the site's dam from three to seven years
- ✓ extending the timeframe for trucking of ore from the Grants Project to Darwin Port from three to seven years
- ✓ closure and rehabilitation of the Grants Project in seven years
- ✓ employing workers for four more years.

If you have questions or feedback about the projects, please come along to one of the community information stalls at:

- ✓ **Wagait Beach Supermarket:**
Saturday 15 May, 8.30am – 12 noon
- ✓ **Berry Springs Shopping Village:**
Sunday 16 May, 9am – 12 noon
- ✓ **Berry Springs Shopping Village:**
Tuesday 18 May, 3pm – 6pm.

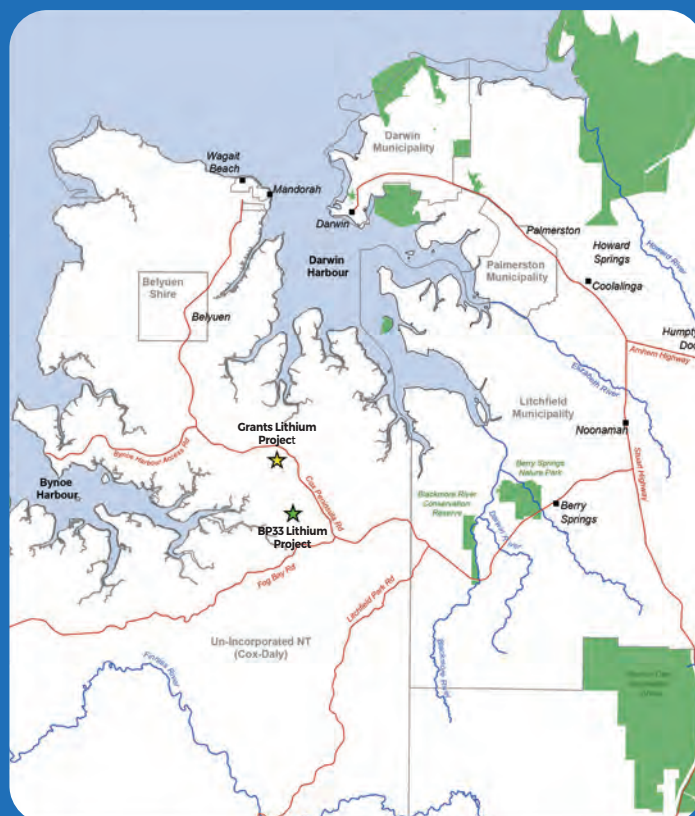


Figure 1 - Map of project location

BP33 LITHIUM PROJECT

Core Lithium's BP33 site is 33 kilometres west of Berry Springs and 2.5 kilometres south-west of Cox Peninsula Road. The BP33 site contains 2.3 million tonnes of pegmatite, a granite type rock containing spodumene (a source of lithium). Development of the BP33 site will involve underground mining and trucking the ore to the Grants Lithium Project processing plant via a 7.5 kilometre purpose-built internal haul road.

The proposed BP33 Lithium Project involves the following:

- ✓ Excavating a box-cut portal over six hectares (see Figure 2) to about 60 metres deep. This is a small open cut that provides an entrance to the underground mine.
- ✓ Construction of a 450-metre long decline from the bottom of the box-cut to the top of the ore deposit. As the ore is removed, construction of the decline continues down another 5.4 kilometres over the life of the mine.
- ✓ Two temporary waste rock dumps at the site will store the waste rock removed from the box-cut and underground. This material will be used to fill in the box-cut and mined area at the end of operations.
- ✓ Construction of a dam to store water that will be used to minimise dust and supply the mine site facilities, and construction of a separate dam to store and treat water containing sediment.
- ✓ Construction of site infrastructure, including a contractor's area, internal access roads and drainage infrastructure and run of mine (ROM) pad.
- ✓ The contractor's area will include office and staff facilities, laydown and storage areas, a maintenance workshop, fuel storage and refuelling and power generators.
- ✓ Construction of a 7.5 kilometre dedicated haul road over existing tracks between the BP33 site to the Grants Lithium Project site.
- ✓ Underground mining of the BP33 resource over about four years.
- ✓ Trucking the mined ore about 7.5 kilometres along a dedicated haul road to the Grants processing plant.
- ✓ Processing of the mined ore at the Grants Lithium Project site and transporting the resulting concentrate to the Darwin Port.

JOBS AND CONTRACTS

Over the life of the Grants and BP33 projects, Core expects to employ up to 250 people.

Grants Project construction:	Up to 250 jobs
Grants operations:	A peak of 150 - 180 jobs
BP33 Project construction:	Up to 60 jobs (no longer than 12 months)
BP33 Project operations:	50 - 80 jobs

Core will employ as many local workers as possible. There will be no on-site accommodation camp, with workers expected to travel to and from site for each shift.

Core wants to maximise local jobs and business contracts and will encourage its head contractors to use local businesses.

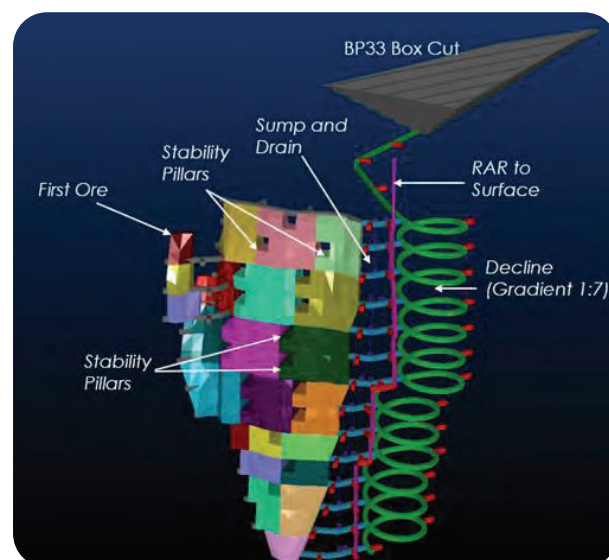


Figure 2 - Concept of a box cut portal



Figure 3 - Map of BP33 site footprint and preliminary layout

WATER USE AND SOURCES

The combined projects will need about 2000 kilolitres of water a day for mining, dust suppression and for processing at Grants.

Water for the Grants Project will be pumped about five kilometres from Observation Hill Dam via a pipeline, to the project's raw water dam. Other water sources will include groundwater and rainfall that flows into the open pit and a small mine site dam that will be constructed next to the mine. Core has applied to the Northern Territory Government for a surface water extraction licence.

The BP33 Project will use surface water (rainfall run-off) and, subject to approval, groundwater from the BP33 underground mine. The mine is not connected to the Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer, which is subject to the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan.

TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY

ROAD CLOSURES

Core consulted with the public in 2017 and 2018 about the Grants Lithium Project and advised that there could be some short, temporary closures of Cox Peninsula Road during blasting at the Grants project site. The road closures for blasting will be for about 10 minutes and will be for the first six months of the project. Core has made the following commitments for Grants Lithium Project blasting times and road closures to minimise impacts to locals. Core will:

- ✓ restrict blasting times and road closures to minimise disruptions to other road users
- ✓ not close roads on weekends, public holidays or during peak traffic periods
- ✓ notify people from Belyuen and Wagait Beach two days before any blasting operations and road closures and consult with these communities on the best process for notifying them
- ✓ place signs on Cox Peninsula Road to provide advance notice to drivers of proposed blasting times and road closures
- ✓ ensure emergency vehicles have access during any road closures.

The BP33 project will not require any road closures.

ROAD SAFETY

There will be up to ten return road train trips a day between the Grants Lithium Project site and Darwin Port via Cox Peninsula Road and the Stuart Highway, for seven years. Core will do the following things to keep the roads as safe as possible:

- ✓ limit haul truck speeds to 40km/hr within the Berry Springs school precinct
- ✓ restrict truck movements past the school during peak school traffic periods
- ✓ monitor haul truck speed and driver behaviour via monitoring systems
- ✓ provide park and ride busses for staff
- ✓ create a slip-lane at the intersection of Cox Peninsula Road and the Grants mine site entrance to enable safe entry and exit of trucks from the site.

REHABILITATION AND CLOSURE

When mining operations finish, all mining infrastructure will be removed from the sites and the areas rehabilitated as per the mine closure plans. The material in the Grants waste rock dump will be used to enclose the tailings storage facilities and the remaining mound will be shaped to provide a surface that is resistant to erosion and can be planted with groundcover species. The open pit will be left to form a pit lake, which will be surrounded by an earth bund for safety to prevent vehicles, people or animals accidentally falling in. Core will decommission the mine site dam but leave Observation Hill Dam as it is an existing dam.

Once mining ends at BP33, the underground mine and box-cut will be completely backfilled. No waste material will remain on the surface. The area will be rehabilitated and restored to its pre-mining state. Core will undertake ongoing rehabilitation, erosion and water monitoring.

The mine site landforms will be stabilised and replanted with species native to the area. Core will be responsible for protecting the sites from fire, undertaking weed control and monitoring water quality and regeneration of vegetation in the rehabilitated areas. These activities will continue until the rehabilitation criteria for the site are met. Core is required to pay a security bond to the Northern Territory Government before the start of mining, which will not be returned until the rehabilitation criteria are met.

TIMING

Construction for the Grants Project is expected to start in the second half of this year, with production starting in 2022.

Subject to approvals, construction of the BP33 mine is expected to start in 2023. Operations at BP33 will begin after the Grants ore deposit is exhausted.

FEEDBACK

In September 2020, the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) decided that the BP33 Lithium Project requires an environmental impact assessment. Core plans to submit the Supplementary Environmental Report (SER) to the NT EPA in mid 2021. The report will be available on the NT EPA website and open for public comment for 25 business days.

Core is consulting with the community and stakeholders in the lead up to the SER and welcomes any feedback on the project.

CONTACT

If you have questions or feedback about the project, please contact:

P. 08 8981 6445

E. feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au

OR

For all employment applications please send your resume to hr@corelithium.com.au. Additional recruitment information will be posted on the Core Lithium website in the coming months.

CORE
LITHIUM

For all other enquiries please contact the Core Lithium office via email at info@corelithium.com.au

corelithium.com.au

Finniss Lithium Project

COMMUNITY INFORMATION STALLS

Core Lithium is proposing to expand its Finniss Lithium Project on the Cox Peninsula to include the nearby BP33 deposit.

Representatives from Core will be hosting three community information stalls to provide information and updates on the project, answer any questions and hear your feedback.

Wagait Beach Supermarket

Saturday 15 May
8:30am – 12:00pm

Berry Springs Shopping Village

Sunday 16 May
9:00am – 12:00pm

Berry Springs Shopping Village

Tuesday 18 May
3:00pm – 6:00pm

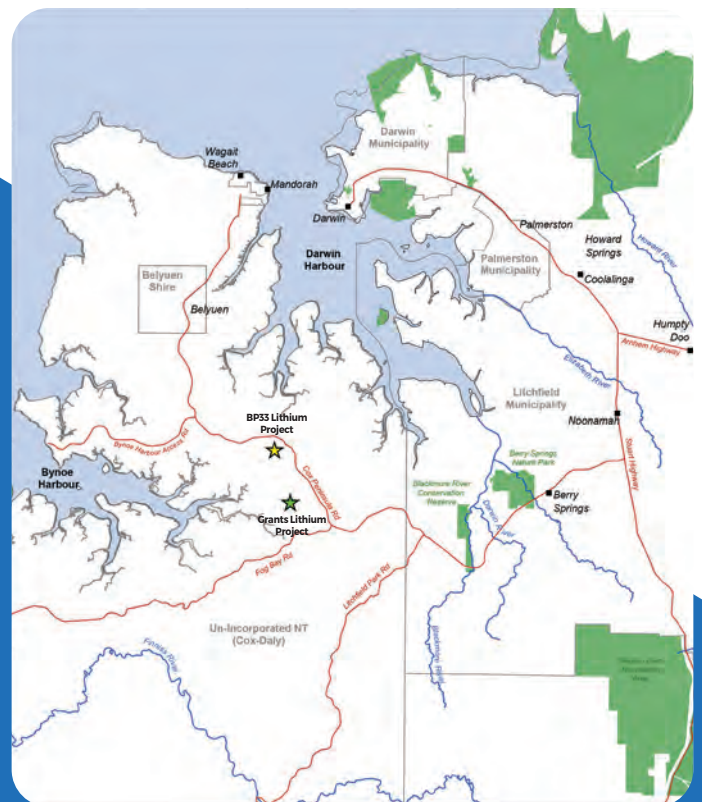


Figure 1 - Map of project location

For more information about the project scan the below QR code:



Visit: www.corelithium.com.au

Call: 8981 6445

Email: feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au



Finniss Lithium Project

May 2021



Overview

- **Finniss Lithium Project**
 - BP33 Project
 - Grants Project
 - Other exploration tenements in the region
- 35 km west of Berry Springs, 32 km south of Darwin
- **April 2020:** Core received approval for open pit mining and processing of 1.8 million tonnes of lithium ore at its Grants Lithium Project
- NT EPA approved the Notice of Variation to extend life of the operating facility at Grants, to process ore from BP33
- **September 2020:** Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) decided BP33 Lithium Project requires an environmental impact assessment
- **Mid 2021:** Supplementary Environmental Report (SER) submission
- Core is consulting with the community and stakeholders on the BP33 project and welcomes any feedback.



BP33 Project

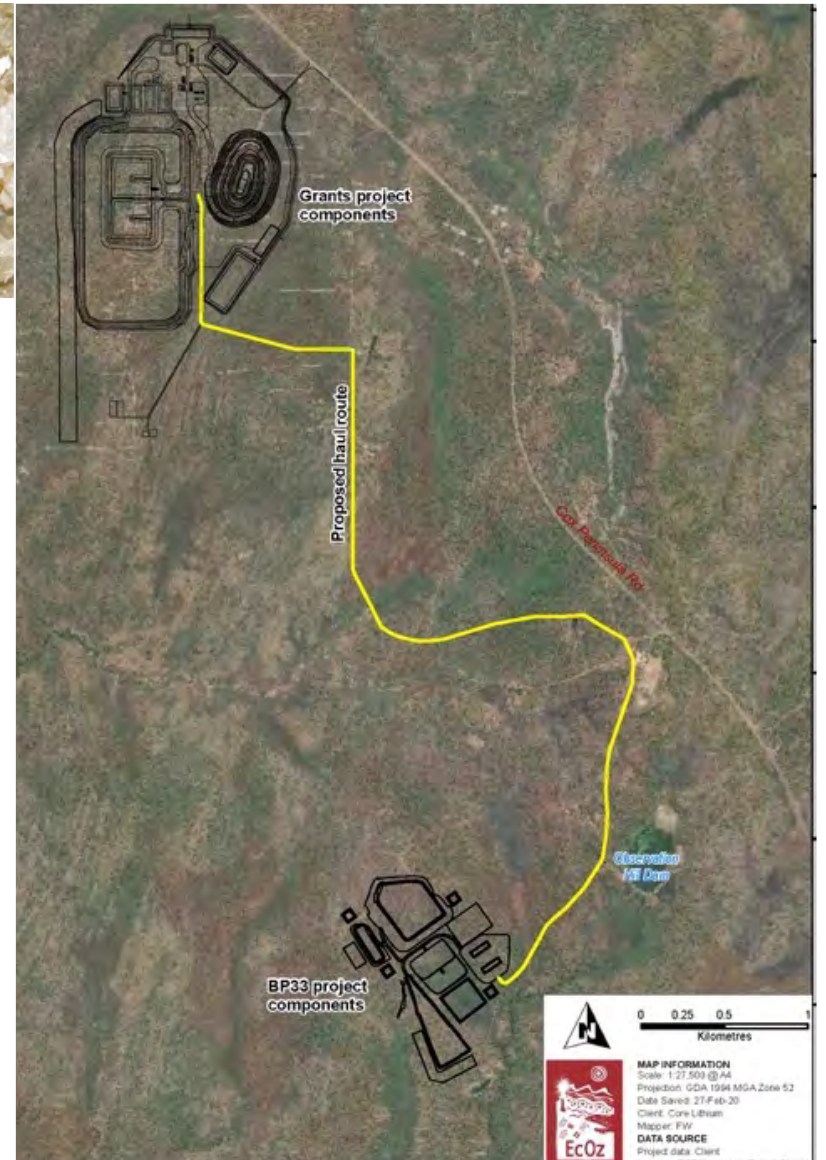
Overview

Mining and processing

- Underground mining of the resource over approximately four years, via box-cut and portal
- Transport mined ore 7.5 kilometres via internal haul road to the Grants processing plant
- Ore processed at the Grants Lithium Project site
- Transport concentrate product to Darwin Port

Capital Expenditure

- Expected capital expenditure is \$45 million.

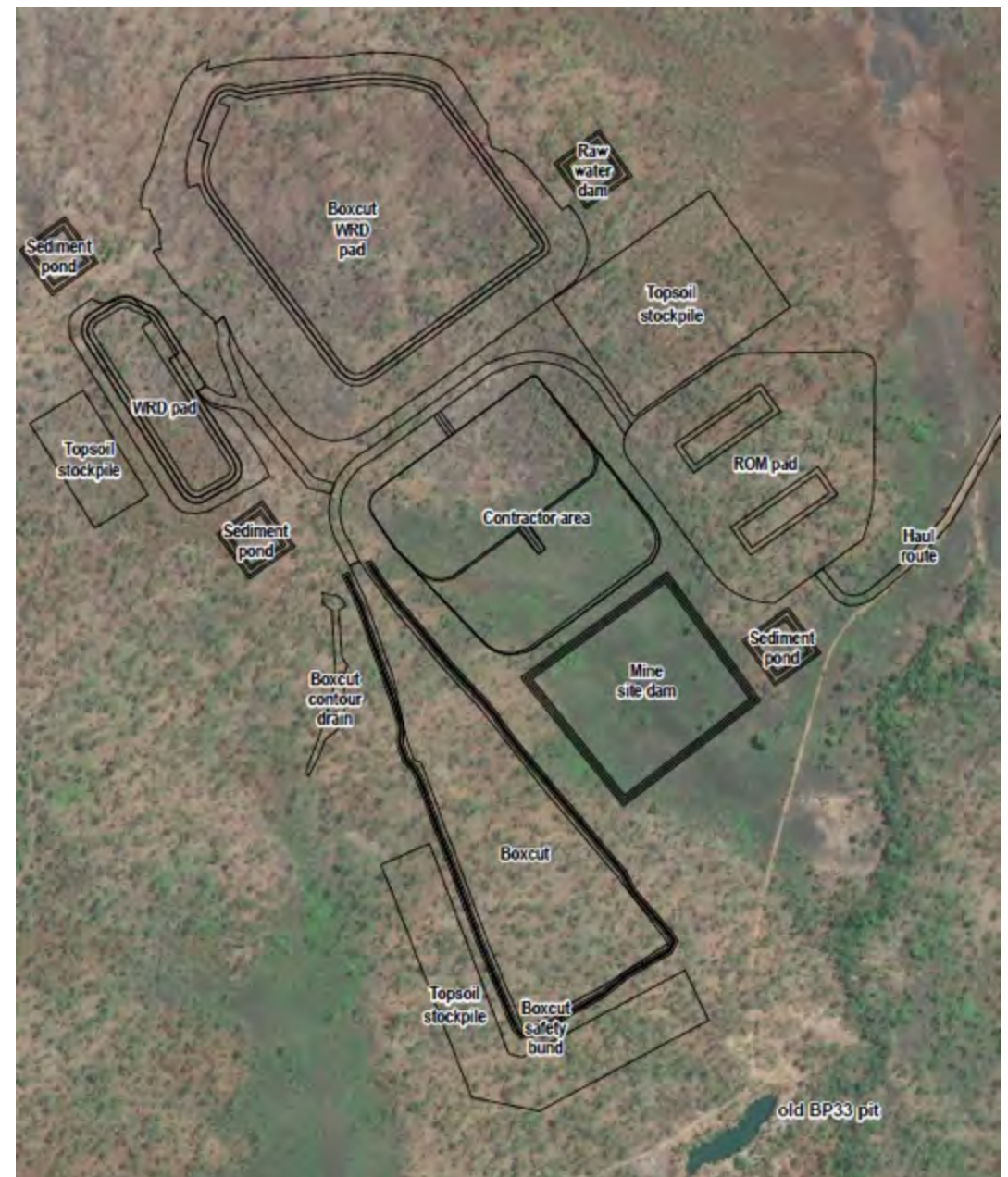


BP33 Project

Preliminary mine design and layout

Mine design

- 88 hectares
- Underground mine via box-cut and portal
- Two onsite waste rock dumps for temporary storage of waste rock
- Construction of two dams
- Site infrastructure:
 - contractor area – office and staff facilities, workshop, storage facilities, power generators, internal access roads and drainage infrastructure and Run of Mine (RoM) pad
- A 7.5 kilometre dedicated haul road between the BP33 site to the Grants Lithium Project site.



BP33 Project

Water use and resources

- 1047 kilolitres of water per day
- Water sources - surface water and ground water from:
 - Observation Hill Dam catchment in-flows
 - Water from underground mine
 - Groundwater and rainfall in-flows
 - Water pumped from old mine pits
 - Burrell Creek Groundwater aquifer (subject to approval) – no connection to Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer which is subject to the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan.



BP33 Project

Environmental management

Weed management

- Weed Management Plan in line with DEPWS guidelines
- Prevent and manage weeds throughout the project including post-closure

Waste Rock Dumps

- Two waste rock dumps for temporary storage of waste rock
- The waste rock dump material will be used to backfill the box-cut on mine closure
- On completion of mining, there will be no material remaining on the surface

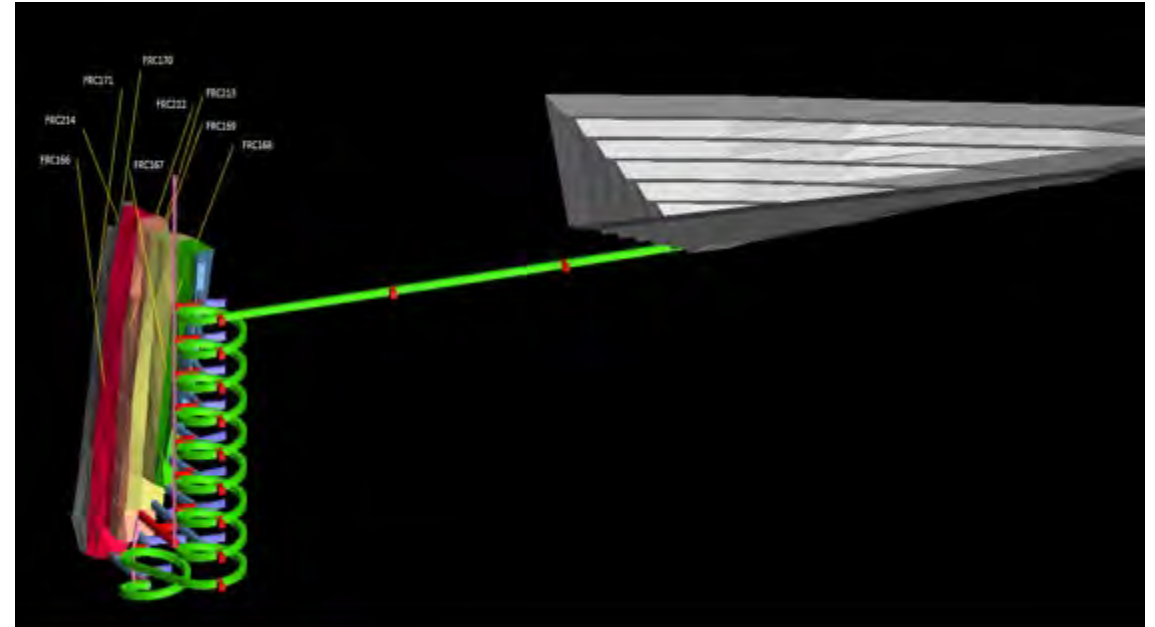
Water discharge

- Observation Hill Dam - storage and water supply dam. In high rainfall events, surplus wastewater will flow via an ephemeral creek into the Charlotte River
- A wastewater discharge licence (WDL) will be applied for under the *Water Act* through the NT EPA.

BP33 Project

Rehabilitation and closure

- On completion, the underground mine and box-cut will be completely backfilled, and no waste material will remain on the surface
- All mining infrastructure will be removed
- The area will be rehabilitated and restored to its pre-mining state. Core will undertake ongoing rehabilitation, erosion and water monitoring until rehabilitation criteria for the site are met.



Cox Peninsula Road – Traffic and Road Safety

- Core will conduct a road condition survey before starting any work
- The BP33 project will extend the timeframe for trucking of ore from the Grants Project site to Darwin Port from three years to seven years
- Up to ten return road train trips a day between the Grants Lithium Project site and Darwin Port via Cox Peninsula Road and the Stuart Highway, for seven years.
- Core will:
 - limit haul truck speeds to 40km/hr within the Berry Springs school precinct
 - restrict truck movements past the school during peak school traffic periods
 - monitor haul truck speed and driver behaviour via monitoring systems
 - provide park and ride busses for staff
 - create a slip-lane at the intersection of Cox Peninsula Road and the Grants mine site entrance to enable safe entry and exit of trucks from the site.



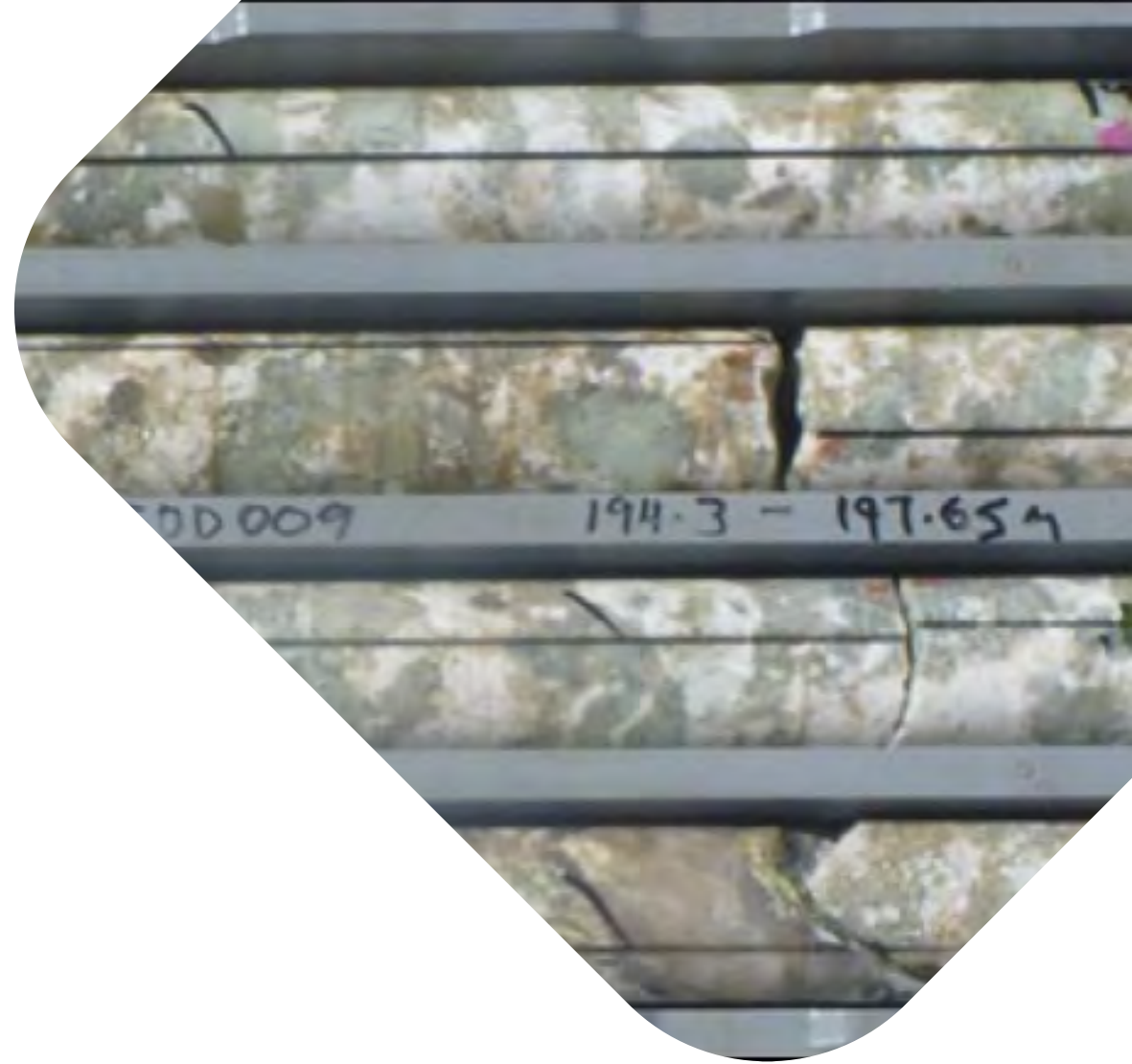
Cox Peninsula Road – Temporary Road Closures

- In 2017-2018, Core consulted with the public about the Grants Lithium Project
- Some short, temporary closures of Cox Peninsula Road during blasting at the Grants project site
- Core will:
 - restrict blasting times and road closures to minimise disruptions
 - not close roads on weekends, public holidays or during peak traffic periods
 - notify people from Belyuen and Wagait Beach two days before any blasting operations and road closures and consult with these communities on the best process for notifying them
 - place signs on Cox Peninsula Road to provide advance notice of closures
 - ensure emergency vehicles have access during any road closures
- The BP33 project will not require any road closures.

Employment and contracts

Employment

- The BP33 Lithium Project will generate:
 - Construction: Up to 60 jobs
 - Operations: 50 – 80 jobs
- Core will employ as many local workers as possible
- No on-site accommodation camp
- Workers will travel to and from site for each shift
- Core wants to maximise local jobs and business contracts and will encourage its head contractors to use local businesses.
- Belyuen is the closest community to the project area
- Core has committed to working with Indigenous employment and training providers to maximise employment of people from Belyuen and the broader region.



Timeframes

- Construction for the Grants Project is expected to start in the second half of this year, with production starting in 2022
- Subject to approvals, construction of the BP33 mine is expected to start in 2023. Production at BP33 would begin once the Grants resource is exhausted and mining ceases at Grants
- BP33 mine life - three to four years:
 - Construction - 6 months
 - Production - 44 months
 - Mine closure and rehabilitation – 5 months
 - Post-closure monitoring – ongoing.



Thank you

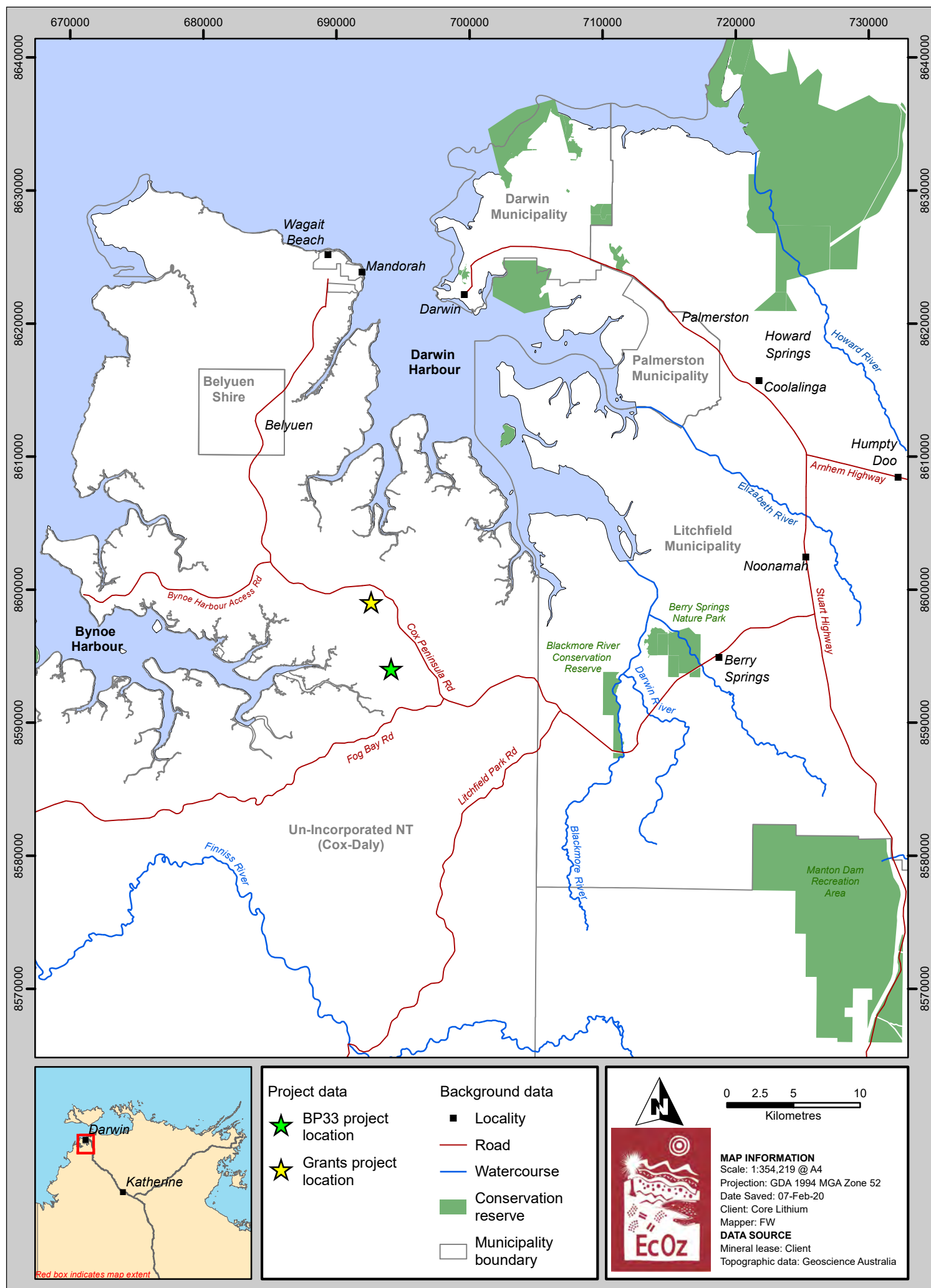
For more information please contact the Core Lithium office on:

Phone: 08 8317 1700

Email: info@corelithium.com.au

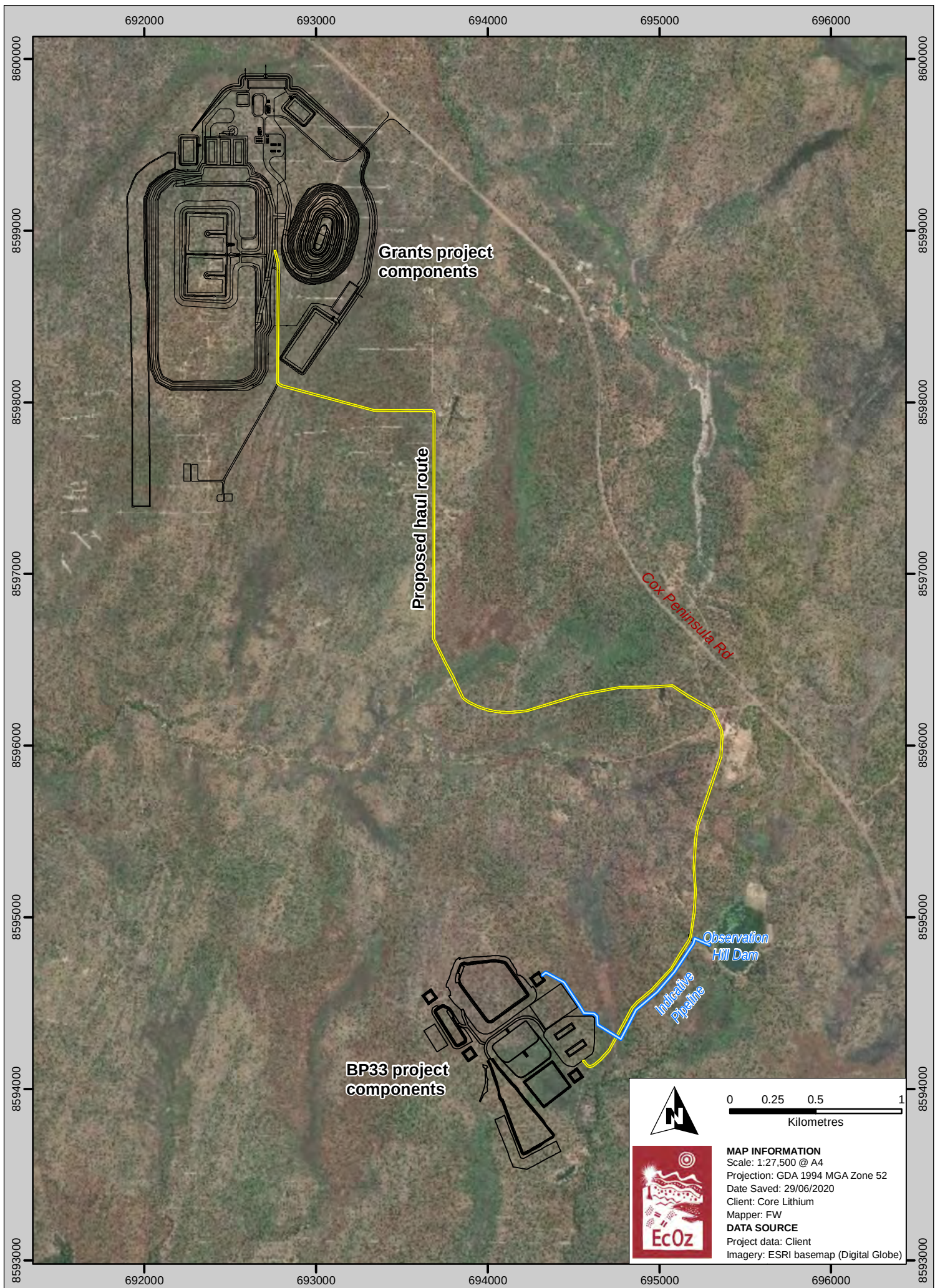
www.corelithium.com.au





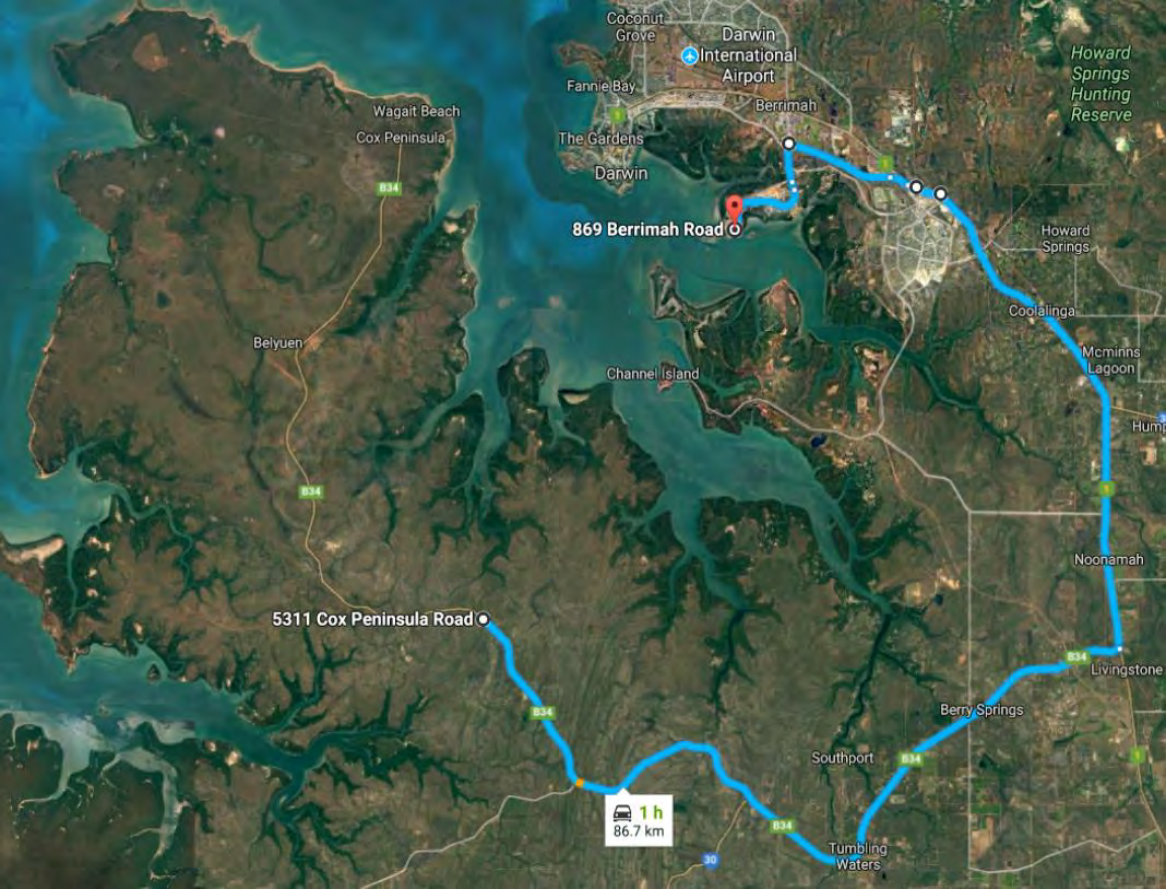
Path: Z:\01 EcOz_Documents\04 EcOz Vantage GIS\IEZ19171 - BP33 NOI\01 Project Files\Report maps\Figure 1-1. Map of project location and regional setting.mxd

Figure 1-1. Map of project location



Path: Z:\01 EcOz_Documents\04 EcOz Vantage GIS\EZ19171 - BP33 NOI\01 Project Files\Report maps\Figure 3-4. Map of haul route from BP33 to Grants.mxd

Core Lithium - Finnis Lithium Project - Grants and BP33 mines



28th April 2021

Dear Resident,

RE: Finniss Lithium Project – Transport Route

Core Lithium is an Australian resources company that owns the Finniss Lithium Project, which includes the approved Grants Lithium Project and the proposed BP33 Lithium Project and other prospects on the Cox Peninsula.

As outlined in the attached fact sheet, Core Lithium plans to start construction of its Grants Lithium Project later this year, with operations at the mine expected to start in 2022.

After operations start at the Grants Lithium Project, up to 10 road trains per day will complete the return trip between the mine site and the Darwin Port via Cox Peninsula Road and the Stuart Highway. The trucks will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This transportation of the processed ore is expected to continue for seven years.

As outlined in the fact sheet, Core will have a number of measures in place to ensure road safety, particularly around the Berry Springs school precinct. Truck drivers will be briefed on general hazards along the route and specific areas for additional caution. The trucks will be fitted with in-vehicle management systems that track speed, fatigue and driver behaviour in real time.

Core will conduct a pavement condition report before starting the project, and Core will repair any damage to the road as a result of the project.

As a resident in the area, we encourage you to contact our project team if you have any questions or concerns about the project. We will have information stalls in Berry Springs and Wagait Beach (see fact sheet for details) if you would like to discuss the project further, or you can call 08 8981 6445 or email feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au

Yours sincerely,

Blair Duncan.

Chief Operating Officer, Core Lithium.

Core Lithium – Finniss Lithium Project

Facebook posts

The following Facebook posts can be sent to stakeholders requesting them to share on their social media pages to engage their existing networks. Stakeholders include:

- Litchfield Council
- Litchfield Council elected members
- Wagait Shire Council
- Wagait Shire Council elected members
- Berry Springs and Darwin River Community (Facebook group – need to message admin to post)
- Member for Daly Ian Sloan
- Wagait Beach Supermarket
- Wagait Beach Community (Facebook group – need to message admin to post).
- Berry Springs Primary School
- Dundee Progress Association (Facebook group – need to message admin to post)
- Berry Springs Shopping Village
- Cox Country Club
- Dundee Social & Recreation Club

Date	Copy	Visual
4/4/21	Core Lithium wants to provide updates to the community and hear your feedback about its Finniss Lithium Project which includes the approved Grants Lithium Project and the proposed BP33 Lithium Project. Core is hosting three community information stalls where you can hear about the project, ask questions and provide feedback. Detailed information about the project is available at https://corelithium.com.au/company-news.	1. Wagait Beach Supermarket: Sat 15 May, 8:30am – 12:00pm 2. Berry Springs Shopping Village: Sun 16 May, 9:00am – 12:00pm 3. Berry Springs Shopping Village: Tues 18 May, 3:00pm – 6:00pm Ph: 8981 6445 E: feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au
14/4/21	The first community information stall about the Finniss Lithium Project is on tomorrow morning. Representatives from Core Lithium will be at the Wagait Beach Supermarket to talk with you about the project.	Same graphic as above

	Your feedback will help inform the Social Impact Assessment. You can find more information on the project at https://corelithium.com.au/company-news.	
15/4/21	Come to the Berry Springs Shopping Village tomorrow and on Tuesday to find out more about the Finnis Lithium Project. Core Lithium can talk to you about the project, answer your questions and would like to hear your feedback. More information can be found at https://corelithium.com.au/company-news.	Same graphic as above (minus the Wagait Beach line)
18/4/21	Core Lithium will be at the Berry Springs Shopping Village this afternoon. Core is proposing to expand its Finnis Lithium Project to include the nearby BP33 deposit. A Social Impact Assessment will be prepared after Core has engaged with stakeholders and the local community. Come down this afternoon to find out more about the project and provide your feedback. More information can be found at https://corelithium.com.au/company-news.	Same graphic as above



Postal Address GPO Box 1261, Darwin NT 0801

Street Address Office 3, Level 1 Northgate Plaza, 101 Mitchell Street, Darwin NT

P 08 8981 6445 | **E** truenorth@truenorthcomm.com.au | ABN 43 108 153 199

www.truenorthcomm.com.au



Finniss Lithium Project

COMMUNITY INFORMATION STALLS



Wagait Beach Supermarket - Sat 15 May

8:30am – 12:00pm



Berry Springs Shopping Village - Sun 16 May

9:00am – 12:00pm



Berry Springs Shopping Village - Tues 18 May

3:00pm – 6:00pm

P: (08) 8981 6445

E: feedback@truenorthcomm.com.au



Finniss Lithium Project

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CORE LITHIUM LIMITED

Finniss Lithium BP33 Project

Social impact assessment scoping

Prepared by True North Strategic Communication
March 2021

Version No.	Issue Date	Prepared by:	Approved by:	Approval Date
V1	9 Dec 2020	Claire Butler		
V2	27 Jan 2021	Claire Butler		
V3	30 March 2021	Claire Butler		

Recipients are responsible for eliminating all superseded documents in their possession

Consultation statement

True North Strategic Communication is guided by the principles of good community engagement, based on people's level of interest and concern as outlined by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2).
Our role is to provide stakeholders and the general public with objective information, so they can provide informed feedback on consultation projects. We give people the opportunity to provide input that is balanced and reflective of the range of community views to independently provide the best possible guidance to decision makers.
Our practice reflects professional standards and ethical standards for human research including anonymity, confidentiality, record storage and keeping people informed.



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1 Overview

1.0 Purpose of social impact assessment

The purpose of a social impact assessment is to combine community insights with expert judgement in order to determine how the consequences of projects are likely to be felt or perceived by affected people, communities and service providers. Effective studies will:

- reduce uncertainty about the consequences of projects (or policy changes)
- inform considered decision-making by regulators, project proponents and affected communities
- provide data and insights that improve project planning (for example workforce and accommodation issues, site configuration)
- provide baseline quantitative and qualitative data against which to track project and cumulative change
- inform effective management plans and proponents' long-term social performance (including enhancement of social and economic benefits, trust and relationships).

The social impact assessment for Core Lithium's BP33 project will:

- describe existing social, cultural and economic conditions in:
 - the project's immediate footprint, which includes the key areas that may be directly or indirectly impacted and the people, communities, institutions and social structures close to the project area or access routes.
 - secondary footprint – or zone of influence – (regional areas that may form part of the project's workforce catchment area and supply chain, service providers or communities that are home to people with social, cultural and economic ties to the land on which the project is located)
- describe contextual factors that may compound the experience or perception of negative impacts, enhance or act as barriers to maximising opportunities
- provide impartial, timely, accurate and culturally-appropriate communication about all aspects of the project, so stakeholders can provide objective and relevant input and feedback
- predict and assess the likely significance of potential positive and negative, direct and indirect, long and short-term social, cultural and economic impacts in the project's immediate and extended social zone of influence
- outline management plans, monitoring and reporting to minimise detrimental impacts and enhance the benefits of the project.

1.1 Purpose of scoping document

The purpose of a scoping document is to guide research and analysis so social impact assessment is targeted and relevant to the material issues, including potential impacts, perceptions or issues of concern to people and communities.

The scoping study aims to identify existing knowledge, highlight gaps and uncertainties in knowledge, prioritise key areas for study and ensure integration with other EIS studies.

1.2 Social boundaries of the study

The scope of this study covers the communities and people most likely to experience change and positive and negative social impacts from the project. These impacts will be experienced in different ways, depending on context such as where people live, how they experience impacts, their resilience to change, the stage of the project and situational factors such as cumulative impacts from other projects. The potential impacts consider all stages of the project including, planning, construction, operations, closure and rehabilitation

The social boundaries of the study are the same as those identified for the Grants Lithium project. The scope of the study is:

- the **footprint of the project**, which includes the key areas that may be directly or indirectly impacted and the people, communities, institutions and social structures close to the project area or access routes:
 - Belyuen is the closest town/community to the project area
 - Berry Springs, Tumbling Waters, Blackmore River/Southport are on the access routes
 - towns and communities that will share the access routes (e.g. Cox Peninsula Road, Mandorah ferry) include Wagait Beach, Mandorah, Belyuen, and communities accessed via Fogg Bay Road (from Cox Peninsula Road). This includes Dundee, Dundee Beach and surrounding properties, Bynoe and Crab Claw Island
 - the surrounding rural areas such as the Cox Peninsula region and Darwin and Palmerston. These areas may be impacted by project infrastructure, logistics, supply chains, recruitment, services and supplies
 - the broader Northern Territory, mainly in relation to industry and economic benefits
- the **social connections** of the people living in the area. Aboriginal people living on the Cox Peninsula are from many different areas. The Cox Peninsula is Larrakia land however most people are not Larrakia people, although many are related as it is a very mobile area, and the families are often interwoven.
- **other areas** including direct and indirect economic benefits for the businesses, communities and towns close to the project area, the Darwin region, the Northern Territory and Australia.

1.3 Consultation

A key aspect of scoping is consultation with affected people and communities and other stakeholders with an interest in the project. The NTEPA's guidance documents for proponents encourage early and meaningful engagement in order to benefit from local knowledge,

sharpen the focus of studies and capture community perspectives, or sensitivity to project-related change.

Core has engaged widely with key stakeholders as part of the Finniss Lithium Project, which includes both the Grants and BP33 projects. Stakeholders engaged include Northern Territory Government departments, business and industry associations, environment and community groups, local Aboriginal groups, local government and community groups and individuals.

The Larrakia people maintain spiritual and cultural connections to the Cox Peninsula region, however there are also many Aboriginal people who are not Larrakia who have close connections to the region. Further engagement with the Aboriginal people living in the area will gain additional social and cultural insights.

The issues analysis is based on:

- stakeholder feedback received as part of the community and stakeholder engagement activity for both the Grants and BP33 projects
- public submissions and feedback to the NTEPA for both Grants and BP33
- analysis of media and social media coverage and commentary
- local knowledge, academic literature, recent economic development studies, desk research and the findings of the social impact assessment for the Grants project.

1.3.1 Grants project consultation

Core engaged with stakeholders in September and October 2017 to inform the Grants project Notice of Intent (NOI). Those stakeholders are outlined in table 1.1 below. Core engaged further with stakeholders as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process in July, August and September 2018. This was a combination of stakeholder consultation and interviews to inform the SIA. The stakeholders engaged as part of this process are also outlined in table 1.1 below.

1.3.2 BP33 project consultation

Core engaged True North Strategic Communication to prepare and implement a stakeholder engagement strategy for the BP33 stakeholder engagement process. This strategy outlined the key stakeholders and a recommended approach for engagement. This strategy built on the previous and ongoing stakeholder engagement for the Grants project, given the connection between the two projects. The input and feedback from stakeholders will inform future communication and engagement activity and has informed scoping of potential social and economic impacts of BP33.

In July the Northern Territory Government advised that the BP33 Notice of Intent would be the first project to be assessed under the newly reformed environmental legislation, the Environment Protection Act 2019. On 10 July 2020, the BP33 project was advertised on the NT EPA website as open for public comment, with information on the proposal, including all relevant referral documents. The public comment period was open from 10 July 2020 to 10 August 2020.

As part of the environmental assessment process and in line with the recommended approach for stakeholder engagement, Core engaged with stakeholders to provide information on Core's proposed BP33 project, listen to any feedback and took the opportunity to update stakeholders on the Grants project.

The following table outlines the stakeholder engagement activity undertaken by Core for the Grants and BP33 projects.

Table 1.1 Stakeholder engagement activity – Grants and BP33 projects

CORE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY						
Stakeholder	GRANTS Pre-NOI October 2017		GRANTS (Pre-EIS) July, Aug, Sept 2018		BP33 (Public comment period) July, August 2020	
	Sent email and fact sheet	Briefed	Briefed (incl email and fact sheet)	SIA interview	Sent email and fact sheet	Briefed
Northern Territory Government						
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
The office of the Minister for Resources, the Hon Ken Vowles			✓			
Department of Environment and Natural Resources (Water resources)			✓		✓	Offered briefing
Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture			✓	✓	✓	
Department of Primary Industry and Resources	✓	✓			✓	✓
Department of Trade, Business and Innovation					✓	✓
Department of Education			✓	✓	✓	Offered briefing
Berry Springs Primary School			✓	✓	✓	✓
Power and Water					✓	✓
NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services (NTPFES)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bushfires NT			✓	✓	✓	
St John Ambulance			✓	✓	✓	
Daly electorate office/Local Member for Daly	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Local government						
Belyuen Community Government Council - CEO		Offered briefing	✓		✓	Offered briefing
Belyuen Health Clinic			Offered briefing			
Litchfield Shire Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Offered briefing
Wagait Shire Council - CEO			✓	✓	✓	✓
City of Palmerston	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

CORE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY						
Stakeholder	GRANTS Pre-NOI October 2017		GRANTS (Pre-EIS) July, Aug, Sept 2018		BP33 (Public comment period) July, August 2020	
	Sent email and fact sheet	Briefed	Briefed (incl email and fact sheet)	SIA interview	Sent email and fact sheet	Briefed
Indigenous groups						
Larrakia Development Corporation			✓	✓	✓	✓
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation			Offered briefing		✓	Offered briefing
Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation					✓	
Kenbi Rangers					✓	Offered briefing
Indigenous Women in Mining Resources Association					✓	
Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA)				Meeting and site visit		
Northern Land Council (NLC)			Offered briefing			
Environment and community groups						
Environment Centre of the NT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Amateur Fisherman's Association NT (AFANT)	✓	Offered briefing	✓	✓	✓	
Wagait Beach Progress Association					✓	
Rural Residents Rights Group			Offered briefing		✓	
Dundee Progress Association			Offered briefing		✓	
Business and industry associations						
Chamber of Commerce	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Minerals Council of Australia, NT Division	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Tourism Top End					✓	Offered briefing
NT Guided Fishing Industry Association					✓	Offered briefing
Palmerston Regional Business Association					✓	
Industry Capability Network NT			✓	✓		
NT Cattlemen's Association			Offered briefing			
NT Farmers Association			Offered briefing			
Community						
Wagait Watch					✓	
Berry Springs Shopping Village			Offered briefing		✓	
Dundee Beach Holiday Park/Lodge of Dundee			Offered briefing		✓	

CORE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY						
Stakeholder	GRANTS Pre-NOI October 2017		GRANTS (Pre-EIS) July, Aug, Sept 2018		BP33 (Public comment period) July, August 2020	
	Sent email and fact sheet	Briefed	Briefed (incl email and fact sheet)	SIA interview	Sent email and fact sheet	Briefed
Sandpalms Resort and Tropical Motel			Offered briefing		✓	
Dundee Social and Recreational Club			Offered briefing		✓	
Cox Country Club					✓	
Wagait Beach Supermarket			Offered briefing		✓	
Territory Wildlife Park			Offered briefing		✓	
Community members from previous stakeholder engagement					✓	
Federal members of parliament						
Member for Lingiari					✓	
Member for Solomon					✓	

1.3.3 Additional community and stakeholder engagement for the Grants Project

In addition to the 20 briefings and 15 interviews held with stakeholders for the Grants project, the following community engagement for Grants was conducted:

- **Information stall at Berry Springs Market on 26 August 2018** - factsheet, maps and product samples were available at the stall to assist with informing members of the community about the project. Approximately 25-30 people engaged with Core or True North staff with another 25 people passing the stall and taking a fact sheet. It is estimated a further 30 people passed by without engaging at all.
- **Community fact sheet** provided to stakeholder representative groups to share with their constituents, members, employees and general community members (Daly electorate office, Berry Springs Primary School, Chamber of Commerce NT)
- **Community fact sheet displayed** at Berry Springs Shopping Village, Wagait Beach Supermarket.
- **Wagait Watch** community newspaper – Information on the project was provided to Wagait Watch, with content being included in at least two editions.
- **Community meeting in Wagait on 12 December 2018** - About 30 people attended a meeting in Wagait Shire Council's community centre from 6.30 pm to 8 pm on Wednesday, 12 December 2018 in response to a request from the Wagait Progress Association
- **Community meeting in Belyuen on 13 December 2018** - About 25 people attended a meeting at Belyuen Community Government Council from 9.30 to 11.30 am on

Thursday, 13 December 2018, mostly from the Council and Ironbark staff and workers from Belyuen, Darwin, Dundee Beach and Berry Springs. An earlier meeting had been arranged but was deferred due to a death in the community.

- **Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) site visit with custodians** – Aboriginal custodians of the area, AAPA staff and Core staff conducted a site visit at the Grants project site on 1 November 2019.

1.3.4 Additional community and stakeholder engagement for BP33

The stakeholder consultation for BP33 was conducted during the public comment period in July and August 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic. This meant that all stakeholder engagement was via online briefings, phone calls and emails. In addition to the 10 online briefings, stakeholders were sent an email and fact sheet about the project.

Stakeholders were invited to share the fact sheet with their constituents, members, employees and general community members. This included:

- all community representatives outlined in the stakeholder engagement table (above)
- business and industry associations
- federal members of parliament
- the Daly electorate office
- local government
- community groups
- Wagait Watch newspaper.

All community members who attended briefings for the Grants project and provided their contact details to receive updates, were sent an email and fact sheet on the BP33 project and invited to provide feedback or seek more information.

1.4 Scale of social impact assessment

A key goal of this scoping document is to outline the predicted nature and scale of the potential social (positive and negative) impacts of the proposal on potentially affected communities, including potentially affected Aboriginal communities.

The SIA should give the community confidence that their diverse perspectives and lived experience are understood and accurately conveyed to decision-makers. This in turn reduces project risks, such as delays in approvals. The SIA should present Core Lithium with actionable data to guide both project planning and future social performance plans.

The scoping study lists all potential issues that might be considered in a social impact assessment. It draws on feedback and issues raised by the community and stakeholders on



both the Grants and BP33 projects. It applies a preliminary significance assessment, prioritises those impacts that require further analysis and screens out those likely to be inconsequential.



2 Issues Analysis

The issues analysis is based on feedback and issues raised by stakeholders and the community on the Grants and BP33 projects, media and social media analysis and experience working on other projects in the region. Table 2.1 below outlines the social and economic issues raised by stakeholders and the community during the consultation process for the Grants project and indicates whether those issues could be relevant for BP33. Table 2.2 outlines the key social and economic issues raised by the community and stakeholders during the initial consultation process for BP33, and as part of the NT EPA feedback process. The environmental issues raised will be addressed in the environmental reports.

2.0 Summary of issues raised

Table 2.1 - Grants project issues raised

Key social issues raised during Grants approval process	Stakeholder	Relevant to BP33	Discussion
Potential traffic delays during blasting	Wagait Shire Council	X	No road closures due to blasting and no changes to Grant's blasting
Road safety around Berry Springs Primary School	Berry Springs Primary School Council	✓	- Core made commitments to implement traffic safety measures to address this - BP33 will result in heavy vehicle traffic from Grants from three years to 7+ years, extending the period of time this will occur - Core has engaged with Berry Springs Primary School about the BP33 project and longer term traffic impacts, and will continue to engage with the school.
Road safety and deterioration of the road	Community	✓	Core will engage further with the local communities, including local residents of Berry Springs, Belyuen, Wagait Beach/Cox Peninsula about the extended timeframe for haul traffic
Disruption to road users and traffic delays due to road closures	Community	X	There will not be any blasting requiring road closures for BP33
Potential noise impacts from blasting and truck movements	Community	✓	- There will be some blasting for BP33 however this is not likely to impact any residents due to the distance from the mine - There will not be an increase in the number of haul trucks as a result of BP33 however the trucks will be operational for a longer period. Further engagement with local community residents required regarding extended timeframe for haul traffic



Potential groundwater impacts and NT water allocation planning framework	Environment Centre NT	✓	- BP33 will have additional water requirements. - More studies are being conducted regarding water sources and potential impacts to surface water flows and groundwater levels.
Potential impacts to surface water and groundwater resources from reduced flows, contamination and drawdown	Community		
Impacts to flora and fauna, and introduction and spread of weeds	Community	✓	There could be some concerns about spread of weeds and impacts on flora and fauna from BP33. This is assessed in the sensitivity analysis
Potential downstream flooding impacts if dam walls were to fail	Community	✓	Raised by one stakeholder during Grants EIS. Addressed in the sensitivity analysis
Potential cumulative impacts and assessment of the proposal as part of a larger, long term network of lithium mines in the area	Community	✓	Cumulative impacts of more mining in the region and extended mining traffic on the roads
Quality of community engagement undertaken	Community	✓	Ongoing engagement with community members about BP33 is planned, including the surrounding residential communities and traditional custodians. Updates on the Grants project can be provided to the community as part of this consultation.
Loss of amenity in the surrounding area	Community	✓	Concerns about dust, noise, vibrations, increase in traffic
Potential long-term environmental impacts of the mine	Community	✓	Provide information on the project design and mining process, water use, waste, closure and rehabilitation
Any potential health impacts – concerns about dust, waste products, use of or transportation of chemicals, water or ground contamination	Community	✓	The community will want to know what the mine at BP33 will be and the mining process, use of chemicals, production of any waste, potential for dust and what dust monitoring and minimisation there will be, and any potential for water or ground contamination
Positive: Jobs and contracting opportunities for locals	Community	✓	People will want to know that there will be local job and contracting opportunities
Positive: Indigenous employment and contracting opportunities for locals	Community	✓	People, particularly local Aboriginal people and organisations, will want to know that there will be job and contracting opportunities for local Indigenous people



Table 2.2 – BP33 project issues raised

Key issues raised during public comment period for BP33	Stakeholder	Comment process	Discussion
Rehabilitation and closure	Community	Stakeholder engagement	• Provide information about backfilling the box-cut • People will want to know what the site will look like when the mine closes, what rehabilitation will be involved, timeframes for ongoing monitoring and will want to know that there will be no mining infrastructure left on site. Concerns stem from the history of legacy mines in the NT
Water use	Community	Stakeholder engagement	• Limited availability of water in the region will mean that water use is likely to be an ongoing concern. • Communication will be required on amount of water use, sources of water and any likely impacts on water availability for the local area
Water discharge	Environment Centre NT	Stakeholder engagement	• Question raised - will the discharge water contain any chemicals from mining or processing? (Note: No processing at BP33)
Dust	Community	Stakeholder engagement	• The community will want to know about air quality monitoring and dust suppression activities during mining, transportation of materials and at the tailings storage area. • Core will use engineering controls to suppress dust to prevent fugitive dust emissions. • People will want to understand what the material that is mined, stockpiled and transported looks like and what air quality monitoring there will be and how they will be able to access it
Benefits to the local community (Wagait Beach)	Community	Public feedback - email	• Local people will want to know if there will be economic benefits to the local area, e.g. through provision of transport, accommodation or other benefits
Piecemeal approach of the projects and potential for cumulative impacts	Environment Centre NT	NT EPA public submission	• Cox Peninsula residents and stakeholders will be interested in the cumulative impacts of these projects
Groundwater extraction/use	Environment Centre NT	NT EPA public submission	• Concerns about possible water use – more studies and monitoring underway for SER. Feedback that it isn't possible to understand groundwater extraction amounts from existing information
Water discharge	Environment Centre NT	NT EPA public submission	• Surface water runoff – potential impacts to Charlotte River due to decrease in flows
Community consultation with Indigenous stakeholders and impacts on current traditional activities	Environment Centre NT	NT EPA public submission	• Raised concerns that Belyuen was not consulted for Grants (it was) and wants assurance that impacts on current traditional activities have been determined and that Indigenous stakeholders have the opportunity to be engaged on the project



Economic viability and impacts of early mine closure	Environment Centre NT	NT EPA public submission	The community will want assurance that if approved, the project will proceed as planned and will not result in early closure of the mine
Impacts to known sacred site in the area	AAPA	NT EPA public submission	- AAPA's feedback to NT EPA queried how internal road use might impact the sacred site - The internal roads are designed to completely avoid the sacred site - Will want assurances that potential impacts to the sacred site will be managed - Referral documentation incorrectly referenced a previous Authority Certificate and stated there were no sacred sites in the area, however there is one sacred site in the project area
Impacts to the amenity from traffic due to extended operations	DIPL – transport	NT EPA government submission	- Updated Traffic Impact Assessment and Traffic Impact Management Plan being prepared - Impacts to amenity are addressed in the sensitivity analysis
Social impacts of BP33	Department of the Chief Minister	NT EPA government submission	Addressed in the sensitivity analysis
No concerns for Litchfield National park or Blackmore Conservation Reserve	Tourism, Sport and Culture	NT EPA government submission	No likely impacts
Positive: Jobs and contracting opportunities for locals	Local community and industry representatives	Stakeholder engagement	- Updates on Grants employment figures - Information on BP33 employment figures - Core's commitment to local employment and contracts
Positive: Indigenous employment and contracting opportunities for locals	Community, Indigenous stakeholders, Government representatives	Stakeholder engagement	- Information on commitment to Indigenous employment and contracts - Ongoing communication and engagement with Indigenous stakeholders
Ongoing communication with the community	Community Industry representatives	Stakeholder engagement	Stakeholder groups were briefed on BP33/updated on Grants in July/August. Some indicated that they would like briefings for their members/wider community as people are interested to know of any updates, timeframes and possible commitments



2.1 Summary of possible issues

Based on community and stakeholder feedback on the Grants Lithium project and initial stakeholder feedback on the BP33 project, the main issues that are likely to be raised about the BP33 project are:

Negative

- People and communities
 - road safety issues with extended road train movements from four years to 7+ years
 - impacts on vehicle wear and tear, and people's travel times due to deterioration of the roads, particularly Cox Peninsula Road with extended traffic movements from 4 years to 7+ years
 - use of groundwater and surface water resources
 - questions about discharge water and impacts of this on health and the environment
- Living environment
 - amenity – dust, noise and vibrations – and whether these will have an impact on surrounding communities
- Cultural identity
 - impacts to known sacred sites in the project area
 - impacts on current traditional activities
- Healthy country
 - concerns about impacts to the natural environment (flora and fauna)
 - potential for introduction and spread of weeds in the area
 - concerns about early mine closure, legacy mines and ensuring environmentally sound rehabilitation and closure
- Cumulative
 - cumulative impacts of two projects (Grants and BP33) and the possibility of future projects in the area

Positive

- Economic
 - Jobs and contracting opportunities for locals
 - Jobs and contracting opportunities for local Aboriginal people
 - Stimulating and strengthening the region's economy
 - Any other benefits for the local communities.



3 Preliminary significance assessment and screening of impacts for further study

The following table outlines the potential impacts that might be considered for Core Lithium's BP33 project. The potential impacts are listed by category. A preliminary significance assessment considers the likelihood of the impacts combined with the consequence of these impacts, based on:

- extent (footprint)
- duration (short or long-term change)
- scale of change from the status quo
- sensitivity to change, based on level of community concern or perceptions.

The assessment is based on drawing on the findings of other technical studies, literature reviews, community feedback and expert judgement (for example, issues considered likely but that the community may not have raised).

Mitigation measures and residual ratings are provided for beneficial impacts (opportunities) and detrimental impacts (risks). The table will be refined based on research and community consultation and included in the final social impact assessment.

The preliminary significance assessment informs a screening process, which suggests the key areas to be covered by the social impact assessment are:

- higher level of road trauma as a result of mine traffic
- reduced sense of safety and wellbeing due to industrial traffic sharing roads with local traffic
- increased anxiety due to perceptions about the project's water use
- concerns about legacy mines, as this is a sensitive topic in the region
- reduced ties to land and ability to maintain culture (local Aboriginal people and other community members) – more information required to make an accurate assessment
- cumulative impacts of multiple projects increasing industrial traffic on the roads
- economic benefits, particularly due to local jobs and procurement
- training and job opportunities for local Aboriginal people.

Additional issues may be added if:

- they are raised during consultation
- there are changes to the assumptions we are working to
- there is uncertainty or conflict about the significance of potential impacts
- situational factors make certain issues topical during our research.



Table 3.1 - BP33 Project Preliminary Significance Assessment

Preliminary Significance Assessment								
Impact	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Mitigation measures	Residual rating (after mitigation)	Potentially affected people
		Likelihood before mitigation	Consequence	Significance before mitigation				
People and communities, including impacts on social fabric, health, wellbeing and safety								
Higher level of road trauma as a result of mine traffic	Road train movements start (Grants project)	C – possible	3 - moderate	C3: high	- The increased chance of serious road accidents was raised as an issue during consultation for the Grants project. This is likely to be a sensitive issue due to the extended road train movements from four years to 7+ years - This has a high significance rating due to community sensitivity and severity due to proximity to school	- Traffic management plans and measures in place to reduce injuries and fatalities - Collaboration with Berry Springs School and community on truck movements - Industry collaboration on road safety campaigns for the region	D3: medium Impact to be addressed in SIA	- Berry Springs Primary School - Berry Springs residents and businesses - Communities accessed via Cox Peninsula Road - Others regularly using Cox Peninsula Road
Reduced sense of safety and wellbeing due to industrial traffic sharing roads with local traffic	Road train movements start (Grants project)	B - likely	2 - minor	B2: high	- Community sensitivity is high for this issue. Road safety issues were raised during consultation for the Grants project. This is likely to be a sensitive issue due to the extended road train movements from four years to 7+ years - Local traffic sharing the narrow roads with road trains is likely to reduce the sense of safety and wellbeing on the roads	- Traffic management plans to reduce injuries and fatalities and communication that these will be implemented - Good communication about the likely impacts and implications of the project - Conduct a road condition survey before start of work. - Core commits to repairing any damage to the road pavement that is attributable to the project.	C2: medium Impact to be addressed in SIA	- Berry Springs Primary School - Berry Springs residents and businesses - Communities accessed via Cox Peninsula Road - Others regularly using Cox Peninsula Road
Deterioration of roads increases wear and tear on vehicles, increases travel	Road train movements start (Grants project) increasing	C – possible	1 - insignificant	C1: low	Deterioration of the roads, particularly Cox Peninsula Road was raised as a possible issue during consultation for Grants	- Road quality monitoring before and during the project - Commitment by Core to cover any costs to repair damage to road caused by the project	D1: low Screened out	Residents and businesses in communities accessed by Cox Peninsula Road



times for other road users	heavy vehicle traffic on the roads				With extended traffic movements from 4 years to 7+ years, this will extend the duration, however it has a low rating due to the extent and severity of this impact	Ongoing engagement with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics		- Others regularly using Cox Peninsula Road - DIPL
Increased anxiety due to perceptions about the project's water use	Project announcement /consultation stage	B- likely	2- minor	B2: high	- Questions about the project's water use were raised in consultation. Water availability and use in this area is a sensitive issue, resulting in a high significance rating - Technical information indicates that drawdown will not impact other consumptive users due to the large distance between the mine and other registered production bores however it is likely that there will be community concern and increased anxiety about the issue	- Ongoing communication with stakeholders and the community about water use and sources of water - Permits and licencing required under the Water Act will ensure there is no likely impact on other water uses - Bore monitors will be in place - The quality and quantity of water will be monitored - With mitigation, this impact is considered to be unlikely and therefore has a low impact rating	C2: medium Impact to be addressed in SIA	- Local area residents and businesses - Properties in the area using bore water
Impact on other water users' lives and livelihoods as a result of groundwater drawdown	During operations	D- unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- Water use and availability are sensitive issues in this area and were raised during consultation - Groundwater bores may be used to supplement the water supply if a water deficit occurs - There are no active groundwater bores within 9 km of the BP33 site. According to technical reports, drawdown will not impact other consumptive uses due to the large distance between the mine and other registered production bores and the lack of connectivity between aquifers.	- Bore permits and groundwater extraction licences would be required under the Water Act. - The Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer is 16 km east of the project area. Water use is subject to the Berry Springs Water Allocation Plan. The Burrell Creek Groundwater aquifer beneath the project area has no connection to the Berry Springs Dolostone aquifer. - Permits and licencing arrangements will ensure there is no likely impact on other water uses	D2: low Screened out	- Local area residents and businesses - Properties in the area using bore water
Impact on other water users' lives and livelihoods as a result of contamination of	During operations	D – unlikely	2 – minor	D2: low	The operation does not involve the use of hazardous materials or chemicals that could impact water quality for consumptive uses.	- Environmental Management Plans - Social performance plans - A Waste Discharge Licence will be applied for under the Water Act.	D2: low Screened out	Cox Peninsula residents and environmental stakeholders



groundwater or discharge water					- There are no consumptive users of surface water downstream of the proposal area. - During the wet season, Observation Hill Dam will discharge over the existing dam wall to an ephemeral creek into the Charlotte River. A Waste Discharge Licence will be applied for under the Water Act. - The potential for ARD contamination of surface or groundwater is considered low but there is some uncertainty however Core conducts ongoing sampling and monitoring looking for evidence of ARD. - Excess water will be treated if required and pumped to Observation Hill Dam. The required treatment and methods are to be further developed when the discharge water quality is known	Ongoing communication about Core's water use and water sources		
Infrastructure and services								
Increased pressure on police, fire and emergency services	Start of construction	C – possible	1 - insignificant	C1: low	Higher rates of traffic incidents and fires were possible issues raised during Grants consultation, however the extent and severity of the impact mean this has a low rating	- Emergency Management and Response Plan - Fire breaks to reduce risk of bushfires - Traffic Management Plan - Emergency Response capability and first aid facilities on site - Bushfire management plans and procedures - Explosive management procedures	D1: low Screened out	- NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services - St John Ambulance - Bushfires NT
Healthy country								
Impacts to recreation and fishing activities as a result of changes in downstream water flows or	During operations	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- This was raised as a possible concern by an environment stakeholder - The Charlotte River and Bynoe Harbour are used for fishing and recreational activities. According to technical information, changes in downstream water flow or water quality could	- Sampling and monitoring to identify and prevent downstream contamination - Water quality monitoring program includes monitoring sites downstream of the both the Grants and BP33 mine sites. Baseline pre-mining water quality data	D2: low Screened out	- Recreational fishers - Local area residents



impacts to water quality					impact the quality of aquatic habitats, however this is uncertain and further modelling is being done. - The watercourse that flows into the Charlotte River supports a low diversity aquatic community only during the wet season and early dry season. In a worst case scenario if the aquatic communities were altered, it is unlikely that this would affect biodiversity or ecological integrity within the Charlotte River system - Water quality downstream of the mine site could be affected by discharge of sediments, hydrocarbon contamination (leaks and spills) and discharge of excess water dewatered from the underground mine - The potential for ARD contamination of surface or groundwater is considered low but there is some uncertainty to be addressed by further studies. - As the technical advice is that this is unlikely, it has been assessed as low impact.	have been collected since 2016 for comparison. - Monitoring of vegetation health in downstream mangrove and riparian habitats – baseline pre-mining assessments have been undertaken for comparison. - Discharges of excess water from the mine site require a Waste Discharge Licence, which will stipulate the water quality criteria that must be achieved and monitoring required to demonstrate compliance. Assessment of compliance is the responsibility of NTG. - Extraction of water from surface water dams and bores requires an extraction licence under the Water Act. The application process requires Core to demonstrate a sustainable water supply and is assessed by NTG.		
Loss of productive land due to spread of weeds; costs of eradicating weeds	Start of construction	C – possible	1 - insignificant	C1: low	- Potential spread of weeds was raised during the Grants project EIS as a possible issue - This has a low significance rating as the impact is low severity, there would be a limited change and the extent limited	- Weed management practices and control in place - Monthly weed surveys in high risk areas - Weed Management Plan in accordance with the Weeds Management Act 2001	D1: low Screened out	Nearby properties
Concerns about legacy mines and the impact on the environment	Project announcements/consultation stage	B – likely	1 - insignificant	B1: medium	- There is sensitivity in the region about the possibility of early mine closure, legacy mines and environmentally sound rehabilitation and closure - Early mine closure is unlikely due to economic feasibility studies and the short mine life.	- Mine Closure Plan - Ongoing community and stakeholder engagement - Care and maintenance plan under the <i>Mining Management Act</i> - Payment of bond to ensure costs not borne by the community if agreed closure objectives are not met	E1: low (included in SIA as there is sensitivity in the region about legacy mines)	Cox Peninsula residents



						• Mine Closure Plan, including backfilling of BP33 box-cut		
Living environment								
Impacts to health, safety and wellbeing due to use of chemicals	Project announcements/consultation stage	D – unlikely	1 - insignificant	D1: low	• This was raised by a stakeholder during the Grants EIS process • The operation does not involve the use of hazardous materials or chemicals that could impact water quality for consumptive uses, therefore it has been given a low rating	• Ongoing communication with the community and stakeholders about any use of chemicals and environmental management • Environmental Management Plans	D1: low Screened out	• Residents in nearby communities – Belyuen, Wagait • Residents close to the haul route – Berry Springs
Reduced neighbourhood amenity and enjoyment as a result of dust emissions	Construction starts: The land is cleared for project activities	D – unlikely	1 - insignificant	D1: low	• Questions were raised about dust by one stakeholder during consultation • The mine site is remote from residential areas and sensitive receptors, existing land uses and there is no public access to the area. Noise and dust emissions from the site are unlikely to be noticeable to the community or users of Cox Peninsula Road, therefore this has been given a low rating	• Dust suppression and monitoring measures and communication of these to nearby communities	E1: low Screened out	• Residents in nearby communities – Belyuen, Wagait
Negative impacts to land use, livelihoods and risks to life as a result of dam wall failure at Observation Hill Dam	During operations	D - unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	• One community member raised the dam wall failure during the Grants EIS process • According to technical reports, dam wall failure is unlikely due to the design in accordance with guidelines and additional measures designed to further reduce the likelihood • In the very unlikely event of a dam wall failure, the waterbodies downstream would receive a sudden surge in flow for a short period. • Due to the likelihood, and the duration, extent and severity, this is given a low impact rating	• Environmental management plans • Construction in line with design guidelines, and additional design measures in place	E2: low Screened out	• Residents and businesses in the area
Reduced neighbourhood amenity and	Start of construction:	C – possible	1 - insignificant	C1: low	• Potential traffic noise was raised during the Grants project.	• Haul trucks will be speed limited to 40km/hr through the school precinct (20km/hr below the signed speed limit)	D1: low Screened out	• Berry Springs Primary School



enjoyment as a result of noise and vibrations	blasting activity				- Noise from truck movements could reduce amenity for those at Berry Springs School and some residents directly on Cox Peninsula Road however this is rated as a low impact due to the extent, severity and duration - Blasting noise is unlikely to impact people due to the distance from the project site to residences and communities. - Vibrations may be felt but are unlikely to impact amenity and enjoyment	- Truck movements will be restricted past the school from 7:45am to 8:45 am and 2:30 to 3:30pm - Trucks will be fitted with an In-Vehicle Management System, if speed limits are exceeded - Ongoing engagement with Berry Springs School - Night time noise levels from road train hauling activities will be managed in accordance with the NT EPA Noise Management Framework Guideline		Berry Springs residents and businesses near the haul route
Reduced enjoyment of landscapes and changed sense of place	Project announcements/consultation stage	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- During the Grants EIS process, some community members raised concerns about the impacts on flora and fauna in the region, and there is some sensitivity to land clearing in the region - It is unlikely that people's enjoyment of the landscape will be impacted by the project as the site is not visible from the road, the project footprint is relatively small and the duration of the project is relatively short, and appropriate closure plans will be in place	- Environmental management plans - Ongoing community engagement	D2: low Screened out	Cox Peninsula residents
Cultural identity								
Impacts on cultural heritage causes distress to custodians and Larrakia people connected to the site	Disturbance of a sacred site during construction, operations or closure	D – unlikely (unlikely that the sacred site will be disturbed – distance to any project activity)	3 – moderate	D3: medium	- During the public feedback process AAPA queried the distance of the sacred site to the haul roads - Damage to the identified sacred site is considered unlikely due to the distance to any project activity	- The known sacred site will be designated as a 'no access' area - AAPA Authority Certificate - Code of Conduct for workers and inductions will cover protection of sacred sites - Engagement with traditional custodians	D2: low Screened out	- Aboriginal custodians - Larrakia people



Reduced ties to land and ability to maintain culture	Start of construction			Further discussions with AAPA, Belyuen residents and traditional owners will enable rating of this	- This was not raised as an issue during consultation however people mentioned picnics and hunting on the Cox Peninsula, in the meeting with Belyuen residents for the Grants project. We will consult further with AAPA, traditional owners and Belyuen residents to ask further questions about these activities - Consultations will also include the broader community in terms of use of Observation Hill Dam area and downstream creek and the Kamfari race and other recreational activity	- The appropriate sacred site clearances - Engagement with Aboriginal custodians and traditional owners - Engagement with local communities	Further discussions with AAPA, custodians and Belyuen residents and with the broader community will enable rating of this To be addressed in SIA	- Belyuen residents - Traditional owners - Local communities
Economies (jobs, economic and community development)								
Workers lose their jobs and local contracts lost due to early closure of the mine	Closure and rehabilitation	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	Early mine closure is unlikely due to economic feasibility studies and the short mine life	- Mine Closure Plan - Ongoing community and stakeholder engagement	E2: low Screened out	- Locals who secure work on the project - Local contractors
Cumulative								
Cumulative loss of community character and people's sense of place	Start of construction	D – unlikely	2 - minor	D2: low	- Departmental feedback queried cumulative impacts of multiple projects in the region - The BP33 Project will begin operation once the mining at Grants has ceased. They will not operate concurrently - Road use, noise, dust and social / community impacts will not overlap and intensity of these impacts will not increase - The BP33 mine life is four years, and is unlikely to overlap with any future	- Grants and BP33 will not operate at the same time - Care and maintenance plan under the <i>Mining Management Act</i> - Ongoing community and stakeholder engagement - Mine closure plans	D2: low Screened out	- Cox Peninsula residents - Berry Springs residents and businesses near the haul route



					mining developments not yet proposed. • There could be cumulative impact to flora and fauna environmental values due to spread of weeds however appropriate management mitigation measures can limit the potential impact • It is considered unlikely that people employed locally will relocate to Berry Springs or the Cox Peninsula to work on the project. • It is possible that there will be an increase in the number of mine workers frequenting local businesses in Berry Springs (driving to and from work) however the consequence of those changes is considered insignificant.			
Cumulative impacts of multiple projects increasing industrial traffic on local roads	Announcement by other proponents of projects in the region	C - possible	2 -minor	C2: medium	• Although Core's use of the roads across Grants and BP33 will not be cumulative as they will not operate concurrently, there could be cumulative impacts if other, unrelated projects in the area proceed • Additional information is required on level and impacts of road use by other potential projects	• Ongoing community and stakeholder engagement • Traffic management plans to reduce injuries and fatalities and communication that these will be implemented • Good communication about the likely impacts and implications of the project • Conduct a road condition survey before start of work. • Core commits to repairing any damage to the road pavement that is attributable to the project.	More information is required on other potential projects in the area and likely road use Impact to be addressed in SIA	• Cox Peninsula residents • Other Cox Peninsula road users

The ratings and descriptors used for negative impacts:

Likelihood descriptors:

- Almost certain
- Likely
- Possible
- Unlikely
- Rare

Consequence descriptors:

- Extent
- Duration
- Scale of change
- Level of community concern or perceptions of impacts.

Likelihood	Descriptor	Negative consequence (for harms, disturbance)				
		1	2	3	4	5
		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
A	Almost certain	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
B	Likely	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
C	Possible	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
D	Unlikely	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
E	Rare	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5

Table 5-2: Descriptors for negative impacts

Catastrophic	Intolerable social, cultural and economic cumulative impacts that are unlikely to be amenable to management.
High	Intolerable cumulative impacts that might be accepted if managed to as low as reasonably practicable, taking account of community perceptions, values and resilience.
Medium	Tolerable (depending on the level of community acceptance) cumulative impacts if managed effectively, but requires close monitoring.
Low	Tolerable, barely perceptible negative impacts, but implement adaptive management approaches to ensure the threat level doesn't increase and exacerbate emerging threats as development unfolds across the region.



Preliminary Opportunities/Benefits Assessment

Preliminary Opportunities/Benefits Assessment								
Impact	Trigger or change pathway	Significance Assessment			Discussion	Enhancement measures	Residual rating (after enhancement)	Potentially affected people
		Likelihood before enhancement	Consequence	Significance before enhancement				
Economies (jobs, economic and community development)								
Boost to the regional and NT economy through employment	Start of operations : workers employed	C - possible	2 - minor	C2: noticeable	- Regional economic benefits have been raised during consultation - A boost to the regional economy will be noticeable but the short mine life reduces the level of impact. Enhancement increases the likelihood	- Recruitment and procurement processes prioritising the local market - Local communication about job opportunities - Local procurement plan, including communication of opportunities	B2: beneficial To be included in SIA	Local businesses
Enhanced opportunities for local Aboriginal people for jobs and training	Start of operations - workers employed	B – likely	2 - minor	B2:beneficial	- Employment and training for local Aboriginal people has consistently been raised during consultation - Core’s extended operations increase the potential training and job opportunities	- Business and Aboriginal participation plans - Work with local Aboriginal organisations and/or Aboriginal employment and training providers to maximise local Aboriginal employment opportunities	B2: Beneficial To be included in SIA	- Local Aboriginal people interested in work on the project - Local Aboriginal and employment organisations
Boost to the regional and NT economy through local procurement	Start of operations : workers employed	C – possible	2 - minor	C2: noticeable	- Local procurement will stimulate and strengthen the region’s economy - A boost to the regional economy will be noticeable but the short mine life reduces the level of impact. Enhancement increases the likelihood	- Package tenders to suit local capacity - Proactive identification of local business with the capacity to work on the project - Agreements with contractors to include local service and supply requirements	B2: beneficial To be included in SIA	Local businesses
Local communities benefit through sponsorship and local support	Constructi on and ongoing	C - possible	2 - minor	C2: noticeable	- Core has indicated an interest in providing sponsorship to support the local communities - Enhancement increases the likelihood of this impact occurring	Develop a sponsorship plan to ensure the most affected stakeholders and communities benefit from the project	B2: beneficial To be included in SIA	Local communities

The ratings and descriptors used for positive impacts:

Likelihood descriptors:

- Almost certain
- Likely
- Possible
- Unlikely
- Rare

Consequence descriptors:

- Extent
- Duration
- Scale of change
- Level of community interest or perceptions of impacts.

		Importance consequences (for benefits, opportunities)				
		1	2	3	4	5
Likelihood	Descriptor	Insignificant	Minor	Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
A	Almost certain	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
B	Likely	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
C	Possible	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
D	Unlikely	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
E	Rare	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5

Table 5-4: Descriptors for positive impacts

Transformational	Transformational collective and socially, culturally and economically sustainable opportunities for the region, by building enduring capacity that benefits future generations
Beneficial	Beneficial cumulative benefits across the region that may be of a smaller scale or incremental, but which may suit culturally appropriate sustainable development.
Noticeable	Benefits are noticeable but may be quickly absorbed.
Imperceptible	Little change in the way of life, livelihoods and lifestyles of the region



Appendix A: Background

On 30 April 2020, Core Lithium submitted a Referral to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NTEPA) for the proposed BP33 project. The NT EPA decided that the proposal requires assessment under *Environmental Protection Act 2019* and has directed Core to provide additional information about the proposal in the form of a Supplementary Environment Report (SER). The direction requests that a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is conducted in line with the NSW SIA Guideline. This SIA Scoping Study report documents the outcomes of the scoping phase of the SIA and has been prepared in consultation with DEPWS Environmental Assessments.

The SIA is required to assess the combined and cumulative impacts associated with the mining activities at the Finniss Lithium Project, which currently incorporates the approved open cut mine and processing at Grants and the proposed BP33 underground mine. In 2018, Core submitted an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) for the Grants Lithium Project on the Cox Peninsula. The EIS included a Social Impact Assessment which involved consultation with the community and affected stakeholders.

In April 2020, Core received approval from the Northern Territory Government for mining and processing of lithium ore at its Grants project site.

The Grants SIA identified the following potential negative social impacts (a residual impact rating of moderate or higher):

- traffic delays or congestion from additional industrial, workforce vehicles and blasting
- increased road safety risk due to project traffic, particularly in built-up areas.

The following six potential positive social impacts were identified (with a residual impact rating of moderate or higher):

- local communities benefit through distribution of sponsorship funds
- local businesses benefit from winning contracts
- local economies stimulated through payments to workers, contractors and local companies
- boost to direct and indirect local employment through jobs on the project or throughout the local supply chain
- Indigenous employment opportunities.

It was noted in the SIA that a possible risk of reduced access to and enjoyment of traditional cultural activities was unable to be adequately assessed due to key stakeholders being unavailable. It also noted that future engagement with these stakeholders was planned.

Since this time, Core has engaged with Belyuen community members at a community meeting, and met with Aboriginal custodians and AAPA and conducted a site visit of the

Grants project site. The main subject raised during the Belyuen community meeting was jobs and contract opportunities.

The NT EPA made recommendations that Core is required, and has committed to adhere to as part of the Grants Lithium Project.

On 30 April 2020, Core submitted a Notice of Variation (NOV) to the NT EPA for the proposed variations to the Grants Lithium Project should the BP33 project be approved to allow for a further 4 year supply of ore to the Grants processing plant . In June 2020, the NT EPA advised that the Grants Project has approval to operate for seven years.



Appendix B: BP33 Project Description

The following information is sourced from the Core Lithium EP Act Referral Supporting Information Document for the BP33 Underground Mine.

Core proposes to expand its Finniss Lithium Project mining activities on the Cox Peninsula, 33 km west of Berry Springs. Core has received approval for open pit mining and processing of the Grants ore resource. Core is proposing to develop an underground mine at the BP33 resource, which is approximately 3.5 km south-east of the Grants site. The project will involve underground mining of ore and trucking to the Grants processing plant via a 7.5 km purpose built haul road.

Location

The BP33 project is 2.5 km south-west of the Cox Peninsula Road, approximately 33 km west of Berry Springs and 7.5 km from the Grants project site.

The project area is not in any local government area, but the haul route passes through Litchfield, Palmerston and Darwin municipalities. It is not serviced by mains power, water or sewage.

Project footprint

The mine site footprint is approximately 88 hectares while the footprint of the haul road from BP33 to Grants is approximately 12.5 hectares (13 m wide by 7.5 km long). An additional 0.4 hectares will be required for a water pipeline from Observation Hill Dam to the mine site.

Timeframes

Production at BP33 would begin once mining at Grants ceases. BP33 timeframes are outlined below:

- Construction – 6 months
- Mining – 44 months
- Closure and rehabilitation - 5 months
- Post-closure (ongoing)

Project detail

The key components of the BP33 project are as follows:

- Construction of site infrastructure, including a contractor's area (storage and maintenance), internal access roads and drainage infrastructure, water storages and Run of Mine (RoM) pad
- Excavation of a box-cut portal to an approximate depth of 60-70 m to remove weathered waste rock and provide a stable foundation for construction of an underground portal.
- Construction of a 450 m long decline from the base of the box-cut to the top of the spodumene and progressive construction of a further 1.7 km of decline over the mine life to connect lower levels of the underground mine.

- Two onsite waste rock dumps (WRD) for temporary storage of oxide waste rock (from the box-cut) and transitional/fresh waste rock (from the underground) before progressively backfilling the material.
- A Raw Water Dam (RWD) will be constructed to store water for use in dust suppression and to supply the mine site facilities. A Mine Settling Dam (MSD) will be constructed to store and treat sediment laden water.
- Underground mining of the resource over nine production levels using sublevel retreat mining methods over a life of mine of approximately four years.
- Transport of the mined ore approximately 7.3 km along a dedicated haul road (to be constructed) to the Grants processing plant.

All processing requirements of BP33 ore resource were assessed in the Grants EIS and Notice of Alteration.

Infrastructure

The mine site infrastructure will include:

- Contractor's area - a raised compacted pad (approximately 6.4 hectares) that will accommodate office and staff facilities, laydown and storage areas, maintenance workshop, fuel storage and refuelling, power generators
- Box cut portal
- Underground mine
- Explosives compound - the explosives compound will be re-located from Grants mine site at the end of mining activity at Grants for use at BP33
- ROM pad - for temporary storage of mined ore ready for transport to the Grants processing facility. The ROM pad will be a raised compacted pad with a footprint of approximately 6.5 hectares. The pad will have capacity to store two 60,000 tonnes ore stockpiles
- Two temporary waste rock dumps
- A Raw Water Dam
- A Mine Settling Dam
- Topsoil and subsoil stockpiles
- Water pipeline – A 1.4 km pipeline between the Observation Hill Dam and the mine site. The pipeline will be buried for protection from bushfire.
- Haul road – An internal 7.5 km haul road between BP33 and the Grants project site.

Construction

Construction activities will include:

- clearing vegetation
- topsoil and subsoil stripping
- box-cut excavation (using truck and shovel, and then drill and blast at the bottom 10 metres)
- bulk earthworks
- haul road and water pipeline construction including vegetation removal and clearing.



Mining

Drill and blast methods will be used to extract the ore from underground, which will be removed by loaders leaving behind an open space (stope). Mined material will be stockpiled on the production level or loaded directly onto 90 tonnes capacity underground dump trucks. Ore will be hauled to the surface via the decline. It is estimated that there will be 18 truck trips per day to haul 1,669 tonnes to the ROM pad.

Processing

Ore stockpiled on the BP33 ROM pad will be hauled to the Grants processing facility via the 7.5 km haul road. The BP33 Lithium Project proposal does not involve any changes, additions or increase in production outputs from the processing facility. The ore mined at BP33 will be used to continue production from the processing plant only after the Grants ore resource is exhausted.

Closure and rehabilitation

At completion of the mining activities at BP33, the underground and box-cut will be completely backfilled, no waste material will remain on the surface and the site will be revegetated. A Mine Closure Plan will be developed for submission with the MMP. Closure and rehabilitation of BP33 will involve:

- progressively backfill the underground mine stopes using fresh rock from the underground waste rock dumps and additional backfill
- material sourced from the Grants waste rock dump
- reclaim material from the box-cut waste rock dump to completely backfill the box-cut
- spread the safety bund over the top of the finalised surface of the box-cut
- re-profiling of the final surface
- subsoil and topsoil re-spreading and contour ripping
- revegetation and weed control.

Water use

Total expected water use is 1047 kl/day. Water demand will largely be for underground mining, surface amenities and dust suppression.

Water sources

Water sources for the mine will comprise of surface water and groundwater from the following:

- Observation Hill Dam receiving catchment inflows
- underground mine intercepted water (pumped into MSD)
- groundwater and rainfall in-flows to the box-cut.

If following further groundwater investigations, the volumes available from dewatering is less than anticipated, the following supplementary water supplies will be further investigated:

- water extracted from a bore field subject to licencing under the Water Act
- water pumped from the old mine pits across the lease area, subject to water quality testing and confirmation of no potential for exposure of PAF materials in pit walls.



Waste water discharge

Both the box-cut and the underground mine will require de-watering during development and operations. Excess water will be pumped to the MSD to remove sediments and any other contaminants. During the wet season, Observation Hill Dam will discharge over the existing dam wall to an ephemeral creek into the Charlotte River. A Waste Discharge Licence will be applied for under the Water Act.

Energy use

The project power requirements are proposed to be met by on site diesel-powered generators, however, the feasibility of connecting to mains power is under consideration.

Storage of Hazardous Substances

Hazardous substances and indicative quantities to be stored on site are as follows:

- diesel – multiple locations using wrap tanks or bunded storage facilities. Maximum quantity stored on site will be ~110,000litres.
- greases, oils and lubricants – multiple locations using wrap tanks or bunded storage facilities
- oxygen and acetylene
- cleaning chemicals – degreasers in 1,000 litre tanks.

Air Emissions

Underground mining has the potential to produce dust emissions. The planned dust suppression activity is expected to minimise dust emissions.

Exhaust emissions will be produced by the on-site diesel generators and operation of heavy plant and equipment. Given the relatively small-scale of the proposed activity, the emission levels are not anticipated to be a magnitude that would cause any measurable changes in air quality beyond the mine site.

Noise Emissions

Noise emissions will occur from machinery and equipment operating 24 hours. As the site is remote from residences and other land users, and there are no sensitive habitat nearby, noise emissions are not anticipated to affect any sensitive receptors.

Transport

The product will be loaded onto road trains for transport to Darwin Port (East Arm). The total distance to the Port is 94.5 km. The haul route is along Cox Peninsula Road, through to the Stuart Highway, along the Stuart Highway to Tiger Brennan Drive and then Berrimah Road, to the East Arm Port.

The anticipated truck movements along the transport route are up to 10 return trips per day. The BP33 proposal will not increase the frequency of haul truck trips on public roads, however

BP33 Project will extend the timeframe that the haul route is in operation from 3 years to 7+ years (i.e. there will be 10 return truck trips per day for 7 years).

Workforce

During construction, it is estimated that peak workforce will be 60 people. Across the whole operation (BP33 mine and Grants processing plant when the Grants mine is closed), the project will employ between 150 and 180 personnel. The workforce composition will be:

- Management/Supervision/Professionals – 20 %
- Contractors (Mining, Processing and Haulage) - 58 %
- Trades – 22 %.

The workforce is to be sourced locally from Darwin, Palmerston and surrounding areas where possible. There will be no on-site accommodation camp, with workers expected to travel to and from site for each shift. The travel time from Darwin/Palmerston to the site is around one hour. Where there is a lack of available skilled personnel, Fly-In-Fly-Out arrangements will be made for a portion of the workforce, and commercial accommodation in the region provided. As the operational workforce is relatively small, the project will not result in additional demand for accommodation that cannot be met by existing service providers.

As the BP33 project extends the life of the Finnis Lithium Project, this will enable Core Lithium to offer more attractive relocation opportunities to any skilled personnel not available locally. Employment and relocation for five years is likely to be more attractive to families than two years.

Indigenous Participation

Belyuen is the closest community to the project area. Core has committed to working with Indigenous employment and training providers to maximise opportunities for employment of people from Belyuen and the broader region. The extended mine life achieved by the BP33 deposit means that there will be increased opportunities, whereas previously the short mine life limited opportunities to those people with pre-existing skills sets and prior experience in construction/ mining.



Appendix C: Variation to Grants Lithium Project

Development of the BP33 Project will involve changes to the approved Grants Lithium Project. Once ore deposits from the Grants Project are exhausted, ore will then be mined from the BP33 project and will be trucked via haul road to the Grants site for processing. This processed ore will then be trucked to the Darwin Port for export.

This process will extend the life of the processing facility at Grants Project from its current three-year timeframe approved under the *Mining Management Act* to seven or more years. The resulting changes to the Grants project include:

- increasing the tailings storage capacity to contain the additional tailings from the BP33 Project
- water will continue to be drawn from Observation Hill Dam for the life of the Grants Project
- extending the life of the mine site dam from three years to 7+ years before decommissioning and rehabilitation
- extending the timeframe for trucking of ore from Grants Project to Darwin Port from three years to 7+ years
- extending the schedule for closure and rehabilitation of the Grants Project to 7+ years
- additional workforce will be required for continued operation of the processing facility.

The operation of the Grants processing facility was previously assessed under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. A separate Notice of Variation was submitted to the NTEPA to address the variation to the approved activities. In June 2020, the NTEPA advised that the Grants Project has approval to operate for seven years.



Appendix D: Key Project Information for Grants and BP33

The following table outlines:

- the key project information for the Grants project before the variation (these details were communicated to stakeholders and the community)
- the proposed changes to the Grants project, which have been approved by the NT EPA
- the key project information for the BP33 project (these details have been communicated to stakeholders and community representatives, and some community members)

	Grants – Before variation	Grants – After variation	BP33
Location	• 36 km west of Berry Springs • 32 km south of Darwin (as the crow flies) • 15 km south-east of Belyuen	n/a	• Approximately 7.5 kilometres from Grants • 33 km west of Berry Springs • 2.5 km south-west of Cox Peninsula Road
CAPEX	-	\$73 million during construction	\$107 million
Timeframes	Three years for construction, mining and processing Operating hours – 24/7	Construction – no change Mining – no change Processing – 7 + years (additional four years) No change to operating hours	• Production at BP33 would begin once mining at Grants ceases • Construction – 6 months • Mining – 44 months • Closure and rehabilitation - 5 months • Post-closure (ongoing)
Employment and economy	50 – 100 jobs for up to three years	Up to 500 jobs, with: • 250 during construction	The combined BP33 project and the Grants processing plant will provide 150-180 jobs, with: • a peak of 60 people during construction of BP33 (no longer than 12 months) • a peak of 150-180 during operations



		250 during operations over 7+ years Taxes and royalties will increase with extended production Committed to maximising local employment	Committed to maximising local employment
Traffic/transport	10 quadruple road trains per day (for 2 – 3 years) transporting concentrate to East Arm Wharf along Cox Peninsula Road, Stuart Highway, Tiger Brennan Drive and Berrimah Road 15 minute road closures 2-4 times per week for blasting	- No changes to the road closures 10 quadruple road trains per day for an additional four years (7+ years) transporting concentrate to East Arm Wharf along Cox Peninsula Road, Stuart Highway, Tiger Brennan Drive and Berrimah Road	- The BP33 proposal will not increase the frequency of haul truck trips on public roads, as the rate of production from the processing plant will remain the same. - The BP33 Project will extend the timeframe that the haul route is in operation from 3 years to 7+ years (i.e. there will be 10 return truck trips per day for 7 years) - No road closures for blasting required - A traffic impact assessment is being prepared for BP33
Mining/processing	1.8 million tonnes of spodumene - Open-pit mining and processing of ore over four years - Waste rock dump - Water supply dams - Observation Hill Dam - Ore stockpile - Processing plant to process ore	- Extended timeframe for operating the processing facility at Grants, from four years to 7+ years - No change to mining methods or design	2.09 million tonnes of ore - Underground mining of ore - Transport (via internal haul roads) of ore to Grants for processing 7.5 km of internal haul roads - Box-cut portal to 60-70 metres deep with a long decline to the top of the ore - Two temporary onsite waste rock dumps (WRD) for storage of oxide waste rock - A Raw Water Dam (RWD) will be constructed to store water for use in dust suppression and to supply the mine site facilities - A Mine Settling Dam (MSD) will be constructed to store and treat sediment laden water - Underground blasting – will not require road closures



	Clearing of vegetation		- The blasting may be heard/felt up to 1km away - No additional explosives facility – existing facility at Grants will be used
Water use	2018 kl/day - Will use surface water from Observation Hill Dam and Mine Site Dam - Mine site dam in use for 3-4 years	1500 kl/day for processing for an additional four years - Water from Observation Hill Dam and mine site dam - Mine site dam in use for 7+ years	1047 kl/day - The project will require water for operational dust suppression and processing - Water will be sourced from surface water and groundwater from: - Observation Hill Dam catchment inflows - water intercepted from the underground mine - groundwater and rainfall in-flows - water from the Burrell Creek Aquifer as required (dependent on groundwater extraction licence approvals) - water pumped from the old mine pits across the lease area, subject to water quality. - The project is located in the Darwin Rural water control district (DRWCD) [Specifically the Burrell Creek Groundwater System https://ntg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=0e9e5eb7a4424fbd9578e824d51c3df0] and is required under the <i>Water Act</i> to submit a surface water extraction licence application to extract water from Observation Hill Dam - Groundwater bores may be used to supplement the water supply if there is a water deficit. Core will install monitoring bores in 2020 and develop a groundwater model to assess the requirement and feasibility of installing a production bore field. - Bore permits and groundwater extraction licences would be required under the <i>Water Act</i>.
Water discharge	Off-site discharge of water in Nov-March each year	No additional water discharge	- Both the box-cut and the underground mine will require de-watering during development and operations. - Observation Hill Dam is a storage and water supply dam and will, during high rainfall events, discharge surplus wastewater south via an ephemeral creek into the Charlotte River. A waste discharge licence (WDL) will be applied for under the <i>Water Act</i> through the NT EPA. - More information on water discharge is being prepared for the SER
Waste	- Tailings will be pumped to Tailings Storage Facility cells in the waste rock dump - Tailings are benign and no chemicals are	- Increased tailings storage capacity to contain the additional tailings from the BP33 Project - This means raising the embankments of	Two temporary onsite waste rock dumps (WRD) for storage of oxide waste rock. This includes one for the oxide from the box cut and one for fresh waste from the decline. The oxide is to be returned to the box cut and the fresh waste returned underground before closure.



	added during processing	the tailings storage facility • Tailings from BP33 are chemically benign	
Mine closure	Three to four years after start of operations: • removal of infrastructure • encapsulation of the Tailings Storage Facility within the Waste Rock Dump landform • re-establishing native vegetation on the site • open pit, left to fill with water • mine site dam decommissioned • ongoing monitoring and maintenance	• 7+ years after start of operations • No changes to the closure strategy	• From month five of the production schedule, the material will be used to progressively backfill the underground sections as mining is completed on each production level. • On completion of the mining activities at BP33, the underground mine and box-cut will be completely backfilled and no waste material will remain on the surface. • The material excavated from the box-cut is classified as non-acid forming and will form the surface box-cut Waste Rock Dump 1. Waste Rock Dump 1 is temporary and will be used to completely backfill the box-cut on mine closure. • Waste rock dump 2 will consist of material from the underground and will be temporarily stored on the surface. • On completion of mining, there will be no material remaining on the surface and therefore there is no long-term acid rock drainage risk. • All mining infrastructure will be removed as part of the Mine Closure Plan. The surface will be re-profiled and rehabilitated to enable the project area to be restored to a pre-mining state. Core will undertake ongoing rehabilitation, erosion and water monitoring.



Appendix E: Stakeholder and issues analysis and engagement strategy

Stakeholder	Likely interest or concerns	Key messages/information	Communication and engagement
Residents/businesses along the haul route Berry Springs			
Berry Springs Primary School Berry Springs Pre-school Berry Springs School Council NT Department of Education	- Road safety - Noise/amenity - General project information	- Summary of project and project activities including: - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - mining process - timeframes	- Recently met with Berry Springs Primary School Principal and provided project information - Recently emailed project information to NT Education - Email any project information updates - Seek permission to promote pop-up stalls at the markets and shopping village, to school families through the school newsletter/communication
Berry Springs Tavern (Ian Sloane)	- General project information - Extended transportation to/from project site to 7+ years - Road safety - Noise/amenity - Local opportunities or impacts - Number of jobs	- Summary of project and project activities including: - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - number of jobs - project closure and rehab - timeframes	- Seek meeting to provide information on the project - Seek SIA interview to understand any concerns or opportunities
Berry Springs residents and businesses	- General project information - Road safety - Road condition - Noise/amenity - trucks - Local opportunities or impacts - Number of jobs - Closure and rehabilitation	- Summary of project and project activities including: - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - number of jobs - project closure and rehab	- Engage with Berry Springs residents at: - Pop-up stall at Berry Springs markets - Pop-up stall at Berry Springs Shopping Village - Promote pop-up stalls through local member's office – newsletter and noticeboard, at Berry Springs Shopping Village, through Berry Springs Primary School newsletter (seek permission)
Litchfield Shire Council	- Road safety - Road condition - Water use - Water discharge - Local opportunities or impacts - Number of jobs - Noise/amenity - Closure and rehabilitation	- Summary of project and project activities including: - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - water use/discharge - number of jobs - project closure and rehab	- Recently emailed project information and offered briefing - Seek briefing for Council and senior staff - Seek information on potential concerns or opportunities - Seek support to provide information updates to surrounding residents



Territory Wildlife Park	- Road safety - Road condition - Water use - Local opportunities or impacts - Noise/amenity	- Summary of project and project activities including: - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - water use/discharge - project closure and rehab - timeframes	- Recently emailed project information - Offer briefing/interview
Member for Daly, Ian Sloane	- Road safety - Road condition - Water use - Water discharge - Health/environmental impacts - Local opportunities or impacts - Number of jobs and contracts for locals - Noise/dust/amenity - Closure and rehabilitation	- Summary of project and project activities including: - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - water use/discharge - mining process, stockpiles, transport to Grants for processing - number of jobs - project closure and rehab	- Previous member for Daly was recently emailed project information on BP33 - Seek briefing to provide information on the project - Seek SIA interview (see Berry Springs Tavern) to understand concerns and opportunities for the region/residents
Nearby communities - Wagait Beach/Mandorah			
Wagait Beach/Mandorah residents and businesses Including: Wagait Shire Council Wagait Beach Progress Association Rural Residents Rights Group Wagait Watch Wagait Beach Supermarket Cox Country Club Those who registered for updates	- Road safety - Road condition - Water use/discharge - Health/environmental impacts - Dust/noise/amenity - Legacy mines – closure, rehab - Local jobs and contracts - Cumulative impacts to the area/residents	- Summary of project and project activities including: - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - water use/discharge - mining process, stockpiles, transport to Grants for processing - number of jobs - project closure and rehab	- Recently briefed Wagait Shire Council CEO and President - Recently emailed project information to local associations and residents who registered interest in updates - Engage with Wagait Beach residents to understand potential concerns and opportunities and provide information. Through: - Pop-up stall at Wagait Beach supermarket (promote at shop, Cox Country Club, local member's office, ferry noticeboard, through Wagait Shire Council, email interested residents on contacts list, email Wagait Watch and Wagait Beach Progress Association) - Send email updates to interested residents
Other Cox Peninsula residents and businesses accessing the haul route - Dundee Beach, Bynoe			



Cox Peninsula Residents and businesses Including: Dundee Progress Association Dundee Beach Holiday Park/Lodge of Dundee Dundee Social and Recreational Club Sandpalms Resort and Tropical Motel Those who registered for updates	- Road safety - Road condition - Water use/discharge - Health/environmental impacts - Dust/noise/amenity - Local opportunities/contracts - Cumulative impacts to the area/residents	- Summary of project and project activities including: - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - water use/discharge - mining process, stockpiles, transport to Grants for processing - number of jobs - project closure and rehab	- Recently emailed project information to local associations and residents who registered interest in updates - Offer briefing to the Dundee Progress Association
Aboriginal stakeholders and Belyuen community			
Aboriginal custodians through the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) CEO, Benedict Scambray	- Protection of sacred site - Maintenance of any existing traditional activities in and around the area - Ensuring cultural values are protected within and around the project area		- Seek meeting and site visit as was done for Grants project. - Provide information on the project and seek information on existing traditional activities in the area, and an understanding of traditional/cultural values of areas within the project site
Belyuen Community Government Council Residents at Belyuen	- Opportunities for jobs and contracts - Maintenance of any existing traditional activities in and around the area - Ensuring cultural values are protected within and around the project area - Understanding of the project activities - Understanding of any potential impacts as a result of the project	- Summary of project and project activities including: - clearing of land - water use - water discharge - likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - blasting (no likely noise and vibration impacts) - temporary waste rock stockpiles (and heights) - number of jobs - project closure and rehab	- Recently emailed project information and offered briefing to the council - Engage with Belyuen Council and residents to: - provide information on the project and project activity - update on Grants project and information on BP33 - seek information on any existing cultural activities in the area - seek information on any traditional/cultural values of areas within the project site - seek feedback on interest or concerns
Northern Land Council Greg McDonald	Indigenous engagement, jobs and contracts	- Summary of project and project activities - Number of jobs - Project timelines	Email any project information updates
Larrakia Development Corporation CEO Nigel Browne	Opportunities and timing for jobs and contracts	- Summary of project and project activities - Number of jobs	Recently met with LDC and provided project information



	Maintenance of any existing traditional activities and values in and around the area	Project timelines	- Email any project information updates - Seek any additional feedback
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation CEO, Ilana Eldridge	- Opportunities and timing for jobs and contracts - Maintenance of any existing traditional activities and values in and around the area	- Summary of project and project activities - Number of jobs - Project timelines	- Recently emailed project information and offered briefing - Email any project information updates - Seek any additional feedback
Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation	- Opportunities and timing for jobs and contracts - Maintenance of any existing traditional activities and values in and around the area	- Summary of project and project activities - Number of jobs - Project timelines	- Recently emailed project information - Email any project information updates
Kenbi Rangers, Steven Brown	- Opportunities and timing for jobs and contracts - Maintenance of any existing traditional activities and values in and around the area	- Summary of project and project activities - Number of jobs - Project timelines	- Recently emailed project information and offered briefing - Email any project information updates
Indigenous Women in Mining Resources Association (IWMRA) Nicole Brown	Opportunities for women at the project, and timing for jobs and contracts	- Summary of project and project activities - Number of jobs - Project timelines	- Recently emailed project information - Email any project information updates
NT Indigenous Business Network (NTIBN) Jerome Cabillo	Indigenous economic development opportunities	- Summary of project and project activities - Number of jobs - Project timelines	Offer briefing
Police, Fire and Emergency Services			
Bushfires NT	- Ensuring the project does not increase the incidence of bushfires in the area - That the project has strategies in place to minimise bushfires and to monitor, address issues	- Summary of project and project activities - Outline of strategies to ensure no increase to incidence of bushfires	- Recently emailed project information - Email any project information updates or specific messaging
St John Ambulance	- No impact to emergency vehicle access in the area - Mitigation measures to minimise traffic accidents involving project traffic	- Summary of project and project activities - No road closures for BP33 - Likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time)	- Recently emailed project information - Email any project information updates or specific messaging



		Mitigation measures to minimise traffic accidents involving project traffic	
NT Police (NTPFES)	- Any potential impacts on emergency vehicle access - Mitigation measures to minimise traffic accidents involving project traffic - Any potential impacts on crime rates, traffic accidents, fires	- Summary of project and project activities - No road closures for BP33 - Likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - No workers camp - Mitigation measures to minimise traffic accidents involving project traffic	- Recently emailed project information - Email any project information updates or specific messaging
Industry Associations			
NT Farmers' Association	Any possible impacts on any members in the area	- Summary of project and project activities - No road closures for BP33 - Likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time) - Intended water use and discharge - Mitigation measures to minimise spread of weeds	Email information to NT Farmers
AFANT	- Any potential impacts to amateur fishermen travelling along Cox Peninsula Road - Any potential impacts to aquatic ecosystems and fish habitats in Darwin and Bynoe Harbours	- Summary of project and project activities - No road closures for BP33 - Likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time)	- Recently emailed project information - Email any project information updates or specific messaging
NT Guided Fishing Industry Association	Any possible impacts of the project on the guided fishing industry – traffic impacts	- Summary of project and project activities - No road closures for BP33 - Likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time)	- Recently emailed project information - Email any project information updates or specific messaging
NT Cattlemen's Association	- Any possible impacts to members, including: - Traffic impacts – delays or safety - Road integrity - Water use and discharge	- Summary of project and project activities - No road closures for BP33 - Likely traffic (number of trucks and extended length of time)	- Email information to NT Cattlemen's Association - Offer a briefing as they have not yet been briefed on either Grants or BP33. They were offered a briefing for Grants but this was not taken up.



All other stakeholders will be provided project updates and invited to ask questions, provide feedback or share with their contacts. This includes the stakeholders listed in the Core Stakeholder and Engagement Activity table and includes:

- All relevant Northern Territory Government stakeholders
- All relevant environment and community groups
- All relevant business and industry associations
- Federal members

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[illegible]

sites and dreamings that formed the basis of the claim by all other claimants was not the appropriate knowledge for the land claimed. Other members of the **Danggalaba** group who gave evidence did not align themselves with this view. Most of the claimants who were called to give evidence on behalf of the **Danggalaba** group had already given evidence on behalf of the **Larrakia** group. They did not adopt Tibby Quall's evidence. Nor did they retract, expressly or by implication, such evidence as they had given previously about their spiritual affiliations. In the circumstances, I am unable to find that the members of the **Danggalaba** group have common spiritual affiliations to sites on the land claimed.

Primary spiritual responsibility

X (26) The spiritual affiliations of the **Tommy Lyons** group give rise to a primary spiritual responsibility on the part of that group for the sites on the land claimed, and for the land claimed itself, with the exception of the south-eastern part of the Cox Peninsula. That responsibility is primary as against the other three claimant groups.

Rights to forage

X (27) All claimants have traditional rights to forage over the land claimed, probably including the south-eastern part of the Cox Peninsula. The exercise of those rights requires knowledge of dangerous sites and of the correct behaviour in approaching them.

Traditional Aboriginal owners

X (28) The only claimants who fall within the definition of 'traditional Aboriginal owners' in the Land Rights Act, with respect to the land claimed, are the members of the **Tommy Lyons** group. I am unable to find that there are any traditional Aboriginal owners with respect to the south-eastern area of the Cox Peninsula. I have defined an area of land in the south-eastern part of the Cox Peninsula in respect of which I am unable to find that there are traditional Aboriginal owners.

Strength of traditional attachment

X (29) Although the members of only one group satisfy the definition of 'traditional Aboriginal owners', the Act requires me to assess the strength of attachment of the claimants as a whole. Obviously, there are differences among the claimants. The Belyuen community is the centre of ceremonial activity relating to the land claimed. Initiation ceremonies for young men and women, and higher men's and women's ceremonies take place. These ceremonies, or some of them, relate to the land claimed. Belyuen residents make significant use of the land claimed for hunting, have established outstations and care for sites. Three members of the **Tommy Lyons** group are very much part of the Belyuen community and participate fully in its ceremonial activities and its use and care of the land claimed. One other member was part of the ceremonial life before he was disabled by a stroke. The other adult member of the **Tommy Lyons**

X group lives an urban lifestyle, but has an awareness of her inherited entitlements. The traditional attachment of members of the **Larrakia** group is of a different quality. Some of the members of that group express their traditional attachments in various art forms and regard themselves as exercising traditional rights when using the land claimed for hunting. Members of the **Larrakia** and **Belyuen** groups have collaborated in the protection of sacred sites. Overall, the strength of traditional attachment amply justifies the recommendation I make with respect to the land claimed.

Numbers advantaged and the nature and extent of the advantage

X (30) All 1 600 claimants would be advantaged by the grant of the land claimed to a land trust. Up to 600 other people with traditional attachments to the land claimed would also be advantaged. The advantage would consist of an entitlement to be consulted in relation to any proposed use of the land, Aboriginal control of the land, the preservation of foraging rights, and the recognition at the highest level of Australian Government of the legitimacy of the connection between Aboriginal people and the land.

Detriment to persons or communities

(31) The Northern Territory is a 'person', but not a 'community' for the purposes of this aspect of the Land Rights Act. The diminution of the stock of Crown land available to the Northern Territory is not detriment, because it is inherent in the system established by the Land Rights Act. The Northern Territory would suffer detriment as a person because it would be unable to pursue the planning of the City of Darwin for an expanded population on the basis that the Cox Peninsula would be a suitable place for urban development.

(32) The Northern Territory and the Commonwealth, and their authorities, presently use and occupy parts of the land. The Land Rights Act preserves their right to continue to do so if the land claimed is granted to a land trust. In most cases, rent will be payable for continued use and occupation. The relevant government or authority will suffer detriment to the extent of any such rent. This regime applies to: the use by the Department of Transport and Works of the Northern Territory of watering points and gravel pits for road maintenance; the operation of the radio frequency monitoring installation by the Australian Communications Authority; the use of the Charles Point lighthouse by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority; the operation of two weather stations by the Bureau of Meteorology; the operation of the Charles Point atmospheric chemistry research facility by the Northern Territory University; the maintenance of the Radio Australia transmission station; and the operation of the electricity substation. The defence practice area, around Quail Island is in a somewhat different situation, in that it is probably no longer used or occupied, but the presence of unexploded ordnance has the potential to cause danger. Telstra Corporation Limited has telecommunications facilities within the land claimed. To the extent to which its infrastructure is not within the road reserves of roads over which the public has a right of way, Telstra would suffer detriment, as would the users of its services, if it were no longer able to use the facilities.

5.4.31 There are few sites outside the land claimed which are said to relate to it. I have mentioned *Nanggalinya* (site 111) and *Kalalak* (site 110) as being associated with the *Kenbi* dreaming track (see para. 5.4.4). The only other site which needs to be mentioned on the Darwin side of Darwin Harbour is *Gundal* (site 109), at the point near Cullen Bay, within the area occupied by the Commonwealth of Australia as the Larrakeyah Barracks. Information relating to this site is secret to men; even its name is regarded by some as secret and should not be spoken in public. Reference was also made to *Mibuk* (site 112) and *Djirrburr* (site 113). The former is on or near the mainland, to the south of Dum-In-Mirrie Island. The latter is said to be at the mouth of the Finnis River.

5.5

Absence of sites in the south-east of the land claimed

5.5.1 An examination of the map in appendix 8, on which appear all of the sites which I have named in this chapter, together with some other sites to which specific reference has been made, shows a complete absence of sites in the south-eastern area of the land claimed. In para. 3.3, I have described the boundaries of the land claimed on the Cox Peninsula. In the south-eastern corner of the land claimed, those boundaries are fixed by reference to the boundaries of hundreds, areas designated for the purposes of identifying land titles. On the site map tendered in evidence before me, exhibit LG1, the name Bulldog Pass appears on the southern boundary, close to the eastern boundary, of the land claimed. The only witness who made reference to Bulldog Pass was Johnny Singh, who asserted that Tommy Lyons's country had extended at least that far. Other witnesses describing Tommy Lyons's country, or the country with which members of the **Belyuen** group saw themselves as associated, did so by reference to site names, rather than non-Aboriginal boundaries. It should also be noted that Johnny Singh was able to describe the extent of Tommy Lyons's country down the coast to the south by reference to two named sites, *Mibuk* (site 112) and *Djirrburr* (site 113). Although he asserted that Tommy Lyons's country included Bulldog Pass, his inability to provide any Aboriginal name for such a large area in the south-east of the land claimed must cast doubt on the validity of that assertion.

5.5.2 The southern boundary of the land claimed is seven kilometres or more from the southernmost named site on the east side of the Cox Peninsula, *Beyelu* (site 107), known as Kings Table. Lying south of *Belyuen* (site 95), near the junction of the road that links Mandorah with Darwin and the road to Rankin Point, is *Gundjerra* (site 34). The site is a swamp, used for hunting and for gathering a type of root vegetable. According to the evidence, there is no site bearing an Aboriginal name between *Gundjerra* (site 34) and the eastern boundary of the land claimed and between *Beyelu* (site 107) and the southern boundary of the land claimed. This is a substantial area. It includes most of that part of the boundary of the land claimed formed by Middle Arm of the Darwin Harbour. West Arm intrudes into this area. So does Bynoe Harbour. Within this area, approximately five kilometres south of *Beyelu* (site 107), is a swamp at which people living at the Belyuen community hunt sometimes. No Aboriginal name for that swamp could be given. There is no other evidence of use of the south-eastern part of the land claimed. If a rectangle were to be drawn, encompassing the area I

Appendix E

Qualifications of the consultants

Claire Butler was the lead consultant for this Social Impact Assessment. Claire is a senior consultant with True North Strategic Communication and has extensive experience in marketing, corporate communication and community and stakeholder engagement. In recent years, Claire's focus has expanded to incorporate the study of social and cultural impacts of projects in the Northern Territory. Claire has co-led a number of social impact assessments for major projects in Central Australia and the Top End.

Claire has studied social impact assessment through the Community Insights Group and the University of Strathclyde. This course was provided by senior SIA practitioners, Gabriela Factor, Dr Ana Maria Esteves and Professor Frank Vanclay. Claire also completed an intermediate Social Impact Assessment training course conducted by Professor Frank Vanclay and Dr Ana Maria Esteves through the Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining at the University of Queensland. Claire has a certificate in Social Impact Assessment from the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA).

Claire's training and experience in social impact assessment is strengthened by her extensive resource, construction and Indigenous communication and community engagement work across the Northern Territory over the past 15 years.

Claire has a Bachelor of International Business, Graduate Diploma of Management and Certificate of Public Participation with the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2).

Claire has completed Indigenous cross-cultural training with Why Warriors and has experience working in remote communities across the Top End.

Since joining the company in 2008, Claire spent three years working remotely in Nhulunbuy in north-east Arnhem Land and is now based in Cairns.

Bethany Thornton worked with Claire to deliver this Social Impact Assessment and is experienced in working on complex stakeholder engagement projects and producing creative and innovative marketing and communication strategies. Bethany has worked across a range of industries including infrastructure, major projects, local government, not for profit and Defence.

In her role with True North, Bethany assisted with Core Lithium's Social Impact Assessment for the Grants Lithium Project in 2018. She attended and documented stakeholder meetings and briefings, coordinating community information stalls and writing the consultation report.

Bethany has a Bachelor of Strategic Communication from La Trobe University and has completed the IAP2 Certification in Public Participation. Bethany grew up and completed her schooling in Darwin and has comprehensive local networks and a solid understanding and connection to the Territory.
