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North East Link Early Works
Independent Environmental
Auditor

Six-Monthly Summary Report:
August 2021 to January 2022

for Submission to the Minister
for Planning

21 March 2022

North East Link Program

REPORT

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Nation Partners Pty Ltd
ABN 96 166 861 892

Level 3, The Alley, 75-77 Flinders Lane
Melbourne Vic 3000

Suite 108, 50 Holt St
Surry Hills NSW 2010

☎ 1300 876 976

✉ info@nationpartners.com.au

🌐 nationpartners.com.au

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NELEW IEA: Six-monthly Summary Report – August 2021 to January 2022



Executive Summary

Introduction

This report presents the Six-Monthly Summary Report for the North East Link (NEL) Program (the Program), and specifically for the North East Link Early Works (NELEW), for the period August 2021 to January 2022, inclusive (hereinafter referred to as the 'reporting period'). It summarises audit activities during the reporting period, audit findings, the status of actions taken to address previous audit findings and the NELEW contractors' compliance with the Environmental Management Framework (EMF) and Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs).

The Program will connect the M80 to an upgraded Eastern Freeway through twin tunnels constructed beneath the Yarra River, linking key growth areas in the north and south-east. The NELEW is the first package of works for the Program and comprises the relocation of around 100 above, and underground services (i.e. power, gas, telecommunications, water and sewerage etc) to enable major construction of the NEL and delivery of the Bulleen Park and Ride.

As a requirement of Section 2 of the EMF for the Program, approved by the Minister for Planning, an Independent Environmental Auditor (IEA) must be engaged. The role of the IEA is to review environmental documentation to verify compliance with, and undertake environmental audits of Program activities to assess compliance with the EMF, EPRs, Environmental Strategy, Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Worksite Environmental Management Plans (WEMPs), Construction Compound Plans (CCPs), and approval conditions. Not all requirements of the EMF, nor the EPRs are applicable to delivery of the NELEW (i.e. 96 of the 110 EPRs are applicable to the NELEW and, at the time of the reporting period, one of these applicable EPRs had yet to be triggered by delivery of the NELEW).

The Managing Contractor delivering the majority of the NELEW is CPB Contractors Pty Ltd (CPB), with the exception of a new power substation near Blamey Road in Yallambie, for which the Managing Contractor is Jemena Electricity Networks (Vic) Ltd (Jemena). Audit findings summarised in this report relate to audits conducted on both contractors.

Pursuant to the EMF, Nation Partners Pty Ltd (Nation Partners) has been engaged as the IEA for the NELEW by CPB, on behalf of NELP.

Audit activities

Across the reporting period, the IEA conducted 3 compliance audits comprising: 2 compliance audits on a quarterly basis covering CPB's construction activities; and, one compliance audit covering Jemena's construction activities associated with the power substation. The audits have been conducted using a risk-based approach, in accordance with AS/NZS ISO 19011: 2019 *Guidelines for auditing management systems*, which was the standard in place at the time of the NELEW. This risk-based approach has been applied to determine the scope of each audit with respect to the locations/activities subject to site inspections and criteria (e.g. EPRs) to be assessed.

Each audit assessed compliance of the relevant Managing Contractors' construction activities with the EMF, relevant EPRs and conditions of Program approvals, and the IEA reviewed and verified (and NELP

accepted) documents including the associated Managing Contractors' Environmental Strategy, CEMP, WEMPs, CCPs and other plans as required by the EPRs and as relevant to the scope of the audit.

The audits of CPBs activities were conducted in September 2021 and November 2021, and of Jemena's activities in December 2021. In January and early February 2022, the IEA also reviewed evidence associated with corrective actions undertaken by CPB and Jemena to address the findings arising from the November 2021 and December 2021 IEA compliance audits, respectively.

Sites visited as part of the compliance audits across the reporting period included: Borlase Precinct in Macleod/Yallambie/Rosanna/Viewbank; locations west of Bulleen Road associated with the Yarra East Main Sewer (YEMS) scope of work; residential property demolition works along Borlase Street and Coleen Street, Yallambie; Bulleen Park and Ride facility; CitiPower utility relocations at Page Avenue, Kew East; former service station demolition works at 230 Greensborough Road, Yallambie; and, power substation works near Blamey Road in Yallambie. These sites were selected on the basis that they provided a representative sample of the locations in which NELEWs construction activities were being undertaken at the time of the audits and were in locations where either construction activities were considered to represent a potentially higher risk of impact to the environment, or where construction activities were being undertaken in proximity to sensitive environmental areas.

The criteria assessed as part of the compliance audits conducted in the reporting period covered EMF Sections 2 to 7 and 67 EPRs (as relevant to the NELEW and triggered by the works completed to date). CPB's activities were audited against 54 of the relevant EPRs, and Jemena's against all 49 of the EPRs relevant to delivery of the power substation. The 67 EPRs assessed included EPRs from the following EPR topics: EMF; Aboriginal heritage; air quality; arboriculture; business; contamination and soil; flora and fauna; groundwater; land use planning; landscape and visual; noise and vibration; social and community; surface water; sustainability and climate change; and traffic and transport. In addition, corrective actions from previous audits were also reviewed for close-out.

The audit findings are classified in each audit according to the following qualitative definitions in accordance with AS/NZS ISO 19011: 2019:

- **compliant** - the evidence demonstrated that the criteria under consideration had been met;
- **opportunity for improvement (OFI)** – applied where the evidence demonstrated that the criteria under consideration had been met, but in the future, there was an opportunity to provide greater clarity or provide greater demonstration that the criteria has been met;
- **minor non-compliance (Minor NC)** - applied where the evidence demonstrated that the criteria had been partially met, and at present did not fully meet the relevant Program contract requirement; and,
- **major non-compliance (Major NC)** – applied where the evidence either demonstrated that the criteria had not been met, or there was an absence of evidence demonstrating that the criteria had been met. As such the corresponding aspect of the Program contract requirement is not being met.

Qualitative environmental risk ratings for each non-compliance finding were also determined using the risk assessment methodology detailed within Chapter 4 – *EES Assessment Framework*, Section 4.4.2 *Risk Assessment* of the NEL Environmental Effects Statement (EES), to ensure a consistent approach across the Program.

Corrective actions to address compliance audit findings were determined, implemented and tracked to closure by CPB and Jemena (as relevant), with the IEA assessing the closure of actions upon the next compliance audit.

Overall compliance

In general, both CPB's and Jemena's Program activities are considered to comply with the EMF and be largely compliant with the EPRs against which their activities were audited. However, 30 audit findings

were identified against the EPRs during this reporting period, comprising one Major NC, identified during the Jemena power substation compliance audit, 11 Minor NCs and 18 OFIs, as detailed in Table E1.

Table E1: Summary of Findings in Reporting Period

Audit	OFI	Minor NC	Major NC
NELEW			
• September 2021	8	3	0
• November 2021	7	0	0
Power substation			
• December 2021	3	8	1

No repeat findings were identified.

The Major NC and Minor NCs tended to be associated with instances of non-compliance associated with fulfilling the requirements of Program specific environmental management plans and therefore findings were assigned to the EPRs requiring the preparation and implementation of these plans.

Jemena has addressed and closed-out, to the satisfaction of the IEA, the Major NC and both CPB and Jemena have addressed and closed-out, to the satisfaction of the IEA, all Minor NCs and all OFIs identified during the reporting period.

Given both CPB's and Jemena's responsiveness in closing out findings identified during the reporting period and taking the context of the findings into consideration, the IEA does not consider the audit findings to represent systemic issues, nor present ongoing material risks to the environment.

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Expanded form
CCP	Construction Compound Plan
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CPB	CPB Contractors Pty Ltd
EES	Environment Effects Statement
EMF	Environmental Management Framework
EPR	Environmental Performance Requirement
FTE	Full-time equivalent
IEA	Independent Environmental Auditor
MTIA	The Major Transport Infrastructure Authority
NEL	North East Link
NELEW	North East Link Early Works
NELP	North East Link Program (NELP)
WEMP	Worksite Environmental Management Plan
YEMS	Yarra East Main Sewer

Term	Description
Incorporated Document	The North East Link Program Incorporated Document, December 2019.
Independent Environmental Auditor	Independent Environmental Auditor appointed pursuant to the Environmental Management Framework (EMF) approved by the Minister for Planning. For the North East Link Early Works (NELEW), Nation Partners Pty Ltd (Nation Partners) has been engaged as the IEA.
Major Transport Infrastructure Authority	The Major Transport Infrastructure Authority (MTIA) is the proponent for the Program. The MTIA is an administrative office within the Victorian Department of Transport with responsibility for overseeing major transport projects.
Managing Contractor or contractor	Contractor managing a package of works associated with the North East Link Program. For the NELEW and Bulleen Park and Ride, the Managing Contractor is CPB Contractors Pty Ltd (CPB) (unless otherwise specified).

	For the Zone Substation, the Managing Contractor is Jemena Electricity Networks (Vic) Ltd (Jemena).
Program or North East Link	The North East Link Program approved under the Incorporated Document.
NELEW	North East Link Early Works (NELEW) is the first package of works for the Program, comprising the design development and potential modification, relocation and/or protection of utility services which will be impacted, or are in proximity to the main North East Link works. Unless otherwise stated, these works are being delivered by the main NELEW contractor. Additional works beyond the original scope have also been awarded to the NELEW contractor, such as delivery of the Bulleen Park and Ride (refer to Section 1.2.2 for further details of works included within the NELEW).
North East Link Program (NELP)	North East Link Program (NELP) is an organisation within MTIA responsible for developing and delivering the Program. NELP was formerly known as the North East Link Project prior to early 2022 and before that as the North East Link Authority (NELA) prior to 1 January 2019. NELP is responsible for delivering the Program on behalf of the Victorian Government.

1. Introduction



This document presents the **Six-Monthly Summary Report on the compliance status with the Environmental Management Framework (EMF) and Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs) for the North East Link Program (NELP), and specifically for the North East Link Early Works (NELEW), for the period August 2021 to January 2022 inclusive (hereinafter referred to as the reporting period).**

1.1 Purpose of this Report

As required by Section 2 of the EMF approved by the Minister for Planning, the Independent Environmental Auditor (IEA) must prepare six-monthly summary reports as to compliance with the EMF and EPRs, which the NELP must provide to the Minister for Planning and which will be made publicly available.

The six-monthly summary reports must summarise:

- audit activities during the reporting period;
- audit findings;
- the status of actions taken to address previous audit findings; and,
- the contractors' compliance with the EMF and EPRs.

This Six-Monthly Summary Report has been developed to fulfil this EMF requirement and summarises the findings arising from compliance audits and activities conducted by the IEA on the NELEW across the reporting period.

Pursuant to the EMF, Nation Partners Pty Ltd (Nation Partners) has been engaged as the NELEW IEA by CPB Contractors Pty Ltd (CPB) (the Managing Contractor or contractor for the majority of the NELEW), on behalf of NELP.

1.2 Program Overview

1.2.1 North East Link

The NELP will connect the M80 with the Eastern Freeway through twin tunnels constructed beneath the Yarra River, linking key growth areas in the north and south-east. It includes upgrades to the Eastern Freeway, a dedicated busway, more than 25 kilometres of new and upgraded cycling and walking paths, improvements to community facilities including local sports grounds and utility relocations to facilitate these works.

1.2.2 North East Link Early Works

The NELEW is the first tranche of works for the NELP and includes the relocation of around 100 above, and underground services such that major construction of the NEL can start from 2022.

The NELEW is being undertaken across:

- the north-east of the Program area, from the M80 Ring Road and Greensborough Bypass through to Greensborough Road and Lower Plenty Road intersection; and,
- the south of the Program area from Bulleen Road and along the Eastern Freeway from Chandler Highway to Middleborough Road.

The NELEW has been split into 3 geographic zones, which generally relate to the extent of the NELP main works, as illustrated in Figure 1.

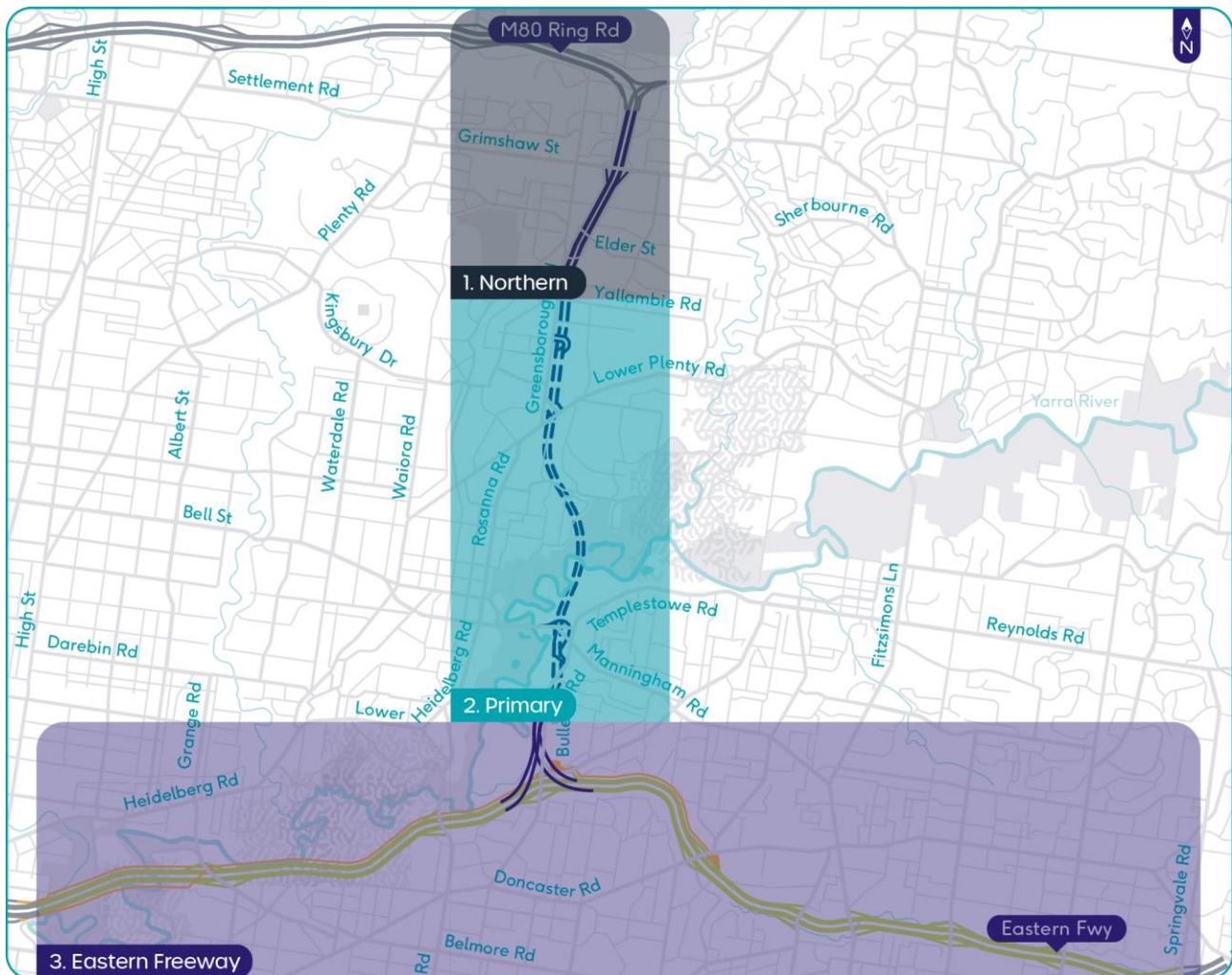


Figure 1: NELEW Scope and Location

Key NELEW activities include the following:

- **telecommunication towers** – 2 mobile telecommunication towers near the M80 Ring Road and the Watsonia Station car park will be moved a short distance from their current location;
- **high-voltage transmission towers** – 2 high-voltage transmission towers in Watsonia Station car park will be moved to the easement on the other side of Greensborough Road;
- **new power substation** – A new power substation will be built near Blamey Road to supply power to the tunnel boring machines during construction;

- **Borlase Reserve utilities** – above and below ground power, water, gas, sewer and telecommunication lines will be moved;
- **Eastern Freeway service relocations** – to allow for upgrades to the Eastern Freeway, above and below ground power lines, communication assets and water mains will be moved;
- **Greensborough Road** – New gas, power and telecommunications lines will replace existing services along the length of Greensborough Road;
- **water pressure reducing station** – A water pressure reducing station (PRS) on the corner of Borlase and Drysdale Streets will be moved to ensure the continued safe supply of water to homes and businesses; and
- **sewer realignments** – underground sewer lines in Yallambie and Bulleen will be moved.

Additional works are also being incorporated within the NELEW including, but not limited to:

- **sports and recreation facilities upgrades** – sport facilities at Ford Park, Ivanhoe and Binnak Park, Watsonia North are being upgraded to include turf with drainage, new pavilions, lighting, car parking, players shelters, spectator facilities, running track, fencing, and demolition of decommissioned buildings and redundant infrastructure.
- **Bulleen Park and Ride** – the Bulleen Park and Ride will be a premium bus station including: a 5,000 m² green roof community park; parking for up to 370 cars underneath; dedicated quick drop off and pick-up bays; walking and cycling paths that connect to Koonung Creek Trail; bike storage cage; and, ramps, toilets and myki services.

The majority of the NELEW is being delivered by CPB, although the new power substation near Blamey Road, Yallambie is being constructed by Jemena Electricity Networks (Vic) Ltd (Jemena).

1.2.3 Planning and Environmental Approvals

NELP prepared an Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the Program under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* (Vic) and was also responsible for seeking key statutory approvals, of which the following apply to the NELEW:

- approval of the Program under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwlth) for potential impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance and on Commonwealth land;
- a planning scheme amendment under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, which introduces the Incorporated Document into the relevant planning schemes to facilitate development of the Program. The delivery of the Program is facilitated by the Incorporated Document under the Banyule, Boroondara, Manningham, Nillumbik, Whitehorse, Whittlesea and Yarra Planning Schemes; and,
- an approved Cultural Heritage Management Plan under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Vic).

The Program contract requires a Managing Contractor to comply with legislation, the conditions of these key approvals and to identify, obtain and comply with all other approvals, licences, permits and consents that may be required.

Condition 4.5 of the Incorporated Document requires the preparation of an EMF for the Program to the satisfaction of the Minister for Planning prior to the commencement of development (excluding preparatory buildings and certain works described within the Incorporated Document).

1.2.4 Environmental Management Framework and Environmental Performance Requirements

The purpose of the EMF, which has been approved by the Minister for Planning (initially approved in January 2020 with a revision approved in July 2021), is to provide a transparent framework to manage the environmental effects of the Program in order to meet statutory requirements, protect environmental values and sustain stakeholder confidence. The EMF forms one component of the overall governance framework for delivery of the Program and, with respect to environmental management for the Program during its development and delivery, describes: roles and responsibilities; statutory approvals and consents; no-go zones; environmental management documentation required; and, compliance evaluation and reporting requirements.

The EMF also contains and details the EPRs in the development and delivery (including operation) of the Program. The EPRs are a suite of 110 performance-based environmental standards and outcomes that apply to the design, construction and operation of the Program.

Not all requirements of the EMF, nor the EPRs are applicable to delivery of the NELEW. EPRs that are not applicable include, but are not limited to, those associated with operation of the Program or, in general terms, associated with design and delivery of the twin tunnels and/or freeway. Taking this into consideration, 96 EPRs in total are applicable to the NELEW and, at the time of the reporting period, one EPR had yet to be triggered by delivery of the NELEW. Consequently, during the reporting period 95 EPRs were either applicable to the NELEW or had been triggered by works completed to date. As a subset of these NELEW relevant EPRs, 49 EPRs were relevant to Jemena's construction activities associated with delivery of the power substation.

The Managing Contractors have prepared environmental management and design documentation as required by the EMF and EPRs, which has been reviewed and verified by the IEA (refer to Section 1.3), and accepted by NELP, prior to commencement of contractor works.

1.3 Role of the IEA

As required by Section 2 of the EMF, an IEA has been engaged for the NELEW to:

- review and verify that the contractors' environmental management and design documentation, Environmental Strategy, Urban Design and Landscape Plans (UDLPs), Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Worksite Environmental Management Plans (WEMPs), Construction Compound Plans (CCPs), and other plans as required by the EPRs, comply with the Program contract including the EMF and EPRs, conditions of Program approvals, and are in general accordance with the approved Urban Design Strategy; and,
- conduct audits of contractor works to assess compliance with the EMF, relevant EPRs, Environmental Strategy, CEMP, WEMPs, CCPs, other plans as required by the EPRs and conditions of Program approvals.

The IEA is also responsible for preparing a six-monthly report (i.e. this report) summarising audit activities during the reporting period, audit findings, the status of corrective actions taken to address previous audit findings and the contractors' compliance with the EMF and EPRs; and providing it to NELP and the contractor. In turn, it is NELP's responsibility to provide six-monthly summary reports to the Minister for Planning.

An overview of the the IEA's role within the framework of environmental documentation developed and implemented to control and manage the Program is presented in Figure 2.

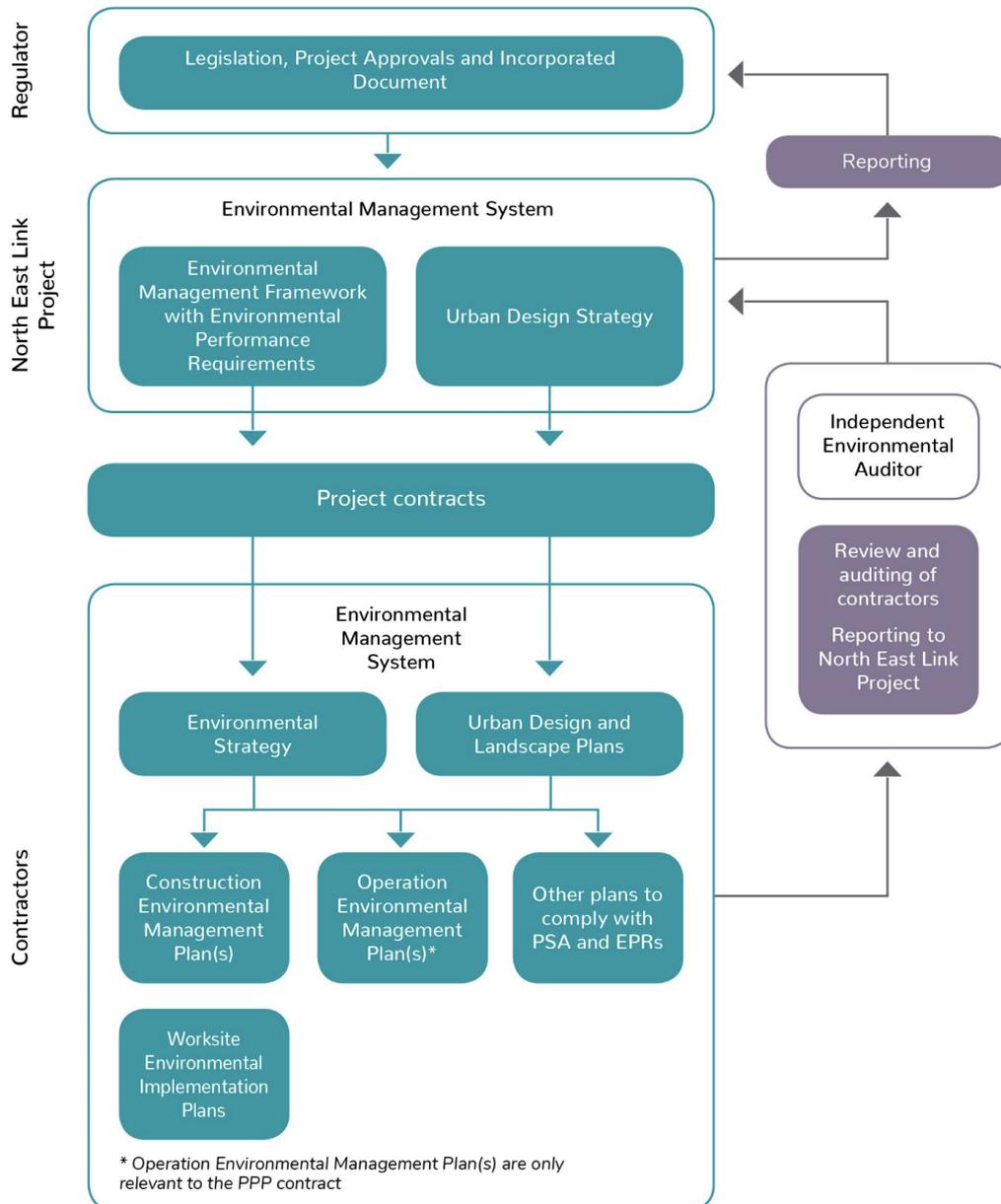


Figure 2: Key environmental management documentation (extract from *Environmental Management Framework*, July 2021)

1.4 Report Structure

The structure of this report has been developed in accordance with the EMF and summarises:

- Section 2 Audit Activities – provides a summary of the audit activities conducted during the reporting period;
- Section 3 Audit Findings – summarises the compliance audit findings during the reporting period in accordance with the EPR topics;

- Section 4 Corrective Actions – summarises the status of actions taken by the contractor to address previous audit findings; and,
- Section 5 Overall Compliance – provides the IEA's conclusions with respect to the contractor's overall compliance with the EMF and EPRs.

2. Audit Activities



The audit activities conducted during the reporting period, the IEA Compliance Audit Program methodology, and details of the compliance audits conducted across the reporting period, are summarised below:

2.1 IEA Compliance Audit Program

To meet the auditing requirements of the EMF, the IEA has developed and implemented a Program involving the conduct of compliance audits on a quarterly basis across Program activities associated with the NELEW. This Compliance Audit Program has been developed, and the audits conducted, in accordance with AS/NZS ISO 19011:2019 *Guidelines for auditing management systems*, which was the standard in place at the time of the NELEW.

The following sub-sections describe the methodology applied to the Compliance Audit Program and its component compliance audits:

2.1.1 Objective

The objective of the Compliance Audit Program was to assess Program activities, associated with the NELEW, for compliance with the EMF, relevant EPRs, Environmental Strategy, CEMP, WEMPs, CCPs, other plans as required by the EPRs and conditions of Program approvals (referred to as the Program contract requirements).

2.1.2 Scope

Compliance audits were conducted on a quarterly basis (i.e. every 3 months) at the locations of operations and activities under the control of CPB. An additional compliance audit was also conducted at the power substation being delivered by Jemena.

To determine the scope and criteria of each compliance audit (i.e. Program contract requirements to be assessed against and locations to be subject to site visits), the IEA applied a risk-based approach, which aligns with the requirements of AS/NZS ISO 19011:2019 and which is informed by (but not limited to):

- discussions with NELP and the Managing Contractor with respect to potential risks associated with the Program at the time the audit was due to be conducted;
- current activities and operations;
- those locations where either construction activities were considered to represent a higher risk of impact to the environment or where construction activities were being undertaken in proximity to sensitive environmental areas (e.g. residential areas, watercourses, areas of Aboriginal or historical heritage, sensitive ecological areas etc.);
- ensuring a representative sample of the locations in which NELEW construction activities were being undertaken at the time of the audit were included;
- selection of relevant audit criteria, taking a risk-based approach to their selection, ensuring that each EPR is audited at least once every 12 month and higher risk EPRs are audited more frequently; and,

- findings arising from previous compliance audits, including confirmation and completion of the close out of corrective actions to address findings identified during previous audits.

The scope of each compliance audit was determined and agreed, considering the above, during quarterly progress meetings involving NELP, the Managing Contractor and the IEA. These meetings were typically convened approximately 2 months following the previous audit and one month before the next compliance audit.

Each compliance audit of CPB's activities did not involve an exhaustive assessment against all requirements as a risk-based approach was adopted in accordance with the risk management guidance, although the audit program has been developed to ensure that potentially higher risk activities are audited more frequently and that compliance with all relevant EPRs (as applicable to the NELEW) is audited at least once every 12 months, as required by the EMF (refer to Appendix B for details of the relevant EPRs audited within the current 12 months). A smaller number of EPRs are relevant to construction of the power substation, and consequently the audit of Jemena's activities considered compliance with all relevant EPRs.

The scope of each compliance audit was developed to the satisfaction of NELP.

2.1.3 Audit duration and team

Each compliance audit of CPB's activities comprised 2 days on-site and involved an audit team consisting of 3 full-time equivalents (FTE). The compliance audit of Jemena's activities comprised 1.5 days on-site and involved an audit team consisting of 2 FTEs.

Each audit team comprised a Lead Auditor and Auditor. Specialist Auditors (i.e. specialists in arboriculture, noise and vibration, surface water, sustainability and traffic and transport) were also included as appropriate for the compliance audits of CPBs activities. In accordance with AS/NZS ISO 19011:2019, the team for each compliance audit was selected based on the prerequisite competencies to achieve the audit objectives, accounting for the audit scope and documentation to be reviewed.

2.1.4 Approach

The approach undertaken for each compliance audit comprised:

- **audit plan** – development of a Compliance Audit Plan to guide the audit. As per AS/NZS ISO 19011:2019, the audit plan defines and communicates the objectives, scope and criteria for each audit. Each audit plan was developed to the satisfaction of NELP and provided to the Managing Contractor to enable logistics for the audit to be arranged;
- **inception meeting** – at the start of each compliance audit, a formal inception meeting was undertaken with the contractor personnel to outline the objectives, purpose, scope and logistics of the audit. This meeting was typically attended by a wider NELP and Managing Contractor audience and included an introduction to those involved in the audit, including both the IEA audit team and the Managing Contractors' personnel (i.e. auditees);
- **document review** - a key part of each compliance audit involved review of appropriate documentation to determine if those Program activities subject to the assessment met the Program contract requirements;
- **personnel interviews** - interviews with appropriate personnel was also an integral component of each compliance audit. Informal interviews were undertaken throughout each compliance audit (e.g. concurrently with document review and site walkovers) to collect information and anecdotal evidence with respect to the subject area being assessed;
- **site visits/walkovers** – information and evidence was also gathered during comprehensive visits to Program sites, which involved observations made during site walkovers; and,

- **exit briefing** – at the completion of each compliance audit, the audit team provided feedback to NELP and the Managing Contractor at a closing meeting, summarising the outcomes of the audit. To ensure that all issues of potential concern had been identified and raised appropriately with contractor management, a summary of major findings was presented at this time, noting that audit opinions may be subject to change during reporting and further to the exit briefing. This ensured that personnel were aware of auditors’ conclusions in advance of report preparation and provided an open forum for discussion of these issues.

2.1.5 Audit finding categories and reporting

The main output from each compliance audit comprised a detailed report, including information on:

- the scope and approach of the audit, including a list of the documents reviewed by the IEA during the audit;
- activities and operations subject to the audit; and,
- audit findings including compliance status against the audit criteria. In accordance with AS/NZS ISO 19011:2019, a qualitative scale was applied to categorise audit findings in accordance with Table 1.

Table 1: Audit Finding Categories

Categories	Definition
Compliant	The evidence demonstrated that the criteria under consideration had been met.
Opportunity for Improvement (OFI)	The evidence demonstrated that the criteria under consideration had been met, but in the future, there was an opportunity to provide greater clarity or provide greater demonstration that the criteria has been met.
Minor Non-compliance (Minor NC)	The evidence demonstrated that the criteria had been partially met, and at present did not fully meet the relevant Program Contract requirement.
Major Non-compliance (Major NC)	The evidence either demonstrated that the criteria had not been met, or there was an absence of evidence demonstrating that the criteria had been met. As such the corresponding aspect of the Program Contract requirement is not being met.

Qualitative environmental risk ratings for each non-compliance finding were also determined by the IEA using the risk assessment methodology detailed within Chapter 4 – *EES Assessment Framework*, Section 4.4.2 *Risk Assessment* of the NEL Environmental Effects Statement (EES), to ensure a consistent approach across the Program (i.e. risk ratings for OFIs were not determined).

The risk assessment for each finding considered the likelihood (i.e. the chance of an event happening and the maximum credible consequence occurring from that event) and consequence (i.e. the maximum credible outcome of an event affecting an asset, value, or use) of an event occurring. Risk ratings for non-compliances can be found at the end of each subject area in Section 3.2 of this report.

Corrective actions were determined, implemented and tracked to closure by the Managing Contractor, with the IEA assessing the closure of actions:

- either upon the next compliance audit; or,

- through desk-based review of evidence provided by the Managing Contractor (including document review and personnel interviews via conferencing facilities) where a reporting period closed prior to the next compliance audit (i.e. desk-based review of evidence in January, at the end of a reporting period, where the next compliance audit was scheduled for mid-February).

2.2 Audit activities – August 2021 to January 2022

During the reporting period, the IEA conducted 2 quarterly compliance audits of CPB’s Program (i.e. construction) activities and one compliance audit of Jemena’s Program activities assessing compliance with the EMF, EPRs, Environmental Strategy, CEMP, WEMPs, CCPs, and approval conditions. The compliance audits were conducted on the following dates:

- 1 to 3 September 2021 (delayed from original 18 to 20 August 2021 date due to COVID-19 restrictions) (CPB activities);
- 17 to 19 November 2021 (CPB activities); and,
- 1 and 2 December 2021 (Jemena activities).

In January (and early February) 2022, the IEA reviewed evidence associated with the corrective actions undertaken by CPB and Jemena to address the findings arising from the previous IEA compliance audits in November 2021 and December 2021, respectively (Note: evidence associated with the corrective actions undertaken by CPB to address a partially open finding arising from the May 2021 compliance audit was reviewed as part of the September 2021 compliance audit).

In addition, during the reporting period the IEA also reviewed Jemena’s Environmental Management System (EMS) to verify that it met the requirements of the EMF and EPR EMF1 (Deliver program in general accordance with an Environmental Management System).

The scope of each compliance audit, with respect to the locations subject to site visits and the criteria assessed during each audit are detailed in Sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 respectively:

2.2.1 Site Visits

The locations subject to site visits as part of the compliance audits conducted in the reporting period are detailed in Table 2.

Table 2: Compliance audit site visits during reporting period

Date of audit	Site visits
1 to 3 September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borlase Precinct in Macleod/Yallambie/Rosanna/Viewbank; • locations west of Bulleen Road associated with the Yarra East Main Sewer (YEMS) scope of work; and, • residential property demolition works along Borlase Street and Coleen Street, Yallambie.
17 to 19 November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulleen Park and Ride facility; • CitiPower utility relocations at Page Avenue, Kew East; and, • former service station demolition works at 230 Greensborough Road, Yallambie.
1 and 2 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power substation works near Blamey Road in Yallambie.

2.2.2 Audit Criteria

The audit criteria used as part of the compliance audits conducted in the reporting period included EMF Sections 2 to 7 and 67 EPRs, as relevant to the NELEW (refer to Table 3). CPB's activities were audited against 54 of the relevant EPRs, and Jemena's against all 49 of the EPRs relevant to delivery of the power substation. A number of EPRs audited against during the CPB and Jemena compliance audits were duplicated by both sets of audits, hence the Program total of 67 of the 95 EPRs applicable to NELEW were audited against during the reporting period.

Table 3: Criteria assessed during reporting period (refer to Appendix B for EPR titles/subjects)

Date of audit	EMF/EPRs category	Criteria
1 to 3 September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corrective actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review corrective actions implemented to address findings arising from previous audits
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMF and EMF EPRs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMF Sections 2 to 7 EPRs EMF2 to EMF4 CEMP WEMPs – across all locations visited CCPs – across all construction compounds visited Complaints and incidents
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR AH1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs AQ1 and AQ6 Dust and Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arboriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs AR1, AR2 and AR3 Tree Removal Plan and Tree Protection Plan - across all locations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs B5 to B8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contamination and Soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs CL1 and CL5 Spoil Management Plan, in particular soil testing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flora and Fauna 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR FF1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundwater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR GW4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise and vibration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs NV3 – NV5, NV8 – NV12, NV14 and NV15 Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social and Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR SC3 Communications and Community Engagement Plan, in particular complaints management process
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface Water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs SW5 and SW7

Date of audit	EMF/EPRs category	Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability and Climate Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs SCC1, SCC2, SCC4 and SCC5 Sustainability Management Plan
17 to 19 November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corrective actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review corrective actions implemented to address findings arising from previous audits
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMF and EMF EPRs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMF Sections 2 to 7 EPRs EMF1 – 4 Environmental Strategy CEMP WEMPs – across all locations visited CCPs – across all construction compounds visited Complaints and incidents
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR AH1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs AQ1 and AQ6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arboriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs AR1 and AR2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contamination and Soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs CL1 and CL5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flora and Fauna 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR FF2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise and Vibration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs NV3, NV4 and NV13 Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan and in particular Unavoidable Works Register
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social and Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR SC3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface Water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs SW1 – SW15 Surface Water Management Plan Flood Emergency Management Plan
1 and 2 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic and Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs T1 – T5 Transport Management Plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMF and EMF EPRs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMF Sections 2 to 7 EPRs EMF1 – 4 Combined Environmental Strategy (ES) and CEMP WEMP CCPs Complaints and incidents Permits and approvals
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR AH1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs AQ1 and AQ6 Air Quality Management Sub-plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arboriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPR AR2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs B5 to B8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contamination and Soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs CL1 and CL5 Spoil Management Sub-plan

Date of audit	EMF/EPRs category	Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flora and Fauna 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs FF1 and FF3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundwater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs GW1, GW2 and GW4 Groundwater Management Sub-plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Use Planning Landscape and visual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs LP1 to LP3 EPRs LV1 to LV4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise and vibration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs NV3, NV4, NV5, NV8 and NV9 Construction Noise and Vibration Management Sub-plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs SC1, SC3 and SC4 Construction Noise and Vibration Management Sub-plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs SW1, SW3, SW4, SW5, SW6, SW7 and SW13 Surface Water Management Sub-plan Flood Emergency Management Sub-plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability and climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs SCC1, SCC2, SCC4 and SCC5 Sustainability Management Sub-plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic and Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPRs T2 to T5 Traffic and Transport Management Sub-plan

3. Audit Findings



Overall, 30 findings were identified by the 3 compliance audits conducted during the reporting period, comprising:

- one Major NC;
- 11 Minor NCs; and,
- 18 OFIs.

18 of these findings were identified during the 2 quarterly compliance audits conducted on CPB's activities during the reporting period (referred to in the following sub-sections as CPB compliance audit(s)). 11 findings were identified during the September 2021 CPB compliance audit and 7 during the November 2021 audit, comprising:

- no Major NCs;
- 3 Minor NCs were identified during the September 2021 compliance audit with none identified during the November 2021 audit. All 3 Minor NCs were assessed as Low risk; and,
- 15 OFIs; 8 identified during the September 2021 audit and 7 during the November 2021 audit.

12 findings were identified by the compliance audit conducted on Jemena's power substation construction activities in December 2021 (referred to in the following sub-sections as the Jemena compliance audit). These comprised:

- one Major NC, which was assessed as Medium risk;
- 8 Minor NCs, 5 of which were assessed as Low risk and 3 as Very Low risk; and,
- 3 OFIs.

No repeat findings were identified. Repeat findings comprise those which had been identified in previous audits but had not been fully addressed when assessed in the subsequent audit and were therefore included as a finding within the subsequent audit.

The key findings (Major NC and Minor NCs) arising from the IEA's compliance audits conducted across the reporting period are summarised in Section 3 of this report (note: only number of OFIs rather than any details are summarised). A summary of the status of corrective actions in relation to non-compliances during this reporting period can be found in Section 4, Table 4. Section 5 also provides further detail on overall compliance.

3.1 Environmental Management Framework

The requirements of the EMF have been implemented by the Managing Contractors (i.e. both CPB and Jemena) through the preparation and implementation of Program specific environmental management plans (specified within the EMF and its associated EPRs), as outlined in Figure 2. These plans have been reviewed and verified by the IEA and accepted by the NELP and, in some cases, approved by the Minister for Planning (i.e. CCPs).

IEA auditing of the EMF requirements during the reporting period has focussed on assessment of compliance with the Managing Contractors Program specific environmental management plans, including against the Environmental Strategy, CEMP, WEMPs, CCPs and other plans required by the EPRs.

Non-compliances with the EMF were not identified during the reporting period other than those identified against the specific EPR topics in Section 3.2, including against the environmental management EPRs.

During the reporting period, the IEA verified that the EMS under which Jemena's activities are being conducted was compliant with the EMF requirements, given that it is certified to ISO 14001:2015 *Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use* (i.e. certified by a JASANZ-accredited third party) and that the scope of the EMS was considered appropriate to NELEW activities for the Program by the IEA.

3.2 Environmental Performance Requirements

3.2.1 Environmental Management (EMF)

Program activities were audited against all Environmental Management EPRs (i.e. EPRs EMF1 to EMF4) during the reporting period.

Two (2) findings associated with the implementation of requirements within CPB's CEMP, and by extension associated with EPR EMF2, were identified and comprised: one Minor NC; and, one OFI. The Minor NC, which was assessed as Low risk, comprised details of 3 Trade Waste Agreements (TWAs) missing from CPB's Environmental Obligations Register. However, the TWAs were held by CPB and maintained on-site and the majority of the permits and approvals applicable to the Program and held by CPB were included in the register.

Five (5) findings relating to EPR EMF2 were identified during the audit of the power substation being delivered by Jemena. One of these findings was categorised as a Major NC, 2 were categorised as Minor NCs and 2 as OFIs.

The Major NC was associated with site activities, including stockpiling of contaminated spoil and storage of construction waste and materials, occurring outside of the construction site boundary indicated in the WEMP. Evidence sighted by the IEA of the spoil stockpiling appeared to show that the stockpiling had been conducted in accordance with the Spoil Management Sub-plan (the stockpile had been removed from site prior to the compliance audit). However, there was no evidence to show that a risk assessment had been undertaken of the potential environmental impacts associated with these activities at the new locations to confirm the appropriate controls to manage any risks associated with these activities. The risk associated with this finding was assessed as Medium.

The 2 Minor NC findings were associated with:

- Jemena's internal audit process, focusing on subcontractors working on the Program for longer periods of time, did not reflect Jemena's combined Environmental Strategy (ES)/CEMP, which required the performance of each contractor to be monitored. The risk associated with this finding was assessed as Low.
- regular environmental inspections being conducted but not weekly as required by the ES/CEMP. The risk associated with this finding was assessed as Very Low.

3.2.2 Aboriginal Heritage (AH)

Program activities were audited against the Aboriginal Heritage EPR (EPR AH1) during the reporting period with one OFI identified associated with CPB's NELEW activities.

3.2.3 Air Quality (AQ)

Program activities were audited against the 2 Air Quality EPRs applicable to the NELEW (i.e. EPR AQ1 and AQ6) during the reporting period and were considered by the IEA to be compliant (i.e. no non-compliances or OFIs were identified).

3.2.4 Arboriculture (AR)

Program activities were audited against all Arboriculture EPRs (i.e. EPRs AR1 to AR3) during the reporting period.

Two findings relating to Arboriculture EPRs were identified during the CPB compliance audits. One finding, associated with EPR AR2 was categorised as a Minor NC, and the other, associated with EPR AR3 was categorised as an OFI. The Minor NC was associated with 3 instances where tree protection zone (TPZ) fencing was not consistent with WEMP requirements. However, the majority of TPZs were observed to be compliant with the requirements of the Tree Protection Plan and WEMPs, and the risk associated with this finding was assessed as Low.

One finding relating to Arboriculture EPR AR2 was identified during the Jemena compliance audit and was categorised as a Minor NC. Whilst TPZ fencing had been provided around a number of trees in proximity to the works, appropriate tree protection measures (i.e. fencing and signage) had not been installed to delineate TPZs in several locations across the site. The risk associated with this finding was assessed as Low.

3.2.5 Business (B)

Program activities were audited against 4 of the Business EPRs (i.e. EPRs B5 to B8) during the reporting period and were considered by the IEA to be compliant (i.e. no non-compliances or OFIs were identified).

3.2.6 Contamination and Soil (CL)

Program activities were audited against 2 of the Contamination and Soil EPRs applicable to the NELEW (i.e. EPR CL1 and CL5) during the reporting period and were considered by the IEA to be compliant (i.e. no non-compliances or OFIs were identified).

3.2.7 Flora and Fauna (FF)

Program activities were audited against 3 Flora and Fauna EPRs (i.e. EPRs FF1, FF2 and FF3) during the reporting period with one OFI identified during the CPB compliance audits.

3.2.8 Ground Movement (GM)

Program activities were not audited against the Ground Movement EPRs (i.e. EPRs GM1 to GM4) during the reporting period.

3.2.9 Groundwater (GW)

Program activities were audited against 3 of the Groundwater EPRs applicable to the NELEW (i.e. EPRs GW1, GW2 and GW4) during the reporting period and were considered by the IEA to be compliant (i.e. no non-compliances or OFIs were identified).

3.2.10 Historical Heritage (HH)

Program activities were not audited against the Historical Heritage EPRs (i.e. EPRs HH1 to HH5) during the reporting period.

3.2.11 Land Use Planning (LP)

Jemena's Program activities were audited against the 3 Land Use Planning EPRs applicable to the power substation (i.e. EPRs LP1 to LP3) during the reporting period and were considered by the IEA to be compliant (i.e. no non-compliances or OFIs were identified).

CPB's Program activities were not audited against the Land Use Planning EPRs during the reporting period.

3.2.12 Landscape and Visual (LV)

Jemena's Program activities were audited against all Landscape and Visual EPRs (i.e. EPRs LV1 to LV4) during the reporting period and were considered by the IEA to be compliant (i.e. no non-compliances or OFIs were identified).

CPB's Program activities were not audited against the Landscape and Visual EPRs during the reporting period.

3.2.13 Noise and Vibration (NV)

Program activities were audited against the 11 Noise and Vibration EPRs relevant to the NELEW (i.e. EPRs NV3 to NV5 and NV8 to 15) during the reporting period.

Three findings relating to Noise and Vibration EPRs were identified during the CPB compliance audits, one finding of which was categorised as a Minor NC, and the other two as OFIs.

The Minor NC was associated with vibration monitoring, which had not been undertaken as required by the WEMP. Whilst it was understood from CPB that a different construction methodology was used (i.e., bored piling rather than driven piling), which was likely to result in less vibration, the WEMP did not account for this. The risk associated with this finding was assessed as Low.

3.2.14 Social and Community (SC)

Program activities were audited against 3 Social and Community EPRs (i.e. EPRs SC1, SC3 and SC4) during the reporting period and were considered by the IEA to be compliant (i.e. no non-compliances or OFIs were identified).

3.2.15 Surface Water (SW)

Program activities were audited against all 15 Surface Water EPRs (i.e. EPRs SW1 to SW15) during the reporting period although it was determined that EPR SW2 was not relevant to NELEW as it relates to freeway pavements.

Four findings relating to Surface Water EPRs were identified during the CPB compliance audits and were all categorised as OFIs.

Two findings relating to Surface Water were identified during the Jemena compliance audit. One of these findings was categorised as a Minor NC, and the other as an OFI. The Minor NC was associated with the lack of implementation of a water quality monitoring program in accordance with the Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP), although Banyule Creek in the vicinity of the power substation site is understood to be an ephemeral watercourse with limited water flow. The risk associated with this finding was assessed as Very Low.

3.2.16 Sustainability and Climate Change (SCC)

Program activities were audited against all 4 Sustainability and Climate Change EPRs relevant to the NELEW (i.e. EPRs SCC1, SCC2, SCC4 and SCC5) during the reporting period.

Four OFIs were identified during the September 2021 CPB compliance audit. No findings were identified during the Jemena compliance audit.

3.2.17 Traffic and Transport (TT)

Program activities were audited against all Traffic and Transport EPRs (i.e. EPRs T1 to T5) during the reporting period.

One OFI was identified during the November 2021 CPB compliance audit.

Four findings relating to the Traffic and Transport EPRs were identified during the Jemena compliance audit, all of which were categorised as Minor NCs. The risks associated with the following 3 Minor NCs were assessed as Low:

- a turning circle at the entrance to Simpson Barracks was occasionally utilised by trucks with large loads to allow easier entry into the Program site. This transport route and any controls required had not been considered and/or assessed in the Traffic and Transport Management Sub-plan (TTMP);
- whilst the TTMP included a Traffic Guidance Scheme (TGS) for the mobilisation/site establishment stage of the works, TGS's had yet to be prepared for the construction stage (and de-mobilisation of the site) although construction commenced in June 2021; and,
- signage had not been installed on the roads adjacent to the site as required by the TGS prepared for the mobilisation and site establishment stage of the works.

The risk associated with the fourth Minor NC finding was assessed as Very Low, with the finding associated with the combined lack of a formal pavement condition survey, which should be undertaken during construction, and monthly pavement condition assessments.

4. Corrective Actions

Corrective actions have been undertaken by both CPB and Jemena to close all findings identified by the compliance audits conducted during the reporting period. The IEA considered all findings to have been actioned and closed upon review of evidence provided by:

- CPB in September 2021 (i.e. to address a partial repeat Minor NC finding identified in the May 2021 audit), November 2021 (i.e. to address findings identified in the September 2021 audit) and January/February 2022 (i.e. to address findings identified in the November 2021 audit); and,
- Jemena in January/February 2022 (i.e. to address findings identified in the December 2021 audit, including the single Major NC identified during the reporting period).

The status of corrective actions undertaken by CPB to address the findings arising from the IEA compliance audits is summarised in Table 4:

Table 4: Status of corrective actions

Previous audit	Corrective actions assessed	Status of corrective actions
18 to 21 May 2021	1 to 3 September 2021	A partial repeat Minor NC finding remained open from the May 2021 CPB compliance audit and its closure was further assessed during the September 2021 CPB compliance audit. This finding was associated with chain-mesh fencing not extending along the whole eastern side of the Lenola Street Construction Compound. However, this area was used only for parking of light vehicles and flagging was provided to denote and maintain the Construction Compound perimeter, consequently the risk of environmental impact was considered likely, by the IEA, to be Low. Whilst the fencing had not been installed at the time of the September 2021 CPB compliance audit, the Construction Compound was being demobilised and consequently the IEA considered this finding as no longer applicable.
1 to 3 September 2021	17 to 19 November 2021	Upon review of evidence provided by CPB in November 2021, the IEA considered that all 11 findings identified during the September 2021 compliance audit had been closed.
17 to 19 November 2021	18 and 27 January and 1 and 3 February 2022	Upon review of evidence provided by CPB in January and February 2022, the IEA considered that all 7 OFI findings identified during the November 2021 compliance audit had been closed.
1 and 2 December 2021	19 January and 1 and 4 February 2022	Upon review of evidence provided by Jemena in January and February 2022, the IEA considered that all 12 findings identified during the December 2021 compliance audit, including the Major NC, had been closed.

5. Overall Compliance

Over the reporting period compliance with the EMF and 67 EPRs (out of the 95 EPRs applicable to the NELEW and that have been triggered by works completed to date) has been assessed by the IEA through conducting 3 compliance audits (covering CPB’s construction activities in September 2021 and November 2021 and Jemena’s construction activities in December 2021) and review of evidence provided by CPB and Jemena (as relevant) to close-out findings arising from these audits.

Both the Managing Contractor for the majority of the NELEW, CPB, and the Managing Contractor for the power substation component of the NELEW, Jemena, have addressed the requirements of the EMF through the preparation and implementation of Program-specific environmental management plans (specified within the EMF and its associated EPRs).

Both CPB’s and Jemena’s Program activities are considered to comply with the EMF. Overall, CPB’s Program activities were found to be largely compliant with the 54 EPRs against which CPB’s activities were audited during this reporting period, and Jemena’s Program activities were found to be largely compliant with the 49 EPRs against which Jemena’s activities were audited during this reporting period.

However, the audit activities conducted during the reporting period did identify 30 findings against the EPRs, representing one Major NC, identified during the Jemena power substation compliance audit, and 11 Minor NCs in accordance with the qualitative audit finding categories as detailed in Table 5.

Table 5: Summary of Findings in Reporting Period

Audit	OFI	Minor NC	Major NC
NELEW			
• September 2021	8	3	0
• November 2021	7	0	0
Power substation			
• December 2021	3	8	1

No repeat findings were identified.

Rather than being a total lack of implementation of the EPRs, the Major NC and Minor NCs tended to be associated with instances of non-compliance associated with fulfilling the requirements of Program specific environmental management plans and therefore findings were assigned to the EPRs requiring the preparation and implementation of these plans.

Jemena has addressed and closed-out, to the satisfaction of the IEA, the Major NC. Both CPB and Jemena have addressed and closed-out, to the satisfaction of the IEA, all Minor NCs and all OFIs identified during the reporting period.

Given, both CPB’s and Jemena’s responsiveness in closing out findings identified during the reporting period, that no repeat findings were identified, and taking the risk ratings and context of the findings into consideration, the IEA does not consider the audit findings to represent systemic issues or present significant or ongoing material risks to the environment.

Appendix A: Audit Limitations

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The contents of this document and any related findings reflect industry practice based on information available to Nation Partners at the time of creation and the scope of services, methodologies, and resources to which this document relates. Nation Partners has also relied upon information provided by the recipient and, except as expressly provided, has not carried out any separate verification of such information provided.

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Appendix B: EPRs Audited

EPR Code	Environmental Performance Requirement	Relevant to NELEW	Relevant to power substation	Reporting period audited (in Year 2 of audit program)
1. Environmental Management (EMF)				
EMF1	Deliver program in general accordance with an Environmental Management System			Aug 21 – Jan 22
EMF2	Deliver program in accordance with an Environmental Strategy and Management Plans			Aug 21 – Jan 22
EMF3	Audit and report on environmental compliance			Aug 21 – Jan 22
EMF4	Complaints Management System			Aug 21 – Jan 22
2. Aboriginal Heritage (AH)				
AH1	Comply with the Cultural Heritage Management Plan			Aug 21 – Jan 22
3. Air Quality (AQ)				
AQ1	Implement a Dust and Air Quality Management and Monitoring Plan to minimise air quality impacts during construction			Aug 21 – Jan 22
AQ2	Design tunnel ventilation system to meet EPA requirements for air quality	N/A	N/A	
AQ3	In-tunnel air quality performance standards	N/A	N/A	
AQ4	Monitor ambient air quality	N/A	N/A	
AQ5	Monitor compliance of in-tunnel air quality and ventilation structure emissions	N/A	N/A	
AQ6	Construction Haulage Vehicle Fleet			Aug 21 – Jan 22
4. Arboriculture (AR)				
AR1	Develop and implement a Tree Removal Plan		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
AR2	Implement a Tree Protection Plan(s) to protect trees to be retained			Aug 21 – Jan 22
AR3	Implement a Tree Canopy Replacement Plan		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
5. Business (B)				
B1	Business disruption mitigation plan		N/A	
B2	Business Relocation Strategy		N/A	
B3	Employee Assistance Strategy		N/A	
B4	Minimise disruption to businesses from land acquisition and temporary occupation		N/A	
B5	Minimise and remedy damage or impacts on third party property and infrastructure			Aug 21 – Jan 22
B6	Minimise access and amenity impacts on businesses			Aug 21 – Jan 22
B7	Protect utility assets			Aug 21 – Jan 22
B8	Business liaison groups			Aug 21 – Jan 22
6. Contamination and soil (CL)				

EPR Code	Environmental Performance Requirement	Relevant to NELEW	Relevant to power substation	Reporting period audited (in Year 2 of audit program)
CL1	Implement a Spoil Management Plan			Aug 21 – Jan 22
CL2	Minimise impacts from disturbance of acid sulfate soil		N/A	
CL3	Minimise odour impacts during spoil management		N/A	
CL4	Minimise risks from vapour and ground gas intrusion		N/A	
CL5	Manage chemicals, fuels and hazardous materials			Aug 21 – Jan 22
CL6	Minimise contamination risks during operation	N/A	N/A	
7. Flora and Fauna (FF)				
FF1	Avoid and minimise impacts on fauna and flora			Aug 21 – Jan 22
FF2	Minimise and offset native vegetation removal		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
FF3	Avoid introduction or spread of weeds and pathogens			Aug 21 – Jan 22
FF4	Protect aquatic habitat		N/A	
FF5	Obtain Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 permits		N/A	
FF6	Implement a Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Monitoring and Mitigation Plan		N/A	
FF7	Implement a salvage and translocation plan for Matted Flax-lily		N/A	
FF8	Minimise intense noise and vibration impacts on Australian Grayling		N/A	
FF9	Protect fauna habitat values in existing waterbodies that are modified for drainage purposes		N/A	
FF10	Studley Park Gum Mitigation		N/A	
8. Ground Movement (GM)				
GM1	Design and construction to be informed by a geotechnical model and assessment		N/A	
GM2	Implement a Ground Movement Plan to manage ground movement impacts		N/A	
GM3	Carry out Condition surveys for potentially affected property and infrastructure		N/A	
GM4	Rectify damage to properties and assets impacted by ground movement or settlement	N/A	N/A	
9. Groundwater (GW)				
GW1	Design and construction to be informed by a groundwater model			Aug 21 – Jan 22
GW2	Monitor groundwater			Aug 21 – Jan 22
GW3	Minimise changes to groundwater levels through tunnel and trench drainage design and construction methods		N/A	
GW4	Implement a Groundwater Management Plan to Protect groundwater quality and manage groundwater interception			Aug 21 – Jan 22
GW5	Manage groundwater during operation	N/A	N/A	

EPR Code	Environmental Performance Requirement	Relevant to NELEW	Relevant to power substation	Reporting period audited (in Year 2 of audit program)
10. Historical Heritage (HH)				
HH1	Design and construct to minimise impacts on heritage		N/A	
HH2	Implement an Archaeological Management Plan to avoid and minimise impacts on historic archaeological sites and values		N/A	
HH3	Monitor condition of heritage sites		N/A	
HH4	Undertake archival photographic recording		N/A	
HH5	Minimise impacts on heritage trees		N/A	
11. Land Use Planning (LP)				
LP1	Minimise land use impacts			Aug 21 – Jan 22
LP2	Minimise impacts from location of new services and utilities			Aug 21 – Jan 22
LP3	Minimise inconsistency with strategic land use plans			Aug 21 – Jan 22
LP4	Minimise overshadowing from noise walls and elevated structures and overlooking from elevated structures		N/A	
LP5	Open Space Replacement	N/A	N/A	
12. Landscape and Visual (LV)				
LV1	Design to be in accordance with the Urban Design Strategy			Aug 21 – Jan 22
LV2	Minimise landscape impacts during construction			Aug 21 – Jan 22
LV3	Minimise construction lighting impacts			Aug 21 – Jan 22
LV4	Minimise operation lighting impacts			Aug 21 – Jan 22
13. Noise and Vibration (NV)				
NV1	Achieve traffic noise objectives	*see note	N/A	*see note
NV2	Monitor traffic noise	N/A	N/A	
NV3	Minimise construction noise impacts to sensitive receptors			Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV4	Implement a Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan (CNVMP) to manage noise and vibration impacts			Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV5	Establish vibration guidelines to protect utility assets			Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV6	Design permanent tunnel ventilation system and relevant fixed infrastructure to meet EPA requirements for noise	N/A	N/A	
NV7	Monitor noise from tunnel ventilation system and relevant fixed infrastructure	N/A	N/A	
NV8	Minimise construction vibration impacts on amenity			Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV9	Minimise construction vibration impacts on structures			Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV10	Minimise impacts from ground-borne (internal) noise		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV11	Minimise amenity impacts from blast vibration		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV12	Minimise amenity impacts from blast overpressure		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV13	Noise mitigation – noise walls		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV14	Reduce impacts from engine brake noise		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22

EPR Code	Environmental Performance Requirement	Relevant to NELEW	Relevant to power substation	Reporting period audited (in Year 2 of audit program)
NV15	Noise at public open space and school recreation grounds		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
NV16	Monitoring of Ongoing performance of operational traffic noise mitigation measures	N/A	N/A	
14. Social and Community (SC)				
SC1	Reduce community disruption and adverse amenity impacts			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SC2	Manage impacts of land acquisition and occupation		N/A	
SC3	Implement a Communications and Community Engagement Plan			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SC4	Participate in the Community Liaison Group			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SC5	Minimise impacts of displacement of formal active recreation facilities		N/A	
SC6	Minimise impacts on formal active recreation and other facilities		N/A	
SC7	Implement a Community Involvement and Participation Plan (CIPP)		N/A	
SC8	Implement a voluntary purchase scheme for residential properties		N/A	
15. Surface Water (SW)				
SW 1	Discharges and runoff to meet State Environment Protection Policy (Waters)			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 2	Design and implement spill containment	N/A ^	N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 3	Wastewater discharges to be minimised and approved			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 4	Monitor water quality			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 5	Implement a Surface Water Management Plan during construction			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 6	Minimise risk from changes to flood levels, flows and velocities			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 7	Develop flood emergency management plans			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 8	Minimise impacts from waterway modifications			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 9	Maintain bank stability		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 10	Provide for access to Melbourne Water and other drainage assets		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 11	Adopt Water Sensitive Urban and Road Design		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 12	Minimise impacts on irrigation of sporting fields		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 13	Consider climate change effects			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 14	Meet existing water quality treatment performance		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
SW 15	Water Sensitive Urban Design asset transfer strategy		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
16. Sustainability and Climate Change (SCC)				
SCC1	Implement a Sustainability Management Plan			Aug 21 – Jan 22

EPR Code	Environmental Performance Requirement	Relevant to NELEW	Relevant to power substation	Reporting period audited (in Year 2 of audit program)
SCC2	Minimise greenhouse gas emissions			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SCC3	Apply best practice measures for energy usage for tunnel ventilation and lighting systems	N/A	N/A	
SCC4	Minimise and appropriately manage waste			Aug 21 – Jan 22
SCC5	Minimise potable water consumption			Aug 21 – Jan 22
17. Traffic and Transport (TT)				
T1	Optimise design performance		N/A	Aug 21 – Jan 22
T2	Transport Management Plan(s) (TMP)			Aug 21 – Jan 22
T3	Transport Management Liaison Group			Aug 21 – Jan 22
T4	Road safety design			Aug 21 – Jan 22
T5	Traffic monitoring			Aug 21 – Jan 22
<p>* Note: these EPRs are relevant to NELEW but have not yet been triggered by the works completed to date ^ It was determined during the November 2021 CPB compliance audit that SW2 was not relevant to NELEW as it relates to freeway pavements N/A: these EPRs are not applicable to the works audited during this reporting period</p>				

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