Chapter 15

Environmental Record of person(s) proposing to take the action

September 2019

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The Major Transport Infrastructure Authority (MTIA), on behalf of the Secretary of Victoria’s Department of Transport, is the proponent for North East Link. MTIA is an Administrative Office, established in relation to Department of Transport, responsible for the delivery of North East Link for the Victorian Government. The North East Link Project is the organisation within MTIA that is responsible for developing and delivering North East Link.

Department of Transport was formed on 1 January 2019, when the former Victorian Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) was split into Department of Transport and the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR).

At this point, Department of Transport has not yet developed any policies, and the policies of the former DEDJTR continue to apply to Department of Transport’s activities.

The DEDJTR Environmental Policy applies to all activities undertaken by the department. The policy aims to reduce current and future environmental impacts and all agencies (such as MTIA) linked to the department are expected to comply with this policy. The policy contains the following principles:

* Emissions – actively identify and implement (where practical) improvements to minimise the production of greenhouse gases through our everyday activities
* Consumption – actively identify and implement (where practical) improvements to minimise consumption and promote efficient use of energy, water, paper and other material inputs
* Waste – strive to reduce the amount of waste produced whilst maximising the amount we reuse and recycle
* Procurement – incorporate environmental principles and, where possible, life cycle costing when procuring goods and services and request that suppliers remove and reuse packaging when goods are procured in bulk
* Transport – consider environmental factors when purchasing and using fleet vehicles and travel sustainably when practical
* Infrastructure – ensure all new capital works programs and office relocations incorporate comprehensive environmental sustainability principles
* Compliance – comply with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and policies
* Monitoring – monitor and review our environmental performance against annually reviewed targets. Improve the quality of data collected and reported
* Communication – communicate our environmental performance to all staff and stakeholders while encouraging participation and feedback.

More information on the DEDJTR Environmental Policy is provided at <<https://web1.economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au/ecodev/about-us/overview/policy-framework/environmental-policy>>.

The North East Link Project sustainability policy sets targets to deliver on sustainability commitments. The targets are integrated into North East Link’s design standards and delivery. The North East Link Project will:

* Use resources efficiently by embedding energy, water and waste reduction initiatives into the design, construction and operation of North East Link
* Protect and seek opportunities to enhance the natural environment
* Facilitate opportunities for economic development, provide a skilled local workforce and promote diversity and inclusion.

The targets will be tracked across the development of North East Link and performance will be publicly reported on.