



# Australian Government

## Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

### APPROVAL DECISION

Southern Sydney Freight Line (EPBC 2005/2393)

This decision is made under (Section 133) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

#### Proposed action

Person to whom the approval is granted Australian Rail Track Corporation

Proposed action The proposal by the Australian Rail Track Corporation involves the construction and operation of a single non-electrified track 30km long (known as the Southern Sydney Freight Line) from Macarthur to Sefton Park Junction in Sydney's south west.

#### Approval decision

Relevant controlling provisions The approval has effect for:

Commonwealth action (section 28)

Conditions of approval This approval is subject to the conditions attached.

Expiry date of approval This approval has effect until **30 June 2020**.

#### Person authorised to make decision

Name and position

PETER GARRETT  
Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts

Date of decision

13 / 8 / 2008

1. The person taking the action must submit to the Minister for approval prior to construction an Environmental Actions Plan (EAP) that addresses the following matters:

**Access**

- (a) provision of Easy Access (non-discriminatory access) at Leumeah, Minto, Cabramatta, Sefton, Warwick Farm, Casula Station precincts;
- (b) provision of access for cyclists across Sefton Railway Station;

**Car Parks**

- (c) detail of parking at railway stations affected by the works that demonstrates that the following matters have been addressed:
  - i. no net loss of disabled parking and car parks (non disabled) at Railway Stations;
  - ii. consultation with the NSW Physical Disability Council regarding all accessibility issues;
  - iii. where provision of disabled parking is required, they must meet the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002;
  - iv. provision of replacement car parks must be provided within 400 metres of Railway Stations; and
  - v. the replacement car parks referred to in paragraph 1.(e) must have, at a minimum, the safety equipment and facilities, including lighting, CCTV and walkways, that are provided for existing car parks that will be lost as a result of this proposal.

**Noise & Visual Character**

- (d) detail of noise walls to be provided including consultation plan outlining engagement during design with Relevant Councils, Community Liaison Groups representing communities along the corridor and affected residents, to address:
  - i. design features, colour and landscape treatments that ameliorate visual impacts; and
  - ii. consideration to address the potential for graffiti.

The EAP must satisfy the Minister. The approved EAP must be implemented.

2. The person taking the action must prepare a Community Amenity Offset Plan (CAOP). The process of preparing the CAOP must include a public consultation process. The CAOP must address the following matters:

- (a) landscaping and tree planting;
- (b) public art;
- (c) street furniture;



taking the action must comply with any such request. If the Minister approves a revised plan or measure pursuant to this condition, the person taking the action must implement that plan or measure instead of the plan or measure as originally approved.

7. The person taking the action must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the plans and measures required under this approval are undertaken as part of the audit regime established for the project under the NSW Minister for Planning's consent requirements.

The audit criteria must be agreed by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister.

The audit reports must be made publicly available.

8. If, at any time after 5 years from the date of this approval, the Minister notifies the person taking the action in writing that the Minister is not satisfied that there has been substantial commencement of construction of the Southern Sydney Freight Line, the Southern Sydney Freight Line must not thereafter be commenced.

## **Definitions**

**Construction** includes all work in respect of the Project **other than** survey, acquisitions, fencing, investigative drilling or excavation, building/road dilapidation surveys, minor clearing (except where threatened species, populations or ecological communities would be affected), establishing Ancillary Facilities/ Construction Work Sites, Enabling Works, or other activities determined by the Environmental Management Representative (appointed in accordance with the NSW Minister for Planning's consent) in agreement with the Minister to have minimal environmental impact (e.g. minor access roads, minor adjustments to services/utilities, etc.).

**Construction Work Sites** are sites at which Construction works are undertaken including construction work areas, construction compounds and construction vehicle access tracks and parking areas.

**Easy Access** is the term used to describe the design of buildings, train stations, vehicles etc. so that anybody can use them, regardless of physical constraints, for example, a physical disability, sensory impairment or need to push a pram.

**Enabling Works** are works which allow isolation of the site so that access for construction can be provided, including service relocations and extension of existing culverts between Macarthur and Glenfield (except where threatened species, populations or ecological communities would be affected).

**Operation** means the commencement of freight movement on whole or part of the Project route, but does not include commissioning trials of equipment or temporary use of parts of the Project where required, during Construction.

**Relevant Councils** means any or all of Bankstown City Council, Fairfield City Council, Liverpool City Council and Campbelltown City Council, as appropriate.

**Stations** on the line include: Macarthur, Campbelltown, Leumeah, Minto, Ingleburn, Macquarie Fields, Glenfield, Casula, Liverpool, Warwick Farm, Cabramatta, Carramar, Villawood, Leightonfield, Chester Hill and Sefton Railway Stations, unless the above paragraphs specify the particular stations.