

Telecommunications Facility – Eagles Nest, Thredbo Ski Resort Site Environmental Management Plan

Service Stream



Department of Planning
Housing and Infrastructure

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Signed S Butler

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
DA	Development Application
DCCEEW	Department Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DoE	Department of the Environment
DoH	Department of Housing
DPE	Department of Planning and the Environment
EPA	NSW Environment Protection Authority
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Approvals Act 1979</i>
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
MHA	Mast Head Amplifier
NPW Act	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NSW	New South Wales
PEOE Act	<i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>
SEMP	Site Environmental Management Plan

1. Introduction

1.1. Project Description

This Site Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) details the control measures required to minimise environmental impacts during the on-ground works associated with the Optus telecommunications construction works at the Eagles Nest, Thredbo Ski Resort. The proposed works at the Eagles Nest Telecommunication facility aim to upgrade the Optus telecommunication infrastructure by utilising the existing monopole and replacing existing antenna panels with new antenna panels, including 5G antenna. This upgrade will provide improved telecommunication accessibility around the ski resort and surrounding area.

The primary objects of the Project are as follows:

- Removal of panels on the existing telecommunications structure
- Installation of new telecommunication antenna panels and associated infrastructure
- Ensure that best management practice is used in undertaking the proposed works regarding the environment

The project involves the removal of the existing Argus panels on the current 7.4 m high monopole and installing new carrier telecommunication equipment including Commscope and ERICSSON panels on longer antenna mounts. The new panels will be within the existing footprint of the structure, which is approximately 1.5 m by 1.5 m, including the monopole. The existing flexible insulated steel conduit will be used to run the cable feeders to the monopole. The total development site footprint will be 3 m² for the telecommunication monopole. All telecommunications equipment is to be flown into the location using a helicopter. No construction materials are to be stored on the ground apart from vehicles located in the construction compound.

1.1.1. Location

The site is located approximately 3.5 km to the northwest of the township of Thredbo, NSW (Lot 876 DP 1243112) within the Snowy Monaro Regional Council Local Government Area (LGA). The site wholly zoned C1 – National Parks and Nature Reserves, in accordance with the Snowy River Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2013. Primary access to the site is via Friday Drive and Alpine Way through Thredbo.

The development is located on the top of a large rock outcrop at the Eagles Nest, at Thredbo Ski Resort, within the Kosciuszko National Park.

1.1.2. Construction Activities

A construction compound site will be established within the sealed area between Eagles Nest Restaurant and Kosciuszko Chairlift Terminal. The construction period will require the temporary use for construction workers to park the vehicles. All telecommunications equipment, required for construction are to be flown onto site using a helicopter. No construction materials are to be stored on the ground. Works on the existing monopole will commence utilising the existing climbable pole and will not require the use of plant such as an elevated work platform (**Error! Reference source not found.**).

The proposed scope of works includes the following works on the existing monopole:

- Removal of 3 x existing Argus panels
- Installation 3 x Commscope panels
- Installation 3 x ERICSSON panels
- Installation 1 x new combiner
- Installation 3 x new filters
- Reposition and reinstall 3 x existing filters, 1 x existing combiner and 2 x existing Mast Head Amplifiers (MHAs)

1.2. SEMP Objectives

The key objectives of this SEMP are to facilitate:

- Identification of the environmental risks on this Project
- Protection of the environment through the management of environmental risks
- Implementation of control measures by project staff and contractors
- Informing all project staff and contractors of environmental obligations

1.2.1. Timing

The proposed works are anticipated to commence on 1st of April 2023 and take 8-12 weeks to complete.

1.3. Statutory Requirements

1.3.1. SEMP Context

1.3.1.1. *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)*

The Project requires consent and was assessed under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). The EP&A Act places a duty on the determining authority to adequately address a range of environmental matters including the biodiversity, heritage, water management and social impact. Environmental controls specific to the project have been identified within the technical reports undertaken for the development, and this SEMP will ensure Service Stream compliance to their obligations under the EPA Act by providing for the implementation of these controls

Of particular relevance is Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment (ADD) and Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) undertaken for the development by ELA in 2019. The controls identified within the ADD and BDAR (ELA, 2019) and are presented within Appendix A.

This SEMP will ensure Service Stream is able to comply with their obligations under the EP&A Act by providing for the implementation of the appropriate controls.

1.3.1.2. *Snowy River Local Environmental Plan 2013*

The proposed works are located on land wholly zoned C1 – National Parks and Nature Reserves under the Snowy River LEP. The objectives of the zone are:

- *To enable the management and appropriate use of land that is reserved under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 or that is acquired under Part 11 of the Act.*
- *To enable uses authorised under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.*

- *To identify land that is to be reserved under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and to protect the environmental significance of that land.*

Works on land zoned C1 are permitted without consent provided the works are authorised under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). This SEMP will ensure that Service Stream is able to comply with their obligations under the Snowy River LEP.

2. Implementation and Operation

2.1. Environmental Management Program

The management of environmental aspects relevant to the construction works are detailed in 5.

2.2. Structure and Responsibility

The following table outlines who is responsible for the implementation of environmental safeguards and at what stage of works.

Table 1: Staff Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Project Manager	- Reviews Development Application (DA) Conditions of Consent and SEMP - Notifies consent authority of changes to the project scope of works and updates the SEMP, if required - Requires the contractor to adhere to the approved works - Accountable for contractor's and subcontractor's environmental performance - Reports any non-compliance to consent authority
Site Supervisor	- Issues stop work orders, if required - Records any community complaints and notifies the project manager - Responsible for site management, SEMP compliance, including any subcontractors - Facilitates environmental induction and toolbox talks for site personnel - Undertakes environmental inspections (daily, or if environmental conditions change) - Ensures that all relevant authorities and the surrounding community are notified of works commencement - Initiates corrective actions - Reports SEMP non-conformances to the Project Manager - Reports incidents as per Section 3 - Notifies the Project Manager If the SEMP needs revising
Staff	- Comply with SEMP - Monitor and maintain controls - Report breaches of the SEMP and potential / actual incidents to site supervisor - Report incidents as per Section 3 - Stop works and report to Site supervisor in the event of unexpected finds (potential contamination or heritage items) - Record community complaints and notify site supervisor
Contractor	- Implement and comply with the SEMP - All incidents and complaints are reported and appropriately managed (in collaboration with the Site Supervisor) - Assist authorised personnel or agents in conducting inspections/reviews/audits to assess the effectiveness of the Contractor's environmental performance - Site staff are environmentally aware and competent in environmental management of the project - All personnel working on the project site have undergone an induction which is inclusive of environmental issues - Prompt rectification of any deficiencies in the implementation of the identified environmental control measures - Identification of any risks and emerging issues in an appropriate manner, including handover

3. Emergency Preparedness and Incident Management

3.1. Incidental Pollution to the Environment

In the event of an environmental incident causing or threatening 'material harm' to the environment (indicatively, costing more than \$10,000 in clean-up (refer s.148 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*), the following authorities must be notified immediately (in this order):

- Firstly, call 000, only if the incident presents an immediate threat to human health or property
- National Parks and Wildlife Service – 1300 072 757
 - Kosciuszko National Park – (02) 6450 5600
- The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) – 131 555
- SafeWork NSW – 131 050
- Fire and Rescue NSW – (02) 9265 2999

Immediate verbal communication should be given to each relevant authority. This is to be followed by notification in writing where required.

3.2. Training and Environmental Awareness

Prior to starting work, all site personnel must undergo, and document, the following training:

- A site induction including the requirements of this SEMP and any associated plans
- Emergency response training
- Familiarisation with site environmental features requiring protection and controls
- 'Toolbox Talks' which will be used during construction for training and environmental awareness

All visitors to site must be accompanied by a person working at the site who has been fully inducted as above. In addition, visitors must undergo:

- General site induction
- Familiarisation with site features, hazard awareness and site evacuation plans

4. Monitoring and Review

4.1. SEMP Audit

The implementation of the SEMP may be audited throughout the construction stage.

4.2. Environmental Site Checklist

The site environmental inspection checklist is contained in Appendix C The site supervisor will record the outcomes on a weekly basis, after rain and if environmental conditions change.

4.3. Corrective Action

Environmental non-conformances shall be treated as incidents and recorded and rectified by the Site Supervisors.

4.4. SEMP Review

The SEMP will be reviewed, if required, by factors such as the results of audit reports, complaints, incidents or changes in site conditions or scope of works.

5. References

Department of Housing, 2004. *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction – Volume 1*. Retrieved from <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/managing-urban-stormwater-soils-and-construction-volume-1-4th-edition>

Eco Logical Australia, 2019. *Telecommunications Facility - Eagles Nest, Thredbo Ski Resort*. Prepared for HVAC Australia Pty Ltd

Snowy Monaro Regional Council, 2013. *Snowy River Local Environmental Plan 2013*. Retrieved from <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/epi-2013-0700>

Appendix A Environmental Management Plan

Table 2: Environmental Management Controls

Environmental Action	Timeframe	Monitoring	Responsible Person
Objective: General			
All project staff and contractors will be inducted on the environmental sensitivities of the work site(s) and relevant safeguards prior to commencement.	Prior to works	Induction records	PM
Work site will be delineated and 'no go' zones will be marked prior to commencement of works.	Prior to works	Weekly checklist, after rainfall or changed in site conditions	PM, SS
The NPWS will be notified immediately of any complaints in relation to management of environmental issues.	As required	Complaint Register	SS
Each relevant authority must be notified of any incidents.	As required	Incident Reports	All
Objective: Reduce Potential to Cause Soil Erosion and Sedimentation			
Erosion and sedimentation controls shall be in place prior to the commencement of site works and maintained throughout construction activities, until the site is landscaped and/ or suitably revegetated. These requirements shall be in accordance with Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction (Blue Book) produced by the NSW Department of Housing.	Prior to works	Weekly checklist, after rainfall or changed in site conditions	PM, SS
Inspect erosion controls regularly (daily during workdays) and after rainfall. Fix damaged controls immediately. Remove accumulated sediment or waste material from within the sediment controls regularly.	As required	Weekly checklist, after rainfall or changed in site conditions	SS
Leave erosion and sediment controls in place until after the works are completed.	Prior to works	Weekly checklist, after rainfall or changed in site conditions	SS, All
Schedule the work outside of predicted heavy rain periods.	As required	Weekly checklist, after rainfall or	PM

Environmental Action	Timeframe	Monitoring	Responsible Person
		changed in site conditions	
Stop work during heavy rainfall to reduce risk of mobilising sediment.	As required	Weekly checklist, SS after rainfall or changed in site conditions	
Objective: Reduce Harm to Biodiversity			
To reduce the spread of pathogens and diseases, ensure Saving of Species Hygiene Guidelines (Department of Planning and Environment, 2020) are adhered to:	During construction	Weekly checklist	SS, All
- Ensure all clothing, hats, footwear, tools, equipment, machinery, and vehicles are free of mud, soil, and organic matter before entering and exiting works areas. - Ensure any soil, plants or other materials entering the site are certified free of weeds and pathogens. - Thredbo have a washdown location, permission to use this must be granted prior to construction works.			
Identify with flagging tape or other measures the limit of the proposed disturbance prior to construction to prevent inadvertent damage to vegetation and habitats beyond the disturbance footprint.	Prior to construction	As required	All
Brief all workers as to the limit of the disturbance footprint and other environmental safeguards	Prior to works, during construction	As required	All
Objective: Reduce Spread of Priority Weeds			
Wash down equipment and vehicles prior to and after use, to manage the introduction and spread of weed propagules. Thredbo have a designated washdown bay onsite. Thredbo should be contacted and this washdown bay should be utilised prior to accessing the site.	Prior to works, during construction	Weekly checklist	All
Objective: Reduce Potential Impacts to Aboriginal Heritage			
All contractors undertaking works on site should be briefed on the protection of Aboriginal heritage objects under the NPW Act, and the penalties for damage to these items.	Prior to works	As required	PM
Should an unexpected Aboriginal object be identified during construction, work in the immediate vicinity of the find is to stop and the area must be fenced off with suitable markers (star pickets, flagging or barrier mesh). The Project Manager is to be notified. Engage an archaeologist to determine the significance of the find, and if required, determine the notification, consultation, and	As required	Incident reports	SS

Environmental Action	Timeframe	Monitoring	Responsible Person
approval requirements. Works must not recommence until the Snowy Monaro Regional Council has provided written approval to do so.			
If human remains are discovered, works should immediately cease, and the NSW Police should be contacted. If the remains are suspected to be Aboriginal, the DPE may also be contacted at this time to assist in determining appropriate management	As required	Incident reports	All
Objective: Reduce Potential Impacts to Historic Heritage			
In accordance with Section 146 of the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> , if an archaeological relic (such as a deposit or artefact) is uncovered during works, work must cease in the affected area and a qualified archaeologist contacted to assess the find. Further advice and clarification may be sought from the Heritage Council of NSW, or the Heritage Division under delegation regarding assessment and approvals.	As required	Incident reports	SS
Objective: Reduce Potential Noise impacts to Sensitive Receivers			
Avoid simultaneous operation of noisy plant within discernible range of a sensitive receiver.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Works will only occur during the following times: Monday to Friday 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Works will not operate after sunset to minimise indirect impacts to threatened fauna species which may utilise the area.	During construction	Weekly checklist	SS
Plant used intermittently is to be throttled or shut down when not required.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Orient equipment such as offensive noise carriers away from sensitive receivers and potential fauna habitat.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Objective: Reduce Dust Generation and Cumulative Greenhouse Gas Emission Impacts			
Works must be minimised during high wind periods.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Dust suppression should be applied as required to limit excessive dust generation	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Plant and equipment must be regularly inspected to ascertain that fitted emission controls are operating efficiently.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Plant and equipment must be maintained in accordance with manufacturer's specifications to ensure that it is in a proper and efficient condition.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All

Environmental Action	Timeframe	Monitoring	Responsible Person
Do not have machinery running while not in use.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Minimise use of machinery for required activity only.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Vehicles to maintain recommended speed.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Look for excessive dust generation and slow down if needed.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Objective: Reduce Amount of Waste Generated from Works and Dispose of Appropriately			
Resource management options for the project must be considered against a hierarchy of the following order embodied in the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001</i> : - Avoid unnecessary resource consumption - Recover resources (including reuse, reprocessing, recycling, and energy recovery) - Dispose (as a last resort)	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
All wastes must be classified in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC, 2009) prior to disposal and transported to a licensed waste disposal facility.	During construction	Weekly checklist	SS
All waste must be secured at all times due to frequency of high winds at the site. This can be achieved by keeping waste in sealed/covered containers to avoid 'fly away' rubbish, this will also minimise occurrence of wildlife interaction.	During construction	Weekly checklist	SS
All waste must be removed from the site on completion of the works.	During construction	Weekly checklist	SS
Upon completion of waste disposal, all original weighbridge / disposal receipts issued by the receiving waste facility must be retained in a waste register as evidence of proper disposal.	During construction	Weekly checklist	SS
An adequate number of bins must be placed at the site for workers and all litter will be placed in these bins. Work areas of the project site would be kept clean and free of litter, including cigarette butts, at all times	Prior to works	Weekly checklist	SS
Objective: Reduce Potential Impacts to Traffic Flow			
Only existing access tracks and parking is to be used at the site.	During construction	Weekly checklist	SS

Environmental Action	Timeframe	Monitoring	Responsible Person
Vehicles, materials, and equipment must be positioned to minimise impacts to public access and parking.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
Heavy vehicles, if required, will be restricted to specified routes.	During construction	N/A	All
Objective: Reduce Visual Impacts to Sensitive Receivers			
Notify community or neighbours where light impacts are anticipated.	Prior to works	Complaints records	PM
Position lighting in residential areas to direct light away from houses wherever possible.	During construction	Weekly checklist	All
PM – PROJECT MANAGER, SS – SITE SUPERVISOR, ALL – ALL PERSONNEL (PM, SS, CONTRACTORS)			

Appendix B Site Environmental Plan



Figure 1 Site Environmental Plan

Appendix C Site Environmental Inspection Checklist

Table 3: Site Inspection Checklist

Constructor Details	Site Supervisor - Environmental Checklist
Project Title: Eagles Nest Optus Telecommunications Facility	
Site Inspected: Eagles Nest	
Time & Date:	Weather:
Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Controls are Complying	
Erosion and sediment controls have been installed in accordance with the 'Blue Book'.	☐
Erosion controls have been checked daily and after rainfall. Damaged controls were fixed immediately, and accumulated sediment or waste has been removed from within the sediment controls regularly.	☐
The weather has been checked to ensure works do not occur within heavy rain periods.	☐
Pollution and Soil Contamination	
All chemicals (e.g., fuel, oil) are in appropriate bunding/storage systems within the approved storage facility.	☐
All appropriate spill kits are carried with the equipment.	☐
Machinery has been appropriately cleaned, degreased and serviced prior to use at the site and/or entry into the waterway.	☐
All equipment is in good working order.	☐
Associated Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all chemicals are present on site.	☐
Biodiversity	
Ensure washdown areas are in working order and are being utilised.	☐
Ensure workers are aware of biodiversity controls including those associated with works near rocks.	☐
Priority Weeds	
Equipment and vehicles have been washed down prior to and after use, to manage the introduction and spread of weed propagules.	☐
Noise	
Simultaneous operation of noisy plants within discernible range of a sensitive receiver has been avoided.	☐
The distance between noisy plant items and nearby sensitive receivers and potential fauna habitat has been maximised.	☐
Equipment such as offensive noise carriers have been oriented away from residential receivers and potential fauna habitat.	☐
Plants used intermittently have been throttled or shut down when not required.	☐
Sensitive receivers have been notified of any works that are likely to be noisy at least five days prior to those works being carried out.	☐
Air Quality	
Works have been minimised during high wind periods.	☐
Dust suppression has been applied as required to limit excessive dust generation.	☐

Constructor Details Site Supervisor - Environmental Checklist

Plant and equipment have been regularly inspected to ascertain that fitted emission controls are operating efficiently. ☐

Plant and equipment have been maintained in accordance with manufacturer's specifications to ensure that it is in a proper and efficient condition. ☐

Machinery has not been running while not in use. ☐

Waste

All wastes have been classified in accordance with the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECC, 2009) prior to disposal and transported to a licensed waste disposal facility. ☐

Any excess spoil or waste material has been kept in a designated stockpile during construction works. ☐

All waste has been removed from the site on completion of the works. ☐

Upon completion of waste disposal, all original weighbridge / disposal receipts issued by the receiving waste facility have been retained in a waste register as evidence of proper disposal. ☐

Work areas of the project site have been kept clean and free of litter, including cigarette butts, at all times. ☐

Traffic

Vehicles, materials, and equipment have been positioned to minimise impacts to public access and parking. ☐

Visual Impacts

Community or neighbours have been notified where light impacts are anticipated. ☐

Lighting in residential areas has been positioned to direct light away from nearby businesses wherever possible. ☐

Inspected by: Signature:

Actions: By Who: Date Completed:

