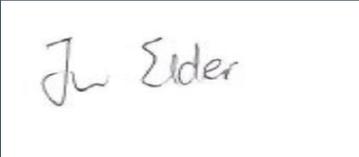


INLAND RAIL – ILLABO TO STOCKINBINGAL – CSSI 9406

ER MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 2026

Authorisation

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The Planning Secretary

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1. KEY FINDINGS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD

Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) 9406 Condition of Approval (CoA) A26(j) requires that the Environmental Representative (ER) must *'prepare and submit to the Planning Secretary and other relevant regulatory agencies, for information and make publicly available, an Environmental Representative Monthly Report providing the information set out in the Environmental Representative Protocol under the heading "Environmental Representative Monthly Reports". The Environmental Representative Monthly Report must be submitted within seven (7) days following the end of each month for the duration of the ER's engagement for the CSSI.'*

This Environmental Representative (ER) Monthly Report has been prepared in accordance with CoA A26(j), covering the period from 1 to 31 January 2026 (the reporting period).

Works undertaken during the reporting period include CIZ delineation surveys, geotechnical investigations, inspections, ecological surveys and works supervision, clearing and grubbing, installation of erosion and sediment controls, fencing, heritage salvage works, CSR and CRN works.

No incidents threatening to cause environmental harm were reported during the reporting period. No non-compliances have been reported during the reporting period.

Consultation with potentially affected stakeholders continued during the reporting period in the form of meetings, emails, telephone calls, SMS's and door knocking.

One complaint was received during the reporting period. No complaints are open at the time of reporting.

No CEMP or Sub-plan documents were required to be endorsed or approved by the ER during the reporting period.

One inspection was conducted by the ER during the reporting period on 16 January 2026. No actions were identified for this inspection; and no ER inspection actions remain open from previous inspections.

The ER will continue to report on the progress of the Project each month.

2. BACKGROUND

Inland Rail is a proposed 1,600km freight rail line, comprising 12 sections, which will connect Melbourne and Brisbane via regional Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Inland Rail Pty Ltd (IRPL), a subsidiary of Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), is building Inland Rail on behalf of the Australian Government. As each section of Inland Rail is completed, it will be operated and managed by ARTC.

ARTC obtained approval from the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces for the Inland Rail's Illabo to Stockinbingal (I2S) section (Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CCSI-9406)) on

the 4 September 2024 under Section 5.19 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the EP&A Act) (the Project) subject to Conditions of Approval (CoA).

The I2S Project (the Project) involves the construction and operation of approximately 39 Kilometres of new single-track standard gauge railway to accommodate trains with a maximum length of 1,800m. Key features involve:

- connection to other rail lines, including Stockinbingal to Parkes line, Lake Cargelligo line, and Main Southern Railway;
- one crossing loop and maintenance siding;
- level crossings and stock crossings;
- bridges over rivers and other watercourses, floodplains and roads;
- upgrade of around 3.5km of existing track for the tie-in works to the existing Main South Line at Illabo;
new track to maintain Lake Cargelligo line connection either side of the proposal;
- realignment and road-over rail bridge for a section of the Burley Griffin Way at Stockinbingal;
- realignment of Ironbong Road to allow for safe sight lines at the new active level crossing;
- ancillary infrastructure to support the proposal, inclusive of signalling and communications; drainage, drainage control areas, signage and fencing, and services and utilities; and
- construction infrastructure, including ancillary facilities, and a temporary workforce accommodation facility.

In accordance with CoA A22 – A25, IRPL sought approval to engage WolfPeak’s Ricardo Prieto-Curiel, Derek Low and Tim Elder as the Project’s primary and alternate ERs respectively. This approval was granted by the Planning Secretary’s nominee of the Department on 11 September 2024 and 7 February 2025.

John Holland have been engaged as the Principal Contractor to design and construct the Project. The Project is currently in the ‘Detailed design and early works (including low impact work) stage.

CoA A26(j) requires that for the duration of the works or as otherwise approved by the Planning Secretary, the ER must *‘prepare and submit to the Planning Secretary and other relevant regulatory agencies, for information and make publicly available, an Environmental Representative Monthly Report providing the information set out in the Environmental Representative Protocol under the heading “Environmental Representative Monthly Reports”. The Environmental Representative Monthly Report must be submitted within seven (7) days following the end of each month for the duration of the ER’s engagement for the CSSI.’*

This ER Monthly Report has been prepared in accordance with CoA A26(j), covering the period from the 1 to 31 January 2026 (the reporting period).

3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

3.1 Construction works

3.1.1 Works undertaken during the reporting period

Construction activities continued throughout January 2026. The following activities were completed or underway during the reporting period:

- Continuation of site clearing and grubbing works (Sections 5 and 6)
- Project ecologist supervision of works
- Continuation of geotechnical investigations
- Heritage salvage works adjacent Billabong Creek and Ulandra Creek (thus completing the archaeological excavation works on I2S) CSR works (Illabo track)
- CRN works (Stockinbingal)
- Corridor boundary fencing installations
- CIZ delineation and survey
- Installation of ERSED controls as per the Project Progressive Environment and Sediment Control Plan.

3.1.2 Upcoming works

The following works are planned for February 2026:

- Continuation site clearing and grubbing works
- Project ecologist supervision of works
- Continuation of geotechnical investigations
- Heritage salvage works
- Utilities investigations, installations and relocations
- CSR works (Illabo)
- Corridor boundary fencing installations
- CIZ delineation and survey
- Installation of ERSED controls as per the Project Progressive Environment and Sediment Control Plan
- Continuation of temporary work structures implementation.

Proposed Out of Hours Works (OOHW) planned for February 2026 include:

- Illabo Junction CSR works (Sundays, 0700-1800)
- Temporary water supply works (0500-0700, Monday to Friday)
- Geotechnical works (Sundays, 0700-1800)

- ARTC March Possession 42.5 hours (28th Feb-1st of March).

3.2 Minor construction ancillary facilities

JHG continued to utilise the following MAFs (as approved by the ER) during the reporting period:

- MAF Old Sydney Road (Gate 3)
- MAF Dirnaseer Road (Gate 6A)
- MAF Old Cootamundra Road (Gate 7B)
- MAF Grogan Road (Gate 10)
- MAF Old Cootamundra Rd (Site 16) (CH28180) (Gate 7A)
- MAF Ironbong Rd (CH9380).

3.3 Changes to the Project

3.3.1 Construction Staging

JHG are constructing the Project in two Stages:

Stage 1: Limited scope of works completed during the September 2025 rail possession to conduct maintenance on the existing Main South Line (MSL). This will support the delivery of the Project and to ensure uninterrupted operations of the MSL throughout the construction period.

Stage 2: All other construction activities

A Staging Report was prepared in accordance with CoA A11 and A12 to reflect this staging approach. The ER reviewed and endorsed the Staging Report (Rev 0) on 29 August 2025.

3.3.2 Consistency Assessments

There were no Consistency Assessments (CAs) determined by Inland Rail during the reporting period.

3.4 Community consultation and complaints received

3.4.1 Consultation

Community consultation occurred throughout January 2026 in the form of meetings, emails, telephone calls, SMSs and door to door meetings. Consultation primarily related to upcoming proposed activities, including surveys and testing, utility and geotechnical investigations, fencing and access.

The January 2026 Community Monthly Update is provided in Appendix A.

3.4.2 Complaints

The complaints register to 30 January 2026 was supplied to the ER. It includes details of all complaints received to date and the actions undertaken by JHG to resolve each complaint.

One complaint was received during the reporting period. On 9 January a gate providing access to the CIZ was left open resulting in horses getting out (although they were being held within the CIZ without JHG/IR permission). The lessee confirmed that livestock would no longer be kept within the CIZ. JHG delivered toolbox meeting and daily bulletins highlighting the importance of leaving gates as they were found. No complaints are open at the time of reporting.

A copy of the complaints register can be provided by IRPL to the Department on request, in accordance with CoA B11.

3.5 Incidents, Emergency Works and non-compliances

3.5.1 Incidents

No incidents causing or threatening to cause material harm were reported to NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) during the reporting period.

3.5.2 Emergency Works

No emergency works were reported during the reporting period.

3.5.3 Non-compliances

No non-compliances were reported during the reporting period.

4. ER ACTIVITIES

4.1 Advice provided to the Proponent on the CoA and other authority conditions

Advice has been provided by the ER to Inland Rail and John Holland since late 2024 through to January 2026. Further details of advice provided during the reporting period is provided in Section 4.2.

4.2 Environmental management plans and programs

4.2.1 Development

CEMP and Sub-plans were developed from late 2024 to October 2025 and submitted to the ER for approval or endorsement. No CEMP or Sub-plan documents were required to be endorsed or approved by the ER during the reporting period.

4.2.2 Implementation

Construction activities continued throughout the reporting period in accordance with approved Management Plans and CoA.

4.2.3 Site inspections

One inspection was conducted by the ER during the reporting period on 16 January 2026. No actions were identified for this inspection; and no ER inspection actions remain open from previous inspections.

A subsequent inspection was undertaken on 4 February. Details will be included within the February 2026 monthly report.

4.2.4 Audits

An independent audit under CoAs A28-A33 was undertaken on 27 November 2025. Audit findings are available within the audit report.

4.2.5 Complaint resolution

There are no open complaints at the time of reporting.

4.2.6 Meetings

Meetings with IRPL and John Holland, including the involvement of the ER, have been undertaken as required throughout the reporting period to discuss construction works, Project documentation and general Project issues. In addition, weekly meetings with IRPL, John Holland and the ER have continued throughout the reporting period covering Project works, progress on post-approval documentation, compliance, incidents, complaints etc.

There were no meetings between the Department, IRPL, John Holland and the ER held within the reporting period. These are scheduled to recommence in February.

4.2.7 Documentation issued

No documentation was issued by the ER during the reporting period.

4.2.8 Communications with the Secretary

There have been no written communications with the Planning Secretary or its representatives during the reporting period, other than issue of the ER monthly report for December 2025 on 13 January 2026. Informal project discussions have been held with the Department as required.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE OF THE PROJECT

5.1 Environmental Performance

Construction works have been ongoing throughout the reporting period. These works included CIZ delineation surveys, geotechnical investigations, inspections, ecological surveys and works supervision, clearing and grubbing, installation of erosion and sediment controls, fencing, heritage salvage works, CSR and CRN works.

No incidents causing or threatening to cause material harm, were reported during the reporting period.

No complaints are open at the time of reporting.

Environmental mitigation and control measures are being implemented consistent with approval requirements and approved management plans.

5.2 Key learnings

No lessons learned sessions are scheduled at this time.

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APPENDIX A – COMMUNITY MONTHLY UPDATE: JANUARY 2026

Construction Monthly Update Illabo to Stockinbingal 1-31 January 2026

John Holland has been engaged to undertake construction of the Illabo to Stockinbingal section of Inland Rail in New South Wales.

With environmental approvals nearing completion, construction is expected to take place during standard hours **7am – 6pm, Monday to Saturday**. Work may also occur between 6am and 6pm on any day, subject to limitations on early morning activities and in consultation with affected stakeholders.

In addition to the works anticipated between 6am-6pm, out-of-hours work to install a temporary water supply pipeline within the future corridor will be undertaken between **5am and 7am** Monday to Saturday. A three month lookahead of potential out-of-hours work is listed over page.

Description of works

Proposed activities include (subject to approval):

- Surveying, utility environmental and geotechnical investigations will be conducted at multiple locations, including but not limited to, project/property boundaries, the rail corridor, existing roads, bridges and culverts
- Delivering materials and equipment
- Installing fencing and gates along the rail corridor
- General earthworks, including clearing works, stripping topsoil and tree removal
- Constructing a haul road within the construction corridor
- Commencing formwork for drainage culverts
- Enabling works including preparing access roads
- Installing a temporary water pipeline
- Installing utilities including water relocation work
- Continuing pit installation and trenching works within the rail corridor
- Undertaking electrical work within the rail corridor from Illabo to north of Olympic Highway
- Enabling works and deliveries for the upcoming February/March 2026 rail possession.

What can I expect?

- Affected property owners will be contacted prior to work commencing
- Traffic management, including reduced speed limits, may be required near worksites close to the roads or for safe access. Please follow all traffic management instructions and signage.
- Workers operating machinery, equipment, hand tools and service vehicles
- Residents nearby may notice an increase in noise levels during work activities, along with the presence of additional workers and vehicles in the area.

Expected plant and machinery used

Plant and machinery may include, but are not limited to, rolling stock, excavators, dozers, rollers, loaders, forklifts, delivery truck and dogs, drill rigs, small truck mounted drill rig, NDD (non-destructive digging) truck, water carts and support vehicles, workers using hand tools, survey equipment (including drones), traffic management equipment and associated signage.

How we're managing impacts

- Traffic management and reduced road speeds, where applicable
- Environmental controls in place (shrouding with noise blankets, using smallest plant possible to complete the task, turning plant off when not in use where possible)
- Access to private properties will be maintained
- Noise management, including providing respite times as needed
- Temporary fencing around excavations and sensitive areas.

Cancellation of works

Works can be cancelled at short notice depending on weather and other factors. Should this occur, works will be rescheduled.

Work locations

Work will occur at various locations within the project boundaries and will be discussed with individual property owners / lessees prior to commencement.

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Out-of-hours work scheduled over the next three months, occurring between 6am-6pm (Monday – Sunday), are provided below.

Activity	Location	Noise impact	January	February	March
Concrete pours	Whole alignment as needed for various activities including compound set up and fencing	Low to medium	•	•	•
Welding polypipe for temporary water supply	Within the rail corridor between Burley Griffin Way and Old Sydney Road	Low to medium	•	•	•
Oversized machinery, equipment and material deliveries	Site entrances off Warrens Lane, Old Sydney Road, Dirnaseer Road, Old Cootamundra Road, Dudauman Road and Burley Griffin Way	Low to medium	•	•	•
Rail possession – 28 February to 1 March 2026	Illabo, north of Olympic Highway level crossing	Medium to high	•	•	•

*NOTE: Works undertaken 6am-6pm daily will be modelled by the Project to ensure that noise from construction is not heard at the same property over two consecutive weekends.

We will continue to keep you updated on the progress of work in your area. For any concerns, to provide feedback about the project or discuss construction work including respite measures, phone **1800 732 761** or email inlandrailnsw@inlandrail.com.au



Road locations are indicative

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