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Attachment C

Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies, Significant impact guidelines 1.2, Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Is the proposed action to be taken on Commonwealth land?

Airservices, a Commonwealth agency, leases the land, which is considered a Commonwealth area as per s525 of the EPBC Act and therefore considered Commonwealth land as per s27 of the Act.

The proposal has been assessed in accordance with the *EPBC Act Policy Statement 1.2 Significant Impact Guidelines for actions, on, or impacting upon Commonwealth Land, and actions by Commonwealth Agencies* as per the following **Table C1**:

Table C1 Environmental context list

Issue	Likelihood	Discussion
Landscape, landforms and soils		
<p>Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • alter natural landscape features; • cause subsidence, instability or substantial erosion; • involve medium or large-scale excavation of soil or minerals; or disturb contaminated or acid-sulphate soils 	<p>Unlikely</p>	<p>The proposed action is not considered medium or largescale excavation, with a total excavation area of approximately 2.9 ha and an excavation volume less than 12,000 cubic meters.</p> <p>Excavation and remediation of PFAS impacted soil is a requirement of an Environmental Remediation Order (ERO) issued under the Airport (Environment Protection) Regulation (AEPR) 1997.</p> <p>All areas that will be excavated or used for ancillary works are already modified landforms due to construction of the Airport. Excavations will be reinstated to approximate the existing landform to allow continued use of the site as an airport.</p> <p>Mitigation of impacts associated with the proposed action have been assessed and will be regulated by the Airport Environment Officer (AEO) under the terms of the ERO and will include a sediment and erosion control plan within the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).</p>

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Issue	Likelihood	Discussion
Coastal landscapes		
<p>Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> alter coastal processes, including wave action, sediment movement or accretion, or water circulation patterns; permanently alter tidal patterns, water flows or water quality in estuaries; reduce biological diversity or change species composition in estuaries; or Extract large volumes of sand or substantially destabilise sand dunes? 	No	The site is not in proximity to the coastal zone. Therefore, these impact criteria are not considered to be applicable to this project.
Water resources		
<p>Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> measurably reduce the quantity, quality or availability of surface or groundwater; channelise, divert or impound rivers or creeks or substantially alter drainage patterns; measurably alter water table levels? 	Possible	<p>All works associated with the proposed action are required to implement remediation actions plans, submitted and approved in accordance with an ERO made under the AEPR 1997.</p> <p>The extent of earthworks will be limited to 2.0 m deep and are not therefore expected to intersect the water table.</p> <p>Earthworks are proposed in existing constructed swale drains adjacent to the Taxiway Alpha and to the south of the Main Fire Station (MFS). These earthworks will be limited to 0.5 m scrapes of these drains and then stabilising the areas.</p> <p>Any potential impacts to water quality arising from the excavations will be regulated by the Airport Environment Officer under the terms of the ERO and will be short term and locally contained within the Airport boundary.</p> <p>As part of the approved Remedial Action Plan (RAP)(AECOM, 2024), the AEO has authorised works to understand the feasibility and nature of potential groundwater remediation at Project Area 2 (MFS). This feasibility assessment is ongoing. If remediation of groundwater is proposed in future, it would be considered as a separate action and may be subject to a separate referral, if required.</p>

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Issue	Likelihood	Discussion
Pollutants, chemicals and toxic substances		
<p>Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> generate smoke, fumes, chemicals, nutrients, or other pollutants which will substantially reduce local air quality or water quality; result in the release, leakage, spillage, or explosion of flammable, explosive, toxic, radioactive, carcinogenic, or mutagenic substances, through use, storage, transport, or disposal; increase atmospheric concentrations of gases which will contribute to the greenhouse effect or ozone damage? 	Possible	<p>Contamination assessments to understand the nature and extent of contaminants of concern have been completed and approved in accordance with the ERO issued under the AEPR 1997.</p> <p>The nature of the action has the potential to disturb and/or generate pollutants such as PFAS impacted sediment and water within the project areas.</p> <p>Mitigation of potential impacts associated with pollutants have been assessed and will be regulated by the Airport Environment Officer under the terms of the ERO and will include a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).</p> <p>The action will result in very minor release of greenhouse gases through operation of plant and equipment and transport and disposal of waste.</p>
Plants		
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will involve medium or large-scale native vegetation clearance?	No	The action does not involve medium or large-scale native vegetation clearance.
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will involve any clearance of any vegetation containing a listed threatened species which is likely to result in a long-term decline in a population or which threatens the viability of the species?	Possible	Refer MNES assessment.
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will introduce potentially invasive species?	Possible	<p>Refer MNES assessment.</p> <p>A CEMP regulated by the Airport Environment Officer under the terms of the ERO will implement measures to ensure vehicle / equipment hygiene and ensure any imported material is certified weed and pathogen free.</p>
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will involve the use of chemicals which substantially stunt the growth of native vegetation?	No	No use of herbicides or similar proposed, that are known to substantially stunt the growth of native vegetation.

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Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will involve large-scale controlled burning or any controlled burning in sensitive areas, including areas which contain listed threatened species?	No	No burning is proposed.
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will disturb, injure or kill an individual of a threatened plant species or ecological community listed under EPBC Act?	Yes	Refer MNES assessment
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will disturb, injure or kill an individual of a threatened plant species or ecological community listed under State/Territory legislation but not the EPBC Act?	Yes	Refer MNES assessment.
Animals		
<p>Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> cause a long-term decrease in, or threaten the viability of, a native animal population or populations, through death, injury or other harm to individuals; displace or limit the movement or dispersal of native animal populations; reduce or fragment available habitat for native species; reduce or fragment available habitat for listed threatened species which is likely to displace a population, result in a long-term decline in a population, or threaten the viability of the species? 	Possible	Refer MNES assessment.

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Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will introduce exotic species which will reduce habitat or resources for native species?	Possible	<p>Refer MNES assessment.</p> <p>A CEMP regulated by the Airport Environment Officer under the terms of the ERO will implement measures to ensure vehicle / equipment hygiene and ensure any imported material is certified weed and pathogen free.</p>
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will undertake large-scale controlled burning or any controlled burning in areas containing listed threatened species?	No	No burning is proposed.
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will disturb, injure or kill an individual of a protected fauna species (threatened, migratory or marine) listed under the EPBC Act?	Possible	Refer MNES assessment
Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will disturb, injure or kill an individual of a protected fauna species listed under State/Territory legislation but not the EPBC Act?	Possible	-
Heritage		
<p>Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> destroy, remove or alter the fabric (physical material including structural elements and other components, fixtures, contents, and objects) of a heritage place; involve extension, renovation, or alteration of a heritage place in a manner which is inconsistent with the heritage values of the place; involve the erection of buildings or other structures adjacent to, or within important sight lines of, a heritage place which are inconsistent with the heritage values of the place; 	No	<p>As the disturbance footprint for the proposed action have previously been heavily disturbed due to construction, it is unlikely that any cultural heritage values persist at the site. No impact on Listed Heritage values is therefore anticipated.</p> <p>Listed Heritage values relate to Canberra and surrounds as the National Capital.</p> <p>A search of ACTMapi database maintained by the ACT Government identified Canberra Airport as containing a heritage place in the district of Majura (Indigenous Heritage Item ID 1243 on Block 660, which highlights the Airport site). The heritage item consists of an artefact scatter of medium conservation significance.</p> <p>The Canberra Airport Environment Strategy (CAG, 2020) provided a summary of the archaeological surveys conducted in 2001. The Environment Strategy highlighted that the only remaining potential archaeological site is located at the very south east corner of the airport would be not likely be affected by development during the life of the Environment Strategy. The project does not affect this area.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> diminish the heritage value of a heritage place for a community or group for which it is significant; alter the setting of a heritage place in a manner which is inconsistent with the heritage values of the place; or restrict or inhibit the existing use of a heritage place as a cultural or ceremonial site; or any of the above in relation to a place that has a real chance or possibility of being of heritage importance (including of technological importance) and is located on Commonwealth owned or leased land? 		<p>The Canberra Airport Environment Strategy (CAG, 2020) specifies the following initiatives in the Indigenous Heritage Action Plan which apply to the project:</p> <p>Contractors are required to report any artefacts unearthed during construction works to Canberra Airport and the AEO.</p> <p>Consult with the ACT Heritage Unit and Registered Aboriginal Organisations regarding protocol for recording and relocation of artefacts.</p> <p>The Fairbairn Precinct is also subject to a Heritage Management Plan. The project does not affect this area.</p>
<p>People and communities</p>		
<p>Is there a real chance or possibility that the action will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase demand for, or reduce the availability of, community services or infrastructure which have direct or indirect impacts on the environment, including water supply, power supply, roads, waste disposal, and housing; affect the health, safety, welfare or quality of life of the members of a community, through factors such as noise, odours, fumes, smoke, or other pollutants; cause physical dislocation of individuals or communities; or change or diminish cultural identity, social organisation or community resources? 	<p>No</p>	<p>Nothing in the proposed action is likely to affect the health and quality of life of any people or communities or reduce availability of community services.</p> <p>Remediation activities under the finalised remedial plans prioritise the on-airport, in-situ management of PFAS impacted material. Off-airport disposal of a subset of material that is not managed in-situ will be done in a lawful manner consistent with the finalised remediation plans developed under the terms of the ERO.</p>