

Technical Note

Project title Bromelton Energy and Resource Centre
Job number 293683-00
File reference BERC-ARUP-RFI-2-3
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Subject RFI 2 & 3 – Socioeconomic

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No. 2	Issue: Socio-economic impact assessment
Information Requested The socio-economic impact assessment submitted as part of the application material (reference BERC-ARUP-BNE-SIA-RPT-0001, rev C) contains impact tables (Table 10-11) identifying potential social impacts from the project. In some of the descriptions of the impact, there is an initial evaluation that may require amending, including: Table 10 Way of Life: consider scope to further mitigate impact in lieu of no traffic impact assessment for construction (e.g. could buses be used to transport workers to and from site, could timing for workers on site be staggered to reduce impacts at particular times). Alternatively prepare a traffic impact assessment for construction phase to specifically understand level of impact. Table 10 Culture and Heritage: there is no mention or recommendation of the test pitting recommendation identified in the Aboriginal and Cultural Heritage Assessment Table 10 Community Safety and Access to Resources: comments regarding risk to water bodies and therefore the local community may need updating following the further IR items in this enclosure Table 10 Health and Wellbeing: comments regarding Air Quality Assessment (AQA) may need to be updated following the further IR items in this enclosure Table 11 Community Values and Function: comments regarding AQA may need to be updated following the further IR items in this enclosure Table 11 Way of Life: states that impacts to amenity would be of a ‘minor’ magnitude, such as closing windows and spending less time outdoors. However, these changes would constitute major behavioural changes and therefore the assessment of this impact should be amended to reflect this. Table 11 Health and Wellbeing: comments regarding AQA may need to be updated following the further IR items in this enclosure The proponent is requested to submit a revised socio-economic impact assessment with amended impact assessments (tables 10 and 11) where required to appropriately capture and assess social impacts and propose appropriate mitigation	

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Response:

The Socio-economic Impact Assessment (SIA) (BERC-ARUP-BNE-SIA-RPT-0001, rev D) has been reviewed and updated in response to the Information Request. Tables 7 and 8 (previously Table 10 and 11) have been amended to refine the identification, assessment and mitigation of social impacts, including updates informed by revisions to supporting technical assessments.

Comment	Response
Table 7 Way of Life	The suggested mitigation measures, including the use of worker transport (e.g. buses) and staggering of workforce arrival and departure times to reduce peak traffic impacts, have been incorporated into Table 7 and Table 9 (SIA15).
Table 7 Culture and Heritage	Test pitting recommendations have been incorporated into Table 9 (SIA16).
Table 7 Community Safety and Access to Resources	The impact description has been revised to clarify that this represents a general construction-related risk. During construction, there is a potential risk to environmental receptors (including water bodies) from accidental spills, dust generation, or improper material handling. This risk will be managed through standard environmental controls and is not expected to result in a material impact to the community or surrounding environment.
Table 7 Health and Wellbeing	The updated Air Quality Assessment has been reviewed and considered. No material changes to the conclusions of Table 7 are required
Table 8 Community Values and Function	The updated Air Quality Assessment has been reviewed and considered. No material changes to the conclusions of Table 8 are required.
Table 8 Way of Life	The reference to behavioural responses (e.g. closing doors/windows and reduced outdoor activity) has been reviewed. These responses are typically associated with construction activities where there are proximate impacts from noise and dust. For this Project, construction-related air quality, noise and vibration assessments indicate that, due to the distance to sensitive receptors, such impacts are not expected to be significant. During operation, the facility will comply with regulatory standards and does not require changes to normal day-to-day behaviours. Accordingly, these references have been removed from Table 8, and the 'minor' impact rating remains appropriate.
Table 8 Health and Wellbeing	The updated Air Quality Assessment and Human Health Risk Assessment have been reviewed and considered. No material changes to the conclusions of Table 8 are required.

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No. 3	Issue: Negative impacts
Information Requested The socio-economic impact assessment contains impact assessment tables evaluating the risk of various social impacts identified to be generated by the project. Several proposed impacts are considered to have a minor magnitude of impact but do not consider the ramifications of any potential system failure in the operation of the facility (such as exceedance of emission levels). While this is considered unlikely, the impacts of any system failure should be considered as part of the social impact assessment. The proponent is requested to submit a revised socio-economic impact assessment having reviewed all impacts (including likelihood and magnitude), with a scope of potential outcomes if there were to be an exceedance of approved emissions.	

Response

The socio-economic impact assessment has been updated to consider a potential emissions exceedance scenario (Refer Table 8 - row potential impacts to physical and mental health from abnormal operations / systems failure).