

13. Introduction

This section provides details of the existing environment and potential impacts of the workers' accommodation facility.

The Scope Guidelines state that a description is required of [the development and use of] “*any new infrastructure or off-site ancillary facilities required to allow the proposal to proceed*”. The description is required to cover the construction and operation phases of the project as per section 13 of 4.4.1 of the Guidelines.

Further to this, the Scope Guidelines require the prediction of social, environmental, economic and community impacts of the development and a plan of how they are to be managed.

A report *Integrated Impact Assessment for Workers Accommodation Facility*, (Pitt & Sherry, January 2006) which forms the basis for the majority of this section can be found at Appendix 37, Volume 14.

A skilled workforce will be required to construct the pulp mill. The approximate number of personnel required during the construction phase is 2,900 people (Jaakko Pöyry, 2006).

To accommodate the influx of construction workers, Gunns may establish a workers accommodation facility (for an estimated two year construction period) if required. The facility is ancillary to the pulp mill and will be located on the south side of George Town and bounded by Main Road, Pembroke Road, South Street and Agnes Street.

The accommodation facility will accommodate up to 800 workers and consist of sleeping quarters, a dining area, kitchen, car parks and security.