

WestConnex is committed to protecting our community and the environment.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared, which will detail all the potential impacts of the New M5 and the proposed approach to managing them. The EIS will be released later this year for public comment.

## Assessing the project

The New M5 is being assessed as State Significant Infrastructure under Part 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The Department of Planning and Environment has issued Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs), outlining the issues that need to be addressed in the EIS.

The EIS will outline the key features of the New M5 and assess any potential environmental or social impacts during both construction and operation. Importantly, the EIS also outlines recommended measures to minimise and manage potential impacts.

The EIS will be lodged with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment later this year and the public will be invited to provide comments and make submissions at that time.

The EIS will be available on the Department of Planning and Environment website and hard copies will also be available. We will advise the community and stakeholder about the options for viewing the EIS when it is released.

## Air quality

The New M5 tunnels will be wider, flatter and higher than the existing M5 East tunnels, allowing better air circulation through the tunnels, diluting emissions. To support this design, we have identified three potential sites for ventilation facilities:

- just west of Kingsgrove Road, near Kingsgrove business area and the current M5
- at the midway tunnelling point, on government-owned

land currently occupied by Kogarah Golf Course in Arncliffe

- in St Peters at the site previously occupied by Alexandria Landfill

Because the New M5 is so close to Sydney Airport and flight paths, we are working with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and the Department of Planning and Environment to ensure our solution meets with CASA requirements whilst still meeting stringent air quality criteria.

Our ventilation system will be designed to achieve the world's most stringent air quality criteria – both in the tunnel and for the areas surrounding the facilities. The NSW Department of Planning and Environment will review the EIS and consider advice from other agencies when setting conditions of approval in relation to the tunnel ventilation system.

## Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) is the Australian Government's central piece of environmental legislation. It provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places.

WestConnex has identified some plants and wildlife listed in the EPBC Act that may be impacted by the New M5. Accordingly, in mid-July we submitted a referral to the Federal Department of the Environment. Some of the key features of the referral are provided below, and we expect a response in August 2015.

## The Green and Golden Bell Frog

As part of the original M5 East project opened in 2001, Roads and Maritime Services provided breeding ponds for the Green and Golden Bell Frog on government owned land occupied by Kogarah Golf Club in Arncliffe. Roads and Maritime has successfully managed these ponds for more than a decade.

A construction site adjacent to this area is proposed to support tunnelling. We have designed the proposed construction area to avoid the breeding ponds and maintain foraging land for the frogs, and we will adhere to any management measures required as part of the project approval.

## Cooks River/Castlereagh Ironbark Forest vegetation

WestConnex is preparing a Biodiversity Assessment Report for the New M5 in accordance with the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (OEH 2014) and the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects (OEH 2014). This assessment will address the proposed impacts and mitigation measures (including offsets) for the Cooks River/Castlereagh Ironbark Forest vegetation.

## For more information

For more information on the assessment process for State Significant Infrastructure, see the Department of Planning and Environment website.

For more information on the New M5 or WestConnex, visit [westconnex.com.au](http://westconnex.com.au) or call 1300 660 248.



## We speak your language

Learn more by visiting

[www.westconnex.com.au/yourlanguage](http://www.westconnex.com.au/yourlanguage)

to watch project videos in your language and read more about WestConnex. If you need an interpreter, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450**.

### Arabic

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[www.westconnex.com.au/yourlanguage](http://www.westconnex.com.au/yourlanguage)  
وذلك لمشاهدة الفيديوهات الخاصة بالمشروع باللغة العربية  
وقراءة المزيد عن وست كونكس. إذا كنت في حاجة إلى  
مترجم، اتصل بخدمة الترجمة الخطية والشفوية على الرقم  
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### Chinese

了解詳情請上網  
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視頻，並查閱有關WestConnex的更多訊息。如需要傳譯員請  
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इस वेबसाइट पर अधिक जानकारी पाएँ:  
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परियोजना के बारे में वीडियो देखें और वेबसाइट के बारे में  
और अधिक सामग्री पढ़ें। यदि आपकी भाषा या चाहिए तो अनुवाद व  
भाषा सेवा को **131 450** पर फोन करें।

### Greek

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βίντεο του έργου στα ελληνικά και να διαβάσετε περισσότερα  
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### Italian

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guardare i video del progetto in lingua italiana e trovare maggiori  
informazioni su WestConnex. Se ha bisogno di un interprete,  
contatti il Servizio di Traduzione ed Interpretariato (Translating  
and Interpreting Service) al numero **131 450**.

### Korean

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된 프로젝트 비디오를 보고 WestConnex 에 관해 읽고 배우세요.  
통역이 필요하시면 번역 및 통역 서비스 **131 450** (TIS) 으로 전화  
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### Vietnamese

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[www.westconnex.com.au/yourlanguage](http://www.westconnex.com.au/yourlanguage) để xem phim ảnh  
bằng Việt ngữ về công trình này và đọc thêm về WestConnex.  
Nếu quý vị cần thông ngôn viên, xin vui lòng gọi Dịch Vụ Thông  
Ngôn Phiên Dịch số **131 450**.