## APPENDIX 4: METHOD OF IMPACT IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT

PART A: DEFINITIONS AND	CRITERIA*			
Definition of SIGNIFICANCE		Significance = consequence x probability		
Definition of CONSEQUENCE		Consequence is a function of intensity, spatial extent and duration		
Criteria for ranking of the INTENSITY of environmental impacts	VH	Severe change, disturbance or degradation. Associated with severe consequences. May result in severe illness, injury or death. Targets, limits ar thresholds of concern continually exceeded. Substantial intervention will be required. Vigorous/widespread community mobilization against project can be expected. May result in legal action if impact occurs.		
	H	Prominent change, disturbance or degradation. Associated with real and substantial consequences. May result in illness or injury. Targets, limits and thresholds of concern regularly exceeded. Will definitely require intervention. Threats of community action. Regular complaints can be expected when the impact takes place.		
	М	Moderate change, disturbance or discomfort. Associated with real but not substantial consequences. Targets, limits and thresholds of concern may occasionally be exceeded. Likely to require some intervention. Occasional complaints can be expected.		
	L	Minor (Slight) change, disturbance or nuisance. Associated with minor consequences or deterioration. Targets, limits and thresholds of concern rarely exceeded. Require only minor interventions or clean-up actions. Sporadic complaints could be expected.		
	VL	Negligible change, disturbance or nuisance. Associated with very minor consequences or deterioration. Targets, limits and thresholds of concern never exceeded. No interventions or clean-up actions required. No complaints anticipated.		
	VL+	Negligible change or improvement. Almost no benefits. Change not measurable/will remain in the current range.		
	L+	Minor change or improvement. Minor benefits. Change not measurable/will remain in the current range. Few people will experience benefits.		
	M+	Moderate change or improvement. Real but not substantial benefits. Will be within or marginally better than the current conditions. Small number of people will experience benefits.		
	H+	Prominent change or improvement. Real and substantial benefits. Will be better than current conditions. Many people will experience benefits. General community support.		
	VH+	Substantial, large-scale change or improvement. Considerable and widespread benefit. Will be much better than the current conditions. Favourable publicity and/or widespread support expected.		
Criteria for ranking the	VL	Very short, always less than a year. Quickly reversible		
DURATION of impacts	L	Short-term, occurs for more than 1 but less than 5 years. Reversible over time.		
	М	Medium-term, 5 to 10 years.		
	Н	Long term, between 10 and 20 years. (Likely to cease at the end of the operational life of the activity)		
	VH	Very long, permanent, +20 years (Irreversible. Beyond closure)		
Criteria for ranking the	VL	A part of the site/property.		
EXTENT of impacts	L	Whole site.		
	М	Beyond the site boundary, affecting immediate neighbours		
	Н	Local area, extending far beyond site boundary.		
	VH	Regional/National		

site/arfecting neighboursextending far neighboursNational neighboursVLVLMHVHVLLMHVHLong termHLowLowMediumMediumMedium termMVery LowLowLowMediumMedium termMVery LowLowLowMediumMedium termMVery LowLowLowMediumMedium termMVery LowVery LowLowLowVery shortVVery lowVery LowLowLowLong termHLowMediumMediumMediumMedium termMLowLowMediumMediumMedium termMLowLowLowMediumMedium termMLowLowLowMediumMedium termMMediumMediumMediumMediumMotorerVery longVHMediumMediumMediumMedium termMMediumMediumMediumHighMedium termMMediumMediumMediumHighMedium termMMediumMediumMediumMediumMedium termMMediumMediumMediumHighMedium termMMediumMediumMediumMediumMedium termMMediumMediumMediumMediumMedium termMMediumMediumMedium <th></th> <th></th> <th>PA</th> <th>RT B: DETERM</th> <th>IINING CONSEQU</th> <th>ENCE</th> <th></th> <th></th>			PA	RT B: DETERM	IINING CONSEQU	ENCE		
sitesi				EXTENT				
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EXTENT						, ,	ı - I	

		P	ART C: DETERMI	NING SIGNIFICAN	CE		
PROBABILITY (of exposure to	Definite/ Continuous	VH	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
impacts)	Probable	Н	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
	Possible/ frequent	М	Very Low	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
	Conceivable	L	Insignificant	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
	Unlikely/ improbable	VL	Insignificant	Insignificant	Very Low	Low	Medium
			VL	L	М	Н	VH
				CON	SEQUENCE		

PART D: INTERPRETATION OF SIGNIFICANCE						
Significance	Decision guideline					
Very High	Potential fatal flaw unless mitigated to lower significance.					
High	It must have an influence on the decision. Substantial mitigation will be required.					
Medium	It should have an influence on the decision. Mitigation will be required.					
Low	Unlikely that it will have a real influence on the decision. Limited mitigation is likely to be required.					
Very Low	It will not have an influence on the decision. Does not require any mitigation					
Insignificant	Inconsequential, not requiring any consideration.					

\*VH = very high, H = high, M= medium, L= low and VL= very low and + denotes a positive impact.