WESTCONNEX WEEKLY UPDATE 15.03.19

STAGE 1 - M4 East

Compliance Tracking Program’s third revision released

The Stage 1 contractor has released the third revision of their Compliance Tracking Program. This program has been established to ensure that parties involved in delivery of the M4 East motorway (Stage 1 of WestConnex) comply with the Minister’s Conditions of Approval for the project; this latest revision has been issued in response to comments by the Department of Planning and Environment. The Compliance Tracking Program third revision document can be found on Local Updates.

STAGE 2 – New M5

No imminent announcements at this stage – check back early next week for updates.

STAGE 3A – M4–M5 Link Tunnels

Tunnelling to begin - Haberfield

The Stage 3A contractor has released a notification advising that underground tunnelling is to begin this month. According to the notice, the first four tunnelling machines (called ‘roadheaders’) have been delivered to the Northcote Street tunnel and civil site, where they will begin their work as of “March 2019.” For more information, including advice about the delivery of additional roadheaders, see Notification MT077 on Local Updates.

Updated sub-plans for Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) released

Following the February approval of a modification to its plans, Stage 3A’s contractor has released updated versions of sub-plans that make up its Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP); the posted sub-plans are all parts of the CEMP that have been revised to comply with the mandates of the CEMP’s approved modification. They affected sub-plans are; the Flora and Fauna Management Sub-Plan, the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Sub-Plan, the Non-Aboriginal Heritage Management Sub-Plan, the Soil and Surface Water Management Sub-Plan, and the Waste Management Sub-Plan. The revised sub-plans can be found on Local Updates.

Updated Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) and Premise Boundary Map released

Following from the previous update of Stage 3A’s Environmental Protection Licence (EPL)(Licence 21149), the Stage 3A contractor has published a version of the EPL updated on March 8th to comply with the approved Modification to the M4-M5 Tunnel Link. The March-updated EPL can be found on Local Updates.

Geotechnical Investigations – Catherine Street, Leichhardt

The Stage 3A contractor has issued a notice for geotechnical survey works to be undertaken along Catherine Street, Leichhardt, commencing 18 March 2019. These works are expected to take up to three weeks to complete, weather and conditions permitting. Works will be conducted from 7am to 6pm weekdays and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. For further information, see Notification MT040 on Local Updates.

Geotechnical Investigations – Simpsons Park, St Peters

The Stage 3A contractor has issued a notice for geotechnical survey works to be undertaken along Simpsons Park, St Peters, commencing 18 March 2019. These works are expected to take up to three weeks to complete, weather and conditions permitting. Works will be conducted from 7am to 6pm weekdays and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. For further information, see Notification MT025 on Local Updates.

Geotechnical Investigations – Dobroyd Parade, Haberfield

The Stage 3A contractor has issued a notice for geotechnical survey works to be undertaken within the M4 East operational site along Dobroyd Parade, Haberfield, commencing 18 March 2019. These works are expected to take up to one week to complete, weather and conditions permitting. Works will be conducted from 7am to 6pm weekdays and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. For further information, see Notification MT037B on Local Updates.
STAGE 3B – M4–M5 Link Rozelle Interchange

No Updates for Stage 3B this week.

GENERAL

Media article, “Satellite data show WestConnex damage could ‘open floodgates’ on claims”

An article has been published on the website of The Australian Financial Review about a new measure of possible subsidence caused by the WestConnex Project. The article, written by Jenny Wiggins and titled “Satellite data show WestConnex damage could ‘open floodgates’ on claims”, covers how a start-up group called Otus Intelligence Group has purchased precision satellite imaging to measure land subsidence on or near the tunnelling sites for the WestConnex Project – and the readings available so far. The article is available to subscribers on the Australian Financial Review’s website.

Media article, “WestConnex: a Minute to Midnight”

An analysis piece by Julie Macken on how the WestConnex Project will factor into the state election later this month – and how it might be affected by the results. The NSW Parliamentary Inquiry, the Project’s adopted “piston method” of emissions ventilation, and the possibility of a judicial inquiry are all raised in the discussion. The article, titled WestConnex: a Minute to Midnight, can be found on independent news site newmatilda.com.