



**FRIEDA RIVER**

Frieda River Limited  
**Sepik Development Project**  
Environmental Impact Statement  
Chapter 13 – Conclusion

SDP-6-G-00-01-T-084-014





## 13. CONCLUSION

Coffey has prepared this EIS on behalf of FRL, who is assessing the feasibility of the Project. The Project is underpinned by the FRCGP and FRHEP and supported by two separate but interdependent projects which provide key infrastructure. If developed, the Project will be the second largest capital investment in the resource sector in PNG and will attract significant local employment and foreign investment.

This EIS will be used as the statutory basis for the environmental assessment of the Project. The EIS provides details on the Project to regulatory authorities, the general public and other stakeholders, and will allow the relevant government agencies of PNG to assess the Project and formulate conditions under which it might proceed.

The Project presents broad commercial and socio-economic development opportunities for PNG and aligns with PNG's strategic development plans. The Project creates an enabling environment for investment and economic participation through the development of road and telecommunication infrastructure, providing a platform for other economic activities, and is consistent with PNG's stated development goals.

The EIS:

- Describes the main environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with the development of the Project.
- Outlines the proposed in-principle management measures FRL will implement to address these impacts while maximising its positive socio-economic effects.
- Outlines the Project's environmental and social management, monitoring, auditing and reporting framework.
- Describes the predicted residual environmental and socio-economic impacts assuming the successful implementation of the management measures.
- Describes the potential social and economic opportunities associated with the Project.

The EIS has been prepared in accordance with the approved EIR and CEPA's information guideline for conduct of environmental impact assessment and preparation of environmental impact statement.

The Executive Summary to the EIS presents a summary of the main findings of the EIS in English and Tok Pisin to provide an explanation for non-technical readers. It is intended to be able to be read as a stand-alone report without reference to the main report or technical appendices.

The front part of the EIS (chapters 1 to 7) provides:

- An introduction to the Project.
- The viability and purpose of the Project.
- The legal and policy framework and guidelines and standards used to assess the potential impacts of the Project.
- A summary of the stakeholder engagement undertaken by FRL to support Project permitting and the feedback that has been provided by stakeholders about the Project to date.

- A detailed description of the proposed Project and the alternatives considered during Project planning.
- A detailed description of the Project's terrestrial, aquatic and socio-economic setting.

Particular emphasis has been given to those aspects of the Project with the greatest potential for environmental and socio-economic impacts.

The second part of the EIS (chapters 8 to 17) forms the bulk of the EIS and provides a detailed description of the predicted impacts to the physical, biological and socio-economic environment, as well as the proposed management measures FRL will implement to address these. Specialist studies contained within the technical appendices and/or material referenced in the body of the EIS have been used to support this part of the EIS. The second part also presents a cumulative impact assessment and an assessment of the potential extreme natural hazards and incidental events that may occur and FRL's safeguards in order to be prepared for them, describes the environmental and social management, monitoring, auditing and reporting framework that will guide the Project and also provides supporting information, such as the references, study team, acknowledgements, glossary and abbreviations used to prepare the EIS.

The third part of the EIS (attachments 1 to 4) contains a summary of the environmental and social commitments FRL has made in the EIS, the EMMPs for the Project elements, a summary of water quality guidelines and a reference table showing where the requirements of the approved EIR and CEPA's information guidelines can be found in the EIS.

There are 23 technical specialist reports that accompany the EIS.

It is anticipated that details of the proposed development will be progressively refined as engineering work proceeds through the detailed design phase. Variations that are considered substantive and which have the potential to require amendments to the EIS will be reported to the relevant government agencies.

Public disclosure of the EIS will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Environment Act 2000*. This will include an EIS engagement campaign, which will be conducted by FRL and Coffey, with officers from CEPA and MRA attending. The EIS engagement campaign will provide a final summary of the findings from the EIS and address issues previously raised by stakeholders. The timing for the EIS engagement campaign will be determined and planned by CEPA in conjunction with FRL but is likely to be between three and six months following the submission of the EIS.

This EIS will be available for public display at the following locations:

- Frieda River Airstrip, Telefomin District. Sandaun Province, PNG.
- PanAust's website, [www.panaust.com.au](http://www.panaust.com.au)
- Office of the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA), Port Moresby.
- Office of the Mineral Resources Authority (MRA), Port Moresby.
- Office of the Sandaun Provincial Government, Vanimo.
- Office of the East Sepik Provincial Government, Wewak.