Directions in Environmental Impact Assessment

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Trends in EIA

Proponent drivers:
- Projects to construction quickly
- Flexibility in delivery
- Harness innovation

A response – performance based EIA:
- Project definition less fixed
- Project envelope sets maximum extent
- Outcome focussed – specified performance requirements
## Performance based EIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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<tr>
<td>Provides flexibility to proponent</td>
<td>Stakeholders have less clarity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harnesses innovation in delivery</td>
<td>Design to be built not subject of EIA</td>
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<td>Potential for lower cost outcome</td>
<td>More sophisticated EMF needed</td>
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<td>Transfers risk to private sector</td>
<td>Back-ends verification of compliance</td>
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Models for EIA and Procurement

**Traditional EIA**
- Planning approval
- D&C tender
- Works commencement

**Performance based EIA**
- Planning approval
- D&C tender
- Works commencement

**Tender design EIA**
- Planning approval
- D&C tender
- Works commencement

[Diagram showing the timelines for Traditional EIA, Performance based EIA, and Tender design EIA.]
Tender design EIA

Channel Deepening
- Complex – construction tricky
- Alliance with Boskalis pre EIS
- Dredging approach integral to EIS

NorthConnex (www.northconnex.com.au)
- 3 tenderers responded to indicative design
- EIS based on preferred tender

European examples
- Maastricht tunnel, Zurich-Harlingen highway