

Contents

			Page
1	Introduction		1
	1.1	General	1
	1.2	Project Overview	1
	1.3	Project Need	2
	1.4	Planning Process for Proposed Development	2
	1.5	Purpose of Scoping	5
	1.6	On-going Consultation	5
2	Project Description		8
	2.1	General	8
	2.2	Other Project Components	13
3	Structure and Scope of the EIAR		15
	3.1	EIA Screening Conclusions	15
	3.2	Contents of the EIAR	15
	3.3	Proposed EIAR Methodology	17
4	Environmental Issues to be Addressed in the EIAR		19
	4.1	Introduction	19
	4.2	Background to the Project	19
	4.3	Alternatives Considered and Need for the Project	19
	4.4	Scheme Description	19
	4.5	Construction Activities	20
	4.6	Planning and Policy Context	20
	4.7	Consultation Programme	20
	4.8	Population and Human Health	21
	4.9	Landscape and Visual Impact	22
	4.10	Noise and Vibration	23
	4.11	Roads and Traffic	25
	4.12	Biodiversity	26
	4.13	Land Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology	30
	4.14	Hydrology, Flooding and Water Quality	31
	4.15	Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage	33
	4.16	Material Assets, Major Accidents and Disasters	34
	4.17	Air Quality and Climate Change	35
5	Associated Projects		37
	5.1	Description of Associated Projects	37
	5.2	Transboundary Impacts, Cumulative Impacts, Indirect Impacts and Interaction of Effects	38