Environmental Approval Processes for Westport's maritime (port) infrastructure





November 2024

Westport must secure environmental approvals under both the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA) (EP Act) and *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth) (EPBC Act) before construction of the port can commence.

Environmental impacts associated with the port will be made publicly available and assessed by the State and Commonwealth regulators. This process is expected to take 2-3 years from referral and will involve opportunities for public comment.

Westport's assessments

There are two separate environmental assessment processes as part of Westport for:

- The maritime infrastructure including shipping channels, breakwater and port facility, and land side infrastructure within the Kwinana Industrial Area.
- 2. Anketell Road upgrade from the Kwinana Industrial Area (Leath Road) to Kwinana Freeway.

Main Roads WA are managing the environmental assessment process for the Anketell Road Upgrade.

Information in this fact sheet relates to the Westport environmental assessment process for the marine (port) infrastructure.

State Environmental Approval Process



Project Referral

Early 2024

- Project referred to Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)
- 7 day EPA public comment period
- EPA determined level of assessment as Public Environmental Review



Environmental Assessment Scoping

Late 2024

- Environmental Scoping Document (ESD) outlining the proposed approach submitted to the EPA
- 2 week public comment period
- Following inclusion of feedback, EPA approves ESD



EPA Assessment (Public Environmental Review)

2025-2026

- Environmental Review Document (ERD) submitted to EPA
- 8 week public comment period on the ERD
- Responses to submissions on the PER will be published for public for information only
- EPA report released
- 21 day public appeals period on the EPA Report



Ministerial Decision

2026

- Minister for Environment consults with Cabinet colleagues
- Minister issues approval decision and any associated conditions on approval



To view the status of Westport's EPA assessment visit

www.epa.wa.gov.au/proposals/outer-harbour-port-development-kwinana

Commonwealth Environmental Approval Process



Project Referral

Project referred to Commonwealth Minister for the Environment.

7 day public comment period.

Minister determined the proposal is a 'controlled action' requiring assessment and will be subject to a Public Environment Report.

Late 2024

Assessment Guidelines

Assessment Guidelines outlining the requirements of the Public Environment Report are drafted by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).

Assessment Guidelines published by DCCEEW for a 10 day public comment period.

2026

Assessment

Public Environment Report submitted to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).

20 business days public comment period on the Public Environment Report (PER).

Responses to public comments will be approved by DCCEEW and incorporated into a final Public Environment Report that will be issued for public information only.



Ministerial decision

The Commonwealth Minister for the Environment issues approval decision and any associated conditions on approval. The public will have 10 business days to comment on the draft decision before the decision is finalised and published.



To view the status of Westport's EPBC assessment visit

https://epbcpublicportal.awe.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referralsummary/?id=62863b56-f6fa-ee11-9f89-00224898cf5d



Community opportunities to be involved and provide feedback

Public participation is a key component of the environmental impact assessment process.

The EP Act and EPBC Act provides for several opportunities throughout the process for public comment (as outlined above), via the WA EPA's consultation hub and the Australian Government's EPBC Act Public Portal.

In addition, Westport will also be communicating with community throughout the process and providing ongoing opportunities for engagement and feedback.

Find out more

To learn more about the environmental regulatory process for Westport visit www.westport.wa.gov.au/ environment/environmental-impact-assessment/.

