DELIVERING FOR QUEENSLAND | Queensland Government

Our ref: OUT26/3116

Department of
State Development,
Infrastructure and Planning

9 July 2026

Mr Brian Connellan
Access and Approvals Lead
APA Bulloo Interlink Pipeline Pty Ltd
Mathew.johannesen@riotinto.com

Dear Mr Connellan

REQUIREMENT NOTICE
RPI26/041: APA Bulloo Interlink Pipeline
(given under section 44 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*)

I refer to the assessment application which was properly made on 25 June 2026 under section 29 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act). The application is seeking a regional interests development approval (RIDA) for a resource activity: petroleum and gas for the Bulloo Interlink Pipeline in the Channel Country Strategic Environmental Area (SEA).

Application details

Applicant	APA Bulloo Interlink Pipeline Pty Ltd
Project	Bulloo Interlink Pipeline
Description	Resource activity: petroleum and gas
Area of regional interests	Channel Country SEA
Proposed impact area	1.32 ha

Site details

Real property description	Lot 3 on BI22
Local government area	Bulloo Shire Council

Information Requirement

Pursuant to section 44 of the RPI Act, you are advised that further information is required to assist in the assessment of the application against the assessment criteria contained in the RPI Act and the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014 (RPI Regulation). The additional information required is detailed in **Attachment A**.

The period in which the information must be provided is a maximum of three months from the date of this notice. An extension to this period may be requested by the applicant, if necessary.

A further requirement notice may also be given where necessary.

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Brisbane Queensland 4000
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City East Queensland 4002
Telephone 13 QGOV (13 74 68)
Website
www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au
ABN 29 230 178 530

Public notification requirement

Pursuant to section 34(4) of the RPI Act, it has been determined that the application requires notification. The reason for the decision is that the delegate for the chief executive has determined that it is in the public interest for the application to be publicly notified. In accordance with section 35 of the RPI Act, you are required to:

- publish a notice about the application '*at least once in a newspaper circulating generally in the area of the land'* as prescribed in section 13 of the RPI Regulation
- where not the owner of the land, give the owners of the land notice about the application.

It is noted that you have already provided the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDIP) with proof of delivery of notice about the application to landowners.

Public notification must be undertaken within 10 business days of providing the response to the requirement notice to DSDIP. The notification period is 15 business days after the notice about the application is first published, with the closing date being a day after the end of the notification period.

The approved form for public notification is available on DSDIP's website at RPI regional interests development approval public notification template. Please provide a copy of the notice as it appears in the newspaper circulating generally in the area to RPIAct@dsdip.qld.gov.au

You are also referred to the RPI Act Statutory Guideline 06/14 Public notification of assessment applications at RPI Act - Statutory Guideline 06/14 for further information.

If you require any further information, or have any queries, please contact Mr Darren Brewer, Manager – Improvement and Assessment Division, Planning Group, DSDIP on (07) 3452 7472 or by email at RPIAct@dsdip.qld.gov.au who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely



Paul Beutel
Director
Development Assurance Division
Planning Group

Enc

Attachment A - Additional information required

Information required for assessment against SEA criteria – Schedule 2, Part 5 of the RPI Regulation is as follows:

Item	Information requested
1.	**Issue** (a) The *Bulloo Interlink Pipeline, Regional Interests Development Approval* report prepared by GHD and dated June 2026 (GHD report) states that shapefiles of all figures are included with the application, including: i. planned impact areas ii. infrastructure location iii. ground-truthed ecological data. However, the shapefiles were not provided with the application. (b) Figure 1.1 of the GHD report does not identify the northern horizontal directional drilling (HDD) entry pad as an area of surface impact, creating uncertainty about the full extent of impact associated with the resource activity. **Action** (a) Provide the shapefiles to allow a comprehensive assessment of the proposed activity, including: i. planned temporary and permanent surface impact areas ii. infrastructure locations, including sumps, drill pads and access tracks. iii. ground-truthed ecological data. (b) Provide spatial data confirming the full extent of surface impact associated with the resource activity, including the northern HDD entry pad, to enable assessment of impacts on ecological values within the Channel Country Strategic Environmental Area (SEA).
2.	**Issue** The GHD report states that the impacts and proposed mitigation measures were informed by the following technical assessments: (a) Terrestrial Ecology Assessment Report (b) Aquatic Ecology Environmental Assessment Report (c) Water Technical Report. However, the abovementioned reports were not provided with the application. The information is required to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the proposed activity and its potential impacts on ecological and water values within the SEA. **Action** Provide the following technical reports referenced in the GHD report: (a) Terrestrial Ecology Assessment Report (b) Aquatic Ecology Environmental Assessment Report (c) Water Technical Report.
3.	**Issue** The GHD report states that the Wilson River crossing will be constructed using HDD beneath the river channel and floodplain. However, the application does not specify the depth of the riverbed or the proposed HDD borehole. Figure 4.1 provides a schematic representation of the HDD method only and does not include dimensions. Further, section 5.5.6 of the GHD report states that groundwater is anticipated to occur within a few metres of the ground surface along and adjacent to watercourses. The application does not assess the risk of the HDD borehole intersecting groundwater,

	which could result in borehole instability, sedimentation, or the release of drilling fluids to the Wilson River and associated floodplain environments. The application also does not include any geotechnical investigations within the Channel Country SEA to support the proposed HDD methodology and associated impact assessment. **Action** Provide the following information: (a) the depth of the Wilson River riverbed below ground level at the proposed crossing location (b) the proposed depth of the HDD borehole below ground level (c) details of investigations undertaken, or proposed to be undertaken, to identify groundwater conditions at the crossing location, including any geotechnical investigations (d) an assessment of the likelihood of the HDD borehole intersecting groundwater and the potential impacts of such an interaction (e) proposed mitigation measures to avoid or minimise risks associated with groundwater interaction (f) contingency measures to manage borehole collapse, frac-out events, or the release of drilling fluids to the Wilson River or surrounding floodplain (g) where geotechnical investigations are required within the Channel Country SEA, an assessment of the potential impacts of those investigations on riparian processes, wildlife corridors, water quality, and ecological values.
4.	**Issue** Section 5.5.3 of the GHD report states that the Cooper Creek Basin is typically dry for much of the year and that rainfall is highly variable. However, the Cooper Creek system is characterised by an episodic flow regime and periodic flooding that can inundate extensive areas of the floodplain. The application states that construction of the HDD crossing is expected to take approximately three months and that emergency weather and flood contingency procedures will be implemented. However, no details of these procedures have been provided. As flooding may affect the construction methodology, environmental risks and the ability to implement mitigation measures, further information is required. **Action** Please provide: (a) confirmation of whether construction activities, including the HDD crossing, will be scheduled to occur during anticipated dry periods (b) details of the emergency weather and flood contingency procedures proposed.