

The Jordan River Levee Site

Permit Application

- DIER formally submitted an application for a permit to interfere with the area outside of the levee deposit with The Director of National Parks and Wildlife on June 10th 2010.
- Because this project generated a lot of interest in the community, the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) implemented a new process that enabled the public to make formal submissions on the DIER proposal to build a bridge across the Jordan River and associated levee.
- The application sought a permit to allow the Jordan River crossing to be constructed within the inferred Aboriginal site. Even though DIER is not proposing to impact on the levee deposit or 'true site' as determined by the investigation, a permit is required because impacts are proposed within the larger landscape unit that had previously been recorded as an Aboriginal site.
- The application commits to:
 - No permanent physical impacts on the levee containing the cultural deposit;
 - Interference with a small percentage of the broader site which is adjacent to the significant levee deposit to allow for construction of an embankment and bridge elements; and
 - Minimal temporary access onto a section of the levee with no soil excavation, to allow the safe construction of the western support for the long span bridge and to install a protective rock blanket. No impacts on the cultural deposit will result from this action.
- DIER was advised that the Director wished to make a recommendation to the Minister based on full information and therefore asked that the formal assessment process be postponed until the final archaeological report was completed and submitted. Final reports are not usually completed until a later stage.



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- The final archaeological report was submitted to the Director on 2nd August 2010. The proposal was open for public submissions during September 2010.
- The permit to interfere with the area outside of the levee deposit was granted in December 2010.
- As part of the permit, DIER and its contractors had to submit a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for approval by the Minister. A draft CEMP was submitted for Minister Wightman's consideration on the 2nd February 2011 with a final version submitted on the 31st March 2011.
- DIER is proud of the way the proposal has been modified to enable the site to be protected.
- If a decision is made that enables the bridge to be constructed, DIER will look forward to working with the Aboriginal community to enable appropriate protection, access and interpretation of the heritage site.

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