

Chapter 9 – Environmental record

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9.1 Environmental record of NVIRP

In order to implement the modernised irrigation system in the GMID, the Victorian Government established the State-owned Enterprise for Irrigation Modernisation, trading as the Northern Victoria Irrigation Renewal Project (**NVIRP**). As a recently created body NVIRP has no environmental history outside of this project.

NVIRP has never been subject to any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

NVIRP has not previously referred an action under the EPBC Act.

9.2 Environmental Management System

The action will be taken in accordance with NVIRP's environmental policy and its Environmental Management System (**EMS**) that is consistent with the International Standard ISO14001:2004 Environmental management systems – requirements with guidance for use.

The objective of the EMS is to provide a systematic approach to the delivery of the project that protects environmental values and is compliant with legislation and policy requirements. The EMS provides the framework for identifying and assessing NVIRP's environmental aspects and impacts along with programmes for continual improvement that achieve specified environmental objectives and targets.

The EMS applies to all aspects of NVIRP's activities and includes a schedule for review and improvement.

The EMS also includes the Water Change Management Framework (**WCMF**) which establishes processes by which the project will protect aquatic and riparian ecological values through management of water allocations and flows that may be impacted by implementation of modified operation of the modernised GMID. The WCMF is described in more detail in Chapter 7.