Alignment of General EPBC Assessment Process Stages, with steps in Victorian Statutory Processes Accredited under the 2014 Bilateral Assessment Agreement

**Diagram Description**

- **EPBC Assessment Stages**
  - **Planning Permit (P&E Act)**
  - **Environmental Report (EE Act)**
  - **CIS (MTPF Act)**
  - **Advisory Committee (P&E Act)**
  - **Heritage Permit (Heritage Act)**
  - **Approval s. 36, 51 or 67 (Water Act)**
  - **Works Approval (Env Protection Act)**

- **Scope of EPBC Assessment confirmed**
  - Environmental Effects Act 1978
  - Planning & Environment Act 1987
  - Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
  - EPBC = Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
  - MTPF Act = Major Transport Projects Facilitation Act 2009

- **Key - Roles**
  - **Proponent**
  - **Commonwealth**
  - **State Agency**
  - **Public**

- **Process Flow**
  1. **Draft Assessment Documentation prepared (proponent) to satisfaction of State**
  2. **Public Notice Inviting Comment on (draft) Assessment Documentation**
  3. **Proponent finalises Assessment Documentation, including responses to public comments**
  4. **Assessment Report prepared by State & issued to Commonwealth**
  5. **EPBC Approval decision issued by Commonwealth**
  6. **Heritage Permit Application prepared by proponent in accordance with Water Act**
  7. **Application for s.36, 51 or 67 Approval & relevant supporting documentation prepared by proponent in accordance with Water Act**
  8. **Works Approval Application & relevant supporting documentation prepared by proponent in accordance with Water Act**

- **Timeline**
  - **Initial Scoping (30 business days)**
  - **Public notice inviting Comment on (draft) Assessment Documentation (14 days)**
  - **Proponent provides EPA (draft) Assessment Documentation (20 - 30 bus days)**
  - **Proponent provides Min for Water with final Assessment Documentation (Application), including responses to public comments (20 - 30 bus days)**
  - **Proponent provides EPA with final Assessment Documentation (Application), including responses to public comments (20 - 30 bus days)**
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- **Roles & Responsibilities**
  - **Minister for Planning’s No EES Conditions set requirement for and Scope of Environmental Report (including MNESS)**
  - **Public comment sought (15 bus days)**
  - **Proponent prepares and submits final assessment report to Proponent (14 days)**
  - **Proponent provides Min for Planning & published (14 days)**
  - **Proponent provides EPA with final Assessment Documentation (Application), including responses to public comments (20 - 30 bus days)**

- **Supporting Documents**
  - **EES exhibited and advertised - public submissions invited (20 - 30 bus days)**
  - **CIS exhibited and advertised - public submissions invited (20 - 30 bus days)**
  - **Proponent provides Min for Water with final Assessment Documentation (Application), including responses to public comments (20 - 30 bus days)**

- **Approval Decision**
  - **EPBC Approval decision issued by Commonwealth**
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- **Notable Acts**
  - **EE Act = Environment Effects Act 1978**
  - **P&E Act = Planning & Environment Act 1987**
  - **MTPF Act = Major Transport Projects Facilitation Act 2009**

- **Additional Information**
  - **MNES = a Matter of National Environmental Significance protected by a provision of Div. 1 of Part 3 of EPBC Act**

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**Notes**

- **Item 2.1(a) – refers to the accredited assessment item in Schedule 1 to the Bilateral Agreement**

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**Legend**

- **DELWP** = Vic Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- **PRO** = Proponent
- **STATE** = State Agency
- **EMPL** = Minister for Planning
- **DELWP (Water)**
- **DELWP (Planning)**
- **DELWP (Heritage)**
- **EPA** = Environment Protection Agency
- **MNES** = a Matter of National Environmental Significance protected by a provision of Div. 1 of Part 3 of EPBC Act

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**Diagrams**

- **Diagram 1**
  - **Scope of EPBC Assessment confirmed**
  - **Draft Assessment Documentation prepared (proponent) to satisfaction of State**
  - **Public Notice Inviting Comment on (Draft) Assessment Documentation**
  - **Proponent Finalises Assessment Documentation, Including Responses to Public Comments**
  - **Assessment Report Prepared by State & Issued to Commonwealth**
  - **EPBC Approval Decision Issued by Commonwealth**

- **Diagram 2**
  - **Environmental Effects Act 1978**
  - **Planning & Environment Act 1987**
  - **Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999**

- **Diagram 3**
  - **Initial Scoping (30 business days)**
  - **Public Notice Inviting Comment on (Draft) Assessment Documentation (14 days)**
  - **Proponent Provides EPA (Draft) Assessment Documentation (20 - 30 Business Days)**
  - **Proponent Provides Min for Water with Final Assessment Documentation (Application), Including Responses to Public Comments (20 - 30 Business Days)**

- **Diagram 4**
  - **Proponent Provides EPA with Final Assessment Documentation (Application), Including Responses to Public Comments (20 - 30 Business Days)**
  - **Proponent Provides EPA with Final Assessment Documentation (Application), Including Responses to Public Comments (20 - 30 Business Days)**
  - **Proponent Provides EPA with Final Assessment Documentation (Application), Including Responses to Public Comments (20 - 30 Business Days)**
  - **Proponent Provides EPA with Final Assessment Documentation (Application), Including Responses to Public Comments (20 - 30 Business Days)**

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**Program Key**

- **State Agency**
- **Alignment of General EPBC Assessment Process Stages**
- **Stages**
  - **Planning Permit**
  - **Environmental Report**
  - **CIS**
  - **Advisory Committee**
  - **Heritage Permit**
  - **Approval s. 36, 51 or 67**
  - **Works Approval**

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**Schedule**

- **Schedule 1**
  - **Item 2.1(a) – refers to the accredited assessment item in**
  - **Schedule 1 to the Bilateral Agreement**

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**Additional Notes**

- **State Agency**
- **Alignment of General EPBC Assessment Process Stages**
- **Stages**
  - **Planning Permit**
  - **Environmental Report**
  - **CIS**
  - **Advisory Committee**
  - **Heritage Permit**
  - **Approval s. 36, 51 or 67**
  - **Works Approval**

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