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Perth-Darwin National Highway

Response to Submissions (Addendum)

Perth-Darwin National Highway (Swan Valley Section)

MARCH 2016



Document <i>Control</i>					
Revision	Date	Description	Prepared	Reviewed	Approved
A	1/3/2016	Draft for Main Roads review (Coffey v1)	Coffey	B. Napier	B. Napier
0	1/3/2016	Final for submission to OEPA and DOTE (Coffey v2)	Coffey	B. Napier	B. Napier

Prepared by:



A TETRA TECH COMPANY

Coffey Environments Australia Pty Ltd

Suite 2, 53 Burswood Road

Burswood WA 6100 Australia

t: +61 8 9269 6200 f: +61 8 9269 6299

ABN: 65 140 765 902


coffey.com

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This report is an addendum to the Response to Submissions (Rev 3) on the Perth–Darwin National Highway (Swan Valley Section) Public Environmental Review/Public Environmental Report. The report provides a revised response to consolidated issue 186 in Section 8.1 to note an error in PER Figure 8.7 which incorrectly showed the extent of groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDE).

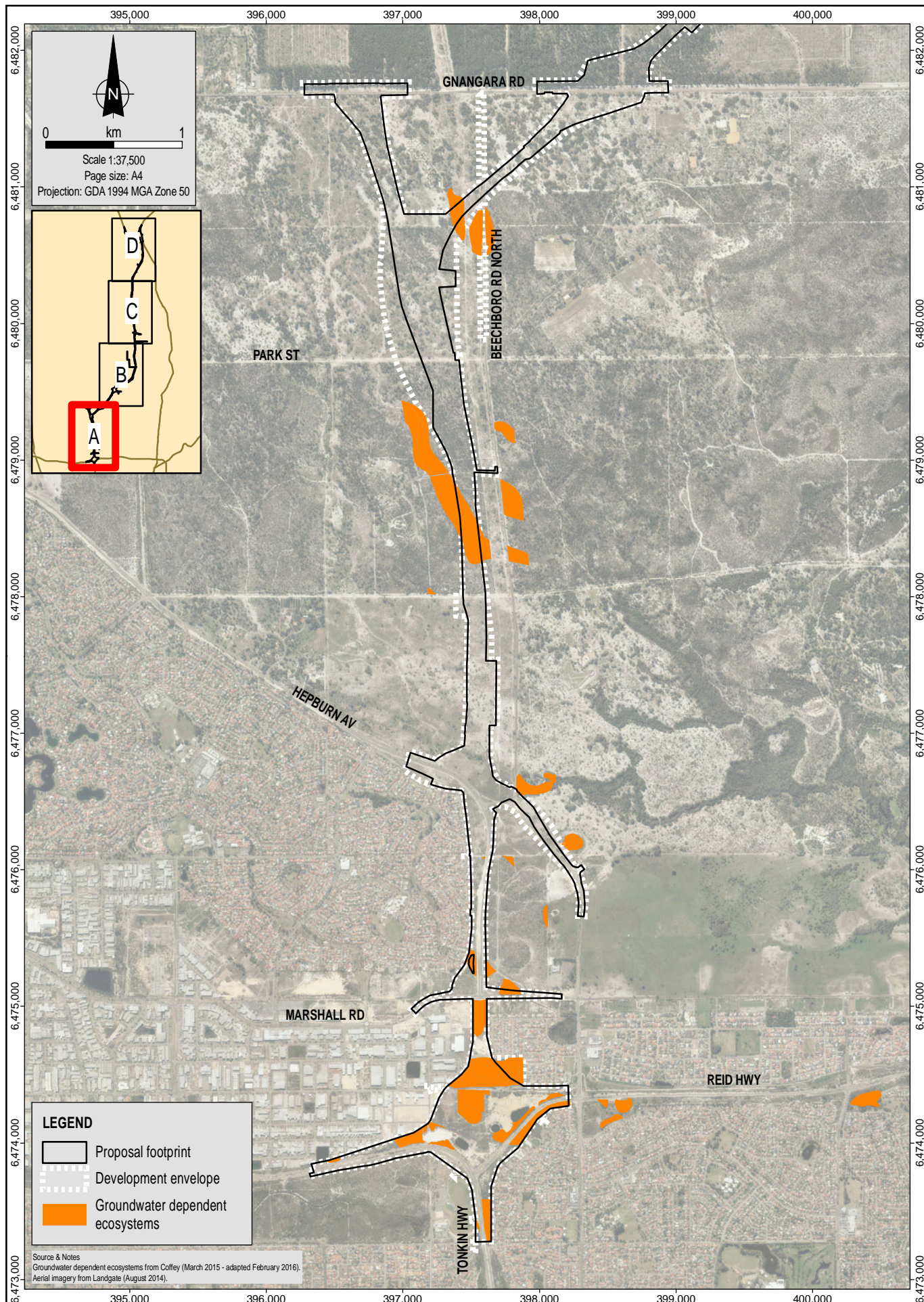
Consolidated issue 186 (contributing issue 223): Impacts to GDEs (including Mound Springs SCP TEC) and management of those impacts.

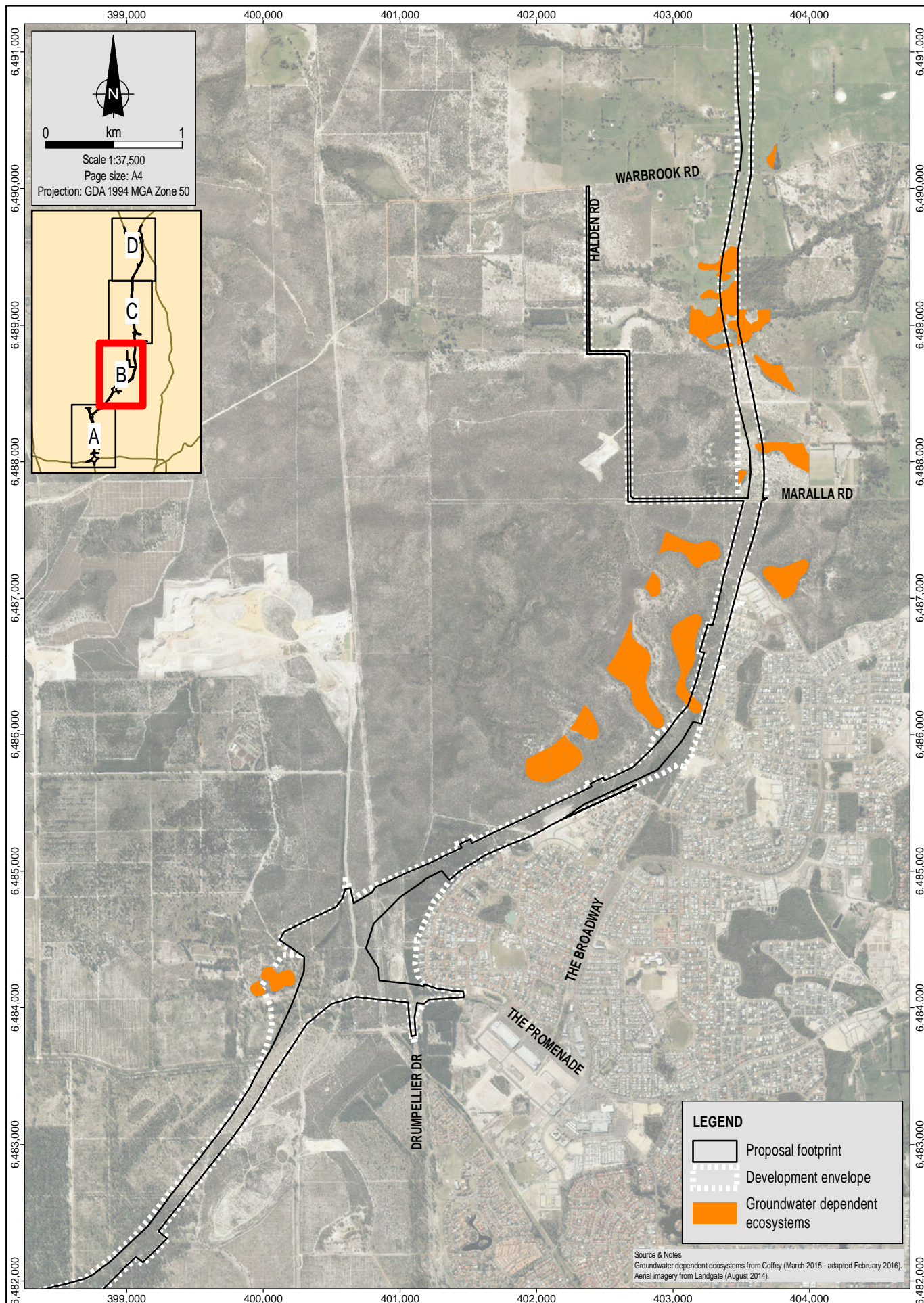
MRWA is committed to preparing and implementing a Wetland and Drainage Management and Monitoring Plan (WDMMP), which includes a groundwater monitoring procedure to detect changes in groundwater levels, to ensure impacts to wetlands (and GDEs and vegetation mapped in association with these wetlands) are being appropriately managed. The extent of GDEs impacted by the proposal remains unchanged (49.6 ha). However, PER Figure 8.7 incorrectly shows the extent of GDEs. This figure has been updated (see Figure 1) to remove areas that did not meet the definition of a GDE i.e., area of ‘geomorphic wetlands’ that support ‘intact native vegetation’.

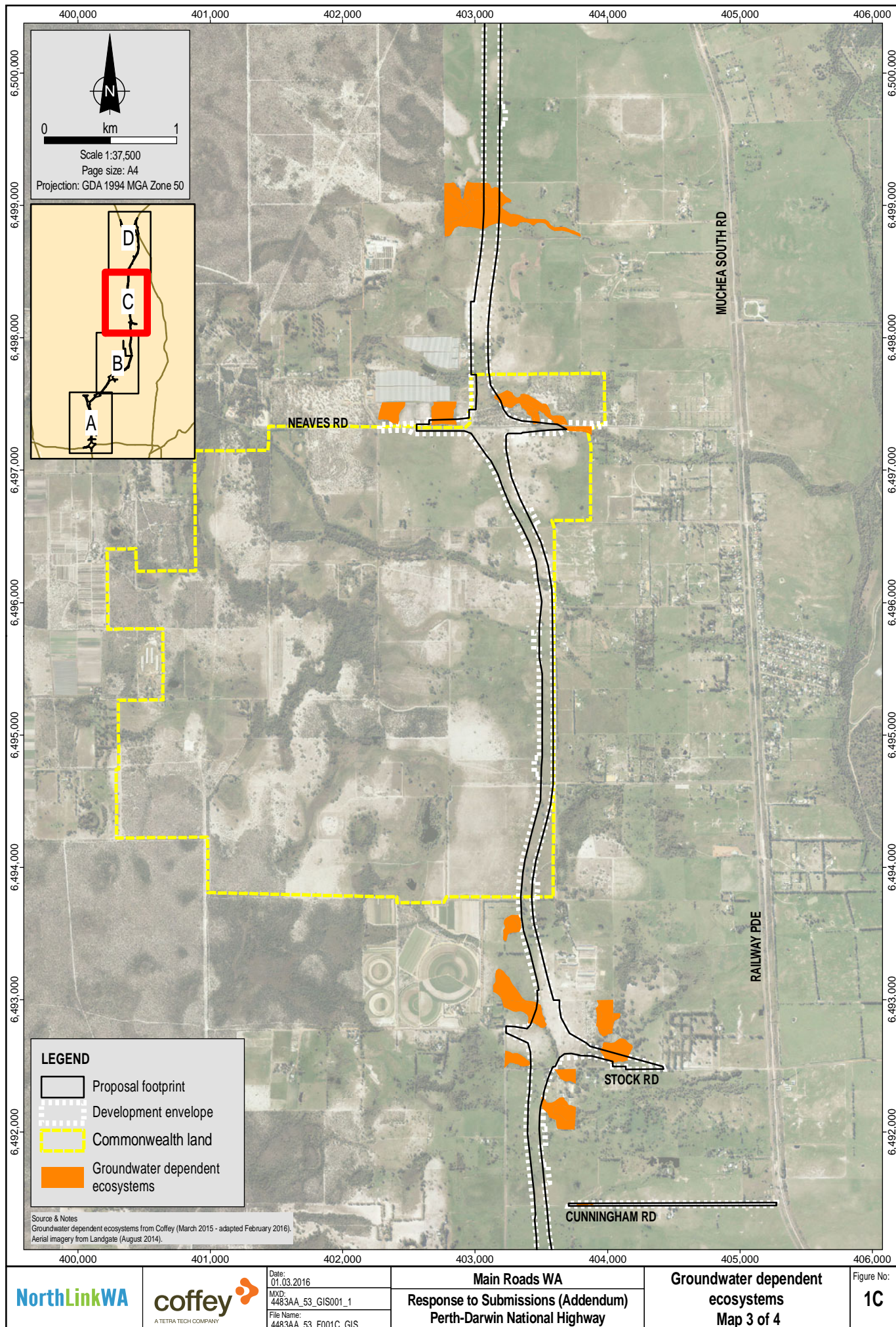
Dewatering and abstraction will be temporary and associated with each stage of development. Existing bores will be used where available and where unavailable, new bores may need to be constructed. Groundwater bores will be operated in accordance with existing or new licences (see PER Chapter 10, Hydrological Processes and Inland Water Environmental Quality, Section 10.4.4.2).

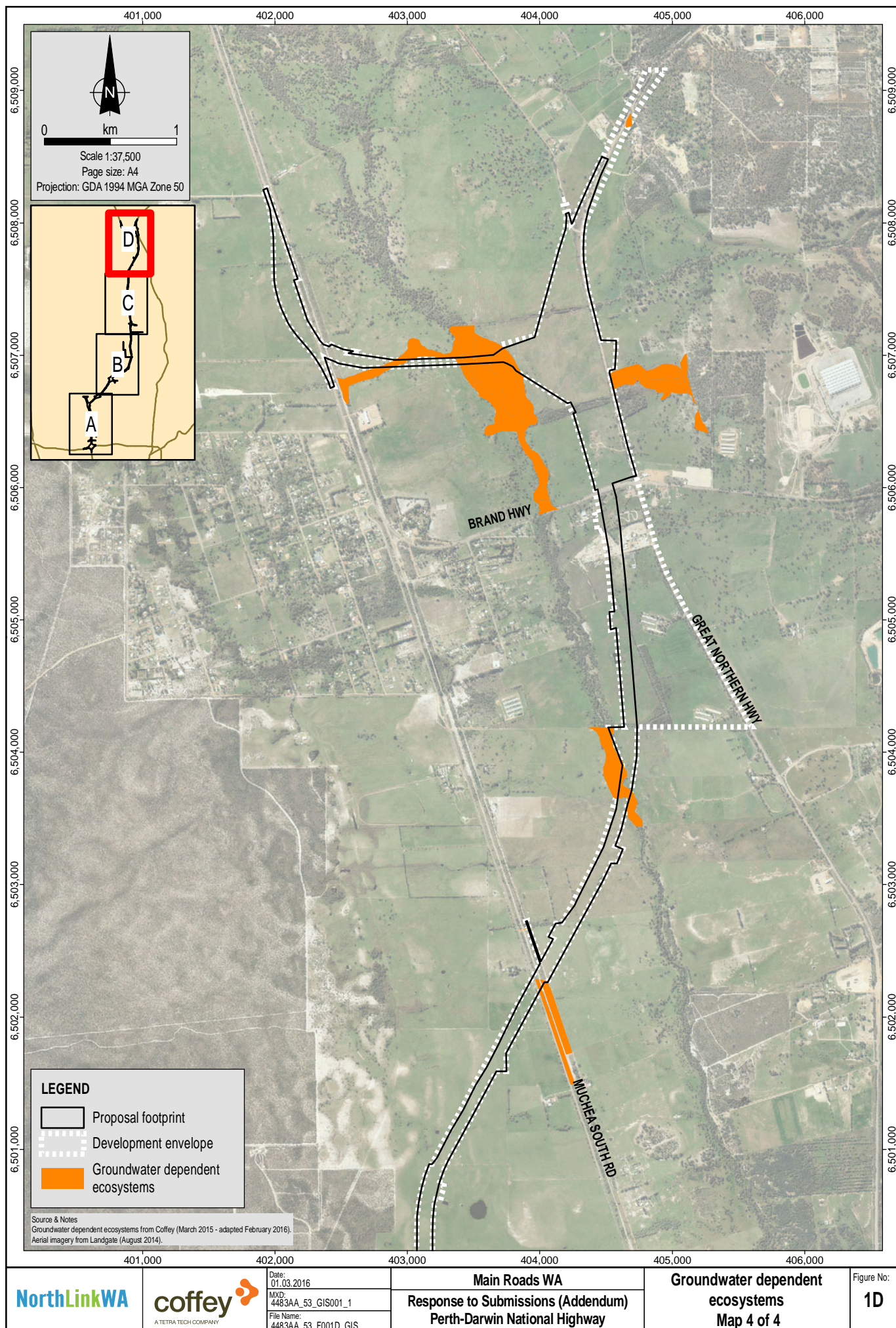
Proposed dewatering locations are remote from Mound Springs SCP TECs and any new water abstraction bores will be located to avoid drawdown affecting wetlands and Mound Springs SCP TECs. As the location of existing and new groundwater bores will be identified in each stage of the development, a water balance will be problematic. Groundwater monitoring pre-, during and post-construction will detect changes outside seasonal variation. As wetlands potentially affected by the proposal are dependent on expressions of groundwater, the proposed monitoring program will provide an early indicator of change.

As discussed in PER Chapter 10, Hydrological Processes and Inland Waters Environmental Quality, Section 10.4.8, it is not anticipated that Mound Springs SCP TECs will be impacted by any potential contamination off the highway.









BG&E NorthLinkWA
GPO Box 2776
Cloisters Square
Perth WA 6850



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