9.1 Issues Identification

9.1.1 Methodology

The process by which issues were identified and prioritised was based initially on the evaluation framework presented in DUAP's best practice guidelines for Part 5 of the EP&A Act, *Is an EIS Required?* (DUAP, 1999), together with a review of existing information and consultation with statutory agencies and the community. Specific considerations included:

- the characteristics of the project, including all inputs and outputs;
- research into the location of the project and its proximity to sensitive environments;
- consultation with statutory and other relevant authorities;
- extensive and ongoing consultation with the wider community as part of the BGC Project;
- NSW Government guidelines, policies and strategies on remediation of contamination; and
- preliminary assessment of the types, severity and duration of direct and indirect construction and operational impacts.

The complete set of issues raised by relevant authorities is presented in **Chapter 7**. Those issues raised by the wider community are presented in **Chapter 8**.

9.1.2 The Issues

Key issues that were identified by the community are presented in full in **Table 8.3**, and are summarised and listed alphabetically in **Table 9.1.**

Table 9.1 Issues identified by the community

Aspect	Issue
Environment	Air emissions and air quality Contaminant plume impacts and containment Cumulative impacts Dioxin emissions and impacts Flora and fauna impacts Groundwater flow impacts Water management and reuse Waste management and disposal
Social	Hazard and safety risk Human health risk Noise impacts Subsidence risk

Aspect	Issue
Project	Effectiveness in preventing further contamination of Botany Bay Planning approval process Technology alternatives and selection Treatment plant control and monitoring

Key issues that were identified by the statutory authorities are presented in full in **Tables 7.1 and 7.3**. The review of baseline data is summarised and listed alphabetically in **Table 9.2**.

Table 9.2 Issues identified by statutory authorities, research bodies and NGOs

Aspect	Issue
Environment	Air quality Aquatic ecology Cumulative effects Contamination and land management Contingency plans for potential failure Hydrogeological impacts and changes Hydrology and dynamics in Bunnerong Canal Ecosystem impacts from groundwater changes Utilities and services Water quality impacts Water reuse Waste management
Social	Consultation Human health risk Hazards and risk Heritage Noise and vibration impacts Traffic and transport impacts
Project	Alternatives assessment and justification Effectiveness of proposals Planning approvals Project decommissioning when complete Process and environmental monitoring

9.2 Prioritisation of Issues

The assessment of issues needs to recognise that the higher the significance of a particular issue and the potential for adverse environmental impact, the higher the degree of analysis required.

Where a significant risk of a potentially detrimental impact has been identified, or an issue of significant concern to the community has been raised, the attribute or issue has been allocated a higher priority for assessment because it would be of greatest concern to Orica and the wider community.

Key issues and a measure of priority are presented in **Table 9.3**. Prioritisation has been based on a qualitative measure of low (L), medium (M) or high (H) rating, and considers only the potential for impact and the level of concern for this issue expressed by the community and statutory authorities. It does not include an assessment of whether safeguards can be introduced or the effectiveness of those safeguards. These matters are discussed in **Chapters 10 to 30** of this EIS.

Table 9.3 Prioritisation of Issues

Aspect	Issue	Priority
Environment	Air emissions and air quality	H
	Contaminant plumes impacts and containment	H
	Contingency plans for potential failure	H
	Cumulative impacts	H
	Dioxin emissions and impacts	H
	Groundwater flow impacts	H
	Waste management and disposal	H
	Aquatic ecology	M
	Contamination and land management	M
	Flora and fauna impacts	M
	Hydrology and dynamics in Bunnerong Canal	M
	Water management and reuse	M
	Water quality impacts	M
	Utilities and services	L
Social	Consultation	H
	Hazard and safety risk	H
	Human health risk	H
	Noise and vibration impacts	M
	Subsidence risk	M
	Traffic and transport impacts	M
	Heritage	L
Project	Alternatives assessment and justification	H
	Effectiveness in preventing further contamination of Botany Bay	H
	Process control and environmental monitoring	H
	Planning approval process	M
	Project decommissioning when complete	L