

Information for Landowners on the Mine Access Route

What is the Northern Silica Project?

The Northern Silica Project (NSP) aims to build a high-purity silica sand mine 30 kilometres north of Hope Vale in Far North Queensland. As global demand for this critical mineral rises, the NSP will play a key role in supplying silica sand, crucial for manufacturing solar panels, smartphones, and other modern technologies.

 **25** YEAR
MINE LIFE

A newly developed open-cut mining operation with an onsite processing facility and an initial mine life of 25 years.

 **120+** JOBS
CREATED

The project stands to create upwards of 120 jobs for Hope Vale, Cooktown and surrounding communities.

 **3 - 5** MILLION T.
PER ANNUM

The project's scoping study indicates a initial target production rate of 3 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) increasing to 5 mtpa after the first 2 years of operation.

 **103** MILLION
SOLAR PANELS

Every 1 million tonnes of our high purity silica produced could be used in the manufacture of approximately 103 million solar panels.

How may the project affect you?

Road Upgrades Planned - Mt Webb Wakooka Rd

Diatreme is currently investigating a series of upgrades to council-managed roads, with a primary focus on Isabella McIvor Rd/Mt Webb Wakooka Rd. These improvements aim to support ongoing mine operations, build flood resilience to reduce closures during the wet season, and improve regional connectivity for the wider community. The planned works include grading and reinstatement of shoulders, widening curves and clearing sightlines for better safety, re-sheeting selected sections with gravel.

The road upgrade designs are being developed to meet specific engineering standards. Design speeds are targeted at 80 km/h for unsealed sections and up to 100 km/h where sealing is applied. The roads will be constructed to accommodate B-Double trucks and buses, with a minimum formation width of 8.0 metres and 1.0 metre shoulders on each side.

CONSTRUCTION VOLUMES

Traffic increases on Isabella McIvor Rd/Mt Webb Wakooka Rd during **construction** are estimated to 12 vehicles a day, reaching up to 50 per day during peak activity. Construction will last for approximately 18 months.



OPERATIONS VOLUMES

Traffic increases on Starke Rd during **operations** are estimated to be 3 vehicles a day, reaching up to 12 during peak activity.



VEHICLE TYPES

Additional traffic will include - light vehicles, buses, & Semi-trailers.



Building Flood Resilience

Three key river crossings **Pryde Creek, Mclvor River, and Morgan River** will be upgraded to improve flood immunity. Each crossing will be raised by up to one metre to minimise flood-related disruptions while maintaining compliance with Australian Standards (AS 5100 and AS 2159).

Importantly, the upgraded crossings will also be designed to allow for fish passage to protect local waterways.

The road upgrade project is currently in the feasibility and preliminary design phase. Engagement with Cook Shire Council is ongoing, and detailed designs including flood modelling are underway. Further community consultation sessions are planned during the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) public comment period, anticipated in late 2025.

The broader community is expected to benefit from these upgrades through improved flood resilience of local roads, new business opportunities, and increased employment.

PRYDE CREEK



MCIVOR RIVER CROSSING



MORGAN RIVER CROSSING



For more information



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Visit Diatreme's Hope Vale office for further information.



DIATREME
Resources

