

## 16. SUBMISSIONS OVERVIEW

The chief executive of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) has requested Arrow to provide responses which address issues raised in public and other submissions received for the Surat Gas Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

This chapter presents information about the public exhibition period and the process for lodgement of submissions on the EIS, and statistics on the number of submissions received during this period. It also details the structure of Part B of the Supplementary Report to the EIS (SREIS).

### 16.1 Environmental Impact Statement Public Exhibition Period

The Surat Gas Project EIS was placed on public exhibition from the 16 March 2012 to 14 June 2012, providing the public and government agencies the opportunity to view and comment on the EIS to the chief executive in the form of submissions. Details of the consultations and communications carried out by Arrow during this public exhibition period, and the locations and means by which the EIS could be viewed by the public are included in the Part A of the SREIS, Chapter 2, Consultation.

It is a statutory requirement that all submissions received by the chief executive are forwarded to the proponent for consideration and provision of a response. As set out in Section 55(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (Qld), a properly made submission is one that:

- (a) is written; and
- (b) is signed by or for each person (signatory) who made the submission; and
- (c) states the name and address of each signatory; and
- (d) is made to the chief executive; and
- (e) is received on or before the last day of the submission period.

### 16.2 Submissions Received

A total of 167 submissions were received by the chief executive. These 167 submitters comprised individuals, private organisations, government agencies and councils. Table 16.1 provides a breakdown of the number of submissions in each of these categories.

**Table 16.1 Categories of Submitters**

Submitter Category	Number of Submissions
Individuals	111
Landholder groups	11
Industry	3
Non-government organisations	23
Regional councils	4
Queensland Government departments	12

**Table 16.1 Categories of Submitters (cont'd)**

<b>Submitter Category</b>	<b>Number of Submissions</b>
Commonwealth Government departments	1
Other government agencies and organisations	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>167</b>

The SREIS does not disclose the names or information of individuals who made submissions and these submitters are therefore referred to as 'individual submitter' throughout this report. Individual submitters may request their identifying submitter number from the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP).

Arrow's process of responding to submissions is set out in SREIS Part B, Chapter 17, Submitters and Identification of Issues.

### **16.3 Structure of Part B**

Part B comprises four chapters containing the following information:

- Chapter 16 (this chapter) provides a general introduction to the EIS public exhibition period and submissions received as a result of this process.
- Chapter 17 discusses the methodology for categorising submissions received, and explains the process for formulating responses to issues.
- Chapter 18 contains a list of submitters and identifies which responses are pertinent to their issues.
- Chapter 19 sets out Arrow's responses to public submissions, except for those raised by the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) (now EHP) and the Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC).
- Chapter 20 sets out Arrow's responses to the DERM submission on the EIS.
- Chapter 21 sets out Arrow's responses to issues raised on matters of national environmental significance by SEWPaC and private submitters.