

9 ALTERNATIVE SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

This section provides a short sensitivity matrix, which compares the three different alternatives and their associated environmental sensitivities.

TABLE 32: ALTERNATIVE SENSITIVITY MATRIX

Sensitivity	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
Geology	None	None	None
Climate	None	None	None
Topography	None	None	None
Surface Water	Most river crossings, traverses along several major streams.	Traverses along several major streams and in close proximity	Avoids the bulk of the surface water bodies.
Soils & Land Capability	Clay soils dominate	Clay soils dominate	Agricultural soils dominate
Flora	Traverses through sensitive vegetation	Traverses through sensitive vegetation	Limits interaction with sensitive vegetation.
Fauna	Potential high impact on avifauna	Potential high impact on avifauna	Smallest impact to avifauna
Wetlands	Traverses along wetlands and streams	Traverses along wetlands and streams	Limits interaction with wetlands
Visual	Existing impact	Limited existing impact	New impact
Heritage	Moderate	Moderate	Low
Social	Moderate	Low	Moderate
Total Sensitivities	7	7	3

On the basis of the matrix presented above, it is suggested that the Bravo 4 Alternative 3 be utilised as the preferred alternative for the proposed project, as it has the least sensitive features associated with the alignment.