VARIATION OF CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO APPROVAL Bango Wind Farm, Boorowa, NSW (EPBC 2013/6810)

This decision to vary conditions of approval is made under section 143 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

An	prov	ved	action
, , P	P. V		40000

Person to whom the	BWF Nominees Pty Ltd
approval is granted	ACN 633 105 405

Approved action To construct and operate a wind farm and associated

infrastructure near Boorowa, NSW (refer Annexure A) [See EPBC

Act referral 2013/6810]

Variation

Variation of conditions attached to approval

The variation is:

Delete condition 9 and 11 attached to the approval and substitute

with conditions 9 and 11 specified in the table below.

Date of effect This variation has effect on the date the instrument is signed

Person authorised to make decision

Name and position Kim Farrant

Assistant Secretary

Environment Assessments (Vic, Tas) and Post Approvals Branch

Signature

Date of decision

13 September 2022

Date of decision	Conditions attached to approval
Variation dated	1. The approval holder must:
4/4/2019	a. Implement conditions 8, 9, 11 and 12 of Schedule 2 and conditions 16, 17, 18, 19 (a) and (c), 20 and 21 of Schedule 3 of the NSW development consent as they relate to impacts on protected matters.
	b. Notify the Department in writing of any proposed change to the conditions of the NSW development consent for which EPBC Act condition 1a applies, no later than 5 business days after proposing a change or becoming aware of the NSW Government proposing a change.
	c. Notify the Department in writing of any change to the NSW development consent for which EPBC Act condition 1a applies within 5 business days of a change being finalised.
Variation dated	2. The approval holder must not clear more than:
4/4/2019	a. 39.54 ha of Golden Sun Moth habitat (as marked in pink and purple on the map at Annexure B)
	b. 9.54 ha of Superb Parrot habitat (as marked in brown on the map at Annexure C).
	c. 0.32 ha of Box Gum Woodland (as marked in red on the map at Annexure D).
	d. 8 primary hollow bearing trees (as marked on the map at Annexure C).
Variation dated	3. The approval holder must protect known and potential Superb Parrot nest trees by:
4/4/2019	 a. Only conducting blasting within 50m and clearing within 30m of known and potential Superb Parrot nest trees between 1 February and 31 August (outside the breeding season).
	 b. Locating wind turbines at least 50m away from known and potential Superb Parrot nest trees.
	c. locating onsite infrastructure, with the exception of wind turbines, at least 30m away from known and potential Superb Parrot nest trees.
	Note : For the purposes of this section, crane hardstands and turbine foundations are not considered turbines.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	4. The approval holder must submit plans for site layout required by condition 11 and 12 of Schedule 2 of the NSW development consent to the Minister at the same time as it is submitted to the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment for approval.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	5. The approval holder must submit a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) to the Minister for approval. Commencement of the action must not occur unless the Minister has approved the BMP. The approval holder must implement the approved BMP.
	The BMP must include:
	a. Spatial maps, description and quantification of the final disturbance footprint in relation to proposed impacts to protected matters , including the number, type of hollow bearing trees and size of hollows to be removed.
	 b. Management measures to ensure the protection and maintenance of habitat for protected matters during the construction and operational phases of the approved action.
Variation dated 19/11/2020	6. The approval holder must submit a Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan (BBAMP) to the Minister for approval. The approval holder must not export electricity for sale from more than 23 wind turbines simultaneously, other than for the purposes of hold point testing and commissioning, unless the Minister has approved the BBAMP in writing. The approval holder must implement the approved BBAMP.

Date of decision	Conditions attached to approval
	The BBAMP must include, but is not limited to:
	 a. An on-going monitoring program, which must include a description of the methodology and frequency of monitoring.
	 b. Trigger levels to shut down any turbines when there is a high risk of collision based on monitoring data and the results of research conducted as part of EPBC Act condition 13 on Superb Parrot habitat use and breeding ecology.
	The results of the BBAMP monitoring program from each year must be submitted as part of the annual report required under EPBC Act condition 17.
Original dated 9/8/2018	7. If the Minister considers, based on monitoring taken under EPBC Act condition 6, compliance reporting required by EPBC Act condition 17 and the risk assessment and mitigation measures included in the BBAMP, the operation of the action is having a detrimental impact on protected matters , then the Minister may notify the approval holder in writing that specified wind turbines must not be operated for a specified period of time. If the Minister makes a written notice under this condition, the approval holder must implement that written notice.
Original dated 9/8/2018	8. Prior to the commencement of the action , the approval holder must submit to the Minister , the calculation of biodiversity impacts consistent with Condition 18 of Schedule 3 of the NSW development consent as it relates to protected matters .
As varied on the date of this decision	9. By 4 November 2022, the approval holder must submit evidence of credit retirement consistent with condition 19 (a), (b) or (c) of Schedule 3 of the NSW development consent to the Minister .
Original dated 9/8/2018	10. In the case that the approval holder is establishing BioBanking site(s) , they must ensure that the BioBanking Agreement(s) for the BioBanking site(s) include measures for the long-term management of protected matters including but not limited to:
	 a. Specific reference to Superb Parrot, Golden Sun Moth and hollow bearing trees providing habitat to Superb Parrot.
	 b. A textual description of the offset sites, including offset attributes, shapefiles, and a map clearly defining the location and boundaries of the proposed offset sites.
	 c. Site survey and baseline data and documentation of key biodiversity threats and opportunities at each site.
	d. A detailed description of management actions and responsibilities designed to protect and improve the ecological quality of habitat of Superb Parrot and Golden Sun Moth on the offset sites.
	e. Key milestones, performance indicators and timeframes for each management action.
	f. A monitoring program to determine the effectiveness of the management actions.
	g. Corrective actions and contingency measures to be implemented where monitoring of the offset site shows that management actions are not effectively achieving key milestones or prescribed performance indicators are not being met or are unlikely to be met.
	Where appropriate offsets credits are acquired from the market, it is accepted that the credit provider has made suitable and appropriate measures to meet the above intent.
As varied on the date of this decision	11. In the case that the approval holder is establishing BioBanking site(s) , it must submit a copy of the BioBanking Agreement(s) to the Minister by 4 November 2022.
Original dated 9/8/2018	12. For each primary hollow bearing tree (as marked in the map at Annexure C) removed within 50m of each turbine (as confirmed through quantification of hollow bearing trees impacts through EPBC Act condition 5), the approval holder must legally protect and secure 10 hollow bearing trees from the same vegetation formation within the South-west Slopes of NSW Important Bird Area .

Date of decision	Conditions attached to approval
	Within two years of the commencement of the action , the approval holder must submit evidence to the Minister's satisfaction of the final number of hollow bearing trees to be legally protected and secured.
Original dated 9/8/2018	13. To compensate for potential cumulative impacts on Superb Parrot , the approval holder must prepare and implement a Superb Parrot Conservation Research Plan (SPCRP).
	The SPCRP must be submitted to the Minister for approval prior to commencement of the action . The action must not commence unless the Minister has approved the SPCRP. The approved SPCRP must be implemented.
	The SPCRP must contribute to better understanding Superb Parrot habitat use and breeding ecology within the South-west Slopes of NSW Important Bird Area , with a focus on identification of key breeding sites, better understanding local movement patterns during the breeding season and landscape scale movements between the key breeding areas and the winter foraging grounds.
	The SPCRP must contain, but is not limited to, the following:
	a. Conservation research activities consistent with the National Recovery Plan for the Superb Parrot Polytelis swainsonii (2011) or any subsequent revised version and reflect input and advice from the National Superb Parrot Recovery Team.
	 b. Specific project objectives, indicative timetable for activities, nomination of persons or organisations responsible for carrying out the activities, and outline commitments to the provision and timing of funding.
Original dated 9/8/2018	14. The approval holder must provide at least \$100,000 each year for five years to fund the conservation research activities outlined in the SPCRP. The first year's contribution must be made within 20 business days from the commencement of the action .
Variation dated 4/4/2019	15. Within 14 business days after the commencement of the action, the approval holder must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement .
Original dated 9/8/2018	16. The approval holder must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to these conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the management plans, and make them available upon request to the Department . Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act , or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be published on the Department 's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	17. Within three months of every 12 month anniversary of the commencement of the action , the approval holder must publish a report on its website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval including implementation of the management plans. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published. The report must remain published on the website for the duration of the approval. Reports must continue to be published until such time as advised by the Minister in writing.
	Note : Compliance reports may be published on the Department 's website. The first compliance report may report a period less than 12 months so that it and subsequent compliance reports align with the similar requirement under state approval.
Original dated 9/8/2018	18. Potential or actual contraventions of the conditions of the approval must be reported to the Department in writing within two business days of the approval holder becoming aware of the actual or potential contravention.
Original dated 9/8/2018	19. Upon the direction of the Minister , the approval holder must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister . The independent auditor must be approved by the

Date of decision	Conditions attached to approval
	Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister .
Original dated 9/8/2018	20. If, at any time after five years from the date of this approval, the approval holder has not commenced the action, then the approval holder must not commence the action without the written agreement of the Minister .
Variation dated	Revision of action management plans
4/4/2019	21. The approval holder may, at any time, apply to the Minister for a variation to an action management plan approved by the Minister under conditions 5 and 6, or as subsequently revised in accordance with these conditions, by submitting an application in accordance with the requirements of section 143A of the EPBC Act . If the Minister approves a revised action management plan (RAMP) then, from the date specified, the approval holder must implement the RAMP in place of the previous action management plan.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	21A. The approval holder may choose to revise an action management plan approved by the Minister under conditions 5 and 6, or as subsequently revised in accordance with these conditions, without submitting it for approval under section 143A of the EPBC Act , if the taking of the action in accordance with the RAMP would not be likely to have a new or increased impact .
Variation dated 4/4/2019	21B. If the approval holder makes the choice under condition 21A to revise an action management plan without submitting it for approval, the approval holder must:
, ,,	a. notify the Department in writing that the approved action management plan has been revised and provide the Department with:
	i. an electronic copy of the RAMP;
	an electronic copy of the RAMP marked up with track changes to show the differences between the approved action management plan and the RAMP;
	iii. an explanation of the differences between the approved action management plan and the RAMP;
	iv. the reasons the approval holder considers that taking the action in accordance with the RAMP would not be likely to have a new or increased impact; and
	v. written notice of the date on which the approval holder will implement the RAMP (RAMP implementation date), being at least 20 business days after the date of providing notice of the revision of the action management plan, or a date agreed to in writing with the Department.
	 subject to condition 21D, implement the RAMP from the RAMP implementation date.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	21C. The approval holder may revoke its choice to implement a RAMP under condition 21A at any time by giving written notice to the Department . If the approval holder revokes the choice under condition 21A, the approval holder must implement the action management plan in force immediately prior to that RAMP.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	21D. If the Minister gives a notice to the approval holder that the Minister is satisfied that the taking of the action in accordance with the RAMP would be likely to have a new or increased impact , then:
	a. condition 21A does not apply, or ceases to apply, in relation to the RAMP; and
	b. the approval holder must implement the action management plan specified by the Minister in the notice.

Date of decision	Conditions attached to approval
Variation dated 4/4/2019	21E. At the time of giving the notice under condition 21D, the Minister may also notify that, for a specified period of time, condition 21A does not apply for one or more specified action management plans.
	Note: Conditions 21A, 21B, 21C and 21D are not intended to limit the operation of section 143A of the EPBC Act which allows the approval holder to submit a revised action management plan, at any time, to the Minister for approval.
Original dated 9/8/2018	22. Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister , the approval holder must publish all management and research plans referred to in these conditions of approval on its website. Each plan must be published on the website within one month of being approved and remain published on the website for the duration of the approval.

Date of decision	Definitions attached to approval	
Original dated 9/8/2018	Approval holder – the person to whom the approval is granted, or to whom the approval is transferred under s145B of the EPBC Act.	
Original dated 9/8/2018	BioBanking – the New South Wales Government's biodiversity credit and offset scheme of that name created under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> (NSW), as amended and repealed or an equivalent scheme under a successor mechanism under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW).	
Original dated 9/8/2018	BioBanking Agreement – has the meaning given under the under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> (NSW), as amended and repealed, or an equivalent under a successor mechanism under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW).	
Original dated 9/8/2018	BioBanking site(s) – has the meaning given under the under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> (NSW), as amended and repealed or an equivalent under a successor mechanism under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW).	
Original dated 9/8/2018	BioBanking Statement – has the meaning given under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> (NSW) or an equivalent report under a successor mechanism under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW).	
Original dated 9/8/2018	Box Gum Woodland – refers to the White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland ecological community listed as critically endangered under the EPBC Act .	
Variation dated 4/4/2019	Business Day - means a day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday in the state or territory of the action.	
Variation dated 4/4/2019	Commence/Commenced/Commencement/Commencement of the action —means the first instance of any specified activity associated with the action including clearance of vegetation and construction of any infrastructure. Commencement does not include minor physical disturbance necessary to:	
	 i. undertake pre-clearance surveys or monitoring programs; ii. use of existing surface access tracks; iii. install signage and /or temporary fencing to prevent unapproved use of the project area; 	
	iv. protect environmental and property assets from fire, weeds and pests, and maintenance of existing surface access tracks, if agreed in writing by the Department ;	
	v. geotechnical works comprising bore hole and test pit excavations, each no greater than 2m x 2m in area on the ground surface; vi. site survey and installation of survey markers;	
	vii. site assessment and observation, including road dilapidation survey; and viii. road and intersection upgrades as defined in Appendix 7 Schedule of Road Upgrades of the NSW development consent .	
	Note: Pre-commencement activities as above must comply with other general conditions.	

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Original dated 9/8/2018	Commissioning – means the testing of turbine infrastructure to demonstrate performance in accordance with the design requirements.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	Construction - means the erection of a building or structure that is or is to be fixed to the ground and wholly or partially fabricated on-site; the alteration, maintenance, repair or demolition of any building or structure; preliminary site preparation work which involves breaking of the ground (including pile driving); the laying of pipes and other prefabricated materials in the ground, and any associated excavation work; but excluding the installation of fences and signage.
Original dated 9/8/2018	Credits – has the meaning given under the under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> (NSW), as amended and repealed, or an equivalent report under a successor mechanism under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW).
Original dated 9/8/2018	Department – the Australian Government Department administering the EPBC Act.
Original dated 9/8/2018	EPBC Act – the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act</i> 1999.
Original dated 9/8/2018	Golden Sun Moth – (Synemon plana) is a threatened species listed as critically endangered under the EPBC Act.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	Hollow bearing tree – a living tree, where the trunk or limbs contain hollows, holes or cavities. Such hollows may not always be visible from the ground but may be apparent from the presence of deformities such as protuberances of broken limbs, or where it is apparent the head of the tree has broken off.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	Known and potential Superb Parrot nest trees means trees of the species River Red Gum, Blakely's Red Gum <i>E. blakelyi</i> , Apple Box <i>E. bridgesiana</i> , Grey Box, White Box <i>E. albens</i> and Red Box <i>E. polyanthemos</i> with hollows located 5–13 m above the ground as specified in the <i>National Recovery Plan for the Superb Parrot (Polytelis swainsonii)</i> and that have a hollow diameter >5cm (Manning et al 2012).
Original dated 9/8/2018	Minister – The Australian Government minister responsible for administering the EPBC Act or any nominated delegate.
Original dated 9/8/2018	National Superb Parrot Recovery Team – Team of appropriately qualified persons responsible for co-ordinating national research and management efforts specified in the National Recovery Plan for the Superb Parrot (<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>).
Variation dated 4/4/2019	New or increased impact - means a new or increased environmental impact or risk relating to any protected matter, when compared to the likely impact of implementing the action management plan that has been approved by the Minister under conditions 5, 6 and 13, including any subsequent revisions approved by the Minister, as outlined in the Guidance on 'New or Increased Impact' relating to changes to approved management plans under EPBC Act environmental approvals (2017).
Original dated 9/8/2018	NSW development consent – means the development consent granted to the Bango Wind Farm under Section 4.38 of the <i>Environmental Planning Assessment Act 1979</i> (NSW), SSD-6686.
Original dated 9/8/2018	Offset attributes – mean an '.xls' file capturing relevant attributes of the offset site, including the EPBC Act reference ID number, the physical address of the offset site, coordinates of the boundary points in decimal degrees, the EPBC Act protected matters that the offset compensates for, any additional EPBC Act protected matters that are benefiting from the offset, and the size of the offset in hectares.
Original	Onsite infrastructure means –
dated 9/8/2018	Up to 71 wind turbines each with a maximum height of 200 metres (m) (measured from ground to the blade tip). Each turbine will have associated infrastructure including a foundation and crane hardstand area.

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	A collector substation, switching station, site compound, lay down areas, site operations facilities and services buildings.
	Overhead and underground high voltage electrical cabling.
	Onsite access roads.
	Four permanent monitoring masts.
Original dated 9/8/2018	Primary Hollow Bearing Tree – includes trees of the Blakely's Red Gum, Yellow Box, Apple Box, White Box species or dead stags, containing hollows 5-13m above the ground of greater than 5cm diameter, as defined in the Bango Wind Farm Preliminary Documentation (p58, footnote 9).
Original dated 9/8/2018	Protected matters – any matter protected under the provision of the EPBC Act for which this approval has effect. The relevant protected matters for this project are: Golden Sun Moth and Superb Parrot.
Original dated 9/8/2018	Qualified ecologist – means an independent person with relevant tertiary qualifications and a minimum of five years' experience in Australian flora and fauna surveys in New South Wales.
Original dated 9/8/2018	Retire/ retirement — A change in the status of a credit such that the credit has been used to offset the development impact or achieve a conservation outcome and can no longer be bought or sold.
Variation dated 4/4/2019	Shapefiles – means an ESRI Shapefile containing '.shp', '.shx', '.prj' and '.dbf' files and other files capturing attributes of the offset site, including the shape, EPBC Act reference ID number and protected matters present at the relevant site and specification of the projection/geographic coordinate system used. Attributes should also be captured in '.xls' format.
Original dated 9/8/2018	South-west Slopes of NSW Important Bird Area – means the area identified by BirdLife Australia as the core distribution of the Superb Parrot on the south-west slopes of New South Wales, as described and mapped in the Birdlife factsheet available here: http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/24574 .
Original dated 9/8/2018	Successor mechanism – any biodiversity offsetting mechanism legislated and implemented by the New South Wales Government to replace, or as a successor to, BioBanking. Such a mechanism is only acceptable for the purposes of this approval if it:
	is included in a bilateral agreement under the EPBC Act (either referenced directly in the agreement, or as part of a wider process that is adopted in a bilateral agreement) OR
	has been agreed by the Department in writing to the approval holder or the title holder as being an appropriate successor mechanism.
Original dated 9/8/2018	Superb Parrot – (Polytelis swainsonii) is a threatened species listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act.







